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Contests Bring County Schools Together Medals and Prizes Awarded at County Seat Gathering

Contests for the Graded Schools of Polk County were held last Saturday at Columbus. Pupils from every school in the county took part in the exercises.

"Saturday, April 21, 1923 was a day long to be remembered in Polk County," declared O. W. Simmons, Superintendent of the Tryon Graded School, "that day a vast host of representative people from all parts of the County met to take part in County Commencement. Possibly the attendance was not altogether as good as it might have been if the day had been fairer, but any failure in that direction was more than compensated for by the excellent behavior of those present. By way of encouragement, I take pleasure in saying, that I have never seen any where a set of people who were any better behaved and seemed to work harmoniously together for a common cause, although I have been over this State from one end to the other.

"Promptly at ten o'clock, Supt. Cobb started off the program by having the Columbus Music Class entertain us with musical selections which certainly did credit to that school and its efficient teachers.

"Then the crowd was divided. Those who wanted to hear the girls recite stayed in the School Auditorium; while the boys and their admirers marched over to the Court House to see who would win. Both contests were enthusiastically entered into. However as the judges were compelled to make a decision, the medal for the best recitation was given to:

Nannie Walker of Greens Creek; and the declaimer's medal went to Franklin Little of Tryon.

At the close of the Recitations, pupils from the music class of the Tryon School en-

tertained the audience with two well chosen, well rendered selections.

Immediately following these the Reading contest was conducted in the High School Auditorium. At the same time the spelling match was conducted in the Court House.

Jennie Barber of Mills Spring won her fame by being the best speller in Polk County. This is an honor to be proud of.

Florence Moore, Fourth Grade, Tryon; Sarah Millikin, Third Grade, Tryon; Betty Clymer Second Grade, Tryon, Reading. For the encouragement of those who took part I feel that I ought to say that many of those children were excellent readers, and showed splendid training.

"A basket dinner was the next item on the programme following which a brief time was given for relaxation and rest before the beginning of the afternoons entertainment.

"At one fifteen the day's program was resumed; the first thing on the program being inspiring music by pupils from the Saluda School, then the stunts. Each township vied with the others. All tried their best to entertain the crowd to the best advantage. In the end the prize was given to "Ritcher Orchestra from Greens Creek."

"The next and last thing on the program was the awarding of prizes, medals and diplomas to the graduates of the Seventh Grade. There were in all eight-four graduates. This means that the High Schools of Polk ought to be greatly increased next year.

"From every view point, from the County Superintendent down to the one Teacher School, I wish to congratulate ourselves on our County Commencement."

D. W. SIMMONS

DELLA BAKER



Music Festival, Spartanburg, May 2, 3rd and 4th.

From St. Louis came Della Baker to New York City about one year ago. Her father is a well-known newspaper man in the Mid-Western city and here Miss Baker had studied with various local teachers, who predicted a brilliant future for her as a coloratura soprano.

Her father had heard of several famous voice experts in New York City, one of whom he was particularly anxious that his daughter should study with. She came to New York and sought an interview with him, but found it was hard to obtain. Finally an appointment was made; she called and waited for hours in his reception room, only to be told that no appointment was on record with the teacher's secretary. Miss Baker took the indications so distinguished that he could not be reached any earlier than the Pres. of the United States. Therefore coming from Missouri, she decided to "show him". She moved to an apartment in the house next door to the teacher. Fearing not the wint'ry blasts she vocalized daily with the windows open, and it was not long before the elusive teacher sought the owner of the voice.

The result was that Miss Baker soon began taking lessons with him and in a few months made her memorable debut in New York City with Stadium Symphony Orchestra where she scored one of the

Frances Carter Gives Second Recital Well Known Character Reader to Appear at Library

Tryon is once again to have the privilege of hearing Mrs. Frances Carter in her character readings when she appears tomorrow night, Friday, April 27, at 8:00 o'clock at the Library to give a Dramatic Recital including Modern Stories and Poems.

Mrs. Carter according to some of the best critics in this country is one of the few women who have been thoroughly successful in the art of impersonating the great characters of literature and history. Any organization for community is very fortunate in securing Mrs. Carter for recitals.

She has just finished a production of Shakespeare's "The Merchant of Venice," with the senior class of the Wolcott School Denver, Col., in the cast.

Before coming to Tryon Mrs. Carter was associated with the Arts and Science Department of Columbia University, and The American Academy of Dramatic Arts.

MRS. BABER SUCCUMS TO LONG ILLNESS

Mrs. Bessie Dempsey Baber, wife of Joseph Baber of Spartanburg, and sister of Mrs. W. A. Wilson of Tryon, died Tuesday evening at 6:30 o'clock in a Spartanburg hospital.

Mrs. Baber who has been ill for the past five months, was taken to the hospital in Spartanburg about a week ago.

Funeral services were held yesterday at 2:30 o'clock. Interment was in Oakwood cemetery, Spartanburg.

