

HARNETT COUNTY NEWS

THE PUBLIC WELFARE IS THE INTEREST OF THE WHOLE PEOPLE

Vol. 1. No. 42.

Lillington, N. C., Thursday, October 15, 1919

"If it concerns Harnett, it's in THE NEWS"

ROBT. N. PAGE MAKES OPENING SPEECH AT FAIR

Delivers Address Marked With
Statesmanship.

HIS FORBEARS WERE CITIZENS OF HARNETT

Central and Eastern Carolina's Candidate for Governor Makes Fine Impression Upon Crowd at Inaugural of Harnett's Fair—At Lillington Wednesday.

Hon. Robert N. Page, of Biscoe, a man who well realizes and fully appreciates the real problems and opportunities that confront this country in the next decade, delivered the opening address at Harnett's Fair on Tuesday morning. Mr. Page was in happy mood because of the fact that Harnett soil feels warm to his feet. His forbears three generations ago settled upon the banks of the Cape Fear "when the land was too poor for any purpose except to hold this part of the earth intact."

But an industrious people have proved that no land is too poor to bring forth abundant crops and prosperity when brain is used and brain is applied.

That he was happy to be among people who have caused such a transformation in the old county, was plainly shown from his countenance as the speaker expressed his great astonishment and gratification at the real progress of Harnett's onward and upward march.

The fair was formally declared open by business by Mr. Robert L. Godwin, who has taken an active part in bringing matters to their present excellent shape. He introduced Col. D. H. McLean, who in well chosen words introduced the orator of the day. Col. McLean is known as the silver-tongued, silver-tongued orator of Harnett, and sustained his reputation on this occasion.

Mr. Page began speaking at a later hour than was intended, on account of the inclemency of the weather, allowing those who were tardy to arrive.

"I was inwardly a wee bit skeptical when friends related to me that Harnett's Fair would equal if not surpass any in the State," said Mr. Page, "but upon viewing the elaborate preparations and well wrought schemes, I declare the half has never been told me."

He congratulated the old county upon its material progress. "This is to be a thing that counts," said he. "All wealth comes from the soil, and honor be to him who bringeth it forth."

Mr. Page's address was full of sound logic. After expressing his great pleasure at finding the county in healthy stride, and assuring his audience of his pride in his fellow-citizenry, he put forth into things that weigh upon the minds of all thinking people. And the burden of his thought was the good and welfare of the commonwealth.

Education, health and work, with thrift for a leavening measure, will make any nation rise from a life of poverty and drudgery to a state of prosperity, plenty and happiness. Educate the masses, blot out illiteracy, protect the health of the people, and it will be much easier to teach them to work and save because they will be physically and mentally fit.

"Let's mend the weak links in our education and health systems so that a revision of the record will show better averages than prevailed at the time of the selective draft," said Mr. Page. He recounted to his audience the miserable showing made when the young manhood of the county was called to service, such an alarming percentage being mentally and physically unprepared to answer the call and say, "I am a man, send me!"

