

Hertford County Herald

HERTFORD COUNTY'S ONLY NEWSPAPER

A PAPER WORTH WHILE

BEST ADVERTISING MEDIUM IN EASTERN CAROLINA

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LOCAL SCHOOL TO BEGIN MONDAY; 8 BOYS IN CLASS

Largest Number Of Boys In Senior Class In Several Years Is Present Prediction

PROFESSOR HIGHSMITH CANNOT BE HERE

Mrs. Joe Brown Will Have Charge Of Music Department—Tuition Three Dollars Month

When the Ahoskie High School opens its 1922-23 session next Monday, one of the largest graduating classes in the school's history will be enrolled. Unless present indications go wry there will be sixteen members of the senior class. Others may also enroll and swell the number. Of that number eight will be boys. Heretofore the male members of the class have been almost totally lacking.

Wednesday at noon Professor Kenneth Raynor, superintendent of the school, received a letter from Professor J. Henry Highsmith, state high school director, in answer to the invitation extended to him to speak at the opening Monday morning. Professor Highsmith will not be able to attend the opening.

The opening exercises, to which all patrons have been invited, will be begun at 9 o'clock Monday morning. No formal speeches are scheduled to take place, although short talks will be given by teachers and committeemen, and a short invocation given by local pastor.

Music Department
Mrs. Joe Brown, formerly Miss Mary Barker of this city, will have charge of the music department this year. She will succeed Mrs. George W. Baker who has held that position for the last few years.

Mrs. Brown is one of the most accomplished music teachers in this section. Last year she had charge of the music department in the Powellsville Graded School. She has also done private teaching at her home here. Tuition in the Music Department will be \$3.00 per month.

Non-Resident Students Permits
Further notice is given to students residing out of the Ahoskie school district that in order to enter the school they must have a written order from the County Board. Several obtained their orders last Monday when the board was in session. According to state laws, the county will pay the tuition for all such students six months of the term, the individual students being responsible for the other two months.

The price to be charged for tuition will be determined solely upon the running expenses of the school. Just what the amount will be has not been figured, although sufficient notice will be given.

Non-resident students expecting to enter the high school department and who have not secured their orders from the county board may enroll next Monday, but they will be held responsible for tuition until orders have been presented. When the Board meets the first Monday in October, these students should secure the orders and release their individual obligation to the school for tuition.

AHOSKIE SCHOOL GETS COUNTY APPROPRIATION

Approximately \$1,000 was appropriated by the County Board of Education, at its meeting Monday morning, to the use of the Ahoskie High School. The money has been due the local schools for almost twelve months or since improvements were made to the building and additions to the class room for the last session.

Last year, the trustees of the Ahoskie School were unavailing upon the Board, and were forced to defray all the expenses incident to the improvement. Other incidental expenses that should have been paid by the county were also taken care of in the amount appropriated Monday.

MOTHERS CLUB

The Mothers' Club will hold its regular meeting with Mrs. R. L. Phelps next Tuesday afternoon at four o'clock. All members are urged to be present.

Chowan College Will Open September 13

Large Enrollment Is Expected For Seventy-Fifth Annual Session, Which Begins, September 13th

With a large enrollment of young women expected, the seventy-fifth annual session of Chowan College will start Wednesday, September 13th, students will begin arriving here Tuesday and by Wednesday the entire group will be present. Friends of the college are of the opinion that the coming session will be one of the most successful in the history of the institution.

A most excellent faculty has been employed and as follows: Miss Eloise Meroney, A. B., University of Alabama, A. M., Columbia University, A. B. Alabama Technical Institute and College. Miss Meroney will be at the head of the English department. Miss Minnie W. Caldwell, A. B., B. B. A. M. University of Missouri. Miss Caldwell will be professor of Mathematics. Miss Una Robinson, A. B., A. M. Baylor University, Texas, will be at the head of the science department. Miss Faye A. Dame A. B., Radcliffe College, A. M. Columbia University, will be professor of Education. Miss Della Latham who is a graduate of Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, will be at head of the Voice department. Miss Gertrude Knott is a graduate of King's School of Oratory, graduate of Georgetown College, graduate of Dorian Private School and a pupil of Elias Day, and will be professor of Expression and Physical Education.

The following former members of the faculty will return: Misses Eunice McDowell, Sarah Hughes White, Mattie Macon Norman, Caroline Lane, Elsie Booth, Fannie White, Sue Brett and Mrs. Anna Turnley.

Farmers Advised To Sow Legumes In Fall

Cover Crops Planted In Fall Provide Good Fertilizer For Lands In Spring And Summer

With the approach of fall there comes to the farmer the thoughts of seeding his lands to cover crops and legumes. Only recently have farmers of Hertford County begun to realize the value of winter cover crops; and even today comparatively few have fallen in line with the program that has been in practice for many years in farming belts of the west and northeast.

