

Is a Paper Devoted to the Upbuilding of the Sandhill Territory of North Carolina

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THE McDUFFIE SISTERS



Misses Christian and Anna McDuffie, of Bensalem township, ages 101 and 106. Miss Christian died New Year's Day at the ripe old age of 101 years.

CHILD LABOR IN THE SOUTH

Mistaken Ideas Held by Our
Northern Friends Should
be Corrected.

(By Bion H. Butler)

It was my good fortune to be at the Kiwanis Club dinner last week, and to hear Mr. Vahey, of Boston, talk on the economics of labor. Mr. Vahey was welcomed by everybody, and what he said was appreciated, even to his statement that Massachusetts textile manufacturers feel aggrieved at the competition of southern mills, which he assumed was made more keen by the employment of child labor in the south. Being for the north I can understand the position of northern people on southern conditions. It is not peculiar to northern men to have an insufficient knowledge of conditions in other sections. The south does not have the comprehensive knowledge of the north, that would be desirable, nor does the west, or any other section or any other country have the broad general knowledge of other sections or other countries.

All of human kind starts out with theories, based perhaps on slight grounds, and the effort always is to support those theories. Mr. Vahey has heard that talk of child labor in North Carolina, and he was sincere and kindly in his criticism of what he supposed existed. But fortunately his premises were wrong, and he will grant me the same sincerity in expressing my opinion, based on a broader knowledge of conditions, that the Kiwanis Club attributed to him in his discourse. The truth is that the child labor laws of North Carolina are to all intents the same as those of Massachusetts. And for that matter, every other state of the South except Mississippi, has the same child labor restriction that Massachusetts has, all of them forbidding the employment of children under 14 years old in the mills. Mississippi permits boys of 12 to work, but not the girls, who must be 14. Possibly the most uniform law in all the states is the child labor law, for all but a few specify 14 years of age. One or two require 15, but these are states of the middle west. The states having no child labor law are not in the south but in the west.

After the meeting and dinner I was in Vass, and there I fell in with Al-

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WILLIAM PROSS PAGE

This brave officer first saw the light, November 19th, 1871, at Summerset, Pa., and died heroically in the discharge of duty January 10th, at the hand of a negro assassin whom he had placed under arrest.

Mr. Page came to North Carolina from his native state in 1919, with his family, and at once identified himself with the interests of the community. For the past year he had been Chief of Police of Aberdeen, and in this service he had become conspicuous as a fearless and courageous officer. He had either assisted or been chief in the arrest of some of the most desperate and dangerous criminals who have ever afflicted this commonwealth. He had made large acquaintances, and no enemies except those who were violators of the law.

It was reported to him that a dangerous negro, who was wanted in various places for burglary, had been seen lurking about town, and calling to his assistance Mr. M. B. Genes, he went in search for the criminal, and soon placed him under arrest. The prisoner submitted without struggle, and appeared quite docile, which seems to have put the officer off his guard. Placing the negro in the rear of a machine, with Mr. Genes driving, and the officer sitting on the front seat, they started to jail. Suddenly the negro procured his gun which must have been secreted under his arm, and aiming it at the driver demanded him to stop and give him his liberty. Mr. Page at once turned to grapple with him; as he did so the negro sent a steel bullet through his body, quickly followed by another, producing instant death. Mr. Page died in a death grapple with the prisoner. At this instant the gun belonging to the officer fell upon the seat, and Mr. Genes seized it, and as the negro sought to kill him also was fortunate enough to get first shot, killing him instantly also. The whole tragedy was accomplished in less than a half minute.

This tragedy has cast a gloom over the entire community, and Moore county, where Mr. Page had become known for his coolness in danger, and for his courage in the enforcement of the law. He leaves a heart broken family. His wife who was Miss Bertha Lee Foulk of Pennsylvania before her marriage is prostrated by the shock. He leaves six children as follows: Mrs. A. C. Eatman, of Raleigh; Misses Marjorie and Florence, of Aberdeen; Messrs Leo and Rodney, of Rockingham, and Carl of Aberdeen.

