

## FORMALLY BREAKS DIRT

### For Franklin County Building

At Louisburg College; Many Excellent Speeches; Much Good Singing; Many Shovels Used and Photographer Makes Historical Record

Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock on the college campus was the occasion for appropriate exercises in commemoration of breaking the dirt for the erection of the Franklin County Building, the contract for which was let some weeks ago.

Quite a large crowd gathered in response to the invitations mailed Saturday to take a part in the exercises.

After several yells and songs in honor of the occasion by the college girls, all joined in singing "My Country 'Tis of Thee." Prayer was offered by Dr. N. H. D. Wilson and President Mohn told the object of the meeting and acting as master of ceremonies called on Mr. M. S. Davis who spoke of the building from an architectural standpoint, telling of its size, its construction and advantages.

Dr. A. H. Fleming speaking for the city, said we had a wonderful little town, a big little town, a town full of everything even folks, and our folks are even full of themselves. He spoke of the inspiration we have received from the campaign to build this building and expressed the hopes that all the girls and their friends would come back next year.

E. H. Malone, speaking instead of his mother who is the oldest graduate of Louisburg College in town, expressed the idea that this is a great day for Franklin county. We have seen the impossible achieved, and we are proud of it.

Mr. W. H. Yarborough responded to the request to speak for the county, and laid the foundation for a most wonderful address on the fact that progress lives on forever while evils die and is buried with the bones of man. He emphasized the fact that the efforts and influence that we have given to this institution is the biggest thing that Franklin county has ever done. That they had consecrated their efforts and their means to the greatest cause known—the building and equipping a new womanhood. He paid a beautiful tribute to President Mohn when he said we have been asleep. We have waited for Arthur Mohn to come among us, make himself a part of us, to dream for us, and then convince us that we could make our dream come true.

Mr. F. B. McKinnis, secretary to the board of trustees took occasion to announce that the board had just a few minutes before re-elected Mr. Mohn to the presidency of the college for another year, and had turned him loose on another half million dollar campaign for the college. The announcement brought forth a most enthusiastic applause.

Rev. A. J. Parker, chairman of the board of trustees, in speaking for the board took occasion to express the warmest thanks for the hearty cooperation and support of the people in Franklin county, and rejoiced with them in the beginning of the Franklin County Building. He was especially confident of the fact that the people would supply the remainder of the necessary funds from their pledges to complete the building by the time the first section of the contract was finished.

Rev. M. T. Plyler took occasion to speak in the highest terms of the motives behind this movement and was proud that he was still connected with Franklin county citizenry.

President Mohn filled with emotion from the high compliments paid him by all the speakers, spoke fittingly and feelingly of his appreciations and his pleasures of having become a part of so great a movement as is no won foot with one of the best junior colleges in the country.

The exercises were closed with a short benediction by Rev. O. W. Dowd and all gathered on the spot selected for the new building where the work had been halted, that due reverence might be observed by the gathering with shovels and machinery to formally break the ground for the new building while the photographer made a permanent record for history's record.

