

# The Laurens Advertiser.

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LAURENS, SOUTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 1912.

NUMBER 39

## GRAY COURT-OWINGS WINS FIRST HONORS

### Victors in Oratorical Contest and Track Meet.

## LAURENS HIGH SCHOOL WINS SECOND PLACE

Charles Garrison Won Gold Medal in the Oratorical Contest and Richard Dunlap Came Second—Speeches were All on a High Plane, the Young Orators Doing Splendidly.

The annual county oratorical contest, held in the graded school auditorium Friday evening, was won by Charles Garrison, of the Gray Court-Owings high school, his subject being "The New South and the Race Problem." Richard Dunlap, of the Laurens city schools, won second place, his subject being "The Black Horse and His Rider." Charles Garrison was presented with a gold medal by the association and Richard Dunlap was presented with a silver one. The presentation speech was made by Dr. R. Z. Thomas, of Newberry College, who acted as one of the judges. The other judges were Supt. E. L. Hughes, of the Greenville city schools, and Dr. Pugh, of Wofford College.

Following is the program of the evening:

Prayer by Rev. C. F. Rankin.

### Music

Introductory by Clayton Young, Vice President of the Association.

Melvin Abercrombie, Shiloh High School—"The Death of James A. Garfield."

### Music

Charles Aycock, Clinton High School—"The Negro and the South".

### Music

Richard Dunlap, Laurens City High School—"The Black Horse and His Rider".

### Music

Thomas Freeman, Princeton High School—"The Path of History".

### Music

Charles Gallison, Gray Court-Owings High School—"The New South and the Race Problem".

### Music

Coyle Moore, Waterloo High School—"The Equality of Man".

### Music

Dewey Nelson, Cross Hill High School—"Sparticus to the Gladiators at Capua".

### Music

Mike Parks, Trinity-Ridge High School—"A Plea for Cuba".

### Music

Awarding of medals.

Not to have been one of the prize winners in the contest could not possibly be considered the least reflection upon any of the speakers, for without exception the speeches were all of a high order. The young folks acquitted themselves well and each school represented should feel proud of the effort made by its representative. Doubt and speculation as to the winners was expressed on every side until the judges made known their decision. The medals were closely contested for and the judges doubtless had a difficult time coming to a decision. To all it was apparent, however, that the two young men who were finally awarded the medals would be among those at the top. Considerable difference of opinion was expressed by all after the last speaker had finished, but the decision of the judges was received by all in good grace for it was realized that the judges would have considerable difficulty in coming to an understanding. Everybody went away well pleased with the decision.

An immense crowd, filling the auditorium to overflowing, was present and much enthusiasm was shown by the partisans of the speakers. Good natured rivalry existed and fine order prevailed.

A feature of the evening was the excellent music furnished by the Presbyterian College orchestra.

The officers of the association are: Richard Dunlap, President; Clayton Young, Vice President; W. J. Hill, Secretary; M. S. Boyd, Treasurer.

The executive committee is composed of: Richard Dunlap, Clayton Young, W. J. Hill, M. S. Boyd, Prof. B. L. Jones, Prof. E. H. Hall, Prof. J. C. Martin.

The ushers Friday evening were: Clarence Nelson, Hayne Taylor, Julius

## FIRST TRACK MEET A GREAT SUCCESS

Gray Court-Owings High School Took off First Honors, Followed by Laurens and then by Clinton.

With a fine crowd of school girls, boys and others present, the first inter-high school athletic contest was pulled off last Friday in Owings pasture. Notwithstanding the unfitness of the field the meet was successful in the highest degree. As the scores easily shows, the Gray Court-Owings athletes had the blue ribbon folded away from the beginning and when the final count was made public the aforesaid team had 48 1-3 points to their credit against 25 1-3 for Laurens and 16 1-3 for Clinton.

However the score doesn't tell the whole story. In nearly every event the winners were forced to exert themselves to the utmost for close behind them the near-winners kept them from taking things easy. The Gray Court boys showed superiority in form and training in most of the events, especially so in the shot put and the pole vaulting. The Clinton team made many close seconds and the locals hauled off a few first honors here and there. The work of Conner Owens of the winning team deserves special mention, he having won first in four events—high jump, broad jump, pole vaulting and 110-yard hurdle.

