

THE CAMDEN CHRONICLE

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Published every Friday at No. 1109 Broad street and entered at the Camden, South Carolina postoffice as second class mail matter. Price per annum \$2.00.

Camden, S. C. Friday, May 9, 1924

Our old friend, the Redpath Chautauqua, is with us again—the opening attraction began yesterday afternoon. The program this year, as usual, is full of good things—plays, lectures, readings and music, which will be greatly enjoyed by our people. For several years the Camden people have been enjoying these attractions, which have proven of great benefit and inspiration to all who have attended. The chautauqua is worthy of the patronage of all our people and should be encouraged to the fullest.

We are presenting on this page today a statement from Chairman Hough of the City Council and Chairman DuBose of the Chamber of Commerce relative to the Wateree Mills property being excluded from the city limits which has been the subject of discussion for some time. These gentlemen have gone fully into the matter and have set forth in a clear manner the benefits to be derived from such a move on the part of the citizens. According to their statement it would cause a decrease in the tax levy for School District No. 1, which after all, is the same as a decrease for those who pay city taxes. It is the purpose to circulate a petition immediately asking that an election be held to submit the proposition to the voters at an early date. This great mill expansion just outside the city limits would mean much for the industrial development of Camden and we hope that our citizens will be only too willing to grant the concessions asked by the mill people. The statement published is well worthy of your careful reading.

Hermitage Community News.

Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Trull had as their guests last Sunday Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Trull of Columbia.

Mr. M. A. Crolley and family of Kershaw spent last Sunday with friends and relatives in our community.

Mr. and Mrs. Parzell and family of Darlington were visitors at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Kinsey, last Sunday.

Mrs. J. A. Crolley has returned from St. George after visiting her daughter, Mrs. Eddings.

Mr. Dixon and son, Cecil, of Lando are visiting Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Nelson.

Mr. S. M. Crolley of Darlington spent Sunday at the home of his mother, Mrs. J. A. Crolley.

Mr. Earl Guion is home on a furlough from the U. S. Navy.

Coming as a complete surprise to their friends was the marriage of Miss Edith Eddings and Mr. Oscar Henton which took place Saturday evening at eight o'clock, Judge of Probate W. L. McDowell officiating. They have our best wishes.

Messrs. A. S. Dyer and C. H. Zemp spent the week-end in Charlotte.

Mr. R. B. Pitts was unexpectedly called to Chicago last week on account of the death of his uncle. Both Mr. and Mrs. Pitts have our sympathy in this bereavement.

A Suggestion for the House.

We wish to suggest the name of J. R. Belk for the House of Representatives and hope he will make the race, as we need good business men in the Legislature. Many Friends.

For Superintendent of Education.

I wish to thank my friends for announcing me for County Superintendent of Education for Kershaw County. After considering the matter I will decline the office and will appreciate the support of the people. I have disposed of my business interests and therefore I am in position to devote my time to the Superintendent's work which I will do if elected. I need no introduction to the people of Kershaw County; my work record is known.
J. L. MCKENZIE

FOR COUNTY DIRECTOR

I hereby announce myself as a candidate for the office of County Director from West Wateree Township, subject to the rules of the Democratic primary.
J. L. HINSON

FOR ROAD SUPERINTENDENT

At the solicitation of my many friends throughout the county, I hereby announce myself as a candidate for the office of Road Superintendent of Kershaw County, subject to the rules and regulations of the Democratic primary.
D. T. YARBROUGH

Teachers' Examination.

The State Board of Education has ordered that the next teachers' examination be held in Camden on May 9th and 10th. All applicants are expected to be present at the Court House at nine o'clock.
ALLEN B. MURCHISON,
Sec. County Board Education.

OFFICERS RE-ELECTED

All City Employees Retain Their Jobs With Increased Pay.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Camden City Council held Monday last all of the city employees were re-elected. In appreciation of their officering the city ordered an increase in salary of \$15 per month to all of the regularly employed officers. Those re-elected were: A. G. Whitaker, chief of police; H. D. Hilton, C. C. Brown, J. W. Cole and G. F. Cooley policemen; W. D. Whitaker, street commissioner; J. W. Wilson, health officer; H. C. Singleton, city clerk and treasurer; L. A. Wittkowsky, city attorney; W. F. Nettles, chief of the fire department; J. D. Kemp, foreman fire department; G. L. Blackwell, keeper of city clock.

