

Pigeon Roost News

Says Christmas Marked End School In Old Days; Had Spelling Matches

BY HARVEY J. MILLER

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When I was a youngster the closing term of public school was just a few days before Christmas day. But back then there never was over six months of school and on the last day of school which was always on Friday they just had an entertainment which was mostly a spelling match and singing of songs.

All the children parents was invited to be present at the closing day of school especially in the afternoon period when they had the spelling matches. If I remember correctly now all the different classes spelled together but the lower grades was given easier words to spell but sometimes there was a laugh going among the crowd all over the house when just a small student would spell down someone that was grown. I think they was all given three tries at a word and the word had to be spelled with the right meaning. The teacher would be the

one who would give out the words.

The teacher would treat the children on the closing school term day with a little poke of mixed candy. But for a few years before the country schools went out of business Miss Lydia Hoilman of Alta-pas played Santa Claus by sending every child that the teacher sent her their name a Christmas present. She sure did send good Christmas presents as I have a reason to know for I got two presents before I quit going to school.

The country school where I attended was heated with wood fuel. There was always some local man appointed to get the winters wood supply and he was paid by the county. Back in those days that I am writing about winter weather generally set in during the middle of October. November and December was when we really had the big snows and when the snow was deep if you got there at 10 O'clock you wouldn't be marked up tardy. An old-timer recently told

me here that back in his school going days it wasn't such a hard matter it seemed to make a school teacher. If you made it through the graded schools and only went to a high school or I believe he called it a training school one term you could get a certificate to teach school. He said there was some pretty good school teachers back in those days if they didn't go to school so long.

The men teachers would travel on afoot several miles home each day to and from their school teaching place. But the women teachers about all of them boarded in the community where they taught.

There was two school houses for several years on Pigeon Roost which was called the upper and lower schools. I am going to give the names of some of these teachers that taught school on Pigeon Roost but I will not try to give the names in rotation as they may be a difference of 15 years in the times they taught.

So here is the names of some of the teachers who taught at one of these two schools and some of them taught at both schools. Joe Griffith taught terms at both school places. His son M. L. taught at lower school. Holden L. Edwards taught at both schools. Howard Harrell taught at upper school. Also here is the names of several more who taught at upper school. Berdie Lee Wilkie of Spruce Pine, Mary Baily of Bee Branch section (Yancey County) Estelle Greene of Bakersville, the late Ethel Barnett, Estelle Byrd Buchanan who now lives in Bakersville, John

R. Gouge of Bailey Settlement, Jesse Street now of Johnson City. The late Ed Barnett taught at both schools and Cling Ensor of McKinney Branch section (Yancey County.) Bertha Hoilman of Bakersville. Park Byrd, who is now mayor of a town in Ky. The late Oscar Bradshaw.

There is only one name of a teacher that we have given that I know who is still teaching school and that is Holden L. Edwards who lives near Relief and he is 8th grade teacher at Tipton Hill school.

Bobby Gene Edwards of Byrd Creek section of Pigeon Roost has been appointed deputy sheriff by Sheriff Moffitt of Mitchell County.

The way the tobacco is being taken at this writing so fast it appears that practically all the tobacco grown in this section will be sold before the markets close for the Christmas season.

A few of the farmers tobacco was marked wet but it appears that they all seemed well pleased with the price they received for it this season.

One farmer reported that he received 75 Cents per pound for three baskets of his tobacco which is certainly a good price as the farmer said it.

Richard Arwood of Brummetts Creek section reported that he had the misfortune Saturday to run over his two Beagle hounds with his car when they jumped under his car in the road at his home before he could get stopped and he killed his dog named Brownie and hurt the other dog named Zeke. But he will get well Arwood reported.

Broyhill Industries Slate New Expansion

Lenoir, N. C. — Broyhill Furniture Industries is preparing to launch the second phase of a major expansion project at Lenoir Chair Company No. 4.

A 200,000-square-foot plant will be constructed for the manufacture of chip core, a particle board used for the core of laminated plywood.

Keith Suddreth, Broyhill's chief engineer, also reported that construction of a warehouse addition is nearing completion at Chair No. 4.

Total cost of the chip core plant and warehouse is approximately \$750,000. It is estimated that these additional facilities will enable Broyhill to increase employment at Chair No. 4 by some 50 persons over a period of several months.

The chip core plant, Broyhill's fourth such operation, is expected to be completed by March 1967.

The extrusion method will be used for the manufacture of chip core, and auxiliary equipment will be designed and installed by Broyhill's engineering staff. Chip core is made up of particles of hardwood or softwood which are bonded together by adhesives.

The warehouse, which contains a completely enclosed railroad loading area, has 100,000 square feet of floor space and triples the capacity for storage of case goods manufactured at Chair No. 4. Being put into use on a gradual basis, the warehouse will be completed in early January.

Thant Re-Elected

U Thant has been elected to serve a new five-year term as UN secretary-general by secret ballot. The 57-year-old Burmese diplomat received a standing ovation as he took his seat behind the podium.



Stamey's Drive-In AND CARRY OUT

E. King Street

Boone, N. C.

The Pleasure Is Mutual



Paul Carter Hawkins and his new puppy, Snowflake, are delighted to make each other's acquaintance. Four-year-old Paul, national poster child for Muscular Dystrophy Associations of America, was given the Samoyed pup after he had wished for a dog on a television show. This month the youngster spearheads the March Against Muscular Dystrophy, which annually raises funds for MDAA-sponsored scientific research into neuromuscular disorders and for vital services to patients and their families.



Christmas BLESSINGS

To each and every one of our friends, we send our most cordial wishes for a holiday season abounding in blessings, with genuine appreciation for our pleasant relations throughout the past year.

TRAILWAY CLEANERS and TRAILWAY LAUNDRY E. King St. Boone, N. C.



We wish you joy... in laughter and good cheer... joy in gifts and glad surprises... joy in friends and family... joy at Christmas, with all its deep meaning. May the true old-fashioned joys of the season come to you... and linger long.

McGuire's Beauty Salon Ala McGuire — Clyde Kilby Dorothy Combs — Rita Hennessee Susan McGuire — Jean Craig



The Spirit of CHRISTMAS

To love one another as a brother... to have good will among men... to bring peace to every heart — this is the Spirit of Christmas. We pray that it will enter your home at this Holy season giving to you and your loved ones the greatest happiness.

It is with genuine appreciation of your friendship and patronage that we extend this heartfelt good wish.

REINS-STURDIVANT FUNERAL HOME East King Street Boone, N. C.