

THE DUNN DISPATCH

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AGED SCHOOL HOUSE HAS SERVED ITS DAY

Served Its Generation Well, Now Gives Way To Consolidated Building

Falcon, March 23.—Saturday last witnessed the passing of the old Five Oaks schoolhouse out of the possession of Cumberland county into the hands of a private owner, the school having been discontinued when South River consolidated school opened.

Thus passes one of the landmarks of this section, and some items in connection with it are worthy of note.

Miss Marcie E. Hall began teaching in the old schoolhouse that preceded this one, on the land of Mr. Isaac Strickland, close to the old Antioch Baptist church. This was away back in the 90's. The old log schoolhouse becoming dilapidated, it was abandoned, and for a time the same building was used for church and school purposes. A fire destroyed the church, and after a lapse of possibly a year, a school was built on the present location, the land for same being provided by Mr. William Culbreth, father of J. A. Culbreth, well known in and around Dunn.

Miss Hall had among her pupils a young man, who afterward became her husband, changing her name to Starling, and she is still in active service teaching, being in the Wade school, where her daughter assists also. Mrs. Starling began teaching thirty-five years ago, and has been teaching more or less—mostly more—ever since.

The school committee was composed of three men who have died within the last ten or twelve years, viz., Messrs. Isaac Strickland, G. W. Starling and Albert Gainey, the former two being laid to rest in the old Antioch cemetery in Falcon.

Miss Hall taught for four seasons, beginning, as well as her memory serves, in the 1892-93 term. Scholars in those days received a maximum of three months' assistance from the

two and a half months, being governed by the money available in the county treasury, and patrons of the school were assessed in proportion to their children to make up the balance so as to have a four-months term of school.

There were no grades, and no classes as we have them today, for there was at that time no uniform set of textbooks, and the children just procured the books they could through Herrington's Speller and Colaw and Ellwood's Arithmetic were prominent. Of course the old "blue back" speller had its place also.

The above conditions tended more to individual instruction than is possible under the present-day system, and Mrs. Starling says the children were not only taught the rudiments of education, but also strong effort was made to mould character.

As to the name of the school, she says that when the building was erected, at a sort of informal conference on the ground some one of the children, seeing an old oak tree which had sprung up into five branches, thus making a five-forked tree from the root, said, "Well, there is a place called Four Oaks, so why not call this school Five Oaks?" and from then on that was the name.

The total attendance numbered about forty, and while some are dead, some have moved and the pupils have scattered beyond the knowledge of their teacher, some still are known, as follows:

The daughters of Mr. William Culbreth; Mrs. C. H. Randall, Mrs. Clyde McClellan, Mrs. Minnie Bundy, Mrs. Hattie Pate and Mrs. Mamie Spence; Mr. J. L. Hall, now of Benson; Rev. W. G. Hall, pastor of South Side Baptist church, Wilmington; Alice McCorquodale, married and living in Lakeland, Fla.; Marshall Hall, of Clayton; the children of Mr. Isaac Strickland, at least the girls, Mattie (who married Mr. H. N. Bissell), Mrs. Mary Throver, Mrs. D. T. Johnson of Kinston, and to close the list of that family, the well-known fox hunter, W. P. commonly known as Purdie, who has accompanied Mr. J. W. Draughon and others from Dunn on so many nights trailing Sir Reynard.

Miss Hall's father, Mr. Morris Hall, was a member of the county Board of Education, and his name may be seen on the cornerstone of the court house at Fayetteville. Miss Hall advocated some system with regard to textbooks, and was asked why she did not petition the legislature to that effect, but woman suffrage had not then reached the stage where the ladies felt it their place to do much more than suggest to the stern or sex what should be done in legis-

TOWN POLITICAL POT WARMING UP

J. L. Wade Will Ask For Re-election, Two Candidates For Mayor

Every day, in every way the town political pot gets warmer and warmer. Since the last report of the "coming out" was published in The Dispatch J. L. Wade, present mayor, has announced that he will offer for re-election, while W. H. Newberry has announced that he will offer for re-election as commissioner from ward No. 3 and P. A. Lee has made it known that he will offer for re-election as commissioner from ward No. 2. E. L. Cook has entered the race for commissioner from ward No. 1.

Mayor Wade's entry into the "ring" means that at least two candidates for mayor will have to be voted on in the April primary, J. W. Whithead having previously announced his candidacy for that office. Mr. Wade has served the town as mayor for the past two years, while Mr. Whithead served for two years preceding Mr. Wade.

The time for "coming out" is yet a long way off, and others are expected to enter the race as the primary draws nearer.

