

**THE GASTONIAN**  
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TELEPHONE NUMBER 39

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1915.

**STUDY AT HOME OR STUDY AT SCHOOL?**

There is some agitation in certain sections of the State to do away with the plan of having the children doing their studying at home and only going to school to recite. It is not exactly fair to the children that this should be done and certainly is hard on the parents. Take two children of the same mental capacity, one is the child of a well educated person, the other of parents who have not had the advantages of even a common school education. Let them go home to study and one is drilled in its lessons and comes to school with a perfect lesson. The other cannot get its lesson because it has not the capacity and cannot secure help from its parents, consequently falls down on its studies and gets a bad mark, yet knows that he or she has more natural ability than the other child. That is discouraging to the child with the parents who are not able to help it. Of course, the former child was lucky to be born of parents who could show it, while the other is suffering on account of the misfortunes of its parents. If these children were drilled by the teacher there would be no advantage gained.

We know that there are two sides to every question and we are not well enough informed on the subject to handle it in an intelligent manner, but personally we are heartily in favor of the "teachers" doing the teaching even if they have to be paid more money. The Statesville Landmark is very much interested in the matter and has the following in its last issue regarding the question.

"The Charlotte Observer says 'The Landmark and others are advocating a reform in school methods so that children will do their studying at school, and not at home.' This is not exactly. Under present conditions, in the city schools, or most of them, the children do 75 to 90 per cent. of their studying at home and 10 to 25 per cent. in school. The Landmark would reverse the situation. It would have 75 to 90 per cent. of the studies in the school room, where the teacher could supervise and help, and 10 to 25 per cent. at home. The Observer says if children did all their studying in the school room it would require 22 years to graduate from high school instead of 11, and the average youth would be ready to enter college at the age of 28 and graduate at 36. Some teacher trying to dodge work of course gave Col. Harris that information. More studies in the school room would of course mean longer hours there, which would affect nobody but the teacher. Instead of sending the children home to study in the afternoons the teacher could stay with them in the school room for a part of the afternoon at least and help them to make better progress than they can possibly make at home alone, or with the help parents can give.

"The Landmark has no desire to prolong the time of the children in school. With the multiplicity of studies and the multiplicity of grades in the modern graded school it takes even an apt pupil from infancy to practically early manhood or womanhood to get through now. What the children need is more help from the teachers and fewer studies."

It seems that the "study at school" system has been tried out at Hickory and found to be an improvement over the "study at home" method. The following letter was sent to the Charlotte Observer regarding the matter:

To the Editor of The Observer:

In a recent editorial comment you expressed the opinion that there are disadvantages about having children do their studying at school instead of at home. You estimate that such a method will require 22 years for a pupil to graduate from the high school instead of 11 years as at present. It will be of some interest, perhaps, to know how this plan has succeeded where it has been tried, to learn the actual facts in the case.

For the last three or four years the pupils in the schools of Hickory have done their studying at school under the direct supervision of the teachers. The result is, that under this method the pupils are doing

more and better work than under the other method. A much larger percentage of the pupils are promoted at the end of the year than when the children prepared their lessons at home, or when pa did the work.

The school day is no longer in the schools of Hickory than in the schools where only recitation work is done. less than four hours of actual school work in the primary grades, and less than five hours in the more advanced grades. In none of the grades do the pupils have in any one day more than five recitations that require preparation beforehand. In the grammar grades one hour is given to each essential subject, 30 minutes for recitation, and 30 minutes for studying the lessons for the next day. In these grades the daily schedule calls for a lesson in arithmetic, a lesson in language, a lesson in history, geography, or physiology, two lessons in spelling, one oral and one written, and a lesson in writing or drawing.

This method has greatly increased the efficiency of the work done in the schools. This conclusion is reached upon a consideration of the amount and thoroughness of the work done, and the development of independent study, self-reliance and initiative on the part of the pupils themselves.

When the studying is done at school, the teacher can give the pupil just the amount of help necessary. When the preparation is made at home too many parents do the studying while the children stand by and enjoy the fun. Every one will admit that pupils should be trained to habits of perseverance, self-reliance and initiative. Actual experience has shown that pupils will study their lessons to better advantage at school than they will at home.

The reason for this is easily seen. Not all parents are familiar with the principles of pedagogy and the best methods of teaching how to study. The many distractions at home prevent children from concentrating their minds on their lessons. The home atmosphere is very different from that of the school room.