The following committee, with Alderman J. H. Osborne to act as mayor pro tem, were named to serve:

Finance—W. L. Jackson, chairman; J. H. Osborne, W. R. Hough.

Police Department—D. O. Houser, chairman; O. J. Smyrl, W. L. Jackson.

Water and Light Department—J. H. Osborne, chairman; W. R. Hough, W. L. Jackson.

Street Department—E. C. Zemp, chairman; W. R. Hough, W. L. Jackson.

Fire and Building—W. R. Hough, chairman; E. C. Zemp, D. O. Houser.

Civic Improvement and City Property—O. J. Smyrl chairman, E. C. Zemp, W. R. Hough.

Chamber of Commerce Notes

The response to a call for subscriptions in money and for donations of supplies for the sufferers in the recent tornado in Sumter county was liberal in Camden. The Camden Chronicle and the Chamber of Commerce jointly collected about \$1,000 and there were also good donations of supplies. The secretary of the Chamber of Commerce carried a truck load of clothing and groceries to Sumter Tuesday for distribution there by the Central Committee.

Camden's Oldest Business House.

For 125 years or more the drug business now known as the W. Robin Zemp Drug Store has run continuously in Camden. This history begins about the year 1799 when Dr. Joshua Reynolds first opened this store on Broad street opposite the old jail. He served the people of Camden for half a century and upon his death willed it to his son-in-law, Dr. Francis L. Zemp. This was in 1840 and Dr. Francis Zemp ran the business until 1891. During the Civil War the store was burned by Sherman when his soldiers were so careless with fire in this part of the world. The store was moved in 1877 to the present location, being the first business place in the block.

In 1891 the drug store was taken over by F. Leslie Zemp, the father of the present owner. He retired in 1912 in favor of his son, W. Robin Zemp who has since run the business. The Gibson Company, art publishers, in Cincinnati have had this store and the store of Fant Drug Company as their customers since 1868, the two oldest accounts on their books, the last named store being in Anderson, S. C.

The present store of W. Robin Zemp is one of the most up-to-date drug stores in the state of South Carolina.

Our Building and Loan Associations.

Camden's four Building and Loan associations are assets that the city should prize highly, as few towns are so well equipped with agencies for aiding thrift and home-building. With a total of 9,723 shares of stock now being paid for there is saved annually over \$116,000, and that much money is available for the building of homes. These figures do not include the earnings on the shares. About 18,000 shares of stock have been paid for since 1885, or \$1,800,000 saved and invested at one dollar per month on a share.

The four associations, with their objects are as follows:

Enterprise—Established 1885, has matured twelve series of stock, and is now running the 13th, 14th, and 15th series, a total of 3,820 shares. W. R. Zemp, president; W. E. Johnson, secretary-treasurer.

Water—Established 1901, has matured five series and now running the 6th and 7th series, a total of 2,000 shares. W. J. Dunn, president; J. T. Macken, secretary-treasurer.

Camden—Established 1916, has matured one series, and now running the 2nd and 3rd series, a total of 2,780 shares. John T. Nettles, president; John S. Lindsay, secretary-treasurer.

Fidelity—Established 1923 is in its first series, a total of 1,050 shares. W. F. Nettles, president; J. E. Wallace, secretary-treasurer.

The average stock earnings are about 8 1-2 per cent, and yet the stockholder, who borrows money, has to pay only about 6 1-2 per cent interest net.

Joseph McMonigal was executed at the Colorado state prison Saturday for the murder of Miss Ella Centers.

IN THE POULTRY SECTION

Chronicle Man Takes Delightful Trip Through Chesterfield.

Through the courtesy of Mr. W. H. Pearce a Chronicle man in company with Messrs B. P. DeLoache and W. M. Lollis had a delightful automobile trip last week through Chesterfield and a portion of Marlboro county, visiting first the bustling towns of Cheraw and Bennettsville. Both of these Pee Dee cities have their streets badly torn up, a large paving program being under way in both towns, with evidence of much building under way.

