

CLASS HISTORY

(Prepared by Miss Uralie Williams and read at the class day exercises of the Asheboro graded school last month.)

Ah! It seems like a dream that I have had to write the history of our illustrious class of 1915. I cannot do the class full justice, but you must understand that we are the most intelligent class that has ever received diplomas from this school. As I have looked back over the past ten years, school day pleasures and troubles have passed through my mind, and gladly would each member of our class go back to the first year, if it could be possible to do so, and begin anew the formation of our character and education. But alas! That cannot be, for tonight we stand on the summit of our first ambition. Now, we ascend higher or descend lower from our elevated position.

From our first day in school won't you go with me up to our present goal? It was a lovely September morning when Ruth McPherson and I, for out of our first year's class, we alone remain, first felt our pulses quicken with a fear we could not control when we first entered the school room. Here we were met by a lady who was to be our teacher. We had thought that a teacher was a dreadful being, who looked cross if you smiled or spoke; but not so in our case, for she proved to be kind, patient and companionable. In this grade we learned the phonetic sound of the alphabet, the numeral figures, and how to write, draw and read a little. The school months passed away quickly and we received our cards of promotion and left school for a happy vacation.

The following year found us again in the school room. A new teacher and many new pupils greeted us and a year of study and play passed away. Advancement in our work started in the first grade was about all we took up in this grade.

Our third year was indeed a delightful year for us. The new school building had been completed and this inspired us to take more interest in our school. This was the first year we really studied books and we were very much interested in our lessons. Arithmetic was our hardest study and the multiplication table proved to be a difficult task. In this grade Nancy White, who has been the coquette of our class joined us. She has been a great aid to us, and her faithfulness in attendance is especially commendable. For the past five years she has neither been absent nor tardy from school.

New studies were taken up in our fourth grade work. However, we mastered them and managed to pass creditable examinations. Our ranks were enlarged by the addition of three new pupils, who were: Fleta Lewallen, Kate Brittain and Lena Williams. In the fifth grade we continued in advanced studies. Our work was beginning to grow harder as each year came and consequently, we had to study more than previously. We also found that time seemed to pass away faster than before and very soon our examinations were over and a vacation was before us.

But as the earth revolves and causes day and night, months and years; so did our vacation pass and then of our work we realized that we had to study hard to pass on with the year, and we studied hard. Mary Wade Bulla joined us in that grade and has since then been the star of our history class, and can if she wishes get the most difficult lesson in the book.

In the seventh grade Ethel Birkhead was enrolled among us. Ethel is a very quiet girl in school and won our admiration by her modesty and frankness. When this year's work was completed, we were prepared to enter into high school work.

Here we first studied mysterious Latin, and algebra. They were new and unfamiliar subjects and were rather hard for such as we, and their interest did not appeal to us as it should. Nevertheless we passed favorable examinations. In this perplexing and critical period of our school days, Clara Pugh came into our midst. She is pretty and knows it, she is always humming or singing some popular air, and she is therefore called "our nightingale."

In the ninth grade, Caesar was taken up, and Miss Lamb, our Latin teacher, did her best to knock, cram and lam it into our heads, and she succeeded so well that we can read more Latin than any other class that has graduated from this hall. Banks Richardson, our very brightest star, entered our class in this grade. Banks is studious and can solve the hardest problem put before him. He is quiet and has never been known to be reproved by his teachers.

Now you see I have brought you through our school days up to the tenth grade. Let's go back to the morning of September 16th, and peep into that grade. You see fifteen pupils where twenty-five or thirty ought to be. These pupils were: Banks Richardson, Clifton Whitaker, Ruth McPherson, Kate Brittain, Nancy

NEW CANCER BULLETIN

State Board of Health Tells People What They Should Know About Cancer.

Cancer is on the increase. The State Board of Health realizing the timely importance of checking this increasing disease among our people has just prepared and issued 50,000 copies of a special leaflet on the subject of "Cancer and What You Should Know About It."