Since the above was written R. M. Warren has announced that he will offer for re-election from ward No. 1.

Big Still Captured; Five Men Arrested

Officers Made Rich Haul in Sampson County Wednesday

As the result of a raid in Westbrook township, Sampson county, Wednesday A. B. Adams, special prohibition agent, brought in a 60-gallon copper whiskey still and five men. Four of the men—A. H. Daughtry, D. R. Strickland, A. J. Jones and A. I. Strickland—were operating the

the fifth—W. M. Strickland—was met on his way to the still carrying 100 pounds of sugar. Approximately 500 gallons of beer found at the still were destroyed.

The five men arrested were brought to Dunn and carried before United States Commissioner E. Lee. All were placed under a \$200 bond except Jones, who is said to be only 14 years old, for appearance before Mr. Lee Saturday at 2 o'clock.

Mr. Adams was accompanied on the raid by Officers W. F. Nippers, of the local police force, and L. W. Tart, special deputy. The still was a dandy copper outfit and was being operated in full blast when the officers reached the scene.

While Mr. Adams has been successful in capturing many stills and arresting many operators, the haul made Wednesday is considered one of the richest yet made.

lative halls. However, a county system of textbooks was adopted by Cumberland county, which was one of the first, if not the first, to adopt such, and Miss Hall had the privilege of looking at many books that were sent her father by publishing houses anxious to have their books adopted. She saw the necessity of a state-wide system, for even with the adoption of a set of books by the county, this left no provision for children who might move from one county to another.

In spite of these drawbacks, however, Mrs. Starling states that she believes there was more real work done in laying the foundation of true and permanent education and building of character than the present system affords, for the instruction being so largely and necessarily individual, the teacher became interested in her pupils to the degree of attachment, and to contrast the conditions then as they are called attention to the fact that during the time she taught at Five Oaks she never heard a profane word about the school ground, and only once during that time did she even hear of one such instance on the way home, which was reported to her and duly corrected. To keep track of the movements of the children and their deportment she had a system of detection in operation, of which most of the children were ignorant, so it could not be said that not hearing of wrongdoing was any indication that it might exist. She said that there was no fighting among the children, and in fact she expressed herself enthusiastically to the effect that in all her experience of teaching she has never had a better or more orderly body of pupils than those in the little school at Five

Training School Is A Decided Success

Five-Days' School At First Baptist Church Closes This Evening

The annual training school, which opened at the First Baptist church Monday evening and will close this evening, has been well attended and much interest has been manifested in the courses of study pursued. There are two class periods each evening with an intermission of 30 minutes, during which time lunch is served by the T. E. L. Class of the Sunday school.

The program each evening has been both entertaining and instructive and no doubt the school will bear rich fruits in creating more interest in the work of the church and Sunday school.

WILSON FARMER KILLS HIS WIFE

John Barnes Fires 5 Times, Three Shots Taking Effect

Wilson, March 22.—John Barnes, a farmer of Wilson county, aged 25, is in jail here charged with killing his wife, Bertha Adams Barnes, 25, at eight o'clock last evening at the home of Henry Bunn at Five Points, a suburb of Wilson. Mrs. Barnes was shot to death.

It is stated that Barnes and his wife had separated recently, and their small children going to live with Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bunn, to friends. Yesterday Barnes approached local officials stating that he wanted to get his wife to return to their home four miles from Wilson to live. S. E. Leonard, local welfare officer, late yesterday accompanied Barnes to the Bunn home and they interviewed Mrs. Barnes, who refused to live with Barnes, stating she would go to her

Last night at 7:30 Barnes returned to the Bunn home in an automobile and his wife is said to have consented to go with him. The three children had entered the automobile. It is stated, when Mrs. Barnes moved toward the house, Barnes fired five shots at her three taking effect. Bunn telephoned for the police and Barnes waited beside his wife's dead body until the officers arrested him. He will be given a preliminary hearing before Justice W. O. Pearson Saturday morning. No inquest will be held.

Won't Even Freeze in Dunn?

"The fact that a live boll weevil was seen on the streets of Dunn recently is proof that the little rascals are not easy to freeze," says the Dunn Dispatch. And we always thought Dunn was such a hot little town!—Harnett County News.

Oaks.

Asked as to her opinion of the present-day movement toward consolidation of schools, she said she feared that the moral conditions would not be as high, for in gathering all kinds of children and throwing them together, unless they were strictly supervised continually, there was grave danger that the few bad ones would demoralize many others, and it is also her opinion that a smaller percentage of teachers now are as much interested in the character-building phase of school life as they are in the financial remuneration.

