

CHEROKEE SCOUT

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Murphy, N. C., Tuesday, August 4, 1908.

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TAKE YOUR

Watch and Jewelry Repairing to REYNOLDS,
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Murphy Institute,
Opens Sept. 1, 1908.

NOTICE
North Carolina—Cherokee county: E. C. Gullerson vs H. C. Gullerson.

NOTICE
By mutual consent the firm of Hayes & Loomis, composed of J. T. Hayes and Geo. C. Loomis, doing business at Tomotia, N. C., has been dissolved.

ARE YOU SURE
That the ice cream you buy is strictly PURE?

Join-O ICE CREAM POWDER
It is so easy. Simply stir contents of one 1lb. package into a quart of milk and freeze, without cooking, heating or the addition of anything else.

County Board of Education.

MURPHY, N. C., Aug. 1, 1908.
To the School Committeemen, Patrons and Tax Payers of Cherokee County.

GENTLEMEN—I have read the letter published in THE SCOUT by Messrs. A. Rice, W. J. Martin and C. B. Hill, County Commissioners, and circulated by them through the mail all over the county. It is very unfortunate that a controversy should arise or difference exist between two branches of the county government; but for the fact that the letter above referred to contains erroneous statements which are calculated to mislead the public and place the County Board of Education in a false light, I would not pay any attention to the same. But as the County Board of Education has done nothing wrong or that it is ashamed of, and in order that the public may be properly informed, I deem it my duty to make a statement, and as far as I can correct the errors, and hope that in doing so I will keep myself free from any unkind expressions.

Under the law of North Carolina the County Commissioners have charge of certain affairs relative to the governing of the county, and the County Board of Education have charge of the public schools of the county. The duties of the two branches of government are separate and distinct—neither can encroach upon or abridge the province of the other.

I have been a member of the County Board of Education most of the time for the past twenty years, and all times I have had associated with me honest, honorable and capable gentlemen, who have at all times endeavored to do the best they knew for the advancement of education in our county. We may not have done the best at all times, for we are not infallible. No one but those who have devoted their time and attention to the educational interests of Cherokee county can fully appreciate the situation. No one but the board of education can know the great and many demands that are made by the people from every section of the county. It has ever been a source of gratification to note that a great majority of the people are deeply interested in having the youth of the county well educated. We have realized the fact that North Carolina has for a great many years been far down in the column of educational advancement. This has always been a cause of much sorrow and regret to our people, who have as much native ability and personal pride as any people on the earth.

From 1901, and ever since, a great advancement has been made in North Carolina in the cause of education. The people from one part of the state to the other seemed to become aroused to the necessity of better and higher education, and nowhere more so than in Cherokee county. With two railroads running into our county, which give our people easy access to the outer world and daily throws them in contact with people from every section of the country who are working in every calling of life, our people saw the necessity of having the youth of their county prepared, in order that they might meet any condition that might confront them, and to this end it is absolutely necessary that our young men and young women receive an adequate education. Five years ago a large majority of the school houses in Cherokee county were unworthy, the name of a school house. The patrons of the different districts in the county clamored for better, more comfortable and modern school houses, and within the last five years there have been erected in Cherokee county in the county school districts more than fifteen new school houses. None of these houses are less than 24x36 feet. They are well built and as comfortable as any house in the county. The County Board of Education sought first to give the children a good, comfortable house in which to attend school, and next to give them good teachers. These houses have been built by the pa-

trons of the different districts subscribing money, and there borrowing some from the State and the County Board of Education appropriating some.

with the public schools of Cherokee county for a period of nearly twenty years, I have been called upon many times to make estimates for school houses and other buildings. I have ever endeavored to be economical in the construction of these buildings, and I doubt that there exists a school house in the county that has been built under the supervision of the County Board of Education that any one can say has cost an extravagant amount. The County Board of Education has ever believed that a child in the "LITTLE COUNTRY SCHOOLS" is as much entitled to a decent, good, comfortable school house as a child in a town or city. The parents and patrons of these schools are willing to put their money into the house and it bespeaks well for them that they are demanding the same comforts and attentions for their children as the people who live in a town or city demand for theirs. I challenge any man to bring just cause for censure because the County Board of Education has endeavored to give the "LITTLE COUNTRY SCHOOLS" equal advantages with the children in the town. In a number of places where school houses have been built, you will now find that religious services are held in the school houses, where heretofore the people either had no house of worship or had to go a greater distance than they now have to go to be comfortably housed when they were worshipping God.