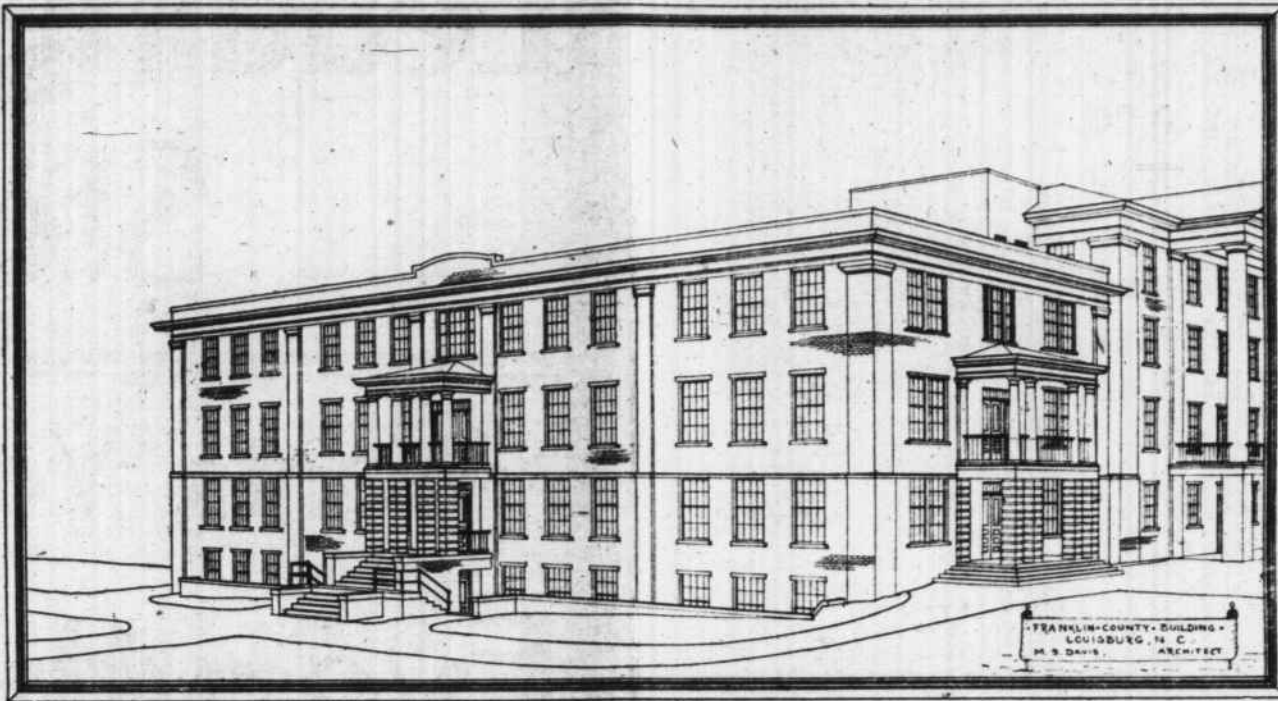
It was a most exhilarating and inspiring occasion and enthusiastically entered into by a large number.

### BALL GAME THIS AFTERNOON

Announcement has been made that a game of baseball will be played at the fair grounds this afternoon (Friday) at 5 o'clock between Louisburg and Henderson. As the two teams will be selected from the Kiwanis Clubs of both towns it is safe to say a barrel of fun is in store for the spectators whose opportunity it will be to be present. There will be some big bats and long leans on the line up of both teams and some real baseball is in store.

Everybody is invited to go out and see the boys fan and roll over. The little fee will be used to promote some worthy features sponsored by Kiwanis.

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### MR. RATCLIFF SPEAKS TO KIWANIS

Friday Evening Program Was One of Much Interest To Louisburg Kiwanians.

Mr. C. N. Ratcliff, Director of the Contract Department of the Carolina Light and Power Co., made a most interesting address before the Louisburg Kiwanis Club on Friday night at their usual weekly banquet.

Mr. Ratcliff spoke of the advantage of the Hydro Electric Power over the municipally owned plant. He said his company had a generating capacity of 163,000 horse power and served 85 cotton mills, that its lines run through South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia and served 130 towns and cities with a total population of 339,000. He told of its being a public institution under state control, that it was economic because all towns and cities are pooling their electric service, that it could finance the needs better by pooling. The value of the plant as it now stands is \$63,000,000, and in the next two years they expect to spend twenty-five to thirty million more. The chief advantages he said would be the superiority of service centralized management systemized under experts, their organized industrial bureau. He said they would ask for a non-exclusive franchise for 60 years to go into a town. He said that their rates for residences was 10 cents per kilowatt and to the town for street lighting was \$1.50 per month for 60 candle power, \$2.00 for 100 candle power and \$3.25 for a 250 candle power light, that it cost the average town of 2,500 population from \$1,200 to \$3,000 per year to light the streets. He said his company would not sell current at wholesale, and he could not give an estimate of the cost for pumping water by not knowing how much current this would consume.

