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VASS-LAKEVIEW SCHOOL CLOSES

Commencement Exercises Began April 22 and Ended April 30.

The commencement exercises of the Vass-Lakeview school began on Friday evening, April 22, with a program by the Acameron Literary Society, given under the direction of the leader of the society, Prof. F. M. Dwight. The stage was attractively decorated for the occasion in the society colors, purple and gold. The program was varied, consisting of songs, an instrumental duet, a mock commencement [accompanied by styles of the long ago and an uproariously funny negro minstrel, entitled "Uncle Eben's S'prise Party." Each one taking part acted well, and Paul Laubscher as "Uncle Eben" was unusually fine.

On the following Tuesday evening, the little tots, pupils of Misses Nannie Gilchrist, Bessie Cameron and Emma Wilson, held sway, and gave to the large gathering of friends a performance that was exceptionally pleasing. The children showed that they had received careful training. This program, also, was made up of several short numbers, and ended with an operetta, "New Adventures in Flowerland." The high lights among the short numbers were a solo, "I Know a Girl," by six-year-old Jack Creech, and a recitation, "Grandma's Cake," by Robert Rosser. Both children were perfectly at ease, and Jack's clear, sweet voice held the audience spellbound. Robert came out with a large slice of "Grandma's Cake," and in a conversational tone told his hearers many things of interest about that cake, between bites. This number was exceptionally good. The operetta was delightful. The adventures took place in a lovely garden, and the pretty costumes of the flowers, butterflies, grasses, raindrops, etc., made a beautiful scene. Eulalia Edmonds, [as Mother Nature, deserves especial mention, as she was given that part only the day before the program was presented, the real Mother Nature being sick.

On Wednesday evening the fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh grades, pupils of Misses K. Mildred Thomas, Mildred E. Thomas, Rachel Gilchrist and Frances Blue, gave a program of unusual beauty, presenting the operetta, "The Gypsy Queen." Evelyn Gardner of the high school, assisted them by taking the part of the Gypsy Queen, while Katharine McMillan, of the fifth grade, starred as the Tyrolean queen. The first scene was a gypsy camp, the second a fairy palace. Both were very attractive. The costumes were exceptionally pretty. Christine Gilmore, in a gorgeous creation of pink and green, did some graceful dancing as did dainty little Elsie Briggs. The entire program showed much careful preparation.

On Thursday evening the grad-

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DEVELOPMENT OUT THE PINE-DENE DIRECTION.

South of the heart of the village of Southern Pines a decided impetus is given to development at the present time in Frank Buchan's suburb new houses are springing up, and their attractive character is giving a wholesome appearance to that neighborhood, which is now so definitely established that it is in a fair way to go forward without hesitation.

Between the Sugg farm and the railroad the new roads that have been cut through open a fine area, and it looks as if home making will be under way in that quarter pretty soon. The ridges in all that vicinity are high enough to give good sites for houses, and the convenience to the village will encourage building. With the highway for the main road, and the new roads as parallels and outlets the location is in every way an attractive one.

J. A. KEITH



J. A. Keith has been an active and efficient member of the school board since soon after coming to Vass from his country home in 1911. He was elected to this office soon after the erection of the building here in town, and for several years has been chairman of the board. During his years of service he has seen the school grow from a two-teacher institution to its present status.

Mr. Keith has kept in close touch with the school, and has discharged his duties most conscientiously. But, having seen the school firmly established and running smoothly after the trying days of erecting the new building, he resigns, and we hope that he may realize that his faithfulness has been noted and is duly appreciated.

The first seven days are the hardest, say brooder chicks, and the county agents who have been answering hurry-up calls over North Carolina this spring agree with them.

Fertilizer and cultivation will not make up for poor soil preparation.

MAKING FARMS PLEASANT HOMES

Master Farmer Ideas Showing Evidence Several Places.