Again, the County Board of Education has endeavored to provide the children in the "LITTLE COUNTRY SCHOOLS" and all schools with funds sufficient to give them good and competent teachers. It has not always been and is not now able to give to these "LITTLE COUNTRY SCHOOLS" or any other school, as much money as it would like to see them have for the education of the children. Every year demand is made upon the County Board of Education for more money to employ more and better teachers in nearly every school in the county. In a large majority of the school districts in the county the school census will show more than 80 children in their respective districts. In every district there are some children who have advanced beyond the average young and inexperienced teacher, and unless sufficient money is given districts to employ experienced and capable teachers to teach these children, their parents are driven to the necessity of sending them to some town, where they have to pay for their board and tuition, or they will have to keep them at home and let them remain dwarfed educationally. Do you prefer sending your children from home to procure their education at a great cost to you, or having them educated at home?

I note that Messrs. Rice, Martin and Hill say "that \$1.75 to \$2.00 per day of five hours we think is very good pay for 'LITTLE COUNTRY SCHOOLS'." I know the fact to be that men are paying \$2.00 to \$2.50 per day for men to handle lumber and oxen. Are your children worth less attention than lumber and oxen? Again, teachers are employed for only four months and turned loose in midwinter without anything to do. Will you sacrifice your time as the teachers do theirs?

My associates and I were reared in the country, and although I have lived in town and have all my life visited towns and been thrown with people inhabiting towns, I have never yet found any reason why a boy or girl in a "LITTLE COUNTRY SCHOOL" or a large country school, should not be given as full advantages as those who live in town. The law in this republic of ours guarantees equality to all and special privilege to none. Go to any city in the United States, today and you will find among its progressive men more men who went from the country

schools than from any other section of the country. The boys of our church and state depend upon their education and advancement for their children. Can you afford to have a man come from a "LITTLE COUNTRY SCHOOL" that they cannot be made capable of making as good wives and husbands and citizens as those who are reared in the towns? Is the County Board of Education to be criticised because it is undertaking to give to the country schools the best advantages in its power? Should it be partial and neglect the "LITTLE COUNTRY SCHOOLS?" The people of Cherokee county may be in a sense a poor people, but they are a proud and independent people, and no one would dare let you say that because he is poor and lives in a little country district you are his superior. He may not be possessed of much of this world's goods, but he feels that his creator has implanted in his breast and in his mind as high an order of love and integrity as any one else, regardless of where he may live.

I find that the towns are always anxious to go to the "LITTLE COUNTRY SCHOOLS" when they can get good teachers and are willing to pay them good salaries. I believe Prof. Mauney and Prof. Lovin-good were both reared in the country, also Prof. Harwood and Prof. Sneed, and I find that Murphy has engaged Prof. Mauney at a salary of \$85.00 per month and Prof. Lovin-good as first assistant at \$70.00 per month, when last year the highest assistant was only paid \$40.00. Andrews pays Prof. Harwood \$100.00 per month, and Tomotia school paid Prof. Sneed \$55.00 per month last year. Now, are not the children in the "little country schools" entitled to good teachers, so that they can be prepared to occupy a position in town or in any school? Are you ready to admit that your children are inferior beings because they live in "little country districts?" Is not a boy who lives in a "little country district" just as much entitled to prepare himself to be sheriff, clerk, register of deeds, treasurer, legislator or judge, as a boy in town? When men seek office do they only seek the vote of the town people? Do they not appeal to and solicit the patrons of the "little country schools?" Is it that we must ask the "little country districts" for help with their votes and after we get them ignore their wants and needs?

Reverting to some of the figures set forth in the letter of Messrs. Rice, Martin and Hill, allow me to say that at the beginning of the last school year the County Board of Education had to its credit only \$3,450.72. It is true that a tax levy had been made, but this tax levy did not begin to come in until the latter part of October, and out of the entire levy the board has received only \$7,423.72, from which must be deducted 2 per cent. for the Treasurer's commissions. The entire general school fund for the year 1907-08 amounted to only \$11,973.87. Of this amount \$666.98 came from the State of North Carolina; \$70 came from patrons of different school districts (and these were country schools) for libraries, and \$272.45 was received in fines; for insurance \$200 and \$7,243.72 from the sheriff. Of the \$11,973.87 there was paid to teachers \$5,968.57; libraries, \$180; painting and repairing buildings, \$296.57; repaid State loans and interest, \$790.99 (of which sum \$185.99 is interest and \$605.00 is 10 per cent. of the principal); supplies, \$8.25; wood, \$27.50; high school, \$60; general building fund, \$1,053.17; contingent fund, 1,656.60, (which includes \$83.43 repaid sheriff and \$208.62 repaid treasurer, amounts overpaid by them); treasurer's commissions, 200.30. I have deducted the above items from 11,973.87, and there remains the sum of 722.61. There is due the general school fund by the sheriff, 181.60, and by school district No. 10, Murphy Township, 115.12, which leaves to the credit of the general school fund on the first of July, 1908, \$1,019.33, out of which

