

CHAUTAUQUA OPENS HERE FRIDAY WITH A MAMMOTH PARADE

First Regular Program Will
Begin In Afternoon; Con-
cert And Lecture Both Are
Included

JUNIORS WILL HAVE ENTERTAINMENT

Dr. Frank Dixon, Native North
Carolinian, Tops List Of
Lecturers

A big Junior parade, Friday morning at 10 o'clock, will signal the opening of the six days of Swarthmore Chautauqua in Ahoskie. Miss Hannah M. Harris, second advance agent, has been here all this week assisting in the advertising and ticket-selling campaigns, and making plans for the big parade Friday morning.

Miss Harris is an indefatigable worker, and says she expects to put over a parade that will eclipse anything of former years. During her stay here she has distributed window placards, programs, and handbills; and has superintended the stringing of banners and streamers across the streets. Copies of programs have also been mailed to prospective chautauqua attendants living in the rural districts and the nearby towns.

The first public program will start Friday afternoon, and from then until the curtain drops on the comedy "Crossed Wires," next Wednesday night, the big tent will be the mecca for hundreds of lovers of high class entertainments, seeking mental relaxation in good music, sound and logical lectures, and platform lectures by the superintendent.

For the younger bunch, boys and girls, Junior Chautauqua will be the entertainment. Every morning during the six days chautauqua is here, the two young ladies who have charge of junior chautauqua will work with the boys and girls who attend—and all are invited. On the last afternoon the juniors will stage their pageant, "Her Family on Display"; and in addition to that feature, Miss Esther Lois Schenkel, child impersonator, will give a delightful entertainment for both grown-ups and children.

Chautauqua workers are unanimous in their expressions of approval of this year's program. Especially good are the musical programs, which are given by the following companies: The Margery Jane Gage Co., six girls; Eekhoff-Waterman-Ringgold Co., three girls; The Marchetti Swias Yodlers, two girls and five men; and the Chamberlain-Babcock Co., 3 girls.

Charles Ross Taggart, "The Country Fiddler," is one of the big attractions. He plays, sings, talks, and laughs. One of his specialties is autographing for his admirers. Miss Marion Ballou Fisk, cartoonist, lecturer and entertainer will be here Tuesday. "Crossed Wires" is the name of the comedy drama which will be given on the last night of chautauqua. The final night always was a favorite at Ahoskie, and it will be no exception this year. It is one of the best plays put out by the Swarthmore aggregation.

Dr. Frank Dixon's lecture on "Out of Nationalism Into Internationalism" is the top liner among the lectures. Dr. Dixon comes from North Carolina stock, and belongs to Tom Dixon's family. He is a speaker of renown, a deep thinker, and good entertainer. Other lecturers are Grove Herbert, and Frank B. Pearson.

Miss Frances H. Maxwell will be platform superintendent this year. She will give three interesting lectures.

One morning, (day to be announced) during chautauqua a kite flying contest will be put on for the youngsters. A prize will be given away to the person flying the highest and fastest kite. Details will be an-

HERTFORD RANKS BELOW AVERAGE IN CARS OWNED

Bertie Has More Cars But Other
Contiguous Counties Be-
low Average Listed Here

There is an automobile for every 17.8 persons in Hertford County. That includes the flivver, too.

These figures are included in the list recently compiled by students at the State University, every county in the State being shown therein. The average in the entire State is one car for every fourteen inhabitants. Hertford County, therefore, does not rank with the State average in car-owning. It stands 60th among the one hundred counties.

Nine hundred and twenty-seven people own automobiles in this county. That is the number registered with the Secretary of State as of January 20, 1923. Of course, when the new tags are issued next month, quite an additional number of cars will probably be listed in the county; but so will the number of inhabitants of the county show an increase; and the average shown in this report is pretty well indicative of the average for the year 1923.

The average family in Hertford County is almost four, and dividing this by the number of persons to each automobile in the county, gives one out of every four and a half families an automobile. Of course, this is a rough estimate; but it is not far wrong, at that.

In our neighboring county, Bertie, there are 1,512 automobiles, or a car for every 16.1 persons, an average somewhat above that of Hertford. Other contiguous counties, however, do not have as high an average as does Hertford. The figures for some of these counties are:

Gates, 296 automobiles, or a car to every 35.6 persons; Northampton, 1,229 automobiles or one to every 19.1 persons; Warren, 1,100 automobiles or one for every 20.3 persons; Halifax, 2,612 automobiles, or one for every 18.2 persons. Among other counties trailing Hertford in this respect are Perquimans, Pender, Robeson, Washington, Onslow, Chowan, Tyrrell, Bladen, Pamlico, and several far western counties.

