

# HARNETT COUNTY NEWS

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"If It Concerns Harnett, It's in THE NEWS"

## School Advocates Win Victory

### Dr. Oscar Haywood To Deliver Address

With one of the brightest and most pleasing playlets that has ever graced the local stage, Lillington school opened its 1927 commencement exercises last Friday night. The title of the entertainment was "Folderol," meaning a bunch of nonsense, though it was so freely sprinkled with good common sense that the large, good-natured audience thanked itself for exercising the rare judgment to attend. There was not a dull line in the entire play. First opening with one-act operetta depicting a scene in "Starvation Inn," the humor grew as the program advanced, and the audience was filled with joy and convulsed with laughter when the scene came to a close with "Our Curtain." Lacking time to procure the handsome new curtain for the stage so as to be ready for the opening exercises, the clever promoters of the play, Miss Ethel Farmer and Mrs. Caviness Brown, arranged a broadside with the minstrel characters who occupied the stage in the following scene. Fourteen black-face men, with backs turned to the audience, exhibited cards upon which were printed the letters, "Our Curtain." The improvised screen served well for the purpose while busy hands changed the stage setting.

The "curtain" stepped off the stage, and the minstrel was on. From interlocutor to end men, and all through the semi-circle and back again, the mirth rolled out to the audience, each of whom were by this time pronouncing the evening's entertainment one of rare merit. The minstrel was a tremendous success. To mention the stars would be to rectify again the cast of characters. Each of the players was particularly bright. It was a good show.

**Commencement Sermon**  
Sunday morning at 11 o'clock Dr. E. D. Soper, head of the School of Religion, Department of Bible, Duke University, preached the baccalaureate sermon and it was peculiarly fitting. Taking as his theme "Ambition," the noted instructor's words, plain and always to the point, reached the appreciative audience with great force. The sermon was so well received that many declared it the finest ever heard on the local platform.

Dr. Soper declared that no one ever accomplished anything worth while in life until the spark of ambition burst into flame and fired the mind, heart and soul to action. Thus he brought home to his hearers the truth that achievement is the result of whole-hearted effort, and that nothing worth while ever comes about by mere chance.

From the moment the speaker began his sermon till the last word was spoken, the entire audience listened with rapt attention. Dr. Soper came as almost a total stranger, but he won welcome acquaintance. People here will be pleased to hear him again.

Tuesday night at 8 o'clock in the new auditorium the recitation and declamation contests took place.

**Balance of Program**  
Balance of the Commencement program is as follows:  
Friday, May 20.—(1) Seventh Grade Exercises; (2) Operetta Elementary Grades.  
Saturday, May 21, 8 o'clock—Senior Class Play.  
Monday, May 23, 8 o'clock—High School Piano Recital.  
Tuesday, May 24, 8 o'clock—Class Day Exercises.  
Wednesday, May 25, 3:30 o'clock—Elementary Piano Recital.  
Wednesday, May 25, 8 o'clock—Commencement Address by Dr. Haywood. Awarding of Diplomas.

**A Successful Year.**  
The school comes to the close of another successful year. Under the superintendency of B. D. Bunn, with an able corps of teachers, Lillington school is showing more progress each year. It has been said, and with truth, that the session of 1926-27 has been marked by both efficiency and earnestness in the classrooms. The result is that this Commencement presents evidence of greater determination on the part of faculty, student body, and patrons for a larger service to the school in order that an even greater benefit may be derived. Realizing the truth of the saying that what is put into a movement will determine results from it, willing hands, heads and hearts are co-operating in greater

measure, perhaps, than ever before.

The Work of the P. T. A.  
The session now coming to a close has been marked by great activity on the part of the Parent Teacher Association. Inspired by the remarkable results achieved in former years, the officers and members of the association have combined their efforts for the success of the school. A library that will do credit to any high school has been established; and, while not yet complete, the splendid showing is furnishing new enthusiasm among the promoters and it is expected that by the time the school opens in the Fall, large numbers of additions will have been made. Last year Mrs. John D. Johnson was president of the P. T. A. and under her leadership much was accomplished. Taking hold of the work at the beginning of the present session, Mrs. Charles Ross has inspired her co-workers with a zeal that is highly commendable. The programs arranged by Mrs. C. S. Loving and other members of her committee have been both interesting and helpful. The entertainment committee, of which Mrs. Walton C. Baker is chairman, has put forward their plans with such result that they have been commended and received many expressions of appreciation. The P. T. A. has been a wonderful help to the school.

**Dr. Haywood to Speak.**  
Next Wednesday night at 8 o'clock Dr. Oscar Haywood of Mt. Gilead will deliver the literary address. As a platform orator Dr. Haywood holds an enviable reputation that is nation-wide. Retiring a few years ago from the pastorate of Calvary Baptist Church in New York City, he settled on the Haywood Plantation in Montgomery county. This has for long years been a place noted for its beauty as a countryside. There he enjoys the health and fine spirit that comes from living close to nature. He will bring to people of this community, and others from elsewhere who attend, an address that will be well worth listening to.

### STATE COLLEGE FINALS JUNE 5

Program for commencement exercises at State College has been announced by Dr. T. P. Harrison, chairman of the committee on Commencement. The baccalaureate sermon will be delivered by Rev. M. Ashby Jones, pastor of Second Baptist church, St. Louis, and formerly of the First Baptist church, Atlanta. This will take place at 8:30 p. m. on Sunday, June 5. The commencement address will be delivered by Robert Archer Cooper, ex-governor of South Carolina, and member of the Federal Farm Board. The diplomas will be presented by Governor A. W. McLean.

