

# A Salute To Henderson & Vance County

## The Contribution Made By The Negro Citizens Of Vance County Toward Its Progress, Has Been Outstanding. The Firms Listed Herein Are Pleased To Join The Carolinian In This Salute.



COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL—L. E. Spencer is shown at his desk in the office of Vance County's only high school, Henderson Institute. The school is located on the campus of the old Henderson Normal Institute, made famous by the late Dr. J. A. Colton.



VANCE'S BEST—Carver Elementary School, which was dedicated on April 11, 1954, can easily be termed the best elementary school in the county. It is modern in every respect and serves a dense population, which is found about four miles north of Henderson. E. K. Tolbert is principal. The school prints a paper known as the Carver News which chronicles the happenings. The paper has a very efficient staff.

### ELEMENTARY EDUCATION IN VANCE

Persons who have watched education in Vance County are quick to tell you that the system as it now exists, is a far cry from a few years ago. It was not too long ago when there was not a decent school for Negroes in the whole county. It was one of the first counties to draw the ire of militant Negroes who wanted better education for race children. Mrs. L. B. Vance, long time county supervisor, along with the superintendent and the school board, came in for much criticism. The situation has changed considerably and where there were a few years ago, a number of frame shacks, manned by one and two teachers, there are now large consolidated buildings, with a fine group of well-trained teachers. There is only one small school in the county. It is known as Nut Bush No. 2, and has three teachers. It will soon be consolidated with another school.

### Henderson School Serves Entire Vance Population

HENDERSON — Henderson Institute which began under the sponsorship of the United Presbyterian Church a number of years ago is now the only high school in Vance County and has an enrollment of 1,118 and a faculty of 30. The school is headed by L. E. Spencer, who took over in 1947 and has made remarkable progress during his tenure. For a number of years the school maintained a boarding department and did not close same until 1943. The buildings that were formerly used for boarding students are now used as a Nurses' Home for nurses who are connected with the Jubilee Hospital and a Teacherage for the members of the school faculty. The school still carries the air of a campus life school and the fact that most of the teachers live on the campus tends to make it more campus-like. The children from the rural sections are brought to the school on modern busses and they begin arriving at an early hour in the morning while most of them started homeward about 2:30 P. M. The extra-curricular activities include the three major sports, with the band being classed as one of the best in the state. It is called upon to serve in various parts of the state and always can be counted on to make a fine show. The band is directed by J. B. McLaughlin.

The school boasts one of the best commercial courses to be found in the state. There is a business club that enables the business students to carry on a fine fellowship. The business club will be the guest of the community business men on January 29. Exchange will be chosen to work with these men to get on-the-job experience. The music department is proud of its appreciation classes. It also has classes in theory, instrument and various types of organ classes. The 7th, 8th and 9th grades have a well founded 4-H program, which is supervised by L. L. Pender, Farm Agent. Mrs. E. B. Roscoe is the Home Agent, while M. B. Knight is the advisor. The PTA gives the school splendid support. It is believed that this can be traced to the fact that 42 percent of last year's graduating class entered college. W. D. Payne is the president. The school's athletic program is well rounded. J. H. McDougle and H. L. Cushmanberry coach football and basketball. M. S. Sanders is the baseball coach. J. A. Miller handles track. Mrs. N. A. Valentine is in charge of the girls' basketball team. It has a very unique home economics department. There are 237 students enrolled in this department, with both sexes being enrolled in the department. It is headed by Mrs. E. B. Whitted and Mrs. B. W. Alston.



SCHOOL HEAD—J. C. Stabler, who heads the public schools of Vance County. He is believed to be the first superintendent to do something about the deplorable situation that existed among Negro schools in the county. During his administration many schools have been consolidated and the scholastic standards have been raised.

### HENDERSON HAS UNIQUE SCHOOL SYSTEM

HENDERSON — Perhaps the most unique school system to be found in any town in the state, is in vogue in Henderson. There is only one high school in the county and it is located on the campus of the old Henderson Normal Institute. All of the high school students from all over the county attend this school. The children who live in the corporate limits walk to the school and those who live in the county are brought by busses.