The following are the events and winners:

### 100-Yard Dash

Julius Sitgreaves, Laurens, first; Edwin Moseley, Laurens, second; Douglas Copeland, Clinton, third.

### Shot Put

Eugene Cox, Gray Court, first; George Little, Clinton, second; Claude Garrett, Laurens, third.

### 110-Yard Hurdle

Conner Owens, Gray Court, first; Hill, Gray Court, second; Sullivan, Laurens and Galloway, Clinton, tied for third.

### 220-Yard Dash

Julius Sitgreaves, Laurens, first; Earl Brooks, Gray Court, second; Edwin Moseley, Laurens, third.

### High Jump

Owens and Armstrong, Gray Court, tied for first; Chessly Duval, Clinton, third.

### 440-Yard Run

Earl Brooks, Gray Court, first; Edwin Moseley, Laurens, second; Herbert Sullivan, Laurens, third.

### Broad Jump

Conner Owens, Gray Court, first; Julius Sitgreaves, Laurens, second; Chessly Duval, Clinton, third.

### Pole Vault

Conner Owens, Gray Court, first; Sam Prather, Clinton second; Earl Brooks, Gray Court, third.

### 880-Yard Run

Earl Brooks, Gray Court, first; D. Copeland, Clinton, second; Julius Sitgreaves, Laurens, third.

### 1 Mile Run

Waddie Hill, Gray Court, first; Chessly Duval, Clinton, second; James Holmes, Laurens, third.

### The Ball Game

Under very unfavorable conditions in the way of grass, ditches and cows the Greenville High School ball team outplayed the local school team last Friday by the lop-sided score of 14 to 3. Although it won't go down in history as a perfect spheroid combat, still the onlookers were treated to something startling in nearly every inning. In many instances these points of interest were in the way of startling errors.

Notwithstanding the poor field the Greenville team showed up well, pulling off several spasms of good hitting good fielding and excellent team work. Both batteries were exceptionally good for "high-schoolers". Considering the support given them the Laurens slabster and backstop deserve most of the credit for keeping the score down.

Sitgreaves, Otis Huff, Wales Watson, Roy Owings, Edwin Moseley, John Wofford.

The Oratorical association was inaugurated several years ago, Supt. of Education Geo. L. Pitts being the moving spirit. As each year goes by the interest in this particular line of school work increases and steady improvement continues. Laurens county is one of the very few counties that has such an association and probably was the first in the state to inaugurate one. The association is a permanent one and another contest will be held next year.

## AN UNKNOWN SHIP PASSED TITANIC

### Signals Flashed to Her for Assistance.

## NO ANSWER WAS RECEIVED BY TITANIC

Statement of One of the Officers of the Titanic before Investigating Committee Lays Grave Charge of Cowardly Act at Feet of Unknown Ship.

Washington, April 22.—With succor only five miles away, the Titanic slid into its watery grave, carrying with it more than 1,600 of its passengers and crew, while an unidentified steamer that might have saved all failed or refused to see the frantic signals flashed to it for aid.

This phase of the tragic disaster was brought out today before the senate investigating committee when J. B. Boxhall, fourth officer of the Titanic, told of his unsuccessful attempts to attract the stranger's attention.

This ship, according to Boxhall, could not have been more than five miles away and was steaming toward the Titanic. So close was it that from the bridge Boxhall plainly saw its masthead lights and then its red side light.

### Signals unanswered.

Both with rockets and with the Morse electric signal did the young officer hail the stranger. Capt. Smith and several others in the vicinity of the bridge declared at the time their belief that the vessel had seen them and was signalling in reply. Boxhall failed to see the replies, however, and in any case the steamer kept on its course obliquely past the Titanic without extending aid.

This, and the declaration by P. A. S. Franklin, vice president of the White Star line, that there were not sufficient lifeboats aboard the Titanic to care for the ship's company at one time were easily the features of the hearing.

