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Hickory City Schools; a Comparison With Similar Institutions Over the State

Schools of Hickory Rank Among the First of
the City Schools of the State—What Con-
stitutes a School's Efficiency

The efficiency of a school is measured by the percentage of school population in attendance, by the practical importance of the subjects required to be taught, by the methods of study used, and by the thoroughness of the work done. Measured by these standards, the schools of Hickory rank among the first of the city schools of the State. This is not merely a statement of individual opinion, but is shown by official reports.

ENROLLMENT AND ATTENDANCE.
For the purpose of comparison, twenty-one of the largest cities and towns in North Carolina were selected. Among these were Asheville, Concord, Charlotte, Durham, Elizabeth City, Gastonia, Goldsboro, Greensboro, Henderson, Kinston, Monroe, Raleigh, Reidsville, Salisbury, Winston Salem, and other leading towns.

From the report of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction for 1914 the average enrollment in these cities was found to be 63.8 per cent of the total white school population. In Hickory 68.4 per cent of the total white school population was enrolled in the public schools. Last year 95 per cent of all the white children in Hickory between the ages of 6 and 17 years were enrolled in the public schools.

In these twenty-one cities the average daily attendance was 66.4 per cent of the total enrollment. In Hickory 83.6 per cent of the total enrollment last year was in regular daily attendance.

In Hickory 15.4 per cent of the total enrollment was in the high school. In the twenty-one cities selected only 13 per cent of the total enrollment was in the high school.

COURSE OF STUDY.
A second measure of the school's efficiency may be found in the practical importance of the subjects taught. Is most time and attention given to the subjects that are essentially necessary?

State Superintendent J. V. Joyner says: "The foundation of all education is, of course, a mastery of the rudiments of knowledge—the elementary branches of reading, writing, arithmetic and spelling. Our chief attention, therefore, should be given to doing thoroughly this foundation work and making adequate provisions for it."

An examination of the course of study in the schools of Hickory will show that in the elementary grades the subjects of reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic, and English language are given more attention than other subjects of minor importance. In the high school grades the courses have been arranged with a view to giving pupils a thorough preparation in those subjects that are of most practical value.

METHODS OF STUDY.
The schools of Hickory were perhaps the first among the city schools in the State to adopt the plan of having a study period to follow the recitation period in each subject of study. This was done to enable the teachers to direct the preparation of each lesson, to teach pupils how to study to best advantage, and to develop in the pupils ideals and habits of diligence, order, initiative and self-reliance.

Since this plan was adopted in the Hickory schools, The Ladies'

Home Journal and other leading magazines made their strong pleas for having all the school work done in the school. The Report of the Commissioner of Education for 1914, Volume 1, shows that all over the United States schools are lengthening the hours in school day, and are decreasing the amount of work assigned for home study. In North Carolina this doctrine that school work should be done in the schools under the directions of the teachers has been preached, if that is the right term, by North Carolina Education, the editor of which is one of the leading educators in the State. Within the last year or two many of the leading city schools in the State have adopted this plan of doing school work.

Last year 91 per cent of the pupils in regular attendance in the schools of Hickory did satisfactory work and were promoted. Teachers of experience in both public and private schools know that fully 20 per cent of the pupils fail to do satisfactory work. This same percentage of failure is found in the colleges and universities.

But in the schools of Hickory last year only 9 per cent of the pupils in regular attendance failed of promotion. Measured by this standard of the results obtained, the methods of study used in the schools of Hickory rank among the best and the most approved.

Another test for efficiency is that of thoroughness. Do the pupils read well? Are they good spellers? Can they write well? Can they solve rapidly and correctly practical problems.

Last December N. W. Walker, Professor of Secondary Education in the University of North Carolina, prepared a test in spelling and sent it to all the high schools in the State. Not all the high schools gave the test, but results were reported by one hundred and seventy-nine schools. These results were published in The North Carolina High School Bulletin for April, 1915. Below is given the comparative standing of sixteen of the leading high schools of the State, showing the number of pupils who took the test, and the average grade made by the pupils of that school.