Upon motion he was requested to have a survey of the town made and present a concrete proposition.

The two musical numbers, "Will O' the Wisp," and "Sleepy Hollow Coon" rendered by a quartette composed of Mrs. W. E. White, Mrs. S. B. Berkeley, Mr. Malcolm McKinnis and Dr. H. H. Johnson were great and more than enjoyed by all present as was evidenced by the prolonged applause.

A beautiful gold Kiwanis bell was on display at the president's table with the explanation that it was for sale to Kiwanians, a call for what should we do about the bell, brought forth a request from Mrs. W. E. White that the bell be left to the ladies. Her request, although not fully understood, was granted.

Arthur Mohn presided and Edward Best was the director in charge with Ben T. Holden acting as chairman for the evening and a most enjoyable evening was had.

### THE SOUTHERNER

The inauguration of "The Southerner" a new Seaboard flyer, stopping only at principal cities, will be of much convenience to people of this community. The train is equipped with all pullman sleeping, compartment, club, observatory and day coaches. The schedule that will be interesting to our readers is as follows:

No. 15 Southbound	No. 16 Northbound
9:15 a. m. New York	7:45 p. m.
11:24 a. m. Philadelphia	5:34 p. m.
1:43 p. m. Baltimore	3:20 p. m.
3:05 p. m. Washington	1:55 p. m.
6:20 p. m. Richmond	10:40 a. m.
9:24 p. m. Henderson	7:30 a. m.

### U. D. C. MEETING

The Joseph J. Davis Chapter U. D. C. will meet with Mrs. M. C. Ferguson on Tuesday afternoon, June 1st, at 4 p. m. All members are urged to be present at this meeting as there are no meetings in July and August, and it is desired that all business be disposed of and everything gotten in order for the vacation months.

MRS. H. W. PERRY, Secy.

### DR. E. D. SOPER PREACHES BACCALAUREATE SERMON

At Commencement Exercises of Louisburg College Sunday.

### DR. KNIGHT DELIVERS GRADUATING ADDRESS

Alumnae Banquet Held Saturday Night; Class Day Exercises Held Tuesday Afternoon On Campus; Shakespearean Recital By Expression Class Given At Mills High School Monday Night; All Parts of Commencement Exercises Well Rendered and Much Enjoyed By Large Numbers; Past Year Has Been Great Success; President Mohn Re-elected

The annual commencement of Louisburg College for the term of 1925-26 came to a close on Wednesday morning when the graduating exercises were held at the Mills High School auditorium. A large crowd was gathered and enjoyed a most delightful, interesting and forceful address by Dr. Edgar W. Knight, professor of Rural Education at North Carolina University, Chapel Hill. Dr. Knight's address was a literary gem and he expounded much sound doctrine and advice, in dealing with the problems of the young people as they march along life's pathway.

The services were begun with a musical number by Miss Rosalind, of the music faculty, which was followed by the hymn, "Faith of our Fathers." Miss Margaret Rich gave a musical number and Miss Lucie Hayes delighted her hearers with "The Serenata by Tosti," and Miss Christine Edwards presented a beautiful piano solo.

After the graduating address President Arthur Mohn presented the diplomas and certificates and Rev. O. W. Dowd presented Bibles to the following graduates in their chosen courses:

Literary—Mona Jane Ashley, Mildred Grandy Ballance, Bettie Mae Bennett, Emily Frances Douglas, Mary Alice Ferguson, Ozelle Foster, Minnie Spencer Grant, Katherine Moore Harrison, Lucie Sutton Hayes, Inez Hooker, Fanny Howell, Margaret Incoe, Lucille Jennings, Ida Mae Langston, Frances Lawrence, Hazel Belle Owens Irene Parker, Laura Frances Person, Margaret Rich, Tressie Evelyn Sloan, Clara James Thompson, Doris Ruby Turner, Maime Elliot Watkins, Susan Rebecca Webb, Ella Roberts Whitehurst, Martha Lee Wheeler, George Sampson Wilcox, Fannie Belle Woody.

