

THE UNION TIMES.

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TAX PAYER ENTERS PROTEST.

Holds That the Trustees of Library Have Not Measured up to Their Duty—They Should Resign or Make Better Showing.

Editor of The Union Times:—

About 1902 or 1903 Mr. Andrew Carnegie offered to the people of Union \$1,000 for the purpose of erecting a building to be used as a free public library, on conditions that the town would furnish a site and furnish \$1,000 a year for the maintenance of said library. By private subscription the citizens of the town furnished funds for the purchase of a lot on which to erect the building, and at an election held for that purpose in April, 1903, an annual tax of \$1,000 was voted for the support of this institution. After a long delay the building was erected, the then free library of the city donating its stock of books as a nucleus for the new one. In 1906, the General Assembly of South Carolina passed an act incorporating the Union Carnegie Free Library, naming nine gentlemen of deservedly high standing in the community as trustees, with power to choose their own successors. In this respect said act is a violation of the principles upon which are based all American or democratic institutions. The people supply the money, but have absolutely no voice in its expenditure or management. But this, while wrong in principle, may work well, provided the men in charge give the proper intelligent and energetic attention to the duties they assume under this close corporation arrangement.

Has this Board of Trustees met this condition? Let the record show. This same act provides that the city council shall annually turn over to the trustees of the library one thousand dollars as voted in the election of 1903, or three years, if not more; and yet, when asked why new books or magazines have not been supplied to the library the statement is made that the council has not turned over this fund, and, therefore, there is no money with which to furnish these things. Here is a clear violation, both of Mr. Carnegie's condition and of the statute law of the state. The city council has no legal or moral right to use this tax, levied and paid for the use of the library, for any other purpose whatsoever, no matter how pressing the need. It constitutes a trust fund in their hands for the sole purpose. Since council fails to perform its duty under the law, upon whom falls the burden of forcing them to comply with the mandate of the statute and the will of the people? Clearly, upon the board of trustees and upon them alone.

Here is three thousand dollars or nearly that sum that is due the library and can be collected, if not peacefully then certainly by application to the courts. In this vital particular, therefore, the trustees appointed or chosen by one man or set of men to manage an institution supported by the whole people have flatly fallen down and utterly failed in the performance of their plain duty. As a consequence the library is in a condition that is simply disgraceful to an intelligent community. No books of any consequence have been added to the small collection donated by the former association. Until recently the supply of periodicals was ludicrous. The large and increasing demand for new books has had no effect in stimulating the trustees to action. These gentlemen seem content to allow matters to run on in any old way. It is high time the people were demanding better service. These gentlemen, for all of whom I have the highest regard, have been tried and found wanting from sheer lack of interest. They should either make good, and do so at once, or else they should step down and out and give place to men who will feel and take an interest in maintaining this institution in the proper way.

The motive urged for the payment of money for the support of the library was that it would prove an educational institution of large benefit. Has it? Is it doing so now? Compare it with similar institutions in neighboring cities and see how far it falls below the proper standard. The plain facts are that the people, both those who sub-

GRAND OPENING OF EXPOSITION

Not Even the Most Gaudy Pyrotechnics Ever Undertaken Equalled the Vessel and Harbor Illumination at Exposition

Norfolk, May 9.—There have been many fierce conflicts upon the waters of Hampton Roads, but none of belching cannon, and no bursting shell—such as the one between the Monitor and the Merrimack in 1862.

historic waters on the 26th, 1907. The destruction of the old fortifications was a grand beyond the power of pen to describe, while it was absolutely devoid of the terrible.

Placidly lying at anchor on Hampton Roads when the sun went down on the evening of the 26th of April, were American and foreign war vessels, in solid but friendly phalanx, covering a distance of not less than ten miles. As darkness settled over the face of the waters, a few lights flickered here and there, subdued by the silvery moonbeams that fell like a sheet upon the land and sea. The great array of death-dealing, iron-clad monsters were dimly outlined, until, at a given signal about 7:30, every ship blazed forth in lines of electric fire. It was so sudden and so grand that the silence of the thousands upon the waters and shores attested an admiration too deep to be expressed in word or sound.

There they lay, every outline of hull and bridge and deck and funnel and stack, lined in living fire. Nothing like it has ever been seen before, and, outside of the Jamestown Ter-Centennial Exposition, will probably never be seen again. With the ships in the harbor ablaze of glory, and the buildings ashore splendid that those who saw it will never forget. It was a feature alone and unparalleled in the history of expositions, and in the history of the world.