Mrs. Baber is survived by her husband, Joseph Baber, and three children.

Epworth League

The Epworth League of Tryon held its regular Devotional Prayer meeting last Thursday evening with a large attendance of young people. A fine programme was rendered by Miss Drewery.

Everyone is urged to attend the meeting this evening at 8 o'clock. Miss Minnie Owens is leader for the evening service.

There will be a special business meeting next Thursday evening at 8:00 o'clock for the purpose of the installation of officers and members.

Point to Remember.
The fact that it is easier to do right when others are doing it is one reason for choosing good company.

notable successes of the season.

The single tickets to the Festival are now on sale at DuPre's Book Store, Spartanburg.

Highway Work Being Rushed

Godshaw Hill Detour Soon to be Eliminated

Completion of the road from the North-South Carolina State Line to Trade Street will be made within the next month according to the State Highway Engineering Department.

Weather and soil conditions on that particular stretch have made work impossible during the winter months it was stated.

Every effort is being made to complete the road and have it ready for surfacing. Assurance was given that this short stretch of the Spartanburg-Asheville Highway would be complete and ready for traffic by June 1.

It was stated that, with fair weather conditions, work on the section between the iron bridge and Trade Street would be open within the next week thus eliminating the detour around Godshaw Hill. Except for rough grading which has already been started. Work on

the short stretch of road from the State Line to the iron bridge will not be started until the completion of the remainder of the road into Trade Street. It was stated that in order to pass the heavy steam roller over the bridge it was necessary to brace that structure. By completing the Tryon end first, the contractors will avoid the necessity of passing the roller over the bridge so often.

Anticipating the heavy summer traffic to and from the mountains, the South Carolina Highway Commission are placing the Spartanburg-Tryon road in excellent condition.

Spring work on the Asheville-Tryon end of the highway has placed the top soil part of that road in good condition. Work on the hard surface road between Flat Rock and Hendersonville will be started soon it was reported.

Real Estate Sales Keep Agencies Busy New Allotments Interest Tourists Seeking Resort Homes

Mrs. E. P. Williams has purchased the property on Melrose Avenue known as the Margie Smith House. It is understood that she will make extensions and improvements.

Prof. C. B. Walker of Wofford College, Spartanburg has bought two lots in Lincourt and has now has a modern bungalow under construction thereon.

Mr. J. N. Parks of Grennell Iowa, an artist, not unknown in Tryon, has bought a lot in the J. P. Lockhart tract and within a short time expects to build a studio and living quarters combined. These three sales were made through the Blake-Calhoun Agency.

W. F. Sprague of Duluth, Minn., bought property on Jones Folly, adjacent to that upon which Miss Nellie Stearns will build her home. Mr. Sprague expects to begin building soon. Both sales were made through George Holmes.

Andrew M. Law bought several acres of land near the entrance to the Tryon Country Club. Mr. Law rented Villa Barbara last season and expects to spend the summer in Tryon this year. He will build his home in the near future.

Oliver Andrews recently purchased a lot from Carter Brown at the entrance to the Pine Crest Inn property.

Superior Court Begins Session

Spring Term Has Heavy Docket--Edwards Trial Opens Today.

With one hundred and twenty-two cases on the docket, the Spring session of the Polk County Superior Court opened last Monday morning at 9 o'clock, Judge P. A. McElroy of Marshall presiding.

About thirty five cases came before the Court the first three days the majority of which were nolle prossed, for lack of evidence. Cases tried thus far include opening automobiles without license, manufacture and sale of liquor, affray, etc.

A special venire of seventy five men was drawn Tuesday afternoon for the case of the State vs. Ralph Edwards, who was indicted at the last term of court for the alleged killing of Richard Turner. Trial for this case will be opened at 2:00 o'clock this afternoon.

Considerable commotion was created about the court house for a few moments last Monday afternoon during the storm. The heavy gale threatened to blow in the windows of both the court house and the jail. Automobile tops in two or three instances were torn from the bodies of the motor cars parked around building, and were blown to some little distance. According to the statement of several men, last Monday's wind storm attained the highest velocity of any storm in this section for some time.

Leonard Resigns Golf Club Work

R. A. Leonard, Golf Professional at the Tryon Country Club, has resigned his position with that club to take up similar work with the Rutherfordton Country Club.

Mr. Leonard has been connected with the local club for the past eight years during which time he has succeeded in placing in excellent condition one of the best courses in this part of the country. His work as a teacher of the game has been highly recommended by large numbers of tourists taking advantage of his services.

Mr. Leonard's resignation will take effect May 1. He expects to leave his family in Tryon for the present, returning to them for week-ends.

Problem Before All.

The common problem, yours, mine, everybody's, is not to fancy what were fair in life, provided it could be—but first find what may be, then find how to make it fair up to our means—Browning.

Chinese Telephone Exchange.
The "China" telephone exchange of San Francisco is unique. The building is of Chinese architecture, the operators are Chinese girls, and the Chinese subscribers call by name instead of numbers. The operators handle between seven and eight thousand calls daily.—Youth's Companion.