Classical—Margaret Elizabeth Barfield, Lucy Perry Burt, Jewel Clarke, Mary White Daniel, Christine Dixon Edwards, Gertrude Marjan Gardner, Laura Virginia Gibbs, Corinne Lee Harris, Marina Estmere Jarvis, Blanche Spivey, Doza Upchurch, Nellie Elaine Weston.

Piano—Diploma—Christine Edwards, Lucie Sutton Hayes, Anna Fuller Parham, Margaret Rich. Certificate—Laura Frances Person.

Voice—Certificate—Lucie Sutton Hayes.

Home Economics—Diplomas—Victoria Adcocke, Elizabeth Clifton, Elizabeth Reese Poyner, Elizabeth Gray Timberlake. Certificate—Margaret Dell Weeks.

Secretarial—Diploma—Sarah Allen Lela Beasley, Iva Bruton, Beulah Cooper, Frances Daniel, Martha Fulford, Sarah Harrison, Ruth Page, Mildred Rawls, Mary Sanders, Nora Sanders, Bernice Smith, Ruby Willis. Certificate—Eva Bradsher, Lillie Edwards, Louise Egerton, Mary Egerton.

Helen Gatis, Mattie Herndon, Virginia Mae Royal, Mary Willis.

Bookkeeping—Diploma—Blanche Bruton. Certificate—Lela Beasley, Martha Fulford, Ruth Page, Chellie Maeoyal, Mary Willis.

The marshals for this occasion were Jay Williams, chief; Margaret Newburn, Lucille Taylor, Lillian Howell, Martha Oden.

Graduates of High School Department—Myrtle Barrow, Christine Dodd, Helen Walton Evans, Ariana Grant, Evelyn Harrison, Dorothy Jennings, Millie Belle Melton, Pattie Lyon Moore, Minnie Perry, Margaret Ricks, Mason Ricks, Ethel May Sugg, Pauline Thornton, Nannie Waller.

Following the presentation of the diplomas, certificates and Bibles, announcements for the next term were made.

The baccalaureate sermon was preached at the Methodist church on Sunday morning at 11 o'clock by Dr. E. D. Soper, vice-president and head of the Department of Religion of Duke University. His text was taken from Matthew 4:1-11 and his subject, "ambition," was appropriate, forceful and masterly handled, being one of the strongest sermons heard here in some time. A beautiful musical program had been arranged and was well rendered. The church was crowded to its capacity and many were unable to gain entrance.

On Sunday evening Rev. O. W. Dowd pastor of the Methodist church, preached a strong and wonderfully inspiring sermon to the Young Woman's Christian Association. Miss Blanche Spivey, president of the organization, had charge of the splendidly arranged program which contained special musical numbers that added much to the service.

On the Saturday before at five o'clock, large numbers of our lovers of art attended the exhibition of the Art Department. The work showed rare talent and the teacher, Miss Elva Sheek, should be justly proud. Those having work on exhibit were Misses Bertha Lee Hux, Sallie Mae Alphin, Mary Ingram, Iva Jinnette, Laura Keene, Audrey Midgette, Pattie Lyon Moore, Elizabeth Reed, May Fisher and Stuart Davis, Jr.

At the same time the Domestic Art Department exhibited their work. The instructor, Miss Nell Woods, is to be congratulated upon the neatness and thoroughness of the work exhibited by her many pupils.