When data for this report was gathered, there were 187,880 cars in the State. Within the three months following January 20, there was a gain of 16,820, and this during the three winter months. Of all the counties in North Carolina, Guilford has the largest number of automobiles, there being a car to every 7.9 persons in that county.

TENANCY COMMON AMONG NEGROES

Twenty-eight negroes out of every 100 own the farms upon which they operate in Hertford County. This is 1.2 per cent less than the State average of farm ownership among negroes.

According to this report, figures for which were compiled from the 1920 census this county ranks ahead of most of the eastern counties in which the negro population is heavy. For instance, in Edgecombe county only 6.6 per cent of negro farmers are farm owners, or about one out of every 16.6 negro farmers.

Where the negroes are concentrated tenancy is the rule, where they are scattered ownership is the rule. Hence the small percentage of farm owners among the race in the eastern negro belt. The reverse is true in the western counties, where there are few, if any, negroes. In Mitchell county, 100 per cent own their farms and in several other western counties from 80 to 93 per cent own the farms they operate.

In Bertie 30 per cent are farm owners; in Northampton, 23 per cent; in Gates, 46.7; in Halifax, 23.9; Warren, 38.3.

nounced after chautauqua's arrival. The big tent will be pitched on the lot next to the Farmers' Tobacco Warehouse.

WAR DEPARTMENT TO HAVE HEARING ON CHOWAN BRIDGE

Plans For Structure Have Been
Submitted By The State
Highway Commission

MEETING WILL BE HELD IN WINTON TODAY

Completion Of Project Will
Mark Opening Of "Lost
Provinces" Of East

Friday afternoon, at one o'clock, there will be a public hearing in the courthouse at Winton on the proposal for construction of bridge across the Chowan River, plans of which have been submitted to the U. S. Army, War Department, for approval. The North Carolina State Highway Commission is presenting the plans, since the bridge when constructed will be a part of the State Highway System.

Major D. D. Pullen, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, will represent the War Department, and he has invited all parties interested to be present or to be represented at the above time and place. Particularly does he invite all navigation interests to attend the hearing. Officers of any county, city, town or local association whose interests may be affected by the construction of the proposed bridge are also invited.

Before the plans are approved and the State Highway Commission can proceed to ask for bids, an opportunity must be given all the interests named above to express themselves upon the suitability of the location and the adequacy of the plans in reference to navigation, and to suggest changes considered advisable in the interest of navigation. The War Department will try to satisfy all parties in making its report on the proposed plan.

When the plans of the State Highway Commission are okeed by the War Department, bids will be called for, and construction work may begin on the bridge within a few months. According to the specifications submitted to the War Department, the bridge will be of the swing-draw type, with two openings, each with 60 feet clearance; the vertical clearance when the draw of the bridge is closed is 5.2 feet at ordinary elevation.

Will Be Important Project

Work on this bridge will signalize one of the biggest pieces of engineering work yet undertaken or to be undertaken in the First District. The approach from the Hertford County side at Winton will be comparatively insignificant compared to the work to be done on the Gates county side. In Gates, there is a vast stretch of swamp lands, boggy, sandy, and filled with a thick undergrowth.

This bridge will provide the one important connecting link between the "Lost Provinces" of the East and the rest of North Carolina. It will make that section more nearly Tar Heel soil, and a little less akin to everything Virginian. Commissioner Hart has had his heart set on the Chowan River bridge, and, in one of his very first public utterances after his appointment to the State Highway Commission, said he expected to see that structure ready for travel while he was in office, and added further, that he wanted his name emblazoned across the end of the bridge.

A combination hand-motor power ferry now serves to carry passengers across the river at Winton. A bridge has been needed, and its completion will bring the counties beyond the river miles closer this way, and also put this territory in closer touch with the Virginia seaboard, with its enlarged facilities.

RETURN TO AHOSKIE

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh L. Harrell returned to Ahoskie last Saturday night, after a bridal tour of several days. They are stopping temporarily at the Manhattan Hotel. Later they will occupy the former J. A. Eley home.

CHOWAN COLLEGE MECCA DURING COMMENCEMENT

Commencement Begins Friday
Evening With Annual Con-
cert; Closes Tuesday

Commencement begins at Chowan College, Murfreesboro, Friday evening. The Annual Concert will be given at eight o'clock. This event is annually one of the strongest drawing cards of Chowan commencement, and it will no doubt be attended by many alumni and friends of the college this year.