However, within the last few years, some of the county farmers have seeded much of their land to cover crops, and among those who have done this is none who would revert to the old system of allowing cleared lands lie idle during the fall and winter months.

C. B. Williams, chief of the Division of Agronomy, North Carolina Experiment Station, has prepared a letter especially for the HERALD, on "Seed Rye and Legumes This Fall For Soil Improvement." It follows:

Good For Poor Soils

"For North Carolina farmers, rye is certainly one of the greatest of our cover crops for poor soils. This is not so because of its being the very best for all conditions, but rather because of its wide adaptability and almost universal dependability under anything like a reasonable chance. It is a strong feeding crop and land that will not produce this crop is indeed very poor, if the rye is put in properly. On almost any kind of well drained land, it can be depended upon to make a reasonably fair growth.

"The man who can plant legumes of any kind with reasonable assurance of succeeding will not need, however, to use but little if any rye for the sake of the soil. There are, however, vast areas of land throughout the State that will not in the present state produce leguminous crops safely until the organic matter supply of the soil has been built up. On such soils rye should be grown to as wide extent as practicable. This crop will not only, when plowed in, add a considerable amount of organic matter to the soil and thereby improve its physical condition, but will reduce materially washing and leaching during the winter and early spring, and also provide a limited amount of grazing. Of course, care will have to be exercised not to graze too severely or too long, for if this is done the growth after-

COTTON SHOWS A BIG REDUCTION IN THE PAST MONTH

Only Four Counties In State Have Abandoned More Of Crop Than Hertford

POOR CONDITION SHOWN IN EASTERN COUNTIES

Combined Crops Of This And Last Year Little More Than That Of 1914

In only four counties in North Carolina has there been more planted cotton abandoned than in Hertford County. According to a report just issued this county stands almost at the top in abandonment percentages. One of the outstanding features of the report is the poor condition of the crop in northeastern Carolina, where many farmers will harvest an unusually small crop.

Five and two-tenths per cent of the cotton in this county has been given up as lost and will not be included in the fall pickings. There has also been a decline in the condition of the cotton, the present condition being 65 per cent. Bertie and Northampton counties have a 68 per cent condition. The abandonment figures are Bertie, 2.2 per cent; Northampton, 2 per cent. Currituck, Gates, Pamlico, and Pender are the only other counties in the state that have abandoned a larger percentage of the crop than has Hertford county.

About the general condition of the state's crop the report says:

"The cotton crop of both North Carolina and the cotton belt shows the phenomenal decline of over 13 per cent during August, which resulted in a decreased forecast of 825,000 bales. Added to this was an additional one per cent decrease in acreage and 367,000 bales due to abandonment since June 25th when the regular abandonment report is accounted for. These conditions forecast a crop of only 10,575,000 bales as compared with the short crop of 7,954,000 bales last year. Thus the crop of both this and last year will be but little more than the single crop of 1914 when over 16,135,000 bales were produced.

"The condition a year ago was three per cent less than on August 25th this year, but the unusually favorable fall conditions and lack of fall weevil resulted in very fine per acre yields. The exceedingly continued wet weather conditions in the coastal belt and serious boll weevil damage in the southern half of the state cannot, this year, be so readily altered. Instead of the 776,000 bale crop of last year, it may be nearer to 700,000 bales.

"The present conditions of cotton according to the United States Crop Reporting Board's release through the Cooperative Crop Reporting Service for this state are for this and last year as follows: North Carolina 65 and 62 per cent with 78 for July 25th. The southern belt has 57 as compared with 49 a year ago and 71 a month ago."

wards will not be sufficient to provide very much organic matter to go back into the soil.

Fertilizers For Rye

"In the growth of this crop, as with most other crops, on poor or medium lands, it will usually be necessary in order to get the best results to use some fertilizer. In the fertilization on poor soil, certainly for the first year or so, or until the organic matter of the soil has been materially increased it should be about as follows: For eastern North Carolina soils average condition: Two hundred to three hundred pounds per acre of a fertilizer containing six to seven per cent available phosphoric acid and about three to four per cent of nitrogen.

"In sections where the soils contain considerable organic matter, or where a good leguminous crop or moderate application of manure has been added to the soil, the amount of nitrogen in the above mixture may be reduced at least one-half or more.

"Where leguminous crops may be depended upon, as found by previous experience, they should find wide use. Such crops as hairy vetch, crimson clover and red clover are well suited for conditions in many parts of the South for fall sowing.