has been heretofore appropriated for building school houses and to be used this year \$300. This it will be seen that instead of having a balance in hand the schools with the balance of the State of the sum of only had \$418.73. It is true that the levy for 1908, as made by the County Commissioners on the first of June, 1908, will yield approximately \$7,000, and we may get \$600 from the state, whilst the question of fines is an uncertainty. But should we receive as much from the state and in fines as was received last year, we would only have \$8,320.43, and out of this must come all contingent expenses, building of school houses, etc. The County Superintendent of Schools informs me, and his books bear him out, that the recent expenditure for the examination of teachers amounted to only \$38.00. When we employed the County Superintendent last year, as we have done heretofore, we agreed on account of his taking the office at a nominal sum (which is not and has never been more than \$350 per year) to allow him to pay experienced men to aid at the public examinations. If any one will take the time or pains to call upon the superintendent and inspect the work done at the last examination, they will see that it would require the time of one man for 20 days or more to complete the same; and if any one will take the pains to read the school law they will see that the County Superintendent is authorized to call in experienced teachers to his assistance. Owing to the great number that took examinations last month they had to be divided into four rooms, in order to be given desks upon which they could work. A large majority of those who applied to take the examinations were young people just out of school and making their first applications, and the Board of Education wish to give every encouragement possible to young ladies and young men in Cherokee county who wish to become teachers, so that the money expended for teachers can be spent among the people of the county.

I am informed that the County Treasurer states that he did not make a statement that the Board of Education had recently paid the state \$800 interest. The general school law provides that school districts wishing to build new school houses can borrow some money from the State Loan Fund on terms of ten years at 4 per cent. interest. Some of the school districts in the county have taken advantage of this law, and I am yet to hear any complaint from any source. Section 27 of Article I of the Constitution of North Carolina says: "The people have the right to the privilege of education, and it is the duty of the State to guard and maintain that right." Section 3 of Article IX says: "Each county of the State shall be divided into a convenient number of districts, in which one or more public schools shall be maintained at least four months in every year, and if the commissioners of any county shall fail to comply with the aforesaid requirements of this section they shall be liable to indictment." Section 4112 of the School Law requires the County Board of Education to make an estimate of the amount of money necessary to maintain the schools for four months and submit it to the Board of County Commissioners, and requires the County Commissioners to make a levy sufficient to meet the demands of the County Board of Education, in order that there may be a four months school in each district in the county. The complaint and demands of the patrons of the various school districts in Cherokee county have been so frequent and pressing for better school advantages and for more and better teachers, that the County Board of Education took under consideration the question whether or not it should comply with the wishes and demands of the people. At the meeting of the County Board of Education, held on

(Continued on page four)

RED SEAL SHOES



The Popular Shoe
The Serviceable Shoe
The Economical Shoe

RED SEAL SHOES have no introduction to the customer who has once tried them.

RED SEALS SHOES always make satisfied customers.

IF the name RED SEAL is on bottom of the shoe satisfaction guaranteed.

RED SEAL on the Shoe means solid leather, honest workmanship, absolute perfection in every detail. Do you know why we like them?

OUR customers demand them—we must grant their demands, or else we must lose them.

IF you haven't been converted to the RED SEAL idea, let's introduce you.

CLOSING all Slippers out at a big reduction. You'd better hurry before your number is gone.

Candler's Dept. Store.

JULY BARGAIN SALE
THIS WEEK AT THE

Enterprise Millinery

Save money and have a stylish new hat. Just received a nice line of new hats. I will have more in Tuesday—Merry Widows, Clayton Sailors, something new and stylish for children, call and see them.

I am offering the greatest mid-summer bargains ever seen in Murphy, so come and get what you want. Parties owing me will please call and settle their accounts promptly.

Mrs. H. P. Bowman has purchased an interest and will have charge of the trimming department. She is an expert trimmer and has had long experience, and the people of Murphy and surrounding country now have an opportunity to get just what they want.

Mrs. J. H. Hall & Mrs. H. P. Bowman

Everything in Hardware

"PUSH"

The word push seems to acquire attention. Push is a fine and strenuous term, and is also suggestive of energy, enterprise and a fat bank account.

We all aspire to be known as a pusher, but many fail to be the real goods. The trouble seems to be that we have the wrong idea of what constitutes push. For instance, some farmers believe they show a pushing character by working themselves and stock almost to a finish with an old wornout mowing machine.

We have a car load of the Deering goods which we bought for the real "Pushers."

Now, the real pusher is the progressive man who buys and uses all the good new things—who gets a Deering mower and "makes hay while the sun shines."

Cherokee Hardware Company