On the following evening, Saturday, Class Day exercises will be given. Dr. S. H. Templeman, of Elizabeth City, will preach the baccalaureate and missionary sermons Sunday, the former in the morning at 11 o'clock, and the latter at 8 o'clock that night. Dr. Templeman is a strong and able preacher.

Monday will be a day of mingling and intermingling of students, alumni, and friends. The trustees will hold their meeting at 10 o'clock in the morning. In the afternoon, between the hours of 3 and 6, the Art, Domestic Art, and Domestic Science Exhibits will entertain the college visitors. Monday evening at 8:15 o'clock an operetta will be given.

Tuesday's program will wind up the commencement exercises. Class Day exercises will begin at 10 o'clock in the morning, and will close with presentation of diplomas. Dr. J. T. Riddick, of Norfolk, Va., will deliver the annual address to the graduating class.

The following young ladies will receive their degrees this year: Emma Riddick Parker, B. A.; Minnie Dunning and Claudia Marie Griffin, B. S.; Bessie Mae Jordan and Genieve Taylor, Expression Diploma; Voice Diploma; Elizabeth Turnley and Emma Riddick Parker, Expression Diploma; Maluna Foyd Bridgers, Piano Diploma.

Norfolk Fair Will Be Best On Record

Norfolk, Va., May 23—The fourth fair of the Norfolk Agricultural and Industrial Fair Association, Inc., will be held Labor Day week, starting Monday, September 3. So great has been the success of this enterprise that it is now known as the Greater Interstate Norfolk Fair, for it not only attracts exhibits from Tidewater Virginia, the celebrated eastern shore, but from eastern North Carolina as well.

Norfolk being the chief city of the great port of Hampton Roads, which also includes Newport News, Portsmouth and Old Point Comfort, is the port through which Virginia ships its peanuts and tobacco, and North Carolina its cotton and garden truck, as fruits and vegetables are called here. The fertile lands lying between the James and Elizabeth rivers and Albemarle Sound is known as the truck garden of Virginia, the home of the peanut-fed hogs that make Smithfield hams and bacon celebrated throughout the world.

Naturally, with this background, the Norfolk Fair is the biggest agricultural event in Virginia, aside from the State Fair possibly, and even the State Fair is in danger of being overshadowed by the exposition held every Labor Day week by the Hampton Roads metropolis.

This year, according to Manager J. N. Montgomery, the Fair will be bigger and better than ever. Already the exhibits are being entered from prize cattle to prize peanuts, and the management proposes to spend more money than ever for racing and show purposes. There will be Three Stake events for harness horses as well as daily running and open class harness races, the first five days of the week. The last day will be given to Auto racing when some of the fastest dirt track cars in the country will compete. The vaudeville entertainment and fireworks will be in keeping with the racing events.

PURCHASE BOYETTE HOUSE

Mrs. A. C. Vann has recently purchased the residence of Dan P. Boyette, West Church street. Mrs. Vann will move to Ahoskie. Mr. Boyette is planning to erect a new home on the Ahoskie-Frazier's highway.

Stockholders Order New Building For Local Bank

Committee Appointed To Start Work On Structure That May
Cost Bank Of Ahoskie \$50,000 To \$60,000, When Ready
For Occupancy—Talk Of Merger Of Two Banks

After practically all hopes of taking any forward step had been abandoned, and following the disapproval by a safe majority of the plans for a new building submitted by the directors, the stockholders of the Bnk of Ahoskie late Tuesday afternoon ordered a building committee of nine persons to proceed with the construction of a new bank building to cost, exclusive of lighting, heating and plumbing systems, and also fixtures, not more than \$40,000.

The plan offered by the directors was to construct a building along the same plans as were drawn in 1919, at a cost of \$41,000 complete, the only difference being in the frame specifications, wood being substituted for steel wherever the latter was specified in the old plans. A motion to accept this report was defeated in the early part of meeting held Tuesday at the Richard Theater. Later a motion to build at a cost of from \$30,000 to \$40,000, including complete equipment and fixtures, was also lost.

OFFICERS ELECTED FOR ASSOCIATION

H. J. Vann Of Como Member
Of Peanut Organization's
Executive Committee

MAY ERECT OWN CLEANING PLANT

At a meeting of the new Board of directors of the Peanut Growers Association held in the Chamber of Commerce rooms, Norfolk, Va., on May 18th, William A. Gwaltney of Spring Grove, Va., Surry County, was elected President of the Association. The following other officers were elected: T. E. Langston, Hertford, N. C., Perquimans County, Vice-President; W. C. Manning, Williamston, N. C., Washington County, Secretary; W. J. Story, Courtland, Va., Southampton County, Chairman of the Board of Directors and E. M. dePencier, Norfolk, Va., General Manager. The Executive Committee, as named at the meeting is composed of the President and Vice-President of the Association and E. Frank Story of Franklin, Va., L. H. Brantley of Ivor, Va., and H. J. Vann, Como, N. C.