The observing traveler who knocks around the county can not help but notice that the sentiment of making Moore county the pleasantest possible place to live has been given a further lift by the Master Farmer proposition that the Kiwanis Club brought into action some time ago. One thing that is to be remembered is that most of the men who have taken up with the master farmer notion have been master farmers on their own initiative for a long time, but they seem encouraged by the new movement to hit the ball a little harder, and because they have taken hold of the idea of helping to make the farms of the county more attractive and more profitable their example is having its influence.

Zeb Blue and his wife have been progressive farmers since they set up their farm in the Eureka settlement, and whether they are doing any better this year than in other years is hard to tell. But possibly more folks are interested in the Blues because they are in the new movement. Eureka has for a long time been a leader in good farming, and it has established its reputation so widely that folks drop in there expecting to see good farming, and they see it. Zeb Blue is making his farm a pleasanter place to live, and a pleasant place to drive by and look at, and when he is given credit for his work always must be given a proper share of credit likewise to Mrs Zeb, for she is one of the team of farm beautifiers and builders.

Over on the Aberdeen road out of Southern Pines is another of the farms in the group of master workers. This is the M. N. Sugg place. Mr. Sugg has been making his farm productive ever since he established

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A Water Lesson.

Lakeview, like some other places, has been talking about water until the talk ceased to have any novelty, and what was worse got the place nowhere. Then two or three weeks ago Dowdy & Butler were in this section drilling a well with their big mawell. The six-inch hole went down into the rock and the result is about 40 to 50 thousand gallons of water a day if they want that much. The County Home ran short of water, and a hole was put down into the rock over there with the same result. They have a supply that settles the question positively.

Vass, is also talking about water.

It might be worth while for Vass to study Lakeview a little.

POPULAR CARTHAGE BOY IN PAUL GREEN'S "QUARE MEDICINE."



Dwight Currie, of Carthage, N. C., member of the Sigma Chi Fraternity and senior at the University of North Carolina, who plays Old Man Jernigan in Paul Green's "Quare Medicine," one of the plays to be presented by the Carolina Playmakers, auditorium, Meredith College, Saturday evening, May 7.

Mr. Currie is the son of the late Sheriff John L. Currie.

ANNUAL MEETING ELISE ALUMNI.

To Be Held at Elise School on Monday, May 16th.

The Alumni Association of Elise High School will hold its annual meeting in the dining room at Elise on Monday, May 16, at 1 o'clock. A luncheon will be served by the Association and a very interesting program given.

In the spring of 1925 a few of the local alumni sought to revive the Association which had fallen apart while so many of our boys were serving our country in France.

Despite the fact that the idea came too late for wide publicity, 40 were present at the luncheon on Monday, of commencement. There were too few for reorganization, but not too few for a genuine good time, and a quickening of interest in the present day affairs at Elise. We voted unanimously to return the following

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RED CROSS AND BOARD OF HEALTH TO MEET.

The Moore County Health and Welfare Association and American Red Cross will hold its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 10, at 2:30 in the public school building at Pinehurst.

Miss Myers, the head of the Red Cross Nursing Committee, will speak and all members are urged to be present.

Alice Presbrey, Secretary.

A. CAMERON



A. Cameron, who, as best we can learn, has served on the local school board for well up towards half a century, this week handed his resignation to County Superintendent A. B. Cameron. Mr. Cameron has at all times been the loyal friend of the school. He erected the first school building that was built in what is now the town of Vass, in 1880, receiving for his labor the sum of \$20. He saw the school grow until it was necessary to have a larger building. "Sheep Spring Academy" was the result. When it became inadequate, the building here in town was erected, and finally, the handsome structure now in use.

Mr. Cameron's service in the cause of education is greatly appreciated by the young people of the community, as is shown by the fact that one of the two literary societies of the high school bears his name.

His is a record of loyalty, faithfulness and untiring interest which has won for him the esteem of his fellow citizens, and it is with a feeling of sadness that we see him pass his duties as a member of the board to younger shoulders.