The county pays for the transportation of the children to the school and its responsibility ends there. The town school heads furnish all the other facilities that go to make it possible for higher education in the local high school.

The town has two elementary schools. The Eaton-Johnson Elementary School is located near the high school and has 22 teachers. There are 753 students enrolled. Sanford E. Williams has headed the school since 1930.

The PTA is headed by Mrs. Annie B. McLendon. They have taken as a project, beautifying the campus. The principal hit upon a novel idea of underwriting a revolving fund by having the students save by buying federal stamps. The first day, \$30.00 worth of stamps were bought by the children.

The extra-curricular activities include singing groups, composed of boys and girls. A good boys' choir has been developed there.

The school authorities found that the Eaton-Johnson School had become over crowded and in 1952 the Lelia B. Yancey Elementary School was opened with an enrollment of 252, and 8 teachers. A. A. Lane is teacher-principal. The school is located in South Henderson and has an enrollment of 272. There are 14 families represented in the student body. Its cafeteria serves a very useful purpose and the efficiency with which it is conducted, is excellent.

The PTA has about 84 active families who take special pride in the school. It has set out to beautify the grounds. The needs to the building are badly in need of repairs, and even though it should be the duty of the town to improve them, the PTA has assumed this responsibility. Mrs. Henrietta Howard is president. Mrs. W. M. Richardson, secretary. (CONTINUED ON PAGE 10)



SUPERVISOR AND CONSULTANT—Mrs. Addie O. Williams, supervisor of Vance County elementary schools and teacher-consultant. Mrs. Williams has had extensive experience in the field of education. She is a graduate of Fayetteville State Teachers College.

### Franklinton Family Name Rings Success In County

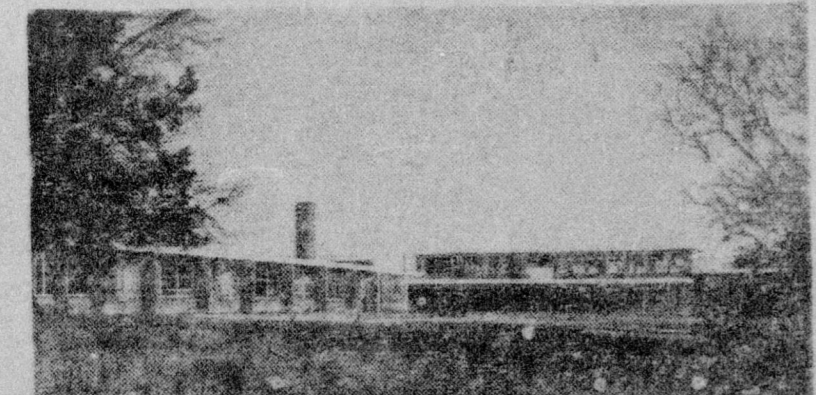
FRANKLINTON — The old question as to "What's in a Name" can best be answered by the descendants of B. F. Person, who was a pioneer in education here. In recognition of the work that he did the local high school is named in his honor. He taught here for more than 55 years. The street on which the school is located was also named in his honor. His wife, whose name was Evelyn, is believed to have been a great source of inspiration to him. To this union was born 14 children and five of them became teachers.

There is still one in the community who is carrying on in the style of his father, Melville Cortez. He attended Albion Academy, North Carolina College and Shaw. He is a teacher in the Albion Elementary School. He has taught at the B. F. Person School, Vaughan, Mt. Olive and Wilder's Seminary. He is proud of the record that he made as an athlete and loves to talk about his feats on the baseball diamond. He won fame (CONTINUED ON PAGE 10)

### Henderson Thriving Town With Several Industries

HENDERSON — This typical North Carolina town, located on the main line of the Seaboard Airline Railroad, with a number of churches, seven taxicab companies, one whiskey store and ten beauty parlors, comes to life only on Saturday. There are many new homes popping up in every section of the town. The most recent show place is the new home recently built by Dr. Dewey Hawkins. It is the latest in architecture and sprawls over a vast lot and could easily be termed a mansion. Dr. J. D. Hawkins' house, with its antique furniture is the last word in interior decoration. Undertaker Jordan has just moved into a rambling rambler and is just a stone's throw from Dr. Hawkins. Mr. Thomas Hunt has just moved into his beautiful new home. Bricklayers, school principals and people from all walks of life have comfortable homes all over the town.