Largely because of public ignorance and neglect cancer now proves fatal in over 96 per cent. of the attacks, whereas 80 per cent. could be cured through early recognition and prompt removal.

Herein lies hope for the control of cancer. It is at this point the people must be informed and made to know the nature and facts concerning the disease. They must know that it is largely preventable.

Cancer is believed to be caused most generally by the constant irritation of some local tissue. It is known to be more prevalent in over-nourished people. It is evident that these predisposing causes can be controlled, therefore, it is safe to say that cancer is preventable. By avoiding continued irritation as the pressure of a pipe stem on the tongue or the lips or a corset stay on the breast and by avoiding over nutrition, predisposition to cancer can be greatly diminished.

The Board issues the pamphlet as a message of hope to inform the people that if taken in time the majority of the cases of cancer are curable, that in early operation lies the only hope of cure. For this free leaflet on Cancer, write to the State Board of Health, Raleigh, N. C.

Throughout the entire war the American Press has stood nobly and wisely by the President and our Government. Some weeks ago at the Associated Press luncheon in New York City, President Wilson made a plea for "the splendid courage of reserve moral force in dealing with the grave questions that confront the country." This was quite unnecessary for the American Press as a whole has been quite conservative in their comments. In all the tense period which the country has been, and is, passing through, there has been no restraint upon the American newspapers, except that restraint which their own common sense imposes.

White, Lena Williams, Fleta Lewallen, Clara Pugh, Clarice Pressnell, who came into our class for the first year, Ethel Birkhead, Mary Wade Bulla, Ursie Williams, Lula Foster, Maude Paisley and Nannie Plummer, who was taken from our midst, February 28th. She had toiled hard to attain this goal and had been a member of our class four years. Before her one aim of life was accomplished. God in his wisdom called her to himself. The class attended her funeral in a body.

Clifton Whitaker deserted us about a month ago, and accepted a position as clerk at the Ashlyn Hotel.

Lula Foster and Maude Paisley decided that marriage was more desirable than a diploma, and so they left us. But since Edna Caviness joined our class as a member, we have a total of only twelve, a very small number, indeed, but you, instead of regarding our number must please consider our quality. For we are proud to stand here before you and know that we can be called the "faithful twelve."

We organized our class with Banks Richardson as president; Clarice Pressnell, vice president; and Ethel Birkhead, secretary and treasurer. We selected for our class flower the cream rose and for our motto: "Crape Diem."

Our class cannot be called perfect, no; for if it was it would be almost a singular phenomenon. It has not been honored by having done some great thing; but we have lived in a decade in which great things have been accomplished. We have seen this magnificent building take place of the old one. We have seen our library increase in size until now, it is as good as any in the State, and what two things so much toward advancement as a modern equipped building and a large library?

This year work has been begun on the school campus, which will when completed, add to the beauty of the building; and with blooming flowers and vine-clad building, it will represent a scene of noticeable beauty.

Well, if I were to tell you all the incidents of importance which have occurred in our school days, I would have to write a large book, but I don't feel competent to undertake such a task at the present.

Tonight we as a class, will be dissolved forever, never again will we be assembled together in a school room as one body; but out in the world there is a place for each of us and we hope to hold our place faithfully, honorably, and honestly, in order that our names may be above reproach.

COTTON AND ITS USES

(Written by Banks Richardson and read at the Class Day Exercises of the Asheboro Graded School last month.)

At the dawn of history, we find that cotton was cultivated to some extent in India, and after being somewhat refined was woven into cloth by the inhabitants. In the days of Nebuchadnezzar it was brought by traders into Babylon and sold. The goods were particularly fine and this caused their ready sale to the people. Traders and explorers who went into the East to open up trade routes reported that the cotton grew on trees, calling it "tree wool", and that the natives wove it into cloth by hand. Trade routes now opened up, and we see in ancient history how the Italian cities, Venice and Genoa, sprang up from this trade of spices and cotton goods. These overland trade routes soon became bad and sailors began to hunt for a water-way by which they could carry on this trade. Columbus in hunting for this passage, discovered America, but died thinking he had gone to India, for he found cotton growing here and the natives skilled in weaving it.