One thing deplored was the lack of home study and she said that unless some plans are devised to enforce study during the school period, there will be a great lack in the mental development of the rising generation. In fact she has decided to cease teaching the higher grades and go back to teaching the elementary grades, where a good foundation must be laid or the whole educational efforts will be ineffective.

Millions of dollars are being spent in North Carolina in the erection of beautiful school buildings and equipping them with all the latest devices known to promote education, but would it not be well to have some of those older heads consulted before we discover that buildings and equipment will not manufacture brains?

If Mrs. Starling's candid opinion that the child of the little one-teacher school learned more that was of permanent value in the three or four months than is generally learned now in the eight and nine months term, we might adopt the phrase of the Kansas editor and ask: "What's the matter with our system of education?"

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, the National Clean-Up Campaign has resulted in many advances to community life throughout the United States. In safeguarding health; In promoting thrift; In furthering fire prevention; In stimulating civic pride; and in making the home and City Beautiful. Now, Therefore, it is known that the week beginning March 25th, has been named for a real campaign of persistent and constructive effort in cleaning up and keeping it up. In this movement we urge each citizen to do his, or her best part to make Dunn clean, healthy, thrifty, safe and beautiful. (Signed) J. L. Wade, Mayor. March 22, 1923.

Townsend To Study Boll Weevil Problem

Gives Up Work With General Utility Company And Is Succeeded By Marvin Wade

Because the large group which has come to the business of the General Utility Company during the more of his time than he can devote to his numerous other business activities, Ben O. Townsend, with Granville M. Tighman and Marvin Wade organized the county five years ago, and resigned as general manager and will be succeeded on April 1 by Mr. Wade.

Mr. Townsend, besides conducting his large farming enterprise here, will devote much of his time this year to experimentation in boll weevil extermination. Recently he has become associated with a firm of national wide repute which has announced its intention to test

conditions held on his farm this year. Mr. Wade, who is president of the Marvin Wade Company, general supply and cotton merchant, will devote most of his time to the General Utility Company during the active cotton ginning months. He was chosen to succeed Mr. Townsend because of his thorough knowledge of the needs of the cotton farmers and because of his ability as an executive.

The General Utility Company, cotton ginners and owner of one of the largest cotton storage warehouses in North Carolina, is the biggest single enterprise in Dunn. Its plant here represents an investment of approximately \$250,000 and is devoted entirely to the ginning of long and short staple cotton and the storage of cotton.

The giant gins of the company are capable of turning out 10,000 bales of cotton every season and in 1921 did gin more than 7,000 bales. The ginning plant is one of the most completely equipped in the cotton belt of the United States, having every convenience for the rapid and efficient handling of cotton from the time it leaves the farm wagon until it is ready for shipment or storage.

The storage warehouses have a capacity of more than 12,000 bales of cotton and have been filled since early in the present marketing season, in spite of large shipments which have been made from them from time to time. The warehouses were constructed at a cost of considerably more than \$100,000 and have concrete shipping platforms on both the Atlantic Coast Line and Durham and Southern Railways. The entire plant is equipped with Grinnell fire extinguishers which add much to the safety from fire loss.

Last year the plant was perfected to the point at which Mr. Townsend aimed when the company was organized. For months his other business interests had made large calls upon his time, but it was thought best that he finish the project before any change should be made in the management. With the plant complete in every detail and its business running in perfect tune, he feels that the company will be able to give even better service under the management of so able a man as is Mr. Wade, who can give it a greater degree of personal attention.

As soon as Mr. Townsend is relieved of his duties at the General Utility Company plant he will, for the spring months, devote his entire attention to the cultivation of a 75-acre potato patch, a 25-acre early corn field and the preparation of his plan for the boll weevil experiments in the 50-acre cotton field. His cot-

Falls Ten Stories But May Recover

Greensboro Negro Takes Plunge Through Skyraiser Elevator Shaft

Greensboro, March 21.—Hurling down ten stories through an elevator shaft in the 17-story Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company building here late yesterday, Douglas Towns, a Georgia negro, is still alive at 10 o'clock tonight with a chance to recover although in a desperate condition.

The negro was on the end of a plank that projected over another elevator shaft when a descending elevator hit the plank throwing him down another shaft. He hit boards stretched over the shaft at practically every story coming down and landed on a platform over the hole on the fourth floor. He started at the tenth floor He has a broken leg in two places and injuries on the head.

