

EDUCATION A NECESSITY FOR USEFULNESS

Write For The Courier.

Having recently given some study to the subject of child labor, and having seen the condition of the children in North Carolina of our own County, I have decided that child labor is the greatest menace to the growth of our institutions. Our era can boast of humanity and intelligence, but there is one blot upon the page of our civilization—the wholesale employment of children.

According to the best authorities on the subject, childhood should be a period of growth and education. It should be the stage in which the youth is trained so that when he becomes a man he can face any situation which may arise. Therefore, with each advance in civilization, with each improvement of mankind, the period of childhood should be extended in order that the men and women of future generations shall be mature and developed.

At the present time we can scarcely conceive of the conditions existing among the children. The policy of the system of child labor, not only on a broad scale, but right here in our own county, is that of extracting work from children and trafficking in their slow growing strength. In speaking of child labor generally, we are accustomed to think of the hundreds of thousands of children employed in manufacturing industries, in shops and mines, and in other establishments.

We think of these children as employed in tobacco factories, handling the cigar and the deadly cigarette; in the saloons and slums of the great cities there are many thousand small children. But it is necessary to think about this thing in a more practical way. Almost any one will admit that city conditions are bad, but we must also realize that here in our midst there are woeful conditions. The children who today are working at hard labor in the County of Randolph, when they should be in school, number in the hundreds. And another sad feature of the situation is that there are hundreds who are out of school, and are not even at work. But the saddest of all is that the children themselves and their parents are not keenly alive to the conditions. I find children who are simply leading their time away, and their parents are setting the example. A state of the family might be conceived in which poverty was so intense that even the little children would need be compelled to work in order that the family might exist. But there can be no reasonable excuse for children to stay out of school when they do absolutely nothing to support the family.

Let us see some of the bad effects of these conditions. Any student of childhood well knows that drastic work in our younger days will cut the sphere of usefulness short either by an early death or by a complete physical wreck. We are daily seeing the spectacle of children taken out of school and thrust into employment with the result that a few years of ineffectual work are added and a great many years of productive and effective work are lost. We cannot expect to increase our wealth and advance in civilization, if we ruin the lives of the children and thus produce a weak manhood. This crushing out of the strength of the children and thereby rendering men unfit for service, remind me of the fable of the woman who had the goose, which laid a golden egg each day. The woman began to believe that there was a mass of gold concealed within the goose and therefore killed it only to find in this goose what was to be found in other geese. No more golden eggs were received. This analogy holds good in our daily life.

We are so desirous of wealth that we rush children into work without sufficient preparation to face the battles of life, thus destroying all hope of future greatness, and losing the little that we have.

Let us look at another effect. The keeping of children from school suggests the possibility of their becoming vagrants. Thousands of men who tramp about over this county, living solely by begging, are the product of such a system. We are not expecting beggars from our own boys, but we may expect

a poorly prepared, yes a listless life, from the child, the spring of whose life snaps, and the spirit is completely broken, because of failure to instill an invincible ambition in the heart. Unless the ambition came from the privileges of school life, the outlook is hopelessly blank. If the boys and girls of this generation do not become strong and useful men and women, it will not be because of poverty; it will not be because of ill health; but rather because of failure to take advantage of the opportunity now afforded every one.

Having thus seen that hundreds of the children right in our midst are out of school, and having seen the disastrous results of such a policy, should not the people stand for laws prohibiting the employment of children below the age of sixteen. They should also insist upon the establishment of a strong educational system, whereby every boy and girl may attend school at least six months in the year. This can be done in two ways: by local tax and by compulsory education. The first has been tried and has proved successful. At the present I would not advocate a compulsory education law for the State but I believe the time has come when towns, cities, local districts and townships should vote it just as the local tax is voted. When such laws are enacted they should be rigidly, strictly, and impartially enforced, and the various evasions, which might arise from the deliberate falsehoods of parents and employers, should be carefully guarded against, there may be a few cases in which such laws would work great hardships, but these cases could be provided for without opening the door to numerous evasions and the practical nullification of the laws.

Whatever the specific measures taken by the people, their policy must be based upon the fixed determination to keep the children in school. The prosperity and development of our institutions depend upon the raising and protection of the child, depend upon the freedom of the young life, and not upon the oppression and aggression of the strong and unscrupulous. No American is loyal to the cause of liberty, who is not solicitous for the welfare of the little children. No permanent results can be achieved until all well intentioned members of society are united in a common effort to protect children and to guarantee to them the means by which they may build up strong and useful characters.

LYCEUM COURSE

A large and Well Pleased Audience heard the Days Thursday Night.