About two centuries passed without anything interesting happening to cotton until it was introduced into the American colonies. The cotton grown here was found to be very different from that grown in the tropical climate, for instead of growing wild every year on trees, it has to be planted each year. The plant too, grows much smaller and the lint adheres very closely to the seeds. It was not grown much by the colonists on account of the difficulty of removing the lint from the seeds, but nevertheless, England encouraged its growth, for she wished to have a source from which to get her cotton.

After the Revolutionary War, cotton growing was to be made extensive by means of three inventions. Before this time cotton weaving was done by hand with very simple machines, which made it toilsome and slow, but Arkwright and Hargreaves removed this trouble by improving on the spinning jenny and frame, making it possible to spin more cotton than they could get. But these great machines had to have some power to run them and James Watt removed the second obstacle by inventing the steam engine. Now, it was possible to do the spinning with ease but still a third obstacle was in the way before the cotton wanted could be secured, and the world began to rely on it for its clothing. This was a way to separate the lint from the seeds, and this last difficulty in turn was removed by Eli Whitney's invention of the cotton gin. The South now furnished the cotton and England prospered in manufacturing it.

Since all of the United States could not grow cotton successfully, the North, the region in which it was less profitable, wished to manufacture it. England's machines had been improved on by Arkwright and Hargreaves but they were kept at home, for the English people thought if the Americans should learn their art of spinning it would ruin them. Thus the spinning carried on here at this time was done by the most simple means. Years passed and many unsuccessful attempts were made until 1790, when Samuel Slater was able to reproduce these Arkwright machines here. From this time on we see the start of cotton manufacturing in America, which was destined to equal that of England.

While the North was working so hard to get cotton manufacturing established, the South was working equally as hard increasing its production of cotton to meet the new demands. The Southern farmers were importing the slave and building up the cotton plantations. These plantations became independent of the rest of the world, for they grew their food-stuffs, manufactured their clothes, and made all their building and machinery. In addition to making all their supplies they grew a large crop of cotton which they sold, and from which the South was becoming rich. But there was one weakness in this plantation system, which was finally to result in its downfall, and this was that it was based on unskilled labor. We see this downfall just after the Civil War when the negro was freed.

During the Civil War cotton production almost ceased in the South. The price of cotton now rose and other nations who had heretofore paid little or no attention at all turned their attention to its growth. Egypt, Brazil, India and many more less important countries began to send in their supplies of cotton. Thus cotton production was spread which otherwise would not have happened.

After the Civil War, the land of the South changed hands. Another class took hold of the cotton farming, and this time being based on skilled labor, was destined to grow greater than ever before.

With the lapse of a few years farming, we find that the ground is now prepared, the seeds planted, the plants tended, the crop harvested and

ELON COLLEGE NOTES

The past year, the 25th, was one of the most successful years in the history of Elon College, there having been over 400 students registered.

During the year just passed there were the following Randolph county young men in the College: Messrs. J. C. Auman, of Seagrave; W. C. King of the same place; W. E. Marley, of Rameur; J. T. Moffitt, of Asheboro; P. V. Parks, of Rameur; W. C. Poe, of Rameur; and H. M. Redding, of Asheboro. Also we had with us Miss Lela Hayworth, of Asheboro, and Miss Madge Moffitt, of Rameur. There were perhaps others from Randolph county in college here, but the writer has not the records at hand and writes only from memory. These whose names have been mentioned have all made good and have shown that they are capable of the greatest success.