B. WEEVIL EXPERT WILL COME TO DUNN

Will Work Among Farmers of Counties Surrounding Dunn

As the result of persistent effort upon the part of the Dunn Chamber of Commerce, W. Bruce Mabec, boll weevil specialist from the State Department of Agriculture, has been assigned to work among the farmers of the Dunn District, with Dunn as headquarters. Mr. Mabec expects to begin his work about April 1. He and Mr. Mabec were here yesterday making plans for moving from Raleigh to Dunn during the next few days. In fact, Mr. Mabec has already brought a part of his working equipment to Dunn.

Mr. Mabec has made a special study of the boll weevil and his activities for a number of years and is recognized by the State Department and the farmers among whom he has worked in the past as an expert on the pest.

year was in the counties bordering along the South Carolina State line, including Scotland, Richmond and Robeson.

He will teach the farmers firsthand the best-known methods of growing cotton under boll weevil conditions, giving to them the benefit of his long study in this special work. While his work is free to the farmers, it will be to their interest to co-operate with him in the work. His plans are those that have been tried out and found by the government to be the most effective in combating the weevil. He plans to have test farms in each locality, where demonstrations in dusting with calcium arsenate will be given.

In securing Mr. Mabec to work among the farmers of this section—farmers who have had but little experience with the boll weevil—the local Chamber of Commerce has done a good work and by co-operating with him the farmers, and others as well, should reap rich results.

While Mr. Mabec will spend much of his time in the rural districts among the farmers, he will make Dunn headquarters. He will have an office in the Chamber of Commerce rooms, where farmers who wish to converse with him will be welcomed when he is in his office.

One of the first things he expects to do is to get up a co-operative order for calcium arsenate, or furnish information as to where the poison can be secured at the lowest price. Mr. Edge, county farm demonstration agent will co-operate with Mr. Mabec in his work.

Former Sampson Sheriff I. T. McLamb Passes

Died Suddenly At His Home Wednesday Night Of Apoplexy

Ex-Sheriff Isham Thomas McLamb, of Sampson county, died suddenly Wednesday night about 10 o'clock at his home in Herring township of apoplexy. He was in his usual health up until a very short time before his death. Mr. McLamb was in Dunn the day before his death and talked with a number of his friends. He was about 60 years old and is survived by his widow and several children. The funeral was conducted from the home at 2 o'clock this afternoon and interment was made in the family cemetery.

Another thing Dunn needs—a larger weevil pay-off. Cotton acreage this year will be only one-fourth of that of last year.

DUNN LANDMARK IS BEING TORN DOWN

Modern Structure Will Be Built On The A. T. Lee Corner

"Beats the devil, don't it boys!" How many men now residing in Dunn remember that expression and connect it with its most frequent user, the inimitable "A. T." whose "corner" passes this week into that memory which houses so many things reminiscent of the earlier days of this bustling community we like to call the best town under the sun.

A. T. Lee, pioneer merchant, smooth trader, infallible money-maker, most interesting of a sparkling galaxy of local characters of yesterday, has been a memory to Dunn for so, the many years; but, to those who knew Mudville that was Dunn twenty years ago, it seems but yesterday that he was busy at his favorite pastime of making money, loving Ernest Young and indulging in the too frequent "periodicals" induced by the then legitimate local corn juice.

The building, known until now by the older citizens as A. T.'s corner, which housed his mercantile business from the town's earliest days until adversity overtook A. T. fifteen years ago and compelled him to look other fields, for several years has been with the store of Julius M. Lee. Last week Mr. Lee moved to a building a few doors south on Locknow Square, West. This week it and the two little buildings adjoining were demolished to make room for a modern store building whose style of architecture will match that of the other J. M. Lee buildings to the west on Broad street. Work on the new structure will begin at once and will be completed some time in the summer, when, it is understood, a large dry goods concern will occupy the main floor.

A. T.'s corner has been a sore spot in the eyes of Dunn aesthetes since first the town began its emergence from its chrysalis of village. The structure, a masterpiece of the

hunched upon the most prominent corner of the town's most imposing street, seemed spitefully proud of its squallor and watching the advance of modern buildings as the last leaf of a giant oak seems to resent the coming of the new spring buds heralding the approach of a succeeding generation of fresh green foliage.

It stood there for years, decaying, but too stubborn to die. Wind rattled its rafters disturbing the sleep of ghostly memories, rain swept it, fire threatened. Its early contentment succumbed to time but it remained.

Once, in the good old days, when Col. Hasie McNeill carried the chief's speaking trumpet as head of the Dunn fire department, before the advent of the motor driven pump truck, the five laddies were called to assist a fire in the old building. Of course the laddies and Col. Hasie were going to put the blaze out, if possible; but the fellow who turned in the alarm and a great number of other folk were hoping that the department would break a collective leg before it appeared on the scene.