The second number of the Lyceum Course at the Auditorium last Thursday night was attended by a large and delighted audience. The program was not long but was full of interest for old and young. Mr. Day's characterizations were instructive as well as entertaining. His impersonations were fine and the work of Mrs. Day in the little was accorded appreciative applause.

The next attraction, Ross Crane, the famous cartoonist, is one that will interest all. This is also one that is educational in character and is well worth double the price of admission if reports are confirmed.

A visitor in Asheboro recently when told of the Course and the attractions composing it declared that few towns of three times the size of Asheboro afford such select attractions. The three attractions to follow are all high class.

Conference School at Liberty.

One of the most important acts of the Methodist Protestant conference at Greensboro last week was the offer of the conference to adopt the Liberty Normal School, and the officers of the institution were made the following proposition: If Liberty and the community will donate fourteen acres of land and \$2,000 the conference will assume to raise \$2,500 and have a church school to begin next September. This with the Denton High School makes two high schools the Conference has practically located.

CONDENSED NEWS.

George Gould and party of New York, are hunting on Mr. Gould's preserves near High Point this week.

The Cape Fear Lumber Co. has closed its mills near Wilmington. Wages have been decreased 25 per cent.

Mrs. Fannie M. Long died at her home in Fairmont, Davidson county last week. She was 88 years old.

Prof. W. H. Swift, of the Greensboro public schools, will deliver an address at Siler City today.

A. A. Hinton, postmaster at Pomona, died Thursday after a lingering illness of Bright's disease. He was buried at Guilford College.

The Steel Trust says it will not reduce prices in spite of the business depression. Well the tariff protects it in charge of high prices.

Salisbury is making a strong pull already for the Methodist Orphanage recently provided for by the Western North Carolina Conference.

It is announced that Ashley Horne, a candidate for the Democratic nomination for the Governor of North Carolina, will open headquarters at Raleigh in January.

It has been given out on authority that the Federation of Labor will strongly oppose the reelection of Jos. G. Cannon, as speaker of the House in the 60th congress.

Nancy Hanks, the famous trotting mare, now 21 years old, who held the trotting record of 2:04 in 923 and 94, was sold in New York last Thursday for \$1,500.

H. C. Grubb and J. J. Bailey, of Boone Township, Rowan County, have decided to operate a dairy near Salisbury. They will begin with ninety cows.

Six persons escaped from the county jail at Kinston last Thursday by picking the lock to the cell and prising apart the bars over a window.

Thursday night of last week W. F. Clegg, of Greensboro, was married to Miss Minnie May Bruton, of Reidsville. The marriage took place in the parlor of the Clegg Hotel.

An Old Fiddler's Convention will be held at High Point about the middle of December. W. T. Parker and J. E. Kirkman are interested in the event and will be glad to receive the names of all who will enter the contest.

Rev. Jos. T. Watts, of Ashland, Va., has been called to become pastor of the Baptist Church at Lexington. He visited Lexington last Sunday and preached two excellent sermons to the congregation.

In the Supreme Court last week the decision of the lower court in the case against Major Guthrie, col. of Durham, for wife murder was sustained and the prisoner will pay the penalty with his life on a date to be set later by the Governor.

Three large barns on the Oak Grove farm, owned by L. Banks Holt, were burned last Wednesday. Some fine cattle perished in the flames. The fire caught from sparks from an engine running a shredding machine.

Work has begun on the big distributing station of the Whitney Power Company at Salisbury. From it 40,000 horse power will be sent to the manufacturing centers of the piedmont section of North Carolina. The building will be 150 feet high, 80 feet wide and 260 feet long.

The executive committee of the State Normal and Industrial College met at Greensboro Wednesday of last week. It was decided to erect a \$100,000 science building and the architects were instructed to prepare plans at once to be submitted at a full meeting of the committee to be held later.

At a meeting of the National Y. M. C. A. Convention at Washington last week, the Piedmont Industrial School of Charlotte, which was founded a few years ago by Rev. J. A. Baldwin, was made an institution of the association, an educational department being added this year to the work of the National Association.

The Croatan and Bates Talco mines at Glendon have suspended.

A new R. F. D. Route has been established at Cameron running in the direction of Carthage.

The State Council of the Jr. O. U. A. M. will hold its annual sessions at Winston-Salem in February. There will be over 400 Juniors in attendance.

At a caucus of the Democratic members of the House held Saturday afternoon in Washington, it was decided to continue Hon. John Sharp Williams in the position of minority leader for the Sixtieth Congress.

The Vice President of the Tobacco Trust testified lately that it cost a million dollars to effect its European consolidation. That amount is a trifle compared to what the trust cost the people through the tariff protection the Republican party persists in standing pat upon.

The President is beginning to feel real criticism from his own party. Judge Brewer, of the United States Supreme Court, says he is playing a game of hide and seek with the American people, and Senator Spooner declares, no one can tell what he will do next.