Wherever the method of having pupils do their studying at school has been tried there is a strong sentiment in its favor on the part of parents, teachers and pupils themselves. CHARLE M. STALEY.  
Hickory, Nov. 22.

**LETTER FROM COUNTY DEMONSTRATOR FOLK.**

He Writes of the Way to Secure Good Fertilizer Cheap—What Can't be Bought Can be Made at Home.

Dear Sir:—I wish to call the attention of the farmers of Gaston county, through the columns of your paper, to a few facts regarding fertilizers.

The indications now are that the price of all fertilizing material will be unusually high next year. The supply of Acid Phosphate will be cut off because Sulphuric Acid is used in manufacturing it, and the Acid is now in great demand for making ammunition for the warring nations. Potash cannot be gotten in sufficient quantities because it comes from Germany chiefly. Ammonia will be considerably higher than usual because a lot of material from which it is obtained is imported. Cotton Seed Meal is a good source of ammonia, but it will be high because of its value for both fertilizer and feed for livestock, principally cattle.

Believing the above to be true, then let us begin planning to fertilize our next crop in time to make adjustment and possibly save paying ruinous prices for the fertilizer.

Consider first the Phosphoric acid. As you know, Phosphorus and not Phosphoric Acid is the plant food. Phosphorus is derived from Rock Phosphate or Floats as it is called which is found chiefly in Tennessee, South Carolina and Florida. The Phosphorus as it is found in the Rock Phosphate is unavailable, so to put it in a form in which the plant can take it up, the Rock Phosphate is finely ground and mixed with an equal weight of Sulphuric Acid. The acid acts on the Rock, producing Acid Phosphate which is sold for fertilizer. The insoluble Phosphorus which was in the Rock Phosphate was changed to Phosphoric acid which we think of as being the plant food contained in Acid Phosphate. As a matter of fact, the plant food is not Phosphoric acid but the Phosphorus which is contained in the Phosphoric acid in a soluble form. By treating the Phosphate Rock with the Sulphuric Acid, about twice as much Phosphoric acid was produced as there was Phosphorus in the rock. Rock Phosphate containing from 13 per cent to 15 per cent Phosphorus which is equivalent to about 28 per cent to 30 per cent Phosphoric acid can be laid down at Gastonia in sacks in car lots for \$7.71 a ton. You see for \$7.71 you get a ton of Rock Phosphate containing Phosphorus equivalent to about 29 per cent Phosphoric acid, whereas, in buying Acid Phosphate, you pay \$15.00 and get only 16 per cent Phosphoric acid.

Phosphoric acid produced from one ton of Rock Phosphate ..... 580 lbs.  
Cost of one ton of Rock Phosphate ..... \$7.71  
Cost of one pound Phosphoric Acid produced from rock..... 1 3-25c  
Phosphoric Acid in one ton of 16 per cent. Acid Phosphate ..... 320 lbs.  
Cost of one ton of 16 per cent Acid Phosphate ..... \$15.00  
Cost of one pound of Phosphoric Acid in 16 per cent. Acid Phosphate ..... 4 17-25c

But don't think that it would pay to buy the Phosphate Rock because it is cheap. It would be expensive unless you can have it acted upon by some acid. It is not necessary to have Sulphuric Acid. The acid produced by decaying vegetable matter is all right. The only thing the rock will have to come in contact with this longer than with some stronger acid. The action of the acid from decaying vegetable matter upon the Phosphate Rock produces Acid Phosphate the same as Sulphuric Acid does.

Places where Phosphate Rock may be used profitably.

1. In stables or in sheds where cat are fed. Scatter a good bit of the ground rock in the stables once a week. Keep the stables well bedded.
2. On land where there is a lot of decaying vegetable matter. Put the ground rock out early so the Phosphorus will become available by the time the crop needs it. Cover the rock lightly to keep it from being washed in piles.
3. On sour land or land that is subject to overflow. Those having bottom land should by all means investigate and use of Rock Phosphate. Remember that Rock Phosphate is not recommended for hill land that does not contain decaying vegetable matter.