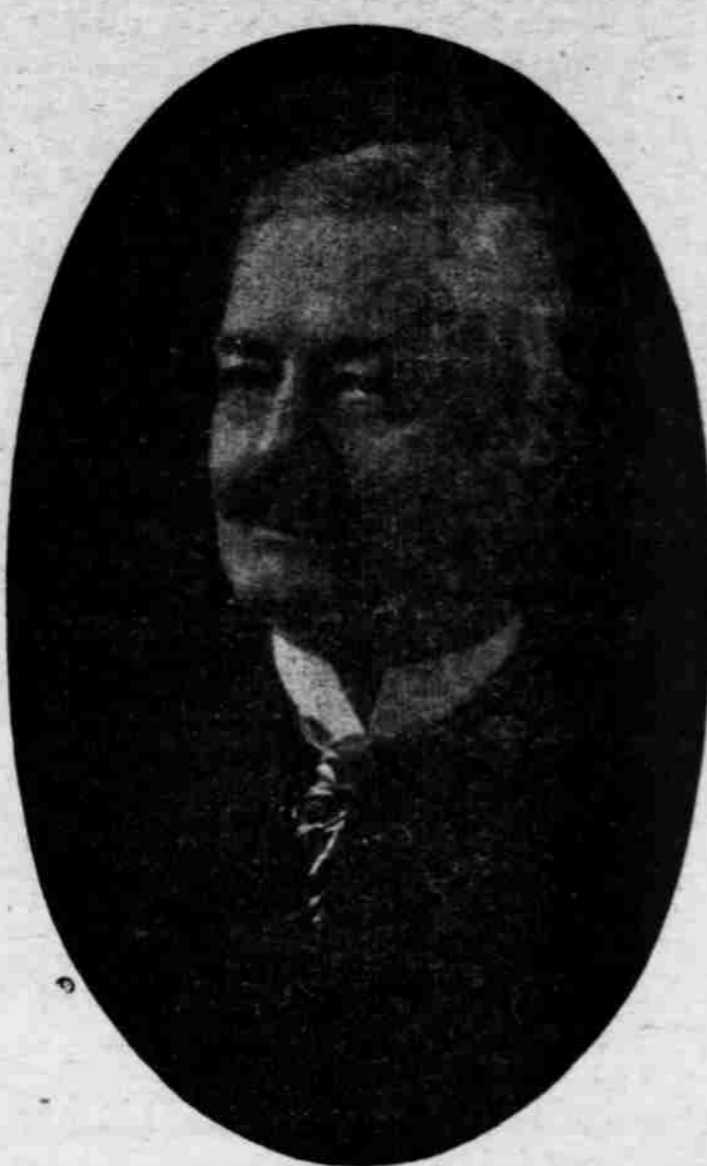
"Each county should have its public hospital," declared the speaker, which statement brought forth hearty applause. No county is too poor to afford a hospital, since the great Liberty bond sales were put over so easily. Public hospitals and public trained nurses are a necessity to the physical wellbeing of the people, he declared.

Extravagance was the one thing most to be deplored, said Mr. Page. Someone has said that France with three times our war debt will pay out first. "If that proves true, then whether are we drifting? Let us about-face and adopt thrift as a habit."

Threatening weather prevented large crowds from attending on the opening day of the fair. However, as the afternoon wore on, the sun made its appearance and dried off the grounds. The showers of Monday were indeed a blessing, settling the dust which would have proved most nauseating.

The airplane made good its appearance on opening day, and fearing perhaps that its presence in Harnett county might be disputed, it

ROBERT N. PAGE OF BISCOE



He delivered the Inaugural Address at the Harnett County Fair in Dunn Tuesday.

new over to Lillington, said "howdy" and departed for his lair.

Harnett county put over a good exhibition. The swine exhibits would do credit to any State fair. Articles of produce, handwork and artwork in floral hall were indeed a splendid showing. Fine horse flesh was docketed for the races, and the midway was a delight to all those who crave to see 'em and count 'em.

And the plant that has been built for the purpose of putting on the fair stands as a monument to hard work and tedious thought on the part of those who made it possible. The whole county should take pride in the Harnett County Fair Association and its achievements.

The establishment of the fair is a work well done, and the exhibition is an inspiration and a source of pride to us all.

DISTINGUISHED SOLDIERS.

Last Sunday the News and Observer published a partial list of North Carolina soldiers who have been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross together with the citation of action that entitled them to this decoration. Among the number is Alvin C. Bridgers, private, first class, Company D, 120th Infantry, for extraordinary heroism in action near Bellecourt, France, September 29th, 1918. With eight other soldiers, comprising the company headquarters detachment, he assisted his commander in cleaning out enemy dugouts along a canal and capturing 283 prisoners.

Mr. Bridgers is a son of Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Bridgers of Jonesboro, R. 3, and is a brother of Mrs. Lilla McBryde of Lillington.

There also appears the name of Ollie R. Link, cook, Company M, 119th Infantry, for extraordinary heroism in action near St. Souplet, France, October 9-10, 1918. Hearing that the casualties in his company were very heavy, he left his comrades on the front line. From there he advanced alone a distance of 200 yards and located two machine gun nests, the journey being done in the face of heavy enemy fire.

Home address, Mr. Jesse B. Link, father, Bules Creek, N. C.

WAR RISK INSURANCE.

The Bureau of War Risk Insurance wishes to emphasize the importance to service men of one of the provisions of the War Risk Insurance Act upon the fulfillment of which may depend the validity of their claim to compensation under the act.

The War Risk Insurance Act provides that "No compensation shall be payable for death or disability which does not occur prior to or within one year after discharge or resignation from the service, except that where, after a medical examination made pursuant to regulations, at the time of discharge or resignation from the service, or within such reasonable time thereafter, not exceeding one year, as may be allowed by regulations, a certificate has been obtained from the director to the effect that the injured person at the time of his discharge or resignation was suffering from injury likely to result in death or disability."