FREER USE OF WATER MIGHT BE A PANACEA

While W. T. Forbes, local garage man, is racking his brain trying to figure out the cause of a very painful foot, some of his friends are advising a freer use of the bath tub. Mr. Forbes hopped into his bath tub one day this week and made a real job of "making up his toilet." Shortly afterwards his foot began giving him considerable pain. In less than twenty-four hours he was forced to resort to crutches in order to move around. His foot gradually grew worse, and, although there was no abrasion nor did he remember bruising it in any way, it forced him to crutches.

Now he is wondering what caused it all. His friends are trying to help him solve the problem. And, most of them are shyly remarking that the unusualness of the thing might have been the underlying reason for the pain.

Elective Courses Will Be Offered By School

Students Who Cannot Enter College Will Be Given Chance To Take Subjects Most Needed

With the beginning of this session a new ruling is in force in regard to subjects required for study in the high school department. This ruling, made by the State Department has just been received, it is as follows:

A minimum of fifteen units is required for graduation from a standard high school. The number of units required in the different subjects are: English 4, mathematics 2, history 2, science 1, foreign language 2.

This total of eleven units is prescribed for graduation. This leaves four units to be selected by the student according to his preference in any particular and studies offered.

A unit is defined as any study pursued eight months, five classes a week, each class being at least forty-five minutes, which simply means a full year's work in any subject. The school is offering this year four full courses in English, mathematics, science, Latin, and history, with two full courses in French. The students can arrange their courses to their liking. Those expecting to enter college are expected to shape their courses in harmony with the entrance requirements of that college they expect to enter. I have in hand catalogues from the principal colleges of our state, and am able to assist any pupil in arranging his course accordingly.

This election system has been used extensively in other schools in our state, with decided advantages to the pupils and teachers, and I am sure that it will be of great benefit to our school. The day has come already when the schools are beginning to realize that they must regulate their courses for the best interests of the pupil and for the community, rather than to meet some particular college entrance requirement.

Many of our high school graduates do not attend college, and the election course has been arranged to suit their needs. I am sorry that more courses cannot be offered this year. More science and foreign languages should be offered, and must be by the opening of the next term. There should be a course in teacher training offered. Other high schools are doing this. But we are unable to do more without an extra high school teacher and more classrooms. There is already a crying need for the enlargement of our school plant. Then our school can be made more practical, and hence more vital to our town and community. K. T. RAYNOR, Superintendent.

SAVAGE-BARNES

Mr. and Mrs. J. Bailey Barnes of Ahoskie, North Carolina, announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their sister, Sallie Parker Barnes, to Mr. Luther Sharrack Savage of Ahoskie, N. C. The marriage will take place in the early fall.

Gold is plentiful at the Herald office. Come in and let us explain the proposition to you.

Hertford County Fails to Get Fair Treatment

DR. J. H. MITCHELL ADDRESSES OPEN LETTER DR. E. C. BROOKS, STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Wants To Know Reason

Gates And Other Nearby Counties Get Much Better Treatment From Equalization Board

"Something is distinctly out of joint when Gates County, with 3,995 school children, receives \$12,630 from the state Equalization Board, while Hertford County, with 5,500 school children gets less than half that amount," says Dr. Jesse H. Mitchell, Chairman of Hertford County School Board. Doctor Mitchell says he has honestly endeavored to secure some satisfactory explanation of the apparent discrimination against this county in the distribution of school funds; and the results have been just as unsatisfactory as the way in which Hertford County has been orphaned.

It is a matter of common knowledge that schools in this county have not received a proportionate share of state funds. Each year an effort has been made to get a larger share, but in every instance it has failed. With an enormous school budget made up for the coming year and facing the necessity of increasing revenues by raising local tax rates, another explanation is sought from the State Superintendent.

The facts set forth in the following open letter by the county chairman reveal the true situation in the county, and besides the possibility of it bringing more money to the county treasury, it should be carefully read by Hertford County citizens—the ones who are vitally concerned.

AN OPEN LETTER

Dr. E. C. Brooks, Superintendent Public Instruction, Raleigh, N. C.

My Dear Doctor—Being interested in the welfare of Hertford county and for many years a member of the Board of Education, I would thank you to furnish me some information from your office, since I have applied to my County Superintendent and he honestly informs me that he cannot advise me satisfactorily.

I want you to understand in the beginning that I am not charging any wrong to any man and don't believe that any intentional wrong has been committed, unless by our law makers, and if, by them, I am sure you will agree with me that at the next sessions of the Legislature, there should be such changes and amendments as will eliminate any discrimination.