SCHOOL	PUPILS	AVERAGE GRADE
Asheville	277	72.27
Cary	101	58.9
Concord	119	69.49
Durham	364	68.31
Elizabeth City	114	70.16
Goldsboro	189	58.46
Henderson	82	74.44
HICKORY	116	78.13
Lexington	116	68.1
New Bern	112	67.56
Raleigh	300	68.66
Rocky Mount	138	67.9
Salisbury	158	62.8
Shelby	104	70.74
Statesville	103	69.14
Winston Salem	238	76.38

This comparison shows that the high school of Hickory made the highest average grade of these sixteen schools.

BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT
In the matter of buildings and equipment, laboratories for work in physics and domestic science, maps, and other aids in teaching, the schools of Hickory do not make so favorable a showing among the city schools of the State. If a high standard of work is to be maintained, additional buildings should be provided, laboratories for science work should be equipped, and necessary aids to teaching should be

furnished. Much credit is due the schools for the high standard of work that has been reached and the excellent results that have been secured. But none less the duty devolves upon the people of Hickory to make adequate provisions for the schools in order that the high standing may be maintained.

Wrecks of House Boats Found in Wake of Storm

Beaumont, Tex., Aug. 20.—News from the storm stricken district around Beaumont is meager. No addition to fatalities is reported. So far as is known the dead number nearly a score with a number reported missing.

Reports received from Sabine and Sabine Pass, Tex., and from Bayou and Leesburg, La., where heavy loss of life is feared are that all the people in these places are safe.

House boats on the Sabine-Nehbes canal are believed to have experienced difficulty, as a score or more of house boats are missing from the moorings. The wrecks of several have been found in the marshes.

Galveston, Aug. 20.—(By Courier)—The total of missing and known dead in an area of 100 miles wide along the coast on both sides of Galveston, is 193, with the number of known dead less than 100. In Galveston, city and island, the dead and missing number 12.

Galveston though suffering proportionately small in lives lost sustained heavy property damage.

ALLIES MAY PREVENT RUINATION OF COTTON

They Agree in Principle Cotton
Is Contraband, But Will Stand
Behind the Market.

"The allied governments have agreed in principle that cotton is contraband of war. The exact date when this announcement shall be made is still under consideration as well as other details connected with the proclamation." This statement was authorized at the British embassy.

As soon as the official announcement is made, it will be disclosed also that the allied governments have prepared to stand behind the market prices and minimize hardships to planters.

The American government, several days ago, was informed unofficially but authoritatively of the intention of the allied governments to make cotton contraband and was informed that they will claim a legal right for their action.

It was explained here today that the allies refrained from making cotton contraband at the outset of the war because of the condition in the United States where a large crop had been planted and a contraband order then, would in their opinion, have been far more serious.

Now the allies, contend, the cotton states have been prepared for a change in policy by reductions of acreage. Some of the cotton interests, allied quarters acknowledge, may be affected by the change, and for that reason it has been decided to stand behind the market to minimize embarrassment and to avoid a permanent decrease in American cotton plantings which would be reflected in the industries of the allied countries.

The principal reason for declaring cotton contraband is that it is one of principal sources of smokeless powder. How the allies propose to support the cotton market is not explained.

Recommends Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy.

"I never hesitate to recommend Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy," writes Sol Williams, merchant, Jesse, Tenn. "I sell more of it than any other preparations of like character. I used it myself and found it gave me more relief than anything else I have ever tried for the same purpose." For sale by Grimes Drug Co. & Lutz's Drug Co.

STEAMER IS SENT TO BOTTOM NEAR GRAVE OF LINER LUSITANIA

She Carried About 450 People,
All of Whom Are Account-
ed For But Fifty.

The White Star steamship Arabic, which sailed Wednesday from Liverpool, has been sent to the bottom off Fasnet, on the Southern coast of Ireland, not far from the point where the liner Lusitania was sunk. The Arabic was sunk by a torpedo fired by a German submarine.

A dispatch to Lloyd's from Queenstown says that the crew and passengers of the Arabic put off in 11 boats and were picked up by a sloop which proceeded to Queenstown.

The message says, the Arabic was torpedoed without warning at 9:30 o'clock Thursday morning and she sank 11 minutes later.