Both Mr. Gwaltney and Mr. Langston were directors of the Association last year and were very active in promoting association interests. Mr. Gwaltney also being one of the oldest members on the Board from the standpoint of service. He served as a member of the Board of Virginia-Carolina Co-Operative Peanut Exchange out of which the present organization grew. Both he and Mr. Langston are prominent growers in their respective Counties and men of wide business experience. Mr. Manning, the Secretary, is a prominent North Carolina grower and is Editor of the Williamston Enterprise.

Mr. de Pencier, the General Manager, was promoted to this position from that of General Sales and Advertising Manager of the Association.

Three members of the Executive Committee, Messrs. Brantley, Langston and Vann were appointed a Committee on Production and Plants. The Association owns seventeen acres of land in the outskirts of Suffolk, Va., and there is a strong probability that they will erect their own warehouses and cleaning plants on this property. This Committee is also to consider production problems in general.

A Committee consisting of E. Frank Story and C. J. Shields was appointed on affiliating with other similar organizations. It is probable that the Association of these two States will be very closely allied with the Georgia Association. This Committee will be on the lookout for opportunities to affiliate with organizations of a similar nature.

A closer contact with our grower members is very essential and to this end a Committee on field service consisting of Messrs. W. C. Manning and Richmond Maury was named. These gentlemen will concentrate in this phase of Association work and bring about much needed results. Suggestions from any individual members or any County that tend to improve the situation will be much appreciated by these gentlemen.

Most of the great forest fires in Minnesota started in the peat beds.

Dr. J. A. Powell of Harrellsville led the fight against any heavy expenditure for a new building. He preferred to do business at the same old stand. After the two first motions had been lost, and following the defeat of another motion to leave the matter entirely to the building committee with power to act, W. L. Curtis offered the motion which was finally adopted. H. S. Basnight favored the Curtis motion and seconded it. A warm contest was waged over the motion before it was ever passed, and at times parliamentary tangles threatened to halt further action.

Of the more than 500 shares of stock represented at the meeting 430 voted to erect the new building on the lot opposite the old bank building.

If the wishes of the stockholders are carried out by the building committee, the new building will cost in the neighborhood of \$50,000 or \$60,000, when ready for occupancy, including furniture and fixtures. This is \$12,000 to \$20,000 more than the cost of the Farmers-Atlantic Bank building, which was built during the high prices. The approximate cost of the latter bank building, complete with fixtures, was about \$37,000.

The following persons were named on the building committee: J. A. Williams, J. N. Vann, J. R. Garrett, L. S. Savage, W. L. Curtis, H. S. Basnight, C. Greene, Dr. L. K. Walker, and Mrs. A. W. Greene.

Talk Consolidation

Whispers of consolidation of the two Ahoskie banks became an open discussion at the stockholders' meeting. J. N. Vann, in discussing a motion before the house, said there was a "secret move" on foot to form a coalition and combine the two banks. Since the meeting Tuesday, there has been more or less free discussion of a consolidation. Many stockholders favor it, and believe it the right step to take.

However, there is an element strongly opposed to a merger. The majority of this class does not believe the issue will ever come to a head; but, in case it does, they are ready to fight any such move.

From other sources there also comes talk of another bank here should a merger be effected. The building committee of the Bank of Ahoskie has not yet made any definite move to erect the new structure.

REQUEST PHYSICIANS TO REPORT DISEASES

There has come to the attention of the Sub-District office, United States Veterans' Bureau, Raleigh, N. C., a few isolated cases in which physicians scattered over Eastern North Carolina have been treating without bringing such cases to the attention of the United States Veterans' Bureau.

Provisions of the new Veterans' Relief Act which presumes the service connection of Tubercular and Neuro Psychiatric disabilities arising within three years from date of discharge and disabling the ex-soldier as much as ten per cent in degree, when such facts are presented to the Veterans' Bureau by a licensed practicing physician. Physicians who bring such cases to the attention of the Veterans' Bureau will be conferring a great favor, not only upon the Veterans' Bureau, but also upon those unfortunate ones whose expenses may be met by the Veterans' Bureau.