Many discharged men are not familiar with or are inclined to disregard this provision of law and are allowing their rights thereunder to lapse.

Request for the certificate mentioned above should be made to the Chief Medical Advisor, Bureau of

THE STATE FAIR WILL FEATURE BETTER FARMING

Raleigh, Oct. 15.—Agriculture will be enthroned at the State Fair, October 20 to 25. It will be a farmer's fair. The biggest and most complete exhibits to be placed will show some phase of the State's fundamental industry. Of course, those interested in other things will also find it well worth while to inspect the various other exhibits, but agriculture will be supreme. The big government exhibit alone will be devoted largely to the work of the Federal Department of Agriculture, and will occupy the largest individual exhibit space to be reserved. Every bureau and office of this large department will be represented, in addition to the army and navy trophies of the late world war.

Over in the State building will be the exhibit of the State Department of Agriculture showing the cooperative work of the experiment station and extension service. This exhibit is now being prepared under the direction of H. H. Brimley, who will inaugurate many new features. Practically all of the divisions will be represented in this building, and a good many of the exhibits are at present being placed.

Mrs. Jane S. McKimmon and her corps of workers will have charge of the woman's building. Two years ago the exhibits here proved to be one of the most popular features of the whole exposition. In spite of a hard garden year, the canning clubs and home demonstration clubs have done excellent work and will send samples of their handiwork to be displayed again this year. The ladies of Mrs. McKimmon's division will be on hand to explain and instruct visitors to this building.

The pig, poultry and plant clubs will use more space this year than formerly, due to the liberal premiums which have been offered and the excellent progress made by the members in growing pure bred animals and plants during the past two years.

Realizing the necessity of preserving these valuable records, the last General Assembly appropriated money for the work, and directed the Historical Commission not only to collect all data possible about North Carolina in the world war, but to prepare a complete history of the State's life in that great event. By this act the General Assembly placed North Carolina among the most progressive States in the Union, for North Carolina was one of the first States to inaugurate a work that all the other States are now taking up.

The General Assembly realized that history is essential to a commonwealth, and therefore placed this work on a stable foundation. The General Assembly had expressed the will of the State, and since this will is so wisely recorded in the establishment of this work of collecting war records, it is the presumption of the Historical Commission that the people of the State are going to give the materials essential to history.

The fine success already attained by the noble spirit of individual doers of material shows that North Carolinians want their State fully represented in history.

Almost every person in the State has a letter, a picture, or something that would be of value. Whatever he has, he should communicate information about it, or send it to R. B. House, Collector of War Records, North Carolina Historical Commission, Raleigh, N. C.

War Risk Insurance, Washington, D. C.

UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER.

Chapel Hill, Oct. 15.—Gathering in the memorial hall to her illustrious dead the University of North Carolina on October 11 celebrated the 126th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone in 1793 of the first building on the campus. The old and the new universities mingled in the address of Judge Francis D. Winston of Windsor, of the class of 1879, and in the telegrams of birthday greetings from alumni all over the country and in the actual presence of the largest student attendance in the history of the University.

Preceded by a parade of faculty and students the exercises included the reading of the list of alumni who have died within the past year. Amidst tense silence Dean George Howe read to the standing audience the 43 names, many of them followed by "killed in action in France" or "died in the service." Included in the list were the names of ex-President Battle, President Graham, and acting President Stacy.

The telegrams of greetings to the University came from the North Carolina College for Women, from alumni groups at Harvard, Columbia, New York, Pittsburg, and many county and city associations. From Montevideo, Uruguay, came greetings from four young alumni, Powell, Cooper, deRosset and Whitfield.

Introduced by President Chase as the first student at the reopening of the University in 1875, Judge Winston compared the old with the new University. "Up to the civil war," he said, "the University was characterized by a spirit of intense individualism. Individual development was its aim, the development to the highest possible degree of its popular leaders."

"The new day of democracy is typified in the new University. If there are no giants, there are no pygmies. The aim of the University now is not to develop individual genius to its highest degree at the expense of the mass, but rather to develop the average man to his greatest proportion and thus to elevate the mass of the people. The University recognized that humanity is a vast interlocked and interlaced network of individuals and that the chain of humanity is not stronger than its weakest link. It seeks, therefore, to strengthen the weak links rather than strengthen the strong."

"It is this ideal that would lift the negro rather than destroy him, that trains for usefulness the weakened and vicious rather than allow them to become paupers and criminals, that finds opportunities for everybody and sees good in everybody."