But the cussedness of the old structure came into play prematurely. When the hose reels arrived, the fire had subsided of its own volition, in spite of the accidental over-turning of a kerosene tank in its indignance. Just as the reels arrived, A. T. emerged from the side door, slightly scorched, but smiling.

"Beats the devil, don't it boys," he beamed upon the disappointed gathering; "the darn thing won't burn!"

Passing of the old building, however, comes not without a pang of sentimental grief, because around it are woven many memories of the infancy of Dunn—a period in our existence as a community replete with difficult tasks, tragic incident and history-making episodes. When that old structure first reared its head proudly through the oaks which abounded in that quarter of the village, there were a lot of young fellows known to their co-workers as Eldridge Lee, Fret Mansengill, Jimmy Taylor, Charley Webb, Ernie Young, Taylor Young, Ransom Taylor, John and Hugh Lane, Pink Pittman, Bob Skinner, Mack McKay, Albert Harrell, George Grantham, Henry Hood, John Clifford and a number of others who were having a town from the wilderness and building a foundation for our present greatness as a town. Many of these have passed on, leaving a rich heritage to those who have followed and are to follow.

The old building knew them in their prime. It saw them convert a straggling, half-raised waste into a

CHIEF A. W. PERRY FOUND NOT GUILTY

Acquitted Of Any Criminal Intent In The Killing Of Paul Stephenson

Benson, March 19.—Superior court adjourned at Smithfield Saturday night and during the week's term of criminal court a case of more than local interest was disposed of. A. W. Perry, chief of police here, formerly of Raleigh, was acquitted of any malicious or criminal attempt of killing Paul Stephenson, a young man of this place, on the night of December 15, while attempting to board a car on which was C. E. Odum, who was driving the car, speeded it up just as the policeman was attempting to board it, throwing the policeman off, causing his pistol to discharge, the bullet plowing its way through the back of the car and into the shoulder and back of Stephenson who was in the car. It developed that the policeman did not know that Stephenson was in the car.

W. H. Wall & Son of Edenton have leased the Hotel Parrish from Alonzo Parrish and will take charge this week. O. E. Hall, who has had six years experience in conducting hotels in different parts of the State will have charge. The workers in spending several hundred dollars in building a lobby and dining room on the ground floor of the building and when this work is completed, this hotel will be one of the best equipped in this section.

Under present plans the town will do considerable street paving this spring. Petitions have been signed already for paving the principal business streets of the town and other petitions call for residential paving. It is planned to build sidewalks in all parts of the town.

H. A. Parker, president of the Citizens Bank and Trust Company, who was injured four weeks ago when his automobile was struck by an Atlantic Coast Line train here, is slowly improving in a Fayetteville hospital, but it will be several days before he

Farmer operations in this section have been retarded considerably by the rainy weather for the past ten days. Indications are that the cotton acreage will be somewhat increased instead of decreased this year. Fertilizer sales up to the present are up to normal or better, 90 per cent of the farmers paying cash. Farmers seem to be willing to do anything they are told to do in an effort towards killing out the boll weevil, except reduce acreage. The prevailing high price of cotton is too great a temptation to over-plant, it is feared.

Jim Holmes captured a bald eagle Thursday measuring eight feet from tip to tip of the wings. He says that the bird was flying over him carrying something which it dropped. In its attempt to recover the lost article of food it became entangled in some shrubbery, thus enabling him to accomplish what is termed a rare feat. He has been very popular in the neighborhood since he has been displaying his catch, folks coming from miles to find Jim and his eagle, in order to satisfy their curiosity.

State Bank & Trust Company Is Closed

Ran On Local Bank Resulted In Its Doors Being Closed Yesterday

A run made upon the State Bank and Trust Company by its depositors Wednesday and yesterday resulted in the closing of the bank yesterday afternoon. A notice posted on the door of the bank building and signed by Clarence Latham, chief State bank examiner, reads, "Bank closed. In the hands of the Corporation Commission."

Mr. Latham came to Dunn yesterday and after a conference with the officials of the bank the doors were closed. The accounts of the bank will be audited by the State bank examiners early next week, it is said.

While the bank has had its financial troubles, it is said that had it not been for the run made upon it that it would have not become necessary to close its doors. Not until the accounts have been checked can a definite report of the liabilities and assets be obtained.

Even a dead mule has been known to kick, but it takes a live one to pull. Are you pulling for a "bigger and better Dunn?"