The funeral service was held in the Methodist church, of which the entire family are members. Mr. Page having been a member since early life, by the pastor. The church was crowded with sympathetic friends. The body was laid to rest in Bethesda cemetery in the presence of a vast multitude of mourners.

There were present from out of the state: W. B. Page, brother of the deceased, Geneva, Pa.; William Brooks, Meadville, Pa.; Mrs. A. J. McQueston, Mr. Clyde McAdoo, and Mr. W. H. Foulk, of Atlantic, Pa.

The grief smitten family have the undivided sympathy and love of this entire section.

EUCLID McWHORTER, P. C.

BIG CROP COTTON

Moore county has harvested this winter the biggest cotton crop ever raised in the county. W. McC. Blue, the cotton statistician for the county tells *The Pilot* that up to January 1, the number of bales ginned reached 4,495. He expects the total to run up to 5,000 before all is in. The biggest previous crop was 4,250 bales. But there is another side to the crop of this season. The price has been higher and the total revenue from the crop is bigger. At the price that prevails at present the crop just harvested would run with the seed around a million dollars. However considerable of the crop was sold earlier in the winter when the figures had not yet passed 30 cents, and that lowers the total price to a marked extent. But even at that count the seed, the whole harvest will run so near a million dollars that it is worth counting as a big income.

Another thing to be remembered in connection with the cotton crop of Moore county is that it goes farther to make prosperity than the single selling price of the raw cotton would indicate. For here at Vass is a community of several hundred people who are engaged in making of that cotton a finished product, and the chief income of the Vass community is cotton carried to a manufactured state. The farmer raises the cotton, sells it to the cotton mills, and the folks of the village turn in at once and carry the raw cotton to a finished state. Over at High Falls in the north side of the county the same process of finishing the goods is going on. Therefore the cotton crop of the county averages far more than the market rate for lint, for a large proportion of the crop is sold in a finished condition, and it is probable that the ultimate return to the county is a million and a half rather than under a million. To help matters farther the knitting industry disposes of a further portion of the cotton whether from this county, thus enabling the cotton industry to contribute to the revenues of the people.

This has been a good year for the cotton man, for with a good crop and good prices the weevil has been of little trouble in the county. Farmers are hopeful that the sharp freezing of the winter so far will kill many of the hibernating weevils so that the spring crop of them will not be large, and the proposition is to get cotton in the ground early for the next crop, fertilize with material that will force early development, plant quick maturing varieties, and beat the weevil to the early crops.

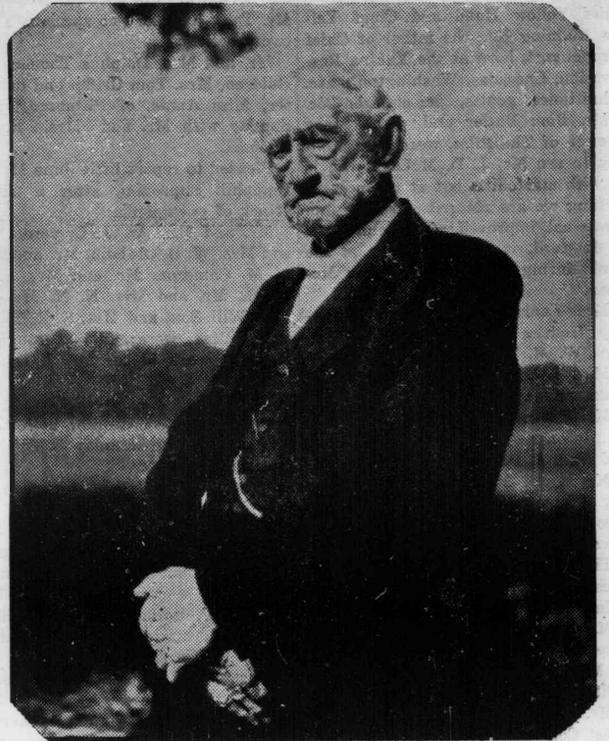
Some apprehension is heard about planting too big a crop for the coming spring, but as Moore county is not one of the big cotton counties it is argued by the farmers that all that may be planted in this county will not affect conditions in the general crop world. Supply men and the big farmers are getting ready for a dusting campaign for the coming crop and say they will fight the weevil to the finish. The small farmers are trusting to luck again.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to thank all that aided us in any way in the long sickness and the death of our father, C. R. Thomason. May God bless every one.

Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Thomason,
and Family.

Dr. H. G. HILL DEAD



Dr. Hill died Tuesday, and was buried Wednesday. He was the oldest Presbyterian minister in the State, and was the last of the Confederate chaplains. Dr. Hill was a power in his church and everyone sought his advice.

PLANS GOING FORWARD FOR DENTAL CLINIC

Plans are now being laid by Miss McQueen and those interested with her for the proposed dental clinic for the school children of the county. According to present plans, it will be held in the various school houses of the county, and it is hoped that it will begin sometime about the middle of February. The dentist in charge will be an experienced man approved by the State Board of Health.

Formerly this clinic has been held only each third year for only a short six weeks period. The present plans if they go through will furnish the county an annual year round clinic. The only thing that stands in the way is to devise some permanent means of financing the project.

There are something like 3000 school children in the county between the ages of 6 and 13 years of age, who would be the beneficiaries of this treatment. If the parents of these children will donate each year the small amount of \$1.00 for each child, a permanent yearly clinic can be secured. The parents of these children should be and no doubt are, greatly interested in seeing them receive the best and most intelligent men and women that it is possible for them to become.

Letters have been sent out to the teachers of the various schools of the county suggesting the plan above outlined for financing the clinic, and requesting the teachers to solicit the cooperation of the parents in the matter. The cost would be very small to each parent as compared to that of a large dental bill, which would be necessary if the teeth of the children are not promptly attended to. Whereas under this plan no matter how much work was necessary it would be done, and the parent would only pay the sum of one dollar per child. The importance to them cannot be measured in dollars and cents, merely. Besides teaching the rising generations the value of moral hygiene, the preservation and proper care of the teeth, it will insure better physical development, which in turn will bring about more efficient educational development. It is now well recognized by those who have given the matter mature consideration, that to secure the best educational development a child must first of all become perfectly healthy in mind and body. The latter is well nigh impossible, when a child is afflicted with defective teeth. Too

REBECCA THOMAS PASSES AWAY

Dies in Hospital at Sanford,
Tuesday in her Fifteenth
Year

Vass was shocked Wednesday morning when the news reached here that Miss Rebecca Thomas, the fifteen-year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Thomas, had passed away. She was carried to Central Carolina Hospital at Sanford a little more than two weeks ago, suffering from a severe attack of appendicitis. An operation was performed on Monday of last week, and although it was understood that she was desperately ill, hope was entertained for her recovery until she became worse Tuesday evening. Pneumonia developed and worked speedily, the end coming at one o'clock Wednesday morning.

Rebecca was a bright girl, loved by a host of relatives and friends, and will be sadly missed. She is survived by her mother and father, four brothers, Hampton, Elvey and Gordon, of Raleigh, and J. R., Jr., of Vass, two sisters, Miss Mildred, of Vass, and Mrs. Carl Cashion, of Cornelius. A more extended notice will appear next week.

often, future ill health, and retarded, if not arrested, mental development, are directly traceable to neglect of this important matter.

The county has no funds available that can be used in this way, so the money must be raised by private subscription. There is no one to whom an appeal can be made except to those most vitally interested. Surely there is no parent in the county, who is able to do so, who would not be willing each year, to pay the small sum of one dollar for each child between the ages stated above, when the returns are so great and the effect so far reaching. Besides by so doing, it will prove a great monetary saving as well in the end.

Whether this clinic is to be is for the parents to say by their response to this proposition. What say you parents? Is it to be or not?

NOTICE TO CO-OPS

This is to notify all members of the Vass Co-operative Tobacco Market that the days of delivery now is only three days a week: Monday, Wednesday and Friday.