COMPILING THE RECORD OF THIS STATE IN THE WAR

The North Carolina Historical Commission is canvassing the entire State for letters, diaries, pictures, newspaper clippings—in fact, all materials of any nature that throw light on North Carolina in the world war. R. B. House, collector of war records for the Historical Commission, is conducting this canvass by going to the sources of such official records as Red Cross chapter histories, local board reports, etc., by organizing volunteer committees to assist him in the various counties, and by going himself from community to community all over the State.

These materials canvassed for, valuable as they are, will perish very rapidly unless they are stored where fire, rats and other destroying agencies cannot get at them. Practically the only safe depository for such things is the fireproof hall of history in Raleigh, built to preserve just such things as these.

Realizing the necessity of preserving these valuable records, the last General Assembly appropriated money for the work, and directed the Historical Commission not only to collect all data possible about North Carolina in the world war, but to prepare a complete history of the State's life in that great event. By this act the General Assembly placed North Carolina among the most progressive States in the Union, for North Carolina was one of the first States to inaugurate a work that all the other States are now taking up.

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War Risk Insurance, Washington, D. C.

VALUABLE PRIZES OFFERED PIG CLUB MEMBERS

West Raleigh, Oct. 15.—One of the most interesting livestock exhibits at the State Fair is the one to be made by members of the pig clubs of the Agricultural Extension Service. More than usual interest is attached to this exhibit this year, due to the fact that over \$500 in premiums and special prizes has been offered by the State Fair and by the National Record Associations interested in the development of pure-bred swine.

The club members can win \$77 on their Berkshire pigs, and the same amount on their Duroc Jerseys, Poland Chinas, Chester Whites and Hampshires. This money, of course, is offered for registered pure-breds only. The first prize winners in each class may also compete for sweepstakes prizes. Special prizes amounting to \$14 have been offered by the National Duroc Jersey Association, the American Poland China Record Association and the American Hampshire Swine Record Association.

The Duroc people offer, in addition, a \$25 trophy cup to the pig club member exhibiting the best Duroc Jersey at the State Fair, and further offers a gold medal to the boy or girl winning a State championship with a pig of this breed.

Only club members can compete for this money, and the pig must have been in the possession of the boy or girl for at least four months previous to the time of exhibiting. While at the State Fair the pigs, of course, will be at the owner's risk, though they will be given the best of care and attention and ample precautions taken to return them to the owner in good condition.

W. W. Shay, Swine Extension specialist of the animal industry division, will be in charge of the department, and the boy or girl planning to compete for the prize money offered should take up the matter with him.

E. P. DAVIS TO HEAD NEW BANK IN DUNN

Dunn is to have a third bank. It is to be known as the Commercial and will be located in the Lee building where quarters were recently fitted up for the Dunn branch of the Bank of Harnett. E. P. Davis of Duke, R. L. Godwin and others are the incorporators of the financing company whose authorized capital is \$100,000.

Incorporation papers were granted this week by the State Corporation Commission. Eleven thousand dollars of the stock has been subscribed by Mr. Davis and his friends. The institution will begin operation with a paid-in capital of \$25,000, it was stated by Mr. Godwin yesterday. It has not been determined when the bank will open its doors.

Mr. Davis is named as president of the company. He was until a few years ago cashier of the Bank of Harnett. He resigned this position when the Duke interests offered him the position of manager of the cotton mill at Duke, a position he has recently resigned from. He is considered one of the best bankers of North Carolina and has long wanted to locate in Dunn.

The chartering of this bank, it is said, makes it practically certain that the proposed branch of the Bank of Harnett will not be located here.—Dunn Dispatch.

SPASMODIC ADVERTISING WORTH WHILE

The Roanoke News of Weldon, N. C., carries an excellent editorial this week on the question of spasmodic advertising. There are a number of business men in the State to whom this editorial applies, as these men seem to think that if they insert a small ad. once a season they have done everything that should be done by way of local advertising.

Other business men realize the importance of constantly keeping their goods before the readers and consistently advertise throughout the year, of course, making their displays appropriate and seasonal. These business men recognize the true value of their local paper, and use its columns because it keeps them before the public in the most efficient way possible.

The editorial in the Roanoke News is as follows:

"It's just as easy for you to fat enough in one day to last you a week, as it is for the business man to advertise enough in one week to last him a year. The business man who thinks he is like a camel and can make a long journey across the desert of business on one spurt of advertising, will find himself very dry long before he has reached the first oasis."