The official was quizzed throughout the morning session on the messages exchanged between the Carpathia and himself, after the ship had started for New York with the Titanic's survivors aboard. Among the survivors was J. Bruce Ismay, managing director of the line.

Among the wireless telegrams read into the record was one from Mr. Ismay urging that the steamship Cedric be held until the Carpathia arrived with its sorry burden.

He declared he believed it "most desirable" that the survivors of the Titanic's crew be rushed out of the country as quickly as possible. He also, the message said, would sail on the Cedric and asked that clothing be ready at the pier for him when the Carpathia docked. The senate's subpoena blocked the plan.

### Resume Hearing Today.

The committee will resume its hearing at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning. Fourth Officer Boxhall is expected to continue on the stand to tell more fully of the events immediately preceding the collision. J. B. Boxhall, fourth officer of the Titanic, said that his duties always consisted of assisting the senior officer in charge. He described the journey of the Titanic from Belfast to Southampton.

"Were there any drills or any inspection before the Titanic sailed?" asked Senator Smith, the chairman.

"Both," said the witness. "The men were mustered and the lifeboats lowered in the presence of the inspectors from the board of trade."

"Do you know whether the officers were at their customary posts at the forward end during that watch?"

"Yes, Lightoller was on the bridge when I came on at 8 o'clock. He was relieved at ten o'clock by Mr. Murdoch, who remained until the accident happened."

"Who else was on deck?"

"Moody, the sixth officer."

"Who occupied the crow's nest during your watch?"

"Fleet and Leigh."

"Who else was on the lookout?"

"The bridge officer, Mr. Murdoch."

"Was the ordinary complement of officers at their posts?"

"Yes, sir."

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## LAURENS BRIARS REUNITE AGAIN

### Annual Meeting Held at Gray Court.

## ENJOYABLE DAY SPENT BY VETERANS

Gray Courtians Gave the Old Soldiers a Royal Welcome in Spite of the Very Inclement Weather—Col. Jos. N. Brown, of Anderson, Present and Made Address.

The reunion of the Laurens Briars of the 3rd, Company "E" of the 14th, and Company "E" of the 3rd Battalion, at Gray Court on Saturday the 20th was a splendid day for the survivors and their friends.

A cold rain set in about 10 o'clock but as usual we had a goodly number. Prof. J. C. Martin, principal of the Gray Court-Owings Institute, and Mr. John Wells of the C. & W. C. R. R. company, had arranged a most entertaining program. Mr. Wells presided.

The meeting opened with prayer led by venerable Rev. J. K. McCain, who is a loyal veteran, followed by music, "Tenting on the Old Camp Ground". Then an address of welcome by Prof. Martin, responded to by O. G. Thompson. The rendering of "Dixie" was fine and brought forth the rebel yell.

This was followed by the address of Col. Jos. N. Brown. The visits and speeches of Col. Brown are full of interest and instruction. He went over a good deal of his experience on more than one of the great fields of battle. He has lost none of his vigor. Although a man of affluence and extensive business responsibilities he is never so busy but that he will lay down his work and join his old "boys" in their reunions. He was a law partner of R. P. Todd at the commencement of hostilities and each led a company from the upper battalion of 41st regiment of S. C. militia in 1861. Capt. Brown rose to the command of the 14th regiment. Capt. Todd was Lieut. Colonel in command of the 3rd at the surrender. Both were on the firing line at close of the war.

Much regret was expressed at the absence of Capt. H. P. Griffith who commanded Company "E" upon the promotion of Capt. Brown. Capt. Griffith is now a professor in Limestone College. No truer soldier or patriot has served his country in war and peace. The same may be said of another surviving officer of the company, Lieut. A. C. Owings, who was in attendance. I have no idea where he is amongst the organizations that entered the service in 1861, another company in the state that has three surviving commissioned officers living.

There were ten of Co. "E", 14th, present; four of the "Briars" and two of Co. "E" 3rd battalion.

A bounteous dinner was served by the good women and everybody was fed.

In the afternoon we had an eloquent address from Hon. J. H. Miller, a son of a veteran who had been invited for the occasion.