On Saturday evening at eight o'clock the Alumnae Association of Louisburg College gave their annual banquet in the college dining room under the supervision of Mrs. S. J. Parham, president; Mrs. T. W. Watson, secretary; Miss Elva Sheek, Chairman of the decorating committee and Mrs. J. E. Malone, Sr., chairman of toast committee. The dining room was beautifully decorated in the college colors, lavender and white and with daisies, the college flower. Mrs. Frank Rose, in her usual charming manner, presided as toast mistress. "Carolina" was sang, followed by the invocation by Rev. O. W. Dowd of the Methodist church. President A. W. Mohn welcomed the alumnae back home after which Mrs. S. J. Parham read a toast on "The Dormant Power of Carolina." The toasts, "The Rising Tide" was given by Miss Marguerite Harris; "The Flood Tide," by Mrs. Norman Chambliss of Rocky Mount; "Her Future and Its Hope," by Mrs. A. B. Perry. Miss Corinne Harris, president of the class of '26, toasted "Our Alma Mater," after which the college song was sung. A

Rev. E. C. Crawford, pastor Louisburg Circuit Methodist churches delivered a strong, forceful and interesting sermon at the beginning of the commencement exercises of the Louisburg Colored Graded School on last Sunday afternoon to a large and appreciative audience. He stressed the idea to build our structure for character and a bigger life on the solid rock of honest education backed by the desire to live right with your fellowman and your God. He said any other plan they might adopt would result in failure.

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### REV. CRAWFORD PREACHES SERMON

At Closing Colored Graded School

Exercises Began Sunday Afternoon and Continued Through Wednesday; Mrs. T. W. Bickett Delivered Annual Address Wednesday

Rev. E. C. Crawford, pastor Louisburg Circuit Methodist churches delivered a strong, forceful and interesting sermon at the beginning of the commencement exercises of the Louisburg Colored Graded School on last Sunday afternoon to a large and appreciative audience. He stressed the idea to build our structure for character and a bigger life on the solid rock of honest education backed by the desire to live right with your fellowman and your God. He said any other plan they might adopt would result in failure.

After the sermon Supt. W. R. Mills made a short talk telling them of the advancement he had observed in their race since he came to Louisburg and commended them for the splendid work they are doing. He told them of the plans his school board were at work on to enlarge their building in order to give them greater opportunities.

On Monday evening at 8 o'clock the primary grades gave their exercises in the graded school auditorium and was much enjoyed by the large crowd in attendance.

The intermediate grades presented their exercises at the school on Tuesday evening and the graduating exercises were held Wednesday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. Mrs. T. W. Bickett, Superintendent of Public Welfare of Wake county, and formerly of Louisburg, delivered a most able address on this occasion, in which she implored her hearers to make full use of the knowledge they had attained at the school in a most sensible manner that they may more abundantly prosper and build for themselves a higher place in the opinion and respect of their white neighbor.

These exercises close the fifth term of Prof. G. C. Pollard at this school and his untiring efforts have built for him evidence of a great work among his people well done. His many white friends extend congratulations for the splendid work he has been doing.

### FLANDERS FIELD

In the spring of 1919 after the war, on Flanders Field where the firing had been terrific and thousands of our boys had fallen in battle, amidst complete devastation, the poppies bloomed in abundance.

The French women tell you today that the poppy is significant of the sacrificial blood of the boys who fell in Flanders Field. Those who have traveled through France since the war, tell us it is peculiarly true, that where the battle was the fiercest and the bloodshed the greatest, the poppies to this day grow more profusely. Because of this close association to the supreme sacrifice made by the boys who fell in France, the poppy has become the memorial flower of the America Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary—the emblem of a faith that is being kept thru service to the living.

From the beautiful story of the poppy comes the true message from the boys who fell as expressed most beautifully in Col. McRae's verse:  
We Shall Not Sleep  
"In Flanders Field the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row  
That mark our place, and in the sky  
The larks still bravely singing fly,  
Scarce heard amidst the guns below  
We are the dead,  
Short days ago we lived, felt dawn,  
Saw sunset glow,  
Lived and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders Field.  
Take up your quarrel with the foe

To you from falling hands we throw  
The torch—be yours to hold it high;  
If ye break faith with those who die,  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders Field.