A wireless message received from the warship which towed the Arabic's boat to Queenstown says there were 22 Americans in the second cabin and three in the steerage.

The White Star line issued the following statement concerning the steamer Arabic:

"The Arabic left Liverpool at 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon. She was torpedoed Thursday morning at 9:15 o'clock in latitude 50.50 north, longitude 8.32 west. "She had aboard 423 persons. As far as can be ascertained there are 375 survivors. It is understood that only six passengers are unaccounted for."

A message from Queenstown says: "Vessels have landed here 396 persons rescued from the Arabic. "It is reported that 50 lives have been lost in the disaster."

NEWTON CANCELLED CHAUTAQUA PLANS

Contract Is Annulled Because
Hickory Had Secured
Previous Dates.

Newton, Aug. 19.—The guarantors of the chautauqua today cancelled the contract and the attraction, billed for the last three days of August, goes by the board.

This action was taken because the company has signed up the same programme with Hickory for earlier dates than for Newton.

More people are attending Ball's Creek Methodist campmeeting this week than on the historic place for years. Thursday night there were 17 more families encamped than had ever been known, although the weather had been every thing but ideal for such an outing, and Sunday, unless there is a deluge, thousands will attend.

Raymond and Jesse Goodman, waifs of Hickory, taken by the court there and turned over to the sheriff to find homes for them, have been taken by N. L. McGee, of Lincolnton, Route 4, and Eli Kale, of Claremont, who will rear them.

A gas engine at the farm of Jay Wilfong, operating a hay baler, blew up yesterday, and while nobody was injured, which is remarkable, the machine was wrecked.

Sheriff Isenhour, following a visit from Special Tax Commissioner Ray, of Macon county, is publishing warning to all owners of motor vehicles that if they carry a passenger one time they are liable to the state and county tax of \$5 assessed on such vehicles kept for hire.

NEWS OF NEW ATTACK SHOCKS WASHINGTON

Washington, Aug. 19.—News of the torpedoing of the British steamer Arabic of the White Star line with Americans on board, came as a shock to officials of the United States government, who had hoped since the dispatch of the last American note there would be no further aggravation of an already tense situation between the United States and Germany.

The Clerk Guaranteed It.

"A customer came into my store the other day and said to one of my clerks, 'have you anything to cure diarrhoea?' and my clerk went and got him a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy and said to him, 'if this does not cure you, I will not charge you a cent for it. So he took it home and came back in a day or two and said he was cured,' writes J. H. Berry & Co., Salt Creek, Va. For sale by Grimes Drug Co. & Lutz Drug Co.

A house hold remedy in America for 25 years—Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil. For cuts, sprains, burns, scalds, bruises. 25 and 50c. At all drug stores.

Appalachian Training School.

The twelfth year of the Appalachian Training School will begin August, 19, 1915. Every effort will be made to help public school teachers. All expenses very low. Ask for literature, Address, Secretary of the Faculty, Boone, N. C.

An Unknown Messenger Delivers Leo Frank's Ring

O. B. Keeler, a newspaper man of Atlanta, but residing at Marietta, in a published article, says that Frank's wedding ring has been delivered to him by a man unknown to him. A note in the envelope with the ring said:

"Frank's dying request was that this ring be given to his wife. Will you not see that the request is carried out?"

This note will be delivered to you by a man you do not know and does not know you: You will be expected to destroy it after reading it."

Keeler said he destroyed the note at once and quoted from memory.

Frank wore the wedding ring when he was arrested and during the trial it was seen on his hand frequently.

The ring was not on his hand when the body was discovered hanging in the woods.

Keeler states that the messenger came to his home about 8 o'clock last night and after delivering the note disappeared. He stated that he would deliver the ring to Mrs. Frank.

GREENVILLE AND VICINITY SWEEP BY TERRIFIC STORM.

Greenville and vicinity were visited today by a terrific cyclone, when the wind is said to have reached a velocity of well around 100 miles an hour. Wires are down in all directions and news from the outlying districts cannot be secured. Property damage here will run into the thousands of dollars, which cannot be estimated until full reports are received.

One negro was killed when he was buried beneath the ruins of his home, was crushed, though it was a heavy eight-room house. Eight or ten other houses in the immediate vicinity of the home were wrecked while trees were uprooted in a path of about 100 yards wide and half a mile long through the eastern section of the city.