Even though farming has long since commanded much attention, the coming of the Tungsten Mines and the increase in teachers' salaries have given the town a new look. Farmers still carry the brunt of the load. Merchants are heard to say, "We have had two bad crop years and we hope this will be a good crop year." They finally end by saying, "If we don't have a good year this year, Henderson had just as well close up." The mines, located about 13 miles from the town, do not denote such a picture. A visit to these parts will reveal a line of cars that look like any used car lot in New York or California. Oldsmobiles lead the list. There are a few Cadillacs, Dodges, Chryslers, Plymouths, Pontiacs and Chevrolets are not far behind. There are some Fords and Mercurys. Occasionally one will see a Packard and even a Henry J. Most of the well-known fraternities are found here. The Masons, the Elks, the Eastern Star and the Daughter of Lis Under-takers are complaining that there are not many people dying. This speaks well for the health of the town. There are four such agen-



LELIA B. YANCEY SCHOOL—Southside citizens of Henderson are proud of the Lelia B. Yancey School which was built in 1952. A. A. Lane is the principal. It was built to relieve the overcrowded situation of the town. Its PTA is in the midst of a program to beautify the grounds.

### Henderson Happenings

**MRS. BERNARD P. CREWS**  
HENDERSON — It was indeed a pleasure to have CAROLINIAN reporters visit our city this week. Many of our readers were able to meet some of the people behind the paper.

**SOCIAL WHIRL**  
Mr. Melvin Turner has returned home after visiting his aunts in New York City.  
Mrs. Altona Lane Payne left last weekend for San Francisco, California where she took an airplane to Honolulu, Hawaii. Mrs. Payne was greeted in Honolulu by her husband, Lt. Delbert S. Payne, who has been overseas. Mrs. Payne received her college degree last week from Bennett College in Greensboro. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Lane of Rockspring Street.  
Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Jefferson recently returned to Richmond, Virginia where they will make their home. Mrs. Jefferson is the former Miss Doris Small of Route 5.  
Mr. Thurston Sneed of Washington, D. C. was here last weekend visiting his wife, Mrs. Sneed. Mrs. Jessie Evans gave a birthday dinner for her husband, Vic-

tor Evans on January 17 at their home. Mr. Evans was happy over the many gifts he received from (CONTINUED ON PAGE 10)

### Perry High School Presents Good Show

LOUISBURG — A highly educational picture was shown at the Perry High School, located at Centerville, Tuesday night, January 18, by Dr. Thomas Martin, of Raleigh.  
The show was given for the benefit of the Athletic Association and was sponsored by B. J. (Bun) Hayes. It shows the travels of Dr. Martin as he toured the world. It also gave interesting happenings of surgical work done by him while he was in India. The name of the picture is "Travels Through India". Quite a few people turned out to see it. The school, under the leadership of J. E. Wilson, is having wonderful success. Its faculty is considered one of the best in the state. Interesting facts about the school and the faculty will appear each week, in the CAROLINIAN.

### Mrs. Williams Heads Vance School System

Mrs. Addie O. Williams, formerly with the John C. Winston Company, is now supervisor of Vance County Schools. Mrs. Williams was the first, and is the only Negro ever employed as educational consultant with a major publishing firm. As supervisor of schools she is making a study of educational needs of the children in the county by helping to administer the mental maturity and achievement tests to all the children in the county. When the results are in she hopes to be able to plan with the principals and teachers a program that will help each child to make progress toward educational goals through opportunities to develop as broadly as possible in a purposeful and meaningful way. She believes that systematic planning is necessary and that adequate records of achievement of each child should be kept. The test results, she hopes, will serve as a guide for future classroom planning and selection of supplementary books and materials to fit the needs of the children who will use them. The teachers, principals, supervisor, and superintendent of Vance County regard their work in the light of objectives to be realized, methods and procedures to be tried. They hope to engage in cooperative research on problems relating to the educational program in hopes of improving it.

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