The main object of our trip was to visit the Crawford poultry farm, one of the largest perhaps in this state or section. We were kindly shown through this farm which comprises something like twenty acres. Mr. Crawford specializes in white leghorns and some idea of the large scale on which he operates can be gained when it is said that he has 2,700 laying hens, and the day we were there he had 2,000 friers in pens. There was an incubator in process of hatching which carried 10,300 eggs. The farm is under the supervision of an Austrian who has spent his life in the breeding of poultry. It takes a car load of chicken feed per month to furnish these fowls.

Mr. Crawford has a large pen of chickens, Russian Orloffs, a large breed of chickens, which cost him around \$1,000. He expects to sell these eggs at \$1.00 each. Last year from his white leghorns he sold 35,000 day old chicks, and this season expects to sell around 60,000. When asked where he found a market for them, he replied, "from coast to coast." Mr. Crawford supplies eggs for the large Kirkwood Hotel of Camden during the winter season.

Leaving Cheraw we went on to Chesterfield court house, where we stopped at the home of W. H. Tiller, the county agent of Chesterfield. He drove us to other poultry farms, but none as large as the Crawford farm. Much of the credit for the interest aroused in the poultry raising in Chesterfield county is due to the work of Mr. Tiller. He is a man who does things. As an evidence of what the people of his county think of his services Mr. Tiller was offered a fine position with the industrial department of one of the railway systems, but his friends immediately met the raise in salary by public donations and Mr. Tiller remains in Chesterfield. Two carloads of poultry are being shipped from this county this week.

Our trip carried us through the towns of Pageland, Mt. Crogan and Jefferson.

Not many years ago Chesterfield county was considered one of the poorest counties in the state, with sand so deep it was almost impossible to travel. Today the whole county is traversed by a fine system of sand-clay roads, as good as can be found. The whole county is dotted with handsome farm houses, good farm lands and these people seem to be prospering. Judging from the number of colored people owning and driving automobiles, they too, are prospering.

Our trip carried us through the farms of the Kirkwoods', McLaurins', Laneys', Littles' and others—some of the largest and wealthiest planters in the state. The route covered was nearly 200 miles, and being territory that three of us had never been into before, the entire trip proved most interesting and delightful.

Mr. Hallett to Leave.

Camden people will regret to learn that Mr. H. K. Hallett, who for a number of years has been the popular and efficient superintendent of the Wateree Mills of this city will leave soon to become superintendent of the Thrift Manufacturing Company at Paw Creek, N. C., a few miles north of Charlotte. It is a much larger plant than that of the Wateree Mills, and was recently purchased by Mr. Kendall who is also owner of the Wateree Mills plant.

Mr. Hallett has been identified with everything pertaining to Camden's betterment and their friends, while congratulating him on securing a much better position, regret that it will necessitate he and Mrs. Hallett making their home elsewhere.

Murderer Reported Seen Here.

Police received word last night that Willie Rowman, who shot and killed his wife on lower Mill street one night last week had visited the home of John Reed in this city Wednesday night. By the time the officers arrived he had again made his escape, and it is said that he had been seen at two other places in town, but the police have been unable to locate him.

Poli Negri, famous Polish moving picture actress, has filed her first papers in applying for American citizenship.

A Statement

TO THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL:

City Council in regular session May 5th appointed a committee to look into the advisability recommending to the citizens of Camden the voting out of the city limits the property of the Wateree Mills. This committee along with a committee from the Chamber of Commerce has made a thorough investigation on this important matter and begs to submit the following report:

If the Wateree Mills are excluded from the city limits as recommended by this committee, its plant will be enlarged from nineteen thousand spindles to fifty thousand spindles. This would mean an expenditure of fully \$1,500,000.00 for buildings and machinery in this community, and of course a large increase in population. It would mean an addition of some three or four thousand dollars to the taxable values of this School District. It would seem that such an improvement would be welcome to all.

We recommend that the question of excluding the Mill property be submitted to the freeholders and voters of Camden. We have gathered here some data from the tax books, from Mr. Kendall's informal remarks before an open meeting of City Council, and from our careful study of the situation which may be helpful to the public in reaching a conclusion on this subject.

It seems to us that there can be no dispute that the benefits to the business interests of Camden from the proposed improvements would be considerable.