R. C. WANTS MORE FOR FLOOD VICTIMS

As Floods Spread Additional Funds Will Be Needed.

Pinehurst, N. C. May 2, 1927.

Mr. Stacy Brewer, The Pilot, Vass, N. C.

Dear Sir:

Last week you kindly published in your paper, my appeal, as local Red Cross Chairman, for contributions to the Mississippi Valley Relief fund. Once more may I ask you to give me room in your columns.

Mr. Overman, the chapter treasurer, will later make a report of contributions from the different places. Meanwhile I felt it might be of interest to the people of Moore County who have given so generously of their money and of their services in helping to collect that money, to know that Mr. Overman sent our quota of \$1,000 on Saturday last. The two important things that were asked of us have been accomplished—money and speed. Very little soliciting has been done, the need has been known as great and urgent; this has been a sufficient appeal in itself to bring forth a generous response. Fortunately, however, that first check to Red Cross headquarters is only a beginning for with the passing of time and as that mighty and destructive river flood moves inevitably along it is seen that the first estimate of \$5,000,000 as the minimum necessary to be raised by the country for relief and succor, is too small. We are asked to give and give again and I am happy to report that the Moore County Chapter will soon be able to send another contribution that will not be shamed by that first thousand.

However, please do not let the fact that we have passed our quota make anyone hesitate to give now,

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START WITH TAX ADJUSTMENTS

Assessors and Listers Beginning Their Important Big Job.

Realizing the big task that is on their hands the new boards appointed to handle the assessment of taxes in the county for 1927 are starting on their work. As far as The Pilot has been able to talk with the men who have this job on their hands they recognize the magnitude of what is in front of them, and they are going at it with the intention of arriving at a fair adjustment of values all over the county, and a relatively fair assessment as compared with the other counties. When the new laws of six or eight years ago were adopted it was taken for granted that as each county was a local unit, and the State had ceased to levy ad valorem taxes in the counties the valuations in one county did not affect the relations to the other counties, for each county collected its money for its own uses, and its ratios made no difference to the others. But now that the school funds are considered on an equalization basis it is somewhat different and one task the assessors have to face is that of trying to make our valuation compare with the valuations in the other counties.

Another is to undertake to have the values in the townships compare fairly with values in the neighbor townships, and values in neighborhoods to compare with other values in the same vicinity. As far as The Pilot has talked with the assessors they seem to be of the opinion that values will not in a general way differ materially under the new assessment from the those that have prevailed. It looks as if some of the peach lands will be scaled down, and possibly some of the developing village property may be advanced in some cases where improvements have been made, but the tendency seems to be more to discover investment or productive values in property than to take speculative possibilities as values.

The tone of the talk seems to be pretty fairly based on a desire to get at a general fairness in the new assessments, and while the work is no child's play the assessors show a desire to meet the people and discuss every piece of property in the fullest sense of the word and with the help of the owners arrive at the most accurate valuation that is possible.

One sound utterance is heard from many directions, and it is to the effect that we must have a certain revenue to carry on the affairs of the county. It is up to the people to determine how much they want to carry on, but schools, roads, and other public work calls for a certain amount of money, and that money

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JACKSON SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT.

On Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock, May 3, Miss Hattie Marks gave her piano recital. That being the opening number of the commencement.

Friday, May 6, at 8 o'clock, p. m., the Seniors will give a play entitled "Come Out of the Kitchen." This is a high class French royalty play.

The baccalaureate sermon will be preached in the Jackson Springs Presbyterian church by Dr. H. A. Ried, head of the Philosophy Department, at Wake Forest College, at 11 o'clock, a. m., May 8.

On Monday, May 9, 8 o'clock, p. m., we have the declamation and recitation contest.

Tuesday, May 10, at 10 o'clock, awarding of diplomas and certificates. Commencement address by Prof. Fred K. Kleagle, head of the Modern Language Department, Davidson College.

At 8 p. m. the graduation exercises will be given, this being the final number of the commencement