And what about the Ammonia and Potash (Nitrogen and Potassium)? Well, if you have a good crop of clover or vetch to turn under, or a good coat of manure to put over the land, you have plenty of both the above elements. If you have a good crop of oats or rye to turn under as much Nitrogen and more Potassium is available for the next crop than would be supplied by 400 pounds of an 8-3-3 fertilizer. A ton of mixed unleached wood ashes contains on an average 5.5 lbs. of Potassium. But the Potash problem is not a serious one in Gaston county. The experiment with fertilizers carried on on Mr. C. M. Fair's farm shows that Potassium gives very little gain. And this on Cecil Sandy loam. The greater part of the county is clay and this type of soil is known to contain enough Potassium. All that is needed on clay soil is phosphorus and plowing and some vegetation turned into the soil to make the Potassium available.

If there is enough Potassium in the soil, but not enough Nitrogen and Phosphorus, and the soil does not contain enough vegetable matter or is not sour enough to justify the use of Rock Phosphate, then the cheapest commercial fertilizer at present is Acid Phosphate and Cotton Seed Meal. If cotton seed are exchanged for cotton seed meal, the meal does not cost any more if as much this year as it did last. But many cannot resist the high prices of seed. Below is the cost of a ton of mixture in the proportions of 20 lbs. of 16 per cent. Acid Phosphate and 100 lbs. Cotton Seed Meal.

1333 lbs. 16 per cent Phosphate at \$15.00 per ton.....\$10.00  
667 lbs. Cotton Seed Meal at \$36 per ton ..... 12.07  
2000 lbs. \$22.07  
One ton of above Acid and Cotton seed meal mixture contains 11 1/2 per cent Phosphoric Acid; 2 1/2 per cent of Ammonia, 1/2 per cent Potassium, and costs \$22.07.  
One ton of ready mixed 8-2-2 contains 8 per cent Phosphoric Acid, 2 per cent of Ammonia, 2 per cent of Potassium, and costs \$28.75.  
The above figures speak for themselves.

If anyone wishes to see me about fertilizers, terracing, orchard work, or anything concerning the farm he will find me in my office in the courthouse every Saturday. Drop in and let me share your troubles. If there is anything on your farm that you would like for me to look over, let me know either in person or by mail. I am only too glad to hear from and talk "Better Farming" with those who are interested in their farm.  
Very truly,  
B. P. FOLK,  
Farm Demonstration Agent for Gaston County.

**TAXPAYERS TAKE NOTICE**

IF your State and County taxes for 1915 are not paid by Jan. 1st, two per cent will be added. No exceptions made. Please pay at once.  
W. C. ABERNETHY,  
Tax Collector for State and County inside City Limits.

**SEABOARD AIR LINE RAILROAD**

Trains Leave Charlotte Effective May 30, 1915.

**EAST AND NORTH BOUND.**  
tached. Connecting at Hamlet  
No. 14—5:05 a. m.—Through train for Wilmington, with parlor car attached with train for Portsmouth, Norfolk, Raleigh and all points north and south. Also for C. A. & W. for Charleston. Dining car service, vestibule coaches and sleeping cars to Washington and New York, connecting at Maxton for A. C. L. points north.

No. 34—10:10 a. m.—For Raleigh and Weldon and all local points.  
No. 20—5:05 p. m.—For Wilmington, sleeping car, passengers can stay in sleeper all night at Wilmington. This train connects at Hamlet for Savannah, Jacksonville and all points south and north. Arriving in Washington 7:10 a. m., in New York 12:57 p. m.

No. 16—7:50 p. m.—Connecting at Monroe for Atlanta and all points south and southwest, also connects at Monroe with fast train for Norfolk, Richmond, Washington and New York, through steel vestibule coaches. Pullman sleeping cars to New York, dining cars Richmond to New York.

**WEST BOUND.**  
No. 15—9:05 a. m.—Local for Ruthersfordton, connecting at Bostic with C. C. & O. for all points on that line to Johnson City, Tenn. C. & N. W. points north at Lincoln-ton.

No. 31—3:25 p. m.—Local for Ruthersfordton, from Raleigh and Weldon, connecting at Lincoln-ton with C. & N. W. for points on that line. For further information call 'phone 180, City office, 9 South Tryon St. JAMES KERR, JR., T. P. A., Charlotte, N. C. JOHN T. WEST, D. P. A.