The cyclone was a funnel-shaped and came into the city within five minutes after it was first discovered. The oldest citizens state that they have never seen it so dark, lights being necessary, though it was only 5 o'clock. The air became very oppressive and dense and then the storm broke.

Killed Trying to Save His Dog.
Brevard, Aug. 20.—In an attempt to save his pet dog from death, Robert Waldrop, a prominent farmer of the Cathey's creek section of Transylvania county, was struck and almost instantly killed by a freight train near the depot at Selma yesterday morning about 9:30 o'clock. His sacrifice was of no avail as the dog was also killed at the same time.

For a Sprained Ankle.
If you will get a bottle of Chamberlain's Liniment and observe the directions given therewith faithfully, you will recover in much less time than is usually required. For sale by Grimes Drug Co. & Lutz Drug Co.

Remember the man who advertises. He has something to advertise.

Russian's Last Stronghold in Poland Captured by the Onrushing Teutonic Army

Novogeorgievsk Taken After Stubborn Resistance by the Defenders—More Than
Twenty Thousand Captured.

SOCIAL.

Mrs. James Shuford entertained two tables of Auction Tuesday night. Mrs. A. A. Shuford won the prize, a deck of cards for having top score. Dainty refreshments closed a pleasant evening.

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A pretty compliment to Mrs. T. A. Mott and Mrs. Weeks was the lovely bridge luncheon given by Mrs. Frank P. Abernethy at her attractive bungalow Wednesday morning at 10. The rooms were arranged with a profusion of sunflowers and nasturtiums. After an interesting game an elegant two course luncheon consisting of jellied chicken, cheese in green pepper, tomatoes, beaten biscuit and ice cream and angel food cake was served. Miss Ruth Coleman was presented with a deck of cards for highest score and guests of honor were presented with a handsome box of stationery and flower basket.

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Mrs. E. P. Conant, who has just returned from a trip to the Exposition and tour of the west, is visiting her sister, Mrs. J. L. Riddle.

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Mrs. J. L. Riddle entertained two tables of Bridge Thursday afternoon for her sister, Mrs. E. P. Conant, of Savannah, who is visiting her for a few days. Mrs. Walter J. Shuford won highest score prize, a box of dainty crepe-de-chine handkerchiefs. The refreshments were delicious, consisting of ice cream, cakes, punch and bonbons. Those playing were Mesdames Farrar, E. B. Cline, Frank Henderson, W. X. Reid, T. A. Mott, E. B. Jones, E. P. Conant and W. J. Shuford.

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Mrs. Farrar of Cincinnati, O., is visiting her daughter, Mrs. T. C. Blackburn.

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Mrs. T. A. Mott left Thursday to spend the winter in Detroit, Mich.

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Miss Louise Coleman of Aiken, S. C., is visiting Mrs. Fred Abernethy.

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Mr. and Mrs. Fred Abernethy and Misses Ruth and Louise Coleman left for Blowing Rock Thursday to camp for two weeks.

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Mrs. J. W. Self, after a weeks visit to relatives returned Thursday to her home in Lenoir.

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Mr. W. J. Shuford spent Thursday in Greensboro.

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One of the most delightful social events of the week occurred Friday morning when Mrs. W. B. Ramsay entertained the Do-As-You-Please Club. The game of Progressive Quick Wits was thoroughly enjoyed by those present and the score cards were hand painted maps of North Carolina, locating the cities of the guests of honor, Misses Evelyn Douglass of Charlotte, and Margaret Ramsay of Salisbury, nieces of Mrs. Ramsay. Misses Virginia Allen and Margaret Ramsay added to the pleasure of the occasion by the rendition of vocal solos, and Mrs. Ramsay of Salisbury, entertained with instrumental music. A delicious salad course was served. Besides the members of the club, and guests of honor, the following were invited: Misses Sadie Menzies, Virginia Allen, Charlotte Smith and Isabella Morton.

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For dyspepsia, our national ailments use Burdock Blood Bitters. Recommended for strengthening digestion, purifying the blood. At all drug stores. \$1.00 a bottle.