The illumination of shore and harbor and vessels, by an element that the wildest scientific dreamer had not conceived when the event occurred that the Ter-Centennial Exposition celebrates, is one incident alone that demonstrates the giant strides that have been made since the pilgrims landed upon America's shores.

The searchlights of the various vessels time and again shot out their piercing rays, lighting the broad daylight the darkest nooks and corners along Hampton Roads, but gorgeous, weird and wonderful as was the illumination on the night of the 26th, it is only the initiative of the greater and grander scenes that will follow when the government piers are finished, and the system of submerged harbor illumination is installed.

But, as it is, the illumination of the opening night so far eclipsed the most gorgeous pyrotechnic display ever attempted, that there is positively no comparison.

W. H. Bright.

Death of Mrs. Charlotte Gregory.

Mrs. Charlotte Gregory, of Gibbs, died Monday night, May 6, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. John S. Goff. Her body was laid to rest in the church yard at Putnam, Rev. J. R. Funderburk conducting the exercises.

Mrs. Gregory was a good woman. Her life was full of good deeds and gentle kindness. Those who best knew her loved her most.

A Small Cyclone.

A small "cyclone" passed near the old "hanging grounds" Monday afternoon. It was about forty yards wide and blew down pine trees.

described and the much larger number who pay taxes are sick to death of the way the library has been and is managed. If the trustees say they serve for nothing they may resign and rid themselves of a duty they have neglected and failed to perform. These gentlemen, as stated, stand high in business and social circles and rightly so. But they are not the men for trustees of the Union Library. This they have themselves proven beyond all peradventure.

Tax Payer.

MR. W. D. ...

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Charter to be Changed.

An election was held Tuesday upon the question of surrendering the old Charter of Town of Union, S. C., and accepting the new charter for towns of over 5,000 population as provided by General Civil Code 1902 and amendments thereto.

The election resulted in an overwhelming majority in favor of the proposition.

The town has been working under an old charter in force since 1872. The old charter was alright for a small town but is inadequate now that Union has grown to be a city. We were known as the "Town of Union" under the old charter; under the new it will be the "City of Union." It will be about sixty days before the new charter goes into effect. In the meantime all the old ordinances...

Will Locate in Union.

Mr. Grover L. Blackwell, who has been with Mr. M. H. Hayman ever since he opened his jewelry store, since he opened his jewelry store, will leave Camden, where he will locate in Union, where he has bought out Mr. Blackwell's jewelry business in that progressive town, and will have associated with him in the jewelry business a very excellent and capable man. There is no better young man in Camden than Grover Blackwell—honest, high-toned and an all-around good fellow. We are sorry he has decided to leave Camden, but wish him success in his new venture. We commend him to the people of Union as a deserving young man and a perfect gentleman.—Waterloo Messenger.

Scalded to Death.

Mr. John H. Hough, spinning room boss at Monarch mills, was called to Spartanburg the last of last week on account of the serious scalding of his brother's little child in that city. The child was about eighteen months old. The mother had put a kettle of water on the grate to heat. The little child pulled it over and was terribly scalded on Friday morning and died Saturday night.

Ministers' Meeting.

A ministers' conference consisting of the Baptist pastors in the Union county association was organized here last Monday morning at the home of Dr. J. J. Taylor.

Dr. Taylor was chosen as presiding officer over all meetings and Rev. J. T. Going secretary. A program for the next convention was arranged, and speakers appointed on the same.

The next meeting will be held on Monday morning after the first Sunday in June, when the subject of evangelism will be discussed.

A Hail Storm.

Hail fell as big as hen eggs at "shoe-moth deep" about half way between the Forest and Tiger rivers near the settlement known as Robert Greer settlement Monday afternoon. Leaves were beaten from the trees and into the shingles on the houses "like some one hit with a hammer." One of the eye witnesses put it...

Newberry county will hold a dispensary election in November. Tat county is now without dispensary.

HOW THE VOTES STAND

The Times Voting Contest for Top to Jamestown Exposition.

TEACHERS.

Belle Moorhead..... 3800
Frances H. Whitmore..... 3100
Alba Walker..... 1800
Mahala Smith..... 1200
Mary Meador..... 1200
Blanche Garner..... 500
Louise Bonneau..... 300
Cornelia Greer..... 300
Jessie High..... 300
Carrie Hawkins..... 300
Mary Cunningham..... 100

SCHOOL GIRLS.

Annie Kelly..... 3400
Claribel Fant..... 1400
Mabel Goudelock..... 1300
Maggie Mangum..... 1200
Louise Long..... 900
Ruth Wilburn..... 900
Auretta Wilburn..... 700

SCHOOL BOYS.