For want of time the calling of company rolls had to be dispensed with. Resolutions were adopted in memory of Comrades Willis H. Hellams of the "Briars", William Riddle, Co. "E" 3rd Bat. and Abner Owens and William Douglas of Co. "E" 14th. These had died since April, 1911.

It may not be generally known, but it is true that our organization antedates that of the general organization of the United Confederate veterans by two years. The latter which meets on the 7th, 8th and 9th of May at Macon for its 24th annual meeting, was organized at New Orleans in 1889 while our company organization dates from 1887, this being our 26th annual meeting, and we have not missed a meeting.

These three companies were each mustered in this same territory and with two other companies of the 14th, "F" and "C"; three others of the 3rd "A", "B" and "I" and four others of the 3rd Battalion, "A", "B", "C" and "D", and Co. "A" of the 13th regiment made up the 13 Laurens infantry companies that served in the brigades of McGowan and Kershaw (four with McGowan and nine with Kershaw).

The next meeting will be held at Barksdale on Saturday, April 12, 1913, 51 years ago the Briars drilled on the lawn in front of James H. Shell

## THE SPRING TERM OF COURT CONVENES

Damages Against the S. A. L. Railroad Awarded Men from Lower Part of County, Enticed Labor.

The spring term of the court of common pleas convened Monday morning with Judge Sease on the bench, Stenographer Aull at his post, Clerk of Court Bolt, Sheriff Owings and the other officers of the court at their accustomed places. The court is to last two weeks or until the calendar is cleared.

The entire first day was taken up with the cases, all tried at one time, of W. D. Boyd, C. R. Workman and T. P. Davis vs the S. A. L. Railroad. This case is one involving the immigration laws of the state, it being charged that the railroad violated the law by coming into this state from Alabama and enticing labor out of the state. The suit was for actual and punitive damages. The specific charge is that the railroad sent an agent to the farms of the three plaintiffs and offered inducements to their laborers to break contracts and go to Alabama. The jury retired to the room late yesterday afternoon and returned a sealed verdict against the railroad. W. D. Boyd was awarded \$500, C. R. Workman \$100 and T. P. Davis \$50.

The court was occupied nearly all yesterday with the trial of two cases of J. M. Copeland vs the S. A. L. Railroad. One case was for actual damages for the loss of a mule by being run over by the railroad's train running through the pasture of the plaintiff. The other case was for punitive damages, the plaintiff charging negligence of the railroad in not providing proper cattle guards where the railroad ran through his pasture. In the first case the plaintiff was awarded the full amount asked for \$210 and interest. In the latter case the jury awarded the plaintiff damages to the amount of \$225.00.

Court adjourned for the day after hearing these cases.

## TRAYNHAM GUARDS INSPECTION

### Gen. W. W. Moore will Make Annual Inspection Friday Afternoon. Capt. McMaster will Represent the Army.

The Traynham Guards will undergo the annual inspection at the hands of Adj. Gen. W. W. Moore Friday afternoon. Capt. Geo. H. McMaster, U. S. A., will also be present to inspect for the government.

Inspection of arms and equipment will take place in the armory some time shortly after noon, but the inspection of the "finery" will take place on the square about 3:30 o'clock in the afternoon. This is a very pretty spectacle and doubtless a large crowd will be out to witness it.

## DEATH OF J. R. BENJAMIN.

### Well Known Confederate Soldier of the Vicinity of Mountville.

Mr. J. R. Benjamin, a well known citizen of the Mountville section, died at his home Monday morning at 7 o'clock. Mr. Benjamin had been sick for some time but was taken seriously ill only recently. The burial services were held yesterday afternoon at Beaver Dam church, of which he was a consistent member. Rev. J. O. Martin, of Cross Hill, conducted the services.

Mr. Benjamin was 72 years, 10 months and 22 days of age. He served gallantly in the Confederate army and since then has been working faithfully on his farm in this county. He was highly esteemed and generally liked by all who knew him.

Mrs. Benjamin preceded him to the grave some years ago. He leaves seven children to mourn his loss.