In Hertford county the tax levy for school purposes is 54 cents on the \$100.00 and last year was 55 cents. We have 5,500 children, 3,500 of whom are negro children and this county receives only \$6,000.00 from the State Public School Fund.

While our sister county of Gates has a tax levy of 36 cents for teachers and 7 1-2 levy for incidental and building fund on the \$100.00, with 3,995 children, the county received from the State Public School Fund for the year 1921-1922 the sum of \$12,630. Now Doctor, I think you will agree with me that comparison of the figures certainly leads one to conclude that the amounts are a little out of proportion.

Our sister county, Bertie, has a tax levy for all school purposes for the year 1922-1923 of 47 1-2 cents on the \$100 with 9,114 children and received from the State Public School Fund for the year ending June 30, 1922, the sum of \$25,215.42. Now, Doctor, Hertford has nearly 2-3 as many children as Bertie, yet, while Bertie is receiving \$25,215.42, Hertford is receiving only \$6,000.00. Don't these figures look just a little out of proportion?

Now, Doctor Brooks, let us examine Northampton which is another sister to Hertford and we will find that her total tax levy for all school purposes 53 cents and whose school census shows 8,558 children and receives from the State Public School Fund \$17,000.00.

The figures per capita for the four counties are about as follows: Hertford—5,500 children, receives \$6,000.00 or about \$1.09 per child. Northampton—8,558 children, re-

ceives \$17,000.00 or about \$1.63 per child.

Gates—3,995 children, receives \$12,630.00, or about \$3.16 per child. Bertie—9,114 children, receives \$25,215.42 or about \$2.77 per child.

Is it just that the State should make such a difference between the children of one county and another? The "Good Old North State," is the mother of all the children within her borders, who make their homes here, whether "to manor born," or by adoption, and there appears to be a discrimination which is contrary to the spirit of our Constitution.

It is elementary knowledge that the nation, state and municipality must have revenue and that it must be raised by taxation in some form, but it was never intended in our form of Government, that taxation should be burdensome and oppressive, which smacks of old Germany and old Russia.

In my county there were farms, lots and home, to the number of 192 advertised to be sold for taxes this year. The owners of these homes were greatly embarrassed because of this unpleasant advertising for they were not insolvent tax debtors because they owned real estate and in most all the cases were men who had credit with their merchants,—but the trouble was due to the heavy taxation which had become burdensome and the bread winners or heads of families were cramped for the ready money with which to pay the tax collector. And when we receive less than is our rightful due per capita from State and have to increase our tax levy as a result, that just means more taxes our people have to pay for we mean to keep pace with our sister counties in educational progress. Now, doctor, I have taken about all the time, I feel that you want to spare, but I want you to help me have this inequality, as it appears to me, corrected. I am quoting from the Consolidated Statutes.

SECTION 5481. There shall be annually levied and collected a tax of 32 cents on every hundred dollars valuation of taxable property in the state for the maintenance of the public schools of the state, and the funds derived therefrom shall be a separate fund in the hands of the state treasurer to be known as the State Public School Fund, and the treasurer, shall, on the 1st day of December of each year, certify to the state board of education the amount of the funds derived or to be derived from said tax for that school year.

SECTION 5482. Out of the state public school fund the state board of education shall apportion annually to each county of the state, on or before the 1st day of January of every year, a sum sufficient to pay one-half the annual salary of the county superintendent and three months salary of all teachers of all sorts employed in the public schools of the county, including the teachers of city, town, township, and all special chartered schools, and one-third the annual salary of all city superintendents. Provided, that no part of this fund shall be used to pay the salaries of teachers who receive appropriations from other state funds.

At the Extra Session of 1921 the General Assembly enacted Chapter 5 for the purpose of taking care of "the constitutional public-school term of six months in the several counties in the state." It sets out:

"The board of county commissioners of every other county participating in the state public school fund for the purpose of supplementing the teachers salary fund, for the school year 1921-1922 and 1923, a tax rate of thirty-nine cents on the one hundred dollars valuation of property, real and personal, for said purpose . . . and the boards of county commissioners shall not be required to levy for the building and incidental fund for the year 1922-23 more than seven and one-half cents on the one hundred dollars valuation of all property, real and personal."

Still, with all we can do along the educational line, for the levy now is 54 cents in Hertford county, the state supplements us less per capita than it does in our sister counties of Bertie, Gates and Northampton, while our paper has been hawked about the streets because there was not money in the treasury, to pay the orders issued.

Thanking you to enlighten me and if I am looking through a glass darkly to please make it clear, I am with great respect,
Yours, etc.,
J. H. MITCHELL,

Chairman Hertford Co. School Bld. Ahoskie, N. C., Sept. 6, 1922.