D. Arthur, Jr..... 2900
K. Ezell..... 1600
E. Free..... 1300
Harry Shaw..... 900
Witt Whitlock..... 400
Ed Lawson..... 300
Ezra Beck..... 100
Omer Williams..... 100

Letter From Oklahoma.

Oklahoma City, Okla., May 6.

Editor:

I will give you a short letter from Oklahoma as it is a new country.

I landed at Junction City on the 31 day of March, and I can't tell you how the country looked to me. Just think of it, 35 miles square that never had a horse nor a plowmark on it.

The land is almost level, just a little sloping, and is very rich. The top portion of the land is black and sticky, but some is what these people call chocolate; all produce well hard to plow. The people here are kind to you and are glad to see you come. The land is all taken up and is cut into quarter sections, 160 acres. Where land has been worked for two or three years with a house on it (no barn for the people out here don't have barns, just a little shelter or any old thing) the land is worth from \$30 to \$40 per acre. The land produces well anything that grows in the east—from twelve to fourteen hundred pounds of seed cotton per acre, and from thirty to seventy-five bushels of corn per acre, the bottom land makes the 75 bushels.

Junction City is a small place, it has a nice depot, postoffice, two stores and only one saloon; it is in Comanche county, Lawton is the county seat. It is six years old and has six or seven thousand inhabitants and five good banks.

I came to Oklahoma City April 25th. You talk about your moving cities this just beats anything you ever saw. About every fifth house is a boarding house or hotel and they are crowded all the time. Land two and three miles from the city is worth from \$200 to \$5,000 per acre, and where it is cut into lots near the lake, which the Street Car company is building, bring \$5,000 and \$6,000 per acre.

There is plenty of work here to do of all kinds, and good wages are paid, from \$1.75 to \$5.00 per day for ten hours work.

If this interests any of the readers I may write again.

I am always glad to get your paper.

F. G. Briggs.

Death of Mr. James Kirkpatrick.

Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Carter, of Cross Keys, passed through Union Thursday on their way home from Chester county where they had been called by the sudden death of Mr. James Kirkpatrick, brother of Mr. L. Carter.

Mr. Kirkpatrick came into Chester Tuesday morning, and while unloading his horse, fell and immediately expired. He had had attacks of heart trouble before. His wife was with him when he dropped dead. His body was buried at Armenia church, Chester county.

The steamship Siberia brought from the Orient a distinguished party of Chinese officers, who are to represent the imperial army and navy of China at Jamestown.

DEATH OF MR. JOHN R. SUMNER

Died at His Home in the Coleraine Section Wednesday—He was a Christian Gentleman and Will be Greatly Missed.

This good man died at his home in the Coleraine neighborhood Wednesday morning, May 8, and was buried the following day at Mt. Lebanon church. Mr. Sumner was 62 years old and was a true man and a good citizen. In his home he was an affectionate father and husband. As a citizen he was upright and righteous. As a Christian his life was above reproach. He expressed a willingness to submit to the will of God. His faith was unshaken, even when he found himself face to face with the last enemy, death. He filled a large place in his community and will be sadly missed. His wife preceded him to the grave by three years.

Picnic at Forest Today.

There will be a basket picnic at Murphy's mill on the Forest today. The macadam road has been completed from Union to that point, a distance of about five miles. A committee of citizens living along the road from Union to Cross Keys appeared before the board of county commissioners this week and asked that the work be carried on to Tiger river, a distance of about four and one half miles. This committee was composed of Messrs. C. H. Peake, M. W. Bobo, Sanford Wilburn, J. W. Sanders and others. They propose to contribute by private subscription the money necessary to carry the work that far. There is something like one thousand or fifteen hundred dollars left on hand for permanent road building this year. This, it is claimed, is but a small amount and will not pay for the construction of the road from the Forest to Tiger river after the sum on hand is used up. On the other hand there is strong effort being made by citizens living east of Union to have the machinery moved and have work begin on the Lockhart road. The matter was left undecided by the board of commissioners and will be again brought up at the picnic today.

The public is invited to attend the picnic and requested to bring well filled baskets.

Citizens Want New Road Opened.

A movement is on foot to get a new road opened from Jonesville to Pacolet River, a distance of some seven miles. This proposed road will strike the river about half way between Grendall Shoals and Pacolet. Citizens of Jonesville and the community around have offered to make liberal private subscriptions to the enterprise. A committee of them appeared before the county commissioner's board here this week in the interest of the enterprise. They hope to have Union County bear one half the expense of a bridge over Pacolet, and Cherokee County the other half.