### JURY SAYS ROSS GUILTY MURDER IN FIRST DEGREE

Prosecution Claims Staying of Mr. and Mrs. Odom Was Deliberate Murder; Ross Says His Mind Was Blank And Had Often Gone Blank Before Story of Crime.

By W. BRODIE JONES

Warrenton, May 22.—The jury in the case of W. L. Ross, Hollister man on trial for the past two days for the murder of Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Odom, of Arcola, last Sunday, tonight at 11:15 o'clock returned a verdict of murder in the first degree after being out for an hour and a half. Judge E. H. Cramer sentenced Ross to be electrocuted on Tuesday, June 22.

Warrenton, May 22.—"I will be convicted tonight. I want Sallie Bett to have everything she wants from my house," W. L. Ross, on trial here for the past two days on the charge of the murder of Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Odom, of Arcola, last Sunday, said in the court room tonight after the case had gone to the jury at 9:40 o'clock. He asked a lawyer to see that the court changed the name of his adopted daughter before the verdict of the jury came in. Then hands some steadier than before scribbled a letter painfully, slowly, to Sallie Bett. "I want your forgiveness and prayers. Won't you please pray that God may be merciful to me. I can die in peace with my Lord if you will forgive me." The letter was handed the girl quietly. She did not answer then.

Ross, apparently much stronger and with nerves steadied, resumed testimony at 9:30 o'clock this morning after a quiet night in Warren Jail under guard of the men of Co. B., the Warrenton unit of the National Guard. Persons composing the huge crowd yesterday moved to their homes as the shadows of evening lengthened and the night passed quietly. The spirit of the community was calm today. Argument of counsel began at 12 o'clock with B. B. Williams opening for the State. Stanley Winborne followed him before adjournment at 1 o'clock.

Into the evidence yesterday had come the story of Sallie Bett Ross, 15 year old adopted daughter of the prisoner, who had been a mother to Ross's three children, all under ten, since Mrs. Ross died in 1923, and who was the only witness to the killing of Mr. and Mrs. Odom at their home near Arcola on Sunday afternoon when Ross went there to persuade her to come again to his roof. Sidney Odom, 29, was shot through the back of the head from a distance of three feet, Mrs. Odom shot first through the face as she ran for the door and the gun turned upon Sallie Bett. Mrs. Odom turned over on the floor and Ross shot her again. The girl broke from the house and on wings of fear flew to the home of Dempsey Odom, half mile away.

These facts were substantiated by the story of Ross with the exception of the actual killing. He told the court that he had a headache after the other visitors left the Odom home.

"My head felt like it was tearing off, my mind went blank and the next thing I knew was when I saw Sallie Bett running across the field and I was sitting under a tree near the house. I went in and realized what I had done. I went to Mr. Capp's store and asked that he bring me to Warren jail."

In cross examination this morning by Solicitor R. Hunt Parker, Ross was questioned about the 32-calibre pistol which he had carried to the Odom home. The prisoner said that he had always carried the gun since he was deputy sheriff and revenue officer as he had received threats. He quit as deputy sheriff because his wife, before her death, had asked him to give up the post and further because the job took too much time from his business, Ross testified.

### REV. McIVER TO RETURN FOR SERVICES

The Biblical Recorder had the following to say about Rev. J. A. McIver in a recent issue:

"Rev. J. A. McIver, pastor of the Baptist church at Louisburg, in company with Rev. John F. Mitchner, passed through Raleigh the other day on their way to the Southern Baptist Convention at Houston by automobile. Before leaving the Louisburg church handed pastor McIver a purse sufficient to pay expenses to the convention. The church also voted him an increase in salary of \$600 per year. We are sure Brother McIver enjoyed this rough treatment by his people."

Mr. McIver will return this week and will conduct the regular morning and evening services May 30, after an absence of three weeks.

It is suggested that the membership give him a little more "rough treatment" by being present 100 per cent strong at both these services to welcome him back home.

To you from falling hands we throw  
The torch—be yours to hold it high;  
If ye break faith with those who die,  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders Field.