**ARRIVAL OF TRAINS IN GASTONIA.**

**SOUTHERN RAILWAY SCHEDULE**

SOUTHBOUND		NORTHBOUND	
No. 11	11:30 am	No. 12	5:00 pm
No. 35	11:17 am	No. 36	9:21 am
No. 37	10:42 am	No. 38	7:46 pm
No. 39	8:00 am	No. 40	9:38 pm
No. 29	5:20 am	No. 30	10:16 pm
No. 45	5:45 pm	No. 46	12:45 pm

**PIEDMONT AND NORTHERN**

Between Gastonia and Charlotte, N. C. Schedule Effective Sunday, May 16, 1915.

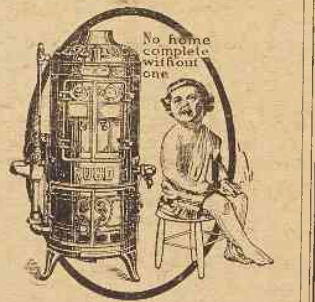
Station, 204 West Main Avenue, Gastonia.

Leave Gastonia.	Leave Charlotte.
7:00 A. M.	8:00 A. M.
9:00 A. M.	10:00 A. M.
11:00 A. M.	12:00 A. M.
1:00 P. M.	2:00 P. M.
3:00 P. M.	4:00 P. M.
5:00 P. M.	5:00 P. M.
7:00 P. M.	7:00 P. M.
9:00 P. M.	9:00 P. M.
10:45 P. M.	11:00 P. M.

Connection made at Mount Holly with Seaboard Air Line; at Gastonia with Southern Railway and Carolina & Northwestern Railway. The above schedule, figures and connections are not guaranteed. E. THOMASSON, Gen. Mgr. C. S. ALLEN, Traffic Mgr.

**Ruud Instantaneous Automatic Water Heater**

A reliable, inexpensive promoter of home comfort and convenience that stands silently in the basement or any out of the way place, yet instantly prepared to rush hot water to every part of the house with absolutely no attention. You simply turn the faucet.



The moment the faucet is closed, the gas is automatically shut off and the heater remains inactive until your next demand.

The Ruud is made in several types and numerous sizes—for every purse—for every purpose—from the humble cottage to the palatial residence. Visit our showroom and see the various Ruuds in operation. Let us show you a suitable size for your home and demonstrate how you can save time, labor and money and have real hot water comfort.

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THE CHARACTER OF THE MEN BEHIND A BANK AS WELL AS THEIR FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IS ALWAYS LOOKED INTO BEFORE THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AT WASHINGTON WILL GRANT A CHARTER TO A NATIONAL BANK. If you have not yet banked with us ask our customers how we treat THEM.

We shall be pleased to see you COME IN.

**Citizens National Bank**

Gastonia, N. C.  
WE PAY 5 PER CENT INTEREST ON CERTIFICATES  
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A YEAR'S READING FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

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The Progressive Farmer is made to cover conditions as they are in the South. Yes, it's made for you—and if you will read and heed its teachings you will save more money per acre, more money per head of livestock, and more money per acre of your farm.

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The Progressive Farmer has the strongest, most practical household department of any agricultural paper in the South. Its many features make a special appeal to our women readers and help them as it does the men.

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The Progressive Farmer has a regular department for farm boys and girls, and a serial story for both young and old. In fact it is a paper for every member of the family.

**The Best Two for All the Family—Both Leaders in Their Line**

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We are happy indeed to introduce and to be able to make a clubbing arrangement that will enable our readers to have The Housewife the coming year. The stories are high-class in every way—stories that will appeal to and please you, many with gripping excitement and interesting holding qualities. Particular attention is given by The Housewife to reasonable, sensible cooking, household hints, and matters of particular interest to mother and child. The Housewife is a large, well printed magazine; subscription price, 50 cents per year. It is only because the publishers are anxious to develop their subscription list in the South that we have been able to secure a rate on these subscriptions that enable us to include it in this year's clubbing offers with The Progressive Farmer. We know you will be highly pleased if you decide to take the club, including The Housewife.

This great combination of farm sense, farm help, fiction, fashion, fancy work and good cheer for the entire family at

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The Gastonian 1 year..... \$1.00  
The Progressive Farmer—weekly—52 big issues..... 1.00  
The Housewife—monthly ..... .50  
Regular price ..... \$2.50

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GASTONIA, N. C.

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