Commencement at S. H. S.

Commencement Exercises at Stearns High School will be held from Friday, April 27 to Monday, April 30, inclusive. The programme will be as follows:

Friday-April 27.
8:00 P. M. Exercises by the Grammer Grades.

Saturday-April 28.
8:00 P. M. Recitation and Declamation contests.

Sunday-April 29.
11:00 A. M. Baccalaureate Sermon, Dr. T. L. Justice, Pastor of the Tryon Baptist Church.

Monday-April 30.
4:30 P. M. Class-Day Exercises.

8:00 P. M. Commencement Address: The Honorable Robert R. Reynolds, Asheville, N. C. Presentation of Awards, Diplomas, etc.

Tourists Buying Tryon Property

Building Operations Now Indicate Another Record Year.

A number of cottages are being planned, several of which will be built at once. Real estate transfers and sales in the past month, a number of which have been made to tourists, indicate building operations among the annual visitors population of Tryon.

Building and real estate transactions during the Spring months indicate another record year. With the completion of the Wilkins building occupied by two stores, M. C. Butler & Co., Groceries, and Mrs. Rhodes' Exclusive Ladies Shop, Trade Street is gradually lengthening its retail section.

Another new building is being contemplated, to be erected between the Post Office and the Peoples Bank and Trust Company. H. H. Edwards will erect this new building, material for which has already been ordered.

Work has been started on the Parish House of the Holy Cross Episcopal Church, also on the new parsonage for the Baptist Church. The Methodist Church has been completely renovated in the past month and a Sunday School room added to its equipment.

Work on the Tryon Grade School building is progressing rapidly, the structure now rearing above the tops of the trees in plain view of the approaches to Tryon from the North.

Local Boy to Go to Quantico, Virginia

J. DeWitt Lockhart, who is completing his training at the United States Naval Pharmaceutical School in Portsmouth, Virginia, will be transferred after graduation to Marine Camp at Quantico, Virginia.

Mr. Lockhart enlisted several months ago and was sent to the training school at Portsmouth for duty.

Flag And Bible Given to School

Splendid Program Offered by Junior Council at Sa- luda Ceremony.

M. presented an American flag and Bible to the Saluda School last Sunday afternoon at 2:30 at the Princess Theater, Saluda.

A splendid programme was offered by the members of the McKinley Council including speeches made by prominent men from various parts of the State. The programme was as follows:

Opening Song, "America;" Prayer, Rev. J. S. Hobert, Chaplain; Address of Welcome, C. A. Lord; Song, Saluda High School; Introduction of Speaker, J. F. Trexler; Address, Judge P. S. Carlton, State Councilor; Presentation of Bible, Rev. J. S. Hobert; Presentation of the Flag, Wayne W. Creasman; Acceptance, F. M. Hollister; Song, Saluda Quartette; Introduction of Orator—Robert R. Reynolds, J. C. Thompson; Prayer, Rev. R. P. Fikes; Star Spangled Banner, Assembly; Lowering of Flag; Benediction, Rev. M. C. Lunsford.

Representatives from the various Polk County schools attended the ceremony.

Robert R. Reynolds, attorney of Asheville, took the place on the programme of O. Max Gardner, who was unable to attend for business reasons.

Plants Store Sun's Heat.
Plants, by means of their greenness, are able to collect and store the heat of the sun.

An Extremist.
"Mrs. Exe is a great stickler for form and ceremony, isn't she?" "I should say so. Why, that woman would insist on dressing up to entertain an idea."—Boston Transcript.

Retired Pastor Goes to Reward

Well Known Minister Buried Here Last Monday.

Reverend Abraham Henderson Bates aged 81 who died last Sunday morning in Hendersonville, was buried Monday afternoon in Tryon, the Reverend W. A. Black officiating.

Mr. Bates was born in Jackson, Illinois, December 30th., 1842. He was the son of the Reverend Joseph H. Bates, a Presbyterian minister. He is survived by his widow Mrs. Laura S. Bates, a brother, M. C. Bates of Galesburg, Illinois, and a sister Mrs. Leland Breeze of Pomona, California.

The deceased was, for forty eight years, a minister in active work in the Presbyterian church, serving several prominent churches in the Middle West, one in California and one in Florida. Due to ill health, Mr. Bates recently resigned from active church work and for the past year has been living in Tryon. His health failing rapidly in the last two weeks, he was finally removed to a hospital in Henderson where he died. Shortly before his death he made the request that his body be interred in the Tryon cemetery.

He was the author of several books, among these a book of poems.

Same Characteristics.
A story will hold a child by the ear for hours together and men are but grown children.—R. Cecil.

Punishment to Fit the Crime.
"Could any one get anything now for a long poem, in the epic form?" asks a correspondent. Well, he might get ten years from the judge—if the judge had to read it.—Atlanta Constitution.