Monday will be Alumni Day. The annual meeting of the Alumni Association will be held in the morning, and in the afternoon a game between State and Carolina will be the attraction. On Monday night the annual class day exercises will be held. The senior orations will be delivered at this time and prizes and medals will be awarded. Among the most coveted of these are the P. D. Gold Citizenship Medal and the Norris Athletic Trophy.

A new system has been instituted for the reunion of classes. This year, and during the following years, four classes will gather who were in school at the same time. The classes which will return this year are 1907, 1908, 1907, 1910 and the class of '26.

### MORE HARD SURFACE ROAD FOR HARNETT

Letting of contracts for road building by the State Highway Commission Tuesday included 4.16 miles of hard surface on Route 23 from Dunn to the Cumberland county line. The contract went to Gregory & Welsiger for \$105,765.60.

Contract was also let for 6.3 miles of grading and structure on Route 50 from the end of project 450 to the Chatham county line. This road lies in Lee county. The contract went to Beal Brothers, \$45,119, for grading, and structures to Clifton Curran, for \$4,901.95.

### DR. OSCAR HAYWOOD OF MT. GILEAD



Dr. Haywood will deliver the Literary Address at Lillington High School next Wednesday, May 25th, at 8:15 o'clock. Dr. Haywood was for years pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, New York City. He is now retired and lives at his old home, the Haywood Plantation, established 1770, in Montgomery County. He is an eloquent speaker and enjoys national reputation as a platform lecturer.

### SHOWS CHICKENS ARE COMMANDING MORE ATTENTION

**Recent Shipment From Dunn Brought Poultry From Buckhorn and Barbecue—Returns Were Very Satisfactory**

Last Friday was the thirteenth, and it may have been unlucky for some people, but for some others it was peculiarly lucky. For instance, the farmers who sold poultry at the co-operative shipment in Dunn when 3,703 pounds were shipped and sellers were paid \$785.71 cash on the spot, thought that Friday the thirteenth was not at all unlucky. Fact is, people who are foresighted enough to raise something that will sell at any time and bring a good price, whether on lucky or unlucky days, are not the kind who pay much attention to hoodoos and such like. They pocket their cash and take care of themselves while the hoodoos are pursuing their calling with less fortunate ones.

The chickens came in last Friday for the co-operative shipment in all such satisfactory manner that Mr. Anthony, who is in charge of the shipments, saw the fruits of his labors. He has been preaching that sort of thing to Harnett farmers, and when he saw chickens coming in from Buckhorn and Barbecue, two townships farthest away from the point of shipment, he felt that his work was taking hold. But what made him feel much better was the sight of the poultry raisers taking hold of the good hard cash for their chickens—coming as it did at a time when good hard cash is one of the most acceptable commodities that can come to a farmer.

Mr. Anthony requests The News to say nothing about him—talk about the chickens and the chicken raisers, he says. But when The News gets sight of a man who can do, and does, as much for the farmers of Harnett county as Mr. Anthony is doing, his name gets sprinkled through the news columns of this popular paper.

Mr. Anthony is doing a great work. He says he would like to make co-operative shipments from Lillington also. What about it, merchants?

### HARNETT CATTLE IS TUBERCULOSIS FREE

Washington, May 18.—Four additional counties have been freed from bovine tuberculosis, making the total now 306 counties, the department of agriculture announced today. They are Knox county, Indiana; Harnett county, North Carolina; Lawrence county, Pennsylvania; and Shelby county, Tennessee.

### RURAL DEPUTIES RECOVER STOLEN GOODS SATURDAY

**Some Liquor, Big Opossum, Three Men and \$600 Worth of Goods Taken in Charge by Deputies During Week's Raids**

Rural Deputies Malcolm Upchurch and Lee Turlington secured more than an even break during the past week when they staged three big raids—one for recovery of stolen goods and two for liquor. In the first mentioned raid they found \$600 worth of goods that had been stolen and captured two men. In one of the liquor raids they found a small quantity of liquor and captured a man; in the other they captured a big opossum, two barrels of beer and some fruit jars.

The officers got a tip that a cache of stolen goods might be located near the old wooden bridge near Erwin. A man had caught sight of the rogues as they were running away from the place where they had hidden the loot. The officers searched the woods and found about \$600 worth of goods hidden. They also found and arrested two white men who gave their names as Byrd. While searching for the goods the officers ran upon a miniature liquor still of about eight or ten gallons capacity, made of a lard can, located about half a mile from the bridge. Two barrels of beer were found at the still, but no operator was in sight. The men captured were locked in jail. The goods recovered by the officers consisted of cigars, cigarettes, smoking tobacco, coffee, sugar, a pair of scales and many kinds of merchandise.

When the officers went over into Grove township to make a raid on a place where a still was supposed to be, they failed to locate the "machine" but found where it had been sitting. They found two barrels of beer and some fruit jars, however, and also a big opossum. The animal resisted arrest and was killed. He was very fat, but was "out of season."

Armed with a search warrant for Frank McLamb's place in Erwin, the officers searched his place and found a half gallon still far of liquor. The officers stated that McLamb was in the act of making a delivery to a "customer" when they caught him. They were going to allow him to furnish bail, but he waxed warm and fought them, so they brought him to jail. He put up a stiff fight on officer Harper of Erwin, they said.

President Coolidge doesn't wear his ten-gallon cowboy hat very often, but perhaps he is saving it to toss in the ring next year.

### FORMER HARNETT MAN NOW MAKING GOOD IN HALIFAX

**V. C. Matthews, Former Commissioner in His Native County, Achieving Success in Schools of Halifax**

Mr. J. R. Baggett and Rev. A. S. Gillespie