SPEAKING WAS CALLED OFF.

Owing to the fact that most people in his section of the county went to Dunn Wednesday to take in the fair, the speaking scheduled for 12 o'clock in the courthouse by Hon. Robert N. Page was called off. It is hoped that Mr. Page can come to Lillington at some future time and deliver an address.

DAN HUGH M'LEAN REVIEWS HISTORY OF COUNTY'S LIFE

Shows Harnett's Progress in
Speech Introducing
R. N. Page

RECALLS LEAN YEARS OF LOW PRODUCTION

Remembers When Land Produced
Only Quarter of Bale Per Acre
and No Railroad Touched the
Community—Recites Story of Progress.

"My Countrymen: There are occasions in the lives of men when the tongue fails to give expression to the emotions of the heart. Standing here in the midst of these magnificent memorials of a people's thrift, enterprise and industry, I find no language of my lips to express the gratitude and admiration due to these brave men and fair women who are the architects of this wondrous exhibition.

History of Harnett County.

"This is, indeed, an epochal day in the history of Harnett County. The mountains have sent hither their rills; the hills, their rivers; the valleys, their floods; and behold an avancement of people is here. Today Harnett County enters upon a career of prosperity and development unknown to her people in the days gone by. Today she breaks the chains of sloth and inertia which have handicapped her in the past, and stands forth to an admiring world a giant ready to run a race. Today our people have their eyes fixed upon the rising sun, a new day and are looking into the face of a glorious future. Her watchword is and will be in all of the generations of the future: forward—forward! forever forward until she will have attained that degree of honor and glory which has been decreed to her by the fiat of Almighty God.

"A century ago, Benjamin Franklin, the wizard of America, captured a flash of lightning and harnessed it to the chariot of progress, scientific development, and thereby revolutionized the world of commerce and personal intercourse between men and nations. The first message sent over the wires by this wonderful feat of scientific discovery was in these words: "What Hath God Wrought!" Today we look upon these massive exhibition buildings, this superb race track, this beautiful floral hall, this magnificent agricultural hall, these splendid exhibits of the fruits of the soil, of labor, and man's achievements, we are impelled to exclaim: "What Has Man Wrought Under the Guiding Hand of Nature's God!"

Harnett As It Used To Be.

Just 64 years ago, the County of Harnett was a wilderness. Her territory at that time, was sparsely settled and her soil for the most part was poor and unproductive and worth only upon an average of about \$2.00 an acre. Her main money product was derived from the turpentine gathered from her forests. At that time very little cotton was planted and the product was upon an average of one-fourth of a bale to the acre; the average yield of the corn crop per acre was estimated at 9 bushels; the other farm products were in the same proportions. At that time not a foot of Railroad trackage had been built.

Harnett County of Today.

Today little less than 100 miles of railroad trackage traverses her borders, which, like the arteries of the human body, give life and vigor to the whole area of the county. Less than forty years ago the assessment of the real and personal property of the county was nine hundred and fifty thousand dollars; today the tax books show the assessment of the taxable property in the County amounts to twelve million dollars, and the population of the county has increased 500 per cent. The value of the land in the county today will average \$25.00 per acre cash. No county in North Carolina or any other state of the Sunny South can make a better showing than this.

People of Harnett.

No wonder our people feel proud of their achievements; they have honored themselves and have honored the State that gave them birth. No wonder our people most of whom are here today, for only the sick and the infirm are at home, feel proud of this record. Her brave sons and fair daughters have been the architects of her greatness. As proud as Harnett County is of her heroic sons, prouder still is she of her fair daughters. They are as pure as her gold and as beautiful as the morning. There has been no circumstance through which North Carolina has passed but what the sons of Harnett County have been ever ready to rush to her relief, and to give their life blood, if need be, in her defense. 'Twas the Harnett County boy who helped to break the Hindenberg line, many of whom now sleep on the hill sides and valleys of sunny, glorious France. To their memory be ascribed every honor with in our power to confer. Some day we will bring them back to sleep in the bosom of their native land which they loved so well.

No Self-Laudation.