Present indications at the office are that the coming year will be still better than past years. Not in numbers so much, for the board of trustees have limited the number to 400, and every person who wishes to be among the select number of matriculates in this great school should matriculate early.

During the summer the members of the faculty will be widely scattered for the purposes of thoroughly equipping themselves for the work before them.

President Harper speaks at the Ministers' Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church that convenes at High Point this week. He has quite a broad itinerary during the summer as his addresses are in demand by so many of the church and educational gatherings of the country. His book, "The Making of Men", is attracting quite a great deal of attention and is worthy of the perusal of every young man and woman in the country.

HENS PLEAD GUILTY

A dispatch from Stevens Point, Wisconsin, says:

F. M. Sackett and H. K. West are neighbors. Sackett made a garden this spring and West's hens—well anyhow West was unable to believe that his hens, which are well bred, would go foraging where they were not invited.

So Sackett scattered about his garden grains of corn, to each of which was attached a thread and from each thread a small placard. They bore such legends as these: "I have just been scratching in Mr. Sackett's yard;" "My owner does not feed me enough and I have to visit the neighbors."

When West saw these cards dangling from the bills of his hens he admitted Sackett's proof was convincing.

marketed all by machinery in the most progressive cotton sections. The farmers instead of planting so many acres as they did before the Civil War, plant less and make greater yields per acre.

Not only are they using better methods of growing it but the crop is also greatly increasing. The United States produced a century ago (1814) a crop of 363,636 bales, a quarter of a century ago (1890) a crop of 8,652,597 bales, and last year a crop of about 16,500,000 bales. This makes about forty times as much grown last year as a century ago, and about twice as much as was grown a quarter of a century ago. So we see from these figures how rapidly our country has progressed in growing cotton in the past few years.

The progress in manufacturing is as great as that in growing and all of these extensive crops of lint, with all the by-products of the cotton plant are carefully manufactured into goods. These goods are greatly used for the cotton lint may be woven into cloth so coarse that it may be sold for a few cents a yard, so fine that it can scarcely be distinguished from silk, and so heavy that experts can hardly distinguish it from wool. Thus we see the poorest home may have it in plenty and the humblest person may wear it and truly call it his friend, while the well-to-do are glad to take it in and decorate their homes. It will clothe and keep warm the northern traveler, while it will be a cool pleasant garment for the tropical dweller. Ropes and cords are made of it almost as strong as those made of flax or hemp, and it is said that it can be woven into thread so fine that a pound will reach more than a hundred miles. It is woven into almost numberless kinds of cloth mainly used as tents, which take the place of houses, furnishings for the homes, clothes to wear, and belts and ropes used in running machinery.

The seeds are an important factor of the cotton plant. Only a few years ago they were thought to be worthless but they are found to be of great value now. The seeds are ground and the oil pressed out of them, which in its crude state is used for illuminating purposes. It is still further refined until it becomes very much like olive oil and is substituted in the

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place of olive oil in cooking. This oil may be run through other processes and butter and lard are made. The meal, the soft part of the seed, which is left after the oil is pressed out is found to make bread for man; it is a fine food for cattle, and a splendid fertilizer. The hulls that were taken off the seed when grounds are fed to cattle in the place of hay. The seeds are a very valuable part of cotton, for those taken from every bale, after being manufactured, are valued at about fifteen dollars.

Another by-product of the cotton plant is the pith of the stalks. It is used in making bagging for the bales and also paper is made in great quantities from it.

In short, we have seen how largely cotton is used, that though it has been grown extensively for only the past few years, it is used so most widely of any crop at present time. That it may be substituted in the place of any other crop—chiefly it has the beauty of silk, heaviness and warmth of wool, that strength of flax, and a cheap but of quality of its own that no other possesses. That it is clothing of man not regarding his class or estate of his country, from the richest to the poorest, and from the coldest to the hottest. That it is food, a shelter, clothing, and the furnishings of the home for man. And not only for man it is a fine food but also for both beast and plant.