The Pay Roll of the present Mill running night and day is, as explained by Mr. Kendall, approximately \$4,250 a week. If the Mill was increased to fifty thousand spindles and was on day shift only the increased Pay Roll would amount to over \$52,000.00 annually more than at present. If these fifty thousand spindles were operated day and night it would mean a yearly Pay Roll of around \$581,568.00 on the present scale of wages.

Previous to hearing Mr. Kendall at the Council meeting there was some question as to the amount of the Mill's Pay Roll which was expended at the Mill Store. This figure as shown by him was only 15 per cent. It was further explained that the store was built for the convenience of the people through its location and twice daily deliveries, as well as quality of food.

Thus it shows that a large majority of this increased Pay Roll will be circulated here in Camden, not a seasonable proposition but a weekly one.

In order to secure this additional development there would be no sacrifice involved on the part of the citizens from the standpoint of taxation as it must be remembered that the taxpayers of Camden reside also in School District No. 1, DeKalb Township, Kershaw County, to which they pay taxes as well as to the city. The tax levy on property in Camden for city purposes is 25 mills. The levy in School District No. 1 is 44 mills, for state, county, township and school. The Wateree Mill pays at present under the School District levy \$8,383.00.

On the Auditor's book in School District No. 1 Wateree Mills is assessed at \$190,500.00 for its nineteen thousand spindles, that is, \$10.00 a spindle. If thirty one thousand spindles are added to the plant as proposed, at the present rate of valuation, the taxable values of the Mill will be increased to \$500,500.00 and its tax in School District No. 1 at 44 mills, the present rate, would be increased from \$8,383.00 to \$22,220.00 or \$13,840.00 more than at present.

So that if the Mill is excluded and enlarged as proposed, there will be a gain to the taxpayers of the community on the score of taxation alone.

In giving consideration to this matter it is well to bear in mind that the exclusion of the Mill from the city will not release it from liability to contribute proportionately to the city Bond debt, although the Mill in no way receives any benefits whatsoever from the city.

It is in anticipation of this development that the city is now in position (See Exhibit below) to make a new contract with the Carolina Power & Light Company, and one that is of considerable advantage as it will give us the benefit of lower rates and furthermore it will not be necessary for the city to increase its present tax levy, operating as it will under a new contract with the Power Company.

Summing up this proposition it will appear that it is not necessary to increase the tax levy of the city of Camden in case the Mill should be excluded from the city limits, and an industry such as the proposed enlargement of Wateree Mills would be an enormous advantage to the business interests of the city.

In conclusion we recommend that City Council endorse the excluding of the Mill property from the city limits and submit the same to the freeholders and voters of Camden for action.

W. R. HOUGH, Chairman.
CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE
C. P. DuBOSE, Chairman.
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Carolina Power and Light Company

Raleigh, N. C., May 3rd, 1924.

MR. H. G. CARRISON, Mayor,
Camden, South Carolina.

Dear Sir:—At the conference held in our office on Wednesday, April 30th, at which your good self, Mr. DuBose, Mr. Hough and Mr. Alred, representing the City Council and Chamber of Commerce of Camden were present, the plans you have in mind for promoting an extension of the Wateree Mills were discussed. I am pleased to advise that after further consideration of these plans my company will be agreeable to co-operating with you along the lines you suggested, as follows:

We will be willing to enter into a new contract for power service with the City at any time the Council is ready to do so within the next six months. This new contract to embody the same terms and provisions as the existing contract; to provide for the cancellation of the existing contract when it goes into effect; the service to begin under the new contract when executed and continue for a period of ten years. We trust this will fully meet your views in regard to this matter.

It may be of interest to you to know that we have arranged to put in effect on September 1, 1924, a new schedule for service to Central Stations, known as Schedule P-31, copy of which is attached. This schedule will become a part of the new proposed contract above referred to on that date and service will be rendered under the provisions of the same. This schedule will result in considerable saving in your power cost.

We trust you will be successful in carrying out the plans above referred to in order that your City may secure the benefits of the additional pay rolls, etc., which will result from an expansion of the mills. Yours very truly,
C. N. RACKLIFFE,
Manager Power Department.

City Council Approves

Members of City Council in special session Thursday morning met and unanimously endorsed the suggestion as outlined by Chairman Hough and Chairman DuBose.