What did J. Pierpont Morgan, the boss of Wall Street, say to the Republican boss in the White House when he visited there some ten days ago? and if so, what per centage of the profits it had its way into the Republican campaign fund next year?

The officers and stockholders of the Dry Fork Distilling Co. of Danville Va., twelve in number, have been indicted on warrants charging that the company has defrauded the government out of \$200,000. J. L. Casper, formerly of Winston-Salem is among the number, but denies his connection with the Company.

ACCOUNTS CONFUSED.

Trouble With the Former Republican Officials in Stanley

The accounts of the Sheriff of Stanley are in very bad shape, says Enterprise, and the expert accountants who have been at work on the books in an effort to put them in shape that Sheriff Green may make settlement, are placing much of the blame for the confusion upon the former administration.

Investigating the condition of the county's affairs when the republican officials retired shows that grievous errors were made and the abstracts by which the settlement with the Republican Sheriff was made do not in any way compare with the records of the official acts.

The commissioners have notified the bondsmen of Ex-Register of Deeds Van Hoy that they will be held responsible for the cost incurred in straightening out the record.

HON. ASHLEY HORNE.

Farmer and Business Man—Candidate For Gov. of North Carolina.

The following has been handed The Courier with the request that we publish:

Hon. Ashley Horne, who was expected to be in our midst this week, for the purpose of addressing our people on the issues of the day, is unfortunately detained at home on account of serious illness of a member of his family. Mr. Horne is not a politician; a plain unassuming christian gentleman; absolutely free from demagogism and hypocrisy. We have the assurance that a visit will be paid us in the near future, a notice of which will be given through this paper.

A Pleasant Social Event at Liberty.

At the hospitable home of Mrs. Vance York, on Nov. 27, 1907, a social event was greatly enjoyed, in honor of Miss Annie Stallings, the occasion being her twentieth birthday.

The young ladies present were, Misses Addie Kiger, Florence Sullivan, Virle Coble, Cathline Pike, Mava Bowman, Dollie Moore and Lizab Foust.

The young men were, Messrs. W. M. Smith, T. S. Stafford, H. V. Clark, J. H. Troxler and Prof. J. C. Lassiter.

The guests were received by Misses Dollie Moore, and Lalah Stallings.

RAILROADS AND STEEL TRUST RESPONSIBLE

SUPERIOR COURT.

Convened Monday, Judge Justice Presiding—Docket Light.

The December term of Randolph Superior Court convened Monday with Judge M. H. Justice Presiding.

Court convened at 11 o'clock.

The following gentlemen were drawn and sworn as a Grand Jury: Milton Jarrett, J. A. White, Geo. T. Murdock, E. A. Ledwell, A. F. Ridge, B. F. Frazier, L. T. Moon, W. E. Poe, Geo. M. Pressnell, C. S. Davis, Chas. Brown, M. F. Skene, R. C. Hanner, D. T. Black, Geo. W. Reitzel, B. B. Brady, W. G. Patterson, J. N. Kirkman.

Geo. T. Murdock was sworn as foreman, with T. W. Andrews, attending officer.

The Petit Jurors were H. J. Up-ton, W. T. Tant, Jas. Callicott, C. C. Brown, Z. A. Cranford, J. M. Routh, B. F. Karris, D. M. Routh, Jim Hill, S. R. Ferguson, W. L. Moffit, J. L. Moore.

Among the cases tried Monday were:

State vs. Garfield Tombs, affray, plead guilty, judgment \$5.00 and costs.

State vs. Jas. A. Hughes, a. w. d. w. plead guilty, judgment suspended upon payment of costs.

State vs. Shufte Russell, et al., affray, verdict guilty.

State vs. Graham Aldridge, a. w. d. w. plead guilty, judgment suspended upon payment of costs.

State vs. Emery Smith, injury to building, plead guilty, judgment suspended upon payment of costs.

State vs. Henry Lewallen and Lum Gray, disturbing congregation, plead guilty.

State vs. Nathaniel Macon and John Macon, hunting turkeys out of season, plead guilty. Verdict guilty as to Nathaniel Macon, John Macon, not guilty. Judgment suspended upon payment of costs.

State vs. Thos. Allred, disturbing congregation, pleas not guilty, verdict guilty. Defendant appeal.

State vs. Floyd Redding, c. c. w. plead guilty, judgment \$10.00 and costs.

State vs. Rich Smith and Chas. Langley, disturbing congregation, pleas guilty, judgment \$10.00 each and half costs.

State vs. Lucy Trogdon, a. w. d. w. plead guilty, judgment suspended upon payment of costs.