Honor Roll of Santuck School.

First grade, section (a)—M. Jeter, Helen Stevens, Ben Adams. Section (b)—Lucy Gilmore, Ollie Moss.

Second grade—Curtis Gregory, Jno. Mobley Jeter.

Third grade—Lizzie Stevens, Dot Moss.

Fourth grade—Lizzie Jeter, Russell Jeter, Fred Gregory, John Cornwell.

Sixth grade—Ryan Jeter, Lillie Stevens, Will Grady, Robert Moss.

Seventh grade—James Jeter, Mattie Gregory, Pauline McDaniel, Clarence Worthing, Ernest Gilmore, Mary Jenkins, Beatrice McDaniel.

Eighth grade—Kathleen Jeter, Annie Ruth Fant, Davis Page, Bessie Page.

Ninth grade—Claribel Fant.

W. Z. Dantzer, Prin.

Civic League to Meet.

On Monday afternoon at 6 o'clock there will be a called meeting of the civic league. The president, Mrs. F. M. Farr requests that all members attend as business of importance will be transacted. The meeting will be held at Carnegie Library building.

CONFEDERATE MONUMENT ERECTED

Exact Date of Unveiling Not Known But Will be About May 24th or 25th—It is a Memento of the "Boys of '61."

The Union County Confederate monument is finished. The beautiful shaft of Georgia granite stands on historic ground in the most conspicuous spot in the town of Union—the slight elevation at the intersection of Main and Judgment streets. For all time it is to remind the coming generations of the sufferings and sacrifices made by the people of Union county in the 60's, and to tell them that truth, courage and patriotism are more enduring than the "Almighty dollar."

The Wm. Wallace Chapter U. D. C. was organized in March of 1903 for the sole purpose of erecting this monument. To this end the ladies have toiled faithfully, persistently and often under great discouragements.

The first effort toward the monument fund was made in 1904 when some fine chrysanthemums and the "Monument Bouquet" were put on sale in the show window of T. E. Bailey's furniture parlor. Mr. B. F. Arthur paid \$25.00 for this bouquet which carried with it the honor of marking the site of the monument. By this sale of flowers \$50.00 was deposited in the Peoples Bank as a nucleus for the monument fund.

The first voluntary contribution to the fund was made to Mr. B. F. Arthur by Mrs. Trefzer and family on Dec. 6, 1904, the second by L. B. Willard and family on Dec. 10, 1904. By means of the Christmas concerts, and the luncheon of May, 1906, the fund was increased to \$700. In July of 1906 the McNeel Marble Co. submitted to the Chapter designs for a monument and offered to erect it at a cost of \$1000.

One by one the thin grey line of white-haired veterans were rapidly crossing "over the river to rest in the shade of the trees" with Lee and Jackson. Soon they would all be gone. The ladies gazed wistfully at each other—accepted a design and signed the contract.

Within the past years, subscriptions and contributions have been solicited—every effort has been made to raise the \$2000 necessary to pay in July for the monument before it is unveiled. The full amount must be in hand on or before May 24. The ladies do hereby earnestly beg subscribers to pay in their subscriptions as soon as possible to Mrs. B. C. Clifford or Capt. F. M. Farr. They also ask all who have not contributed to do so at once. Something more than \$2000 is needed at once. Fifty iron crosses of honor, each weighing 15 lbs have been ordered and one will be placed as a permanent marker at the grave of each Confederate soldier buried in the town limits. One of the favorite songs of the young soldiers of the 60's was "Do they think of me at home?"

After forty long years of silence the daughters and sisters of Union county are signalling the answer across the river to the silent land. Will you take part in this work? It is understood that the unveiling will take place on May 24 or 25. The exact date will be announced later.

Cross Keys School Closed.

The school at Cross Keys closed May 1, after a six months session. Miss Minnie Lou Bobo, daughter of Mr. W. Fowler Bobo, was the teacher. The patrons of the school were very much pleased with their teacher, and the progress of the students was highly satisfactory.

Graded Schools Close.

Prof. W. H. Hand, of South Carolina University, will deliver the address at the closing of the graded schools, Friday, May 31. The exercises will begin at 10 o'clock. It is probable that the exercises will be held in the grove surrounding the central school building. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Mr. M. B. Lee, of Bogansville, paid us a visit Wednesday. He is preparing to make the trip to the reunion at Richmond; in fact, he seldom misses one of these gatherings.