### Date for Picnic Changed.

The Pine Bluff school will have their picnic at Watts' bridge on Saturday, April the 27th. The public is cordially invited.

### Picnic at Rabun.

On May 3rd, 1912 there will be a picnic given at Rabun Creek Baptist church by the Eden and Rabun schools Prof. Breeden, of Anderson and Rev. David Ramsey, of Greenville, and several other prominent speakers have been invited to come. The public is cordially invited to come and bring well filled baskets.

house, from then till now these people have bid us welcome and fed us with lavish hands. It is no wonder that it is called a favored region.

"A Survivor."

## NEWS OF THE WEEK IN TOWN OF CLINTON

### Streets in Worse Condition Than in Years.

## PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS ON POPULAR PEOPLE

Cleverly Presented Play, Directed by Miss Laura Aull, Scores Success at the Utopia Hall—A Breach of Promise Case in the Near Future—Personal Items.

Clinton, April 23.—The most talked of subject in Clinton these days is mud. Owing to the continued bad weather of the winter which prevented much work being done on the streets and the upturned soft surface left by the laying of sewerage the streets are in the worst condition they have perhaps ever been. Intimate friends living across the street from each other and accustomed to running in and out of each other's house many times a day have to go to the nearest corner to cross, in many parts of the town.

### Valley Farm.

Last Thursday evening at the Utopia a number of young people under the direction of Miss Laurie Aull presented very cleverly, a play called Valley Farm. The cast consisted of the following players: Misses Clayte Bailey, Ame Copeland, Annie Alcock, Emma Chandler, Hattie Finney, Laura Aull, and Messrs. Kenneth Burdette, Joe Hickson Little, Ferdinand Jacobs, Fred Wham, Sam Kern, and Claye Young.

All did so well that it seems unfair to single out those whose parts afforded them better opportunity to distinguish themselves for special praise. The proceeds after paying expenses were very good. They will be divided between the public library and the tenth grade's commencement fund.

### A Breach of Promise Case.

On the evening of May 2nd the public library association will organize a mock court for the trial of a sensational breach of promise case. The plaintiff's part will be taken by Mrs. E. H. Hall and the defendant's part will be played by Mr. T. P. Carson. Mr. H. L. Scaife will act as judge. Able counsel, an intelligent jury, and numerous mirth-provoking witnesses will render this case of such interest that it is expected the court room will be crowded.

### Base Ball News.

P. C. played Erskine on Friday and Saturday afternoons, losing the first game by a score of 6 to 7 and winning the second 6 to 3. The team had a pleasant trip to Due West.

This afternoon they played Newberry at Newberry. A crowd of enthusiastic rooters went down from Clinton.

### Visitors at Orphanage.

A party of twelve ladies from Athens, Ga. are paying a visit of inspection to the Thornwell Orphanage.

### Personal Items.

Mrs. W. J. Bailey, Miss Clara Duckett, Mrs. B. H. Boyd, Miss Mollie Munson and Mrs. E. H. Hall and children are among those expecting to attend the Spartanburg festival. A big crowd from here will probably go to Rock Hill for the inter-collegiate oratorical contest next Friday evening.

### WILL CLOSE AT 6:30.

### Grocery Stores to Close Little Later Than Others.

We the undersigned agree to close our stores at 6:30 o'clock during the months of May, June, July, and August Saturdays excepted:

John A. Franks, Hunter & Co., Owings & Owings, Dixie Flour and Grain Co., J. H. Sullivan, J. M. Philpot, Kennedy Bros., Mahaffey & Babb, Todd, Simpson & Co., Dial Co., J. C. Shell & Co., J. S. Bennett, R. C. Gray & Co.

### Harris Springs.

The Advertiser has just received a neat little descriptive booklet of one of this county's valuable assets—Harris Springs. The booklet is gotten out by the company for advertising purposes, the enterprising manager, Mr. C. H. Pettus having great faith in the excellence of the mineral water. This faith is backed by hundreds of strong testimonials, many of which are given in the little booklet. The company is doing a big water and ginger-ale business.