State vs. Tom Allred and Harris Saunders, a. w. d. w. Allred plead guilty. Verdict not guilty as to Saunders. Judgment that Allred pay all costs.

Tuesday the following cases were disposed of:

State vs. Jno. Hanner a. w. d. w. verdict guilty, judgment suspended upon payment of costs.

State vs. V. W. E. Boling, a. w. d. w. verdict guilty, judgment \$5.00 and the costs.

State vs. Fannie Brown, et al., judgment of J. P. affirmed, and Sarah Russell prosecutrix taxed with costs.

State vs. J. M. Hinson and Chas. Patterson, a. and b., continued for Patterson. Verdict guilty as to Hinson, judgment \$25.00 and costs.

State vs. Chas. Linens, Tom and Ike Jordan and Josiah Frazier, disturbing congregation, plead guilty, judgment suspended upon payment of costs.

Lee County Officers.

The election in Lee county last week resulted in the following officers being elected: T. N. Campbell, clerk of the Superior Court; B. C. Pierce, treasurer; J. F. Womble, J. F. Jones, J. L. Godfrey, J. J. Edwards and J. R. Jones, commissioners. J. C. Watson and C. G. Pitty tied for sheriff and T. M. Cross and W. S. Marchison tied for register of deeds. Another election will be held this week to decide the ties.

National Bank Open For Business.

The First National Bank, of Asheboro, opened its doors for business yesterday morning. G. G. Hendricks & Co., was the first depositor. The bank has handsome quarters in the new building on DeJoy Street, opposite the station.

Washington, D. C. Dec. 2, 1907
There was a series of great battles last year between the railroads and the people, and the defeat of the people was accomplished with horrible slaughter, and 5000 dead were found on the battle fields and also 76,286 maimed and wounded. The Interstate Commerce Commission bulletin on railroad accidents during the year ending June 30th last gives this alarming list of casualties, which are vastly more than for the previous year. Can nothing be done to prevent this appalling loss of life and limb by the railroads? Defective rails is said to be responsible for much of the slaughter, and the Steel Trust in its anxiety to make big profits is selling defective steel rails and is, therefore, to blame as much as the railroads which accept these defective rails.

The Republic's tariff which protects the Steel Trust virtually offers a premium on defective rails by preventing competition. The tariff duty on Steel rails is \$7.84 per ton, and on the small quantity imported last year, which cost \$23.50 a ton in the country where manufactured, was equal to an ad valorem tariff tax of \$33.44 per cent. With the tariff tax added to the cost, leaving out the freight and other expenses of importation, the cost was \$31.38 per ton on imported rails. At the same time the price the Steel Trust charged was \$28 per ton at Pittsburgh. The difference of \$4.38 per ton between the price of steel rail abroad and here represents the extra tax the tariff protects the trust in collecting, over and above, the good round profit the trust would make without the tariff protection. There is no complaint that English and Belgium steel rails are defective; and the fact that comparatively no accidents from defective rails is attributed to that cause abroad, shows the criminal rapacity of the Steel Trust here, although President Roosevelt views that corporation as a "good trust" and takes counsel of the Steel Trust magnates Gary, and Frick and Carnegie. That there is a bond of sympathy—an interlocking directory—between the railroads and the Steel Trust that leads to the purchase of these imperfectly constructed rails is indicated by the railroad managers paying the trust price without a murmur. If the tariff tax was abolished on steel rails there would be the incentive offered to the railroads of buying better rails at a much reduced price. Probably not another ton of foreign rails would be imported under free trade in rails, for the trust would either have to improve the quality and reduce the price of the rails it manufactures to meet the foreign competition, or lose the enormous rail business. As it is officially recorded that the trust could produce steel rails for \$12 a ton, when labor and raw material was perhaps 33 per cent less than now, it will be seen that the present cost does not exceed \$16, or may be, \$18 a ton. The present price being \$28 a ton. As some people may urge that the price of rails hardly effect the price of travel or goods, although in the end the people pay the cost whatever it is, it may be well to remember that all steel products are protected by the tariff and the tariff tax on most steel products greatly exceeds the 33 per cent on rails, and on some steel articles exceeds 90 per cent. And yet the Republicans have determined to stand pat on the tariff until after the next election and then we may expect them to continue to stand pat if that party succeed, as such success will be considered an endorsement of the policy of protecting the trusts, with no protest against the slaughter of the unprotected people.

ROBERT MILLER.

Death of Mrs. C. B. Watson.

Mrs. Amelia Henly Watson, wife of Cyrus B. Watson, of Winston-Salem, died Friday night, after a brief illness. Mrs. Watson was the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Henly, and was born in Lexington in February, 1847. She is survived by her husband and five children. Mrs. Peter Braune, one of the children, is well known in Randolph.