This story of Harnett's greatness we wanted the world to know, but our people were too modest to select an orator within our own borders to repeat this glorious detail, so we have sent abroad and chosen a typical North Carolinian to be with us today to syllable her praise. The orator, whom we have with us today, is almost a Harnett County man; he escaped this fate by almost

a hair's breadth. His father once lived in our county and began his business career on the banks of the historic Cape Fear. 'Twas in Harnett County he found and wedded his wife—a woman of rare attainments and the mistress of every grace of form and intellect. In her veins was happily blended the blood of the French and Anglo-Saxon. This made her eminently fit to rear, educate and refine a family of scholars, statesmen, and men of affairs. Three boys born of this union have filled and adorned some of the highest positions of honor and trust which can be attained under our glorious form of government, in which there is no distinction without merit, no preferment without worth, no line of demarcation beyond which an aspiring youth may not go.

Tribute to Page.

Our orator of today is a man whose lips have been touched from the altars of oratory and rhetoric. He can weave for our entertainment gardens of the rarest flowers from the enchanted land of poesy and rhetoric, but he can do more—he can tell the story of a man who began at the lowest round of the ladder, who by diligence, persistent effort, and honest toil, has reached the highest point in the temple of fame. He is one of nature's noblemen. He is a son of toil, who in his youth was made to tread the wine-press of adverse circumstances. He was born with a silver spoon in his mouth, but made the spoon by honest work. He belongs to that class whom the people delight to honor, for he is in full touch with them in all matters pertaining to their well.

He has been faithful, loyal and capable in every relation of life with his state and fellow-citizens. Whatever fate, or fortune has imposed upon him in his career as a public servant he has measured fully up to the line of duty and loyalty. Whether driving spikes in railroad ties, opening the sandhills of Moore County to the commerce of the world, or sitting in the councils of the nation at Washington, standing watch on the ramparts of the temple of liberty, it might well be said of him:

"This Argus o'er the people's rights,
Doth his eternal vigilance keep,
No soothing strains of Melpomene
Can lull his watchful eyes to sleep."
My fellow-citizens hear him today, for he brings to us a message of information and entertainment. His will be words fitly spoken which are like apples of gold and piches of silver. I have now the distinguished honor of presenting to you Hon. R. N. Page of North Carolina.

NEW COTTON REPORT TO BE ORDERED NOW

Congressional Leaders Promise
Action on Resolution For
October Estimate.

Washington, Oct. 14.—Quick action by Congress on a resolution ordering the agriculture department to issue a new cotton report on November 2, showing the crop condition as of October 25 was promised today by house leaders.

Representative Byrnes, of South Carolina, author of the resolution, announced tonight that he expected to obtain house consideration Thursday under an unanimous consent agreement. Such action today was delayed by other legislation holding the right of way as unfinished business and tomorrow a previous order of business will similarly prevent action.

Favorable recommendation on adoption of the resolution was given unanimously today by the house agriculture committee after another congressman had urged immediate action as necessary so that the "true crop condition" may be made known this year for the financial benefit of the cotton planter.

HONOR ROLL

Elementary Grades Lillington High School for September.

First Grade—Louise Arnold, Lillian Atkins, Evelyn Byrd, Lois Byrd, Margaret Cox, Marie McDonald, Elizabeth Matthews, Homer Baker, LeGrand Ellington, Mose Howard, Jack Jackson, Dwight Johnson, Worth McLeod, Howard Overby, Rudolph Ross, Willie Thomas, James Thomas.

Second Grade—Martha Howard, Grace Smith, Elizabeth Thomas, Tommy Batts.

Third Grade—Minnie Howard, Frances Fuquay, Lula Mae Waddell, Frances Honey, Sally May Johnson, Catherine Morgan, Miriam Todd, Mary Gladys Womble, Elizabeth Kelly.

Fourth Grade—Label Johnson, Betty Honey, Rena Johnson, Winnie Belle McCormick, Daphne Bell.

Fifth Grade—Laurie James Arnold, Alexander Cox, Martha Washburn, Philip Ellington, Virginia Bell.

Sixth Grade—White Stevens, Cornelia McLaughlin, Rhoma Johnson, Reba Dorman, Belle Hockaday, Lonnie Howard.

Seventh Grade—Leo Kelly, Aven Matthews, Flora Caviness, Lovell Long, Ruth Batts.

These children stand fair in scholarship and deportment and have been neither absent nor tardy during the month.

PRESBYTERIAN SERVICES.

Rev. J. A. Calligan, pastor at Mt. Pisgah, is assisting Pastor Kirkpatrick in revival services at Lillington Presbyterian church this week. Mr. Calligan is delivering strong, sermons and the attendance has been good. Much interest has been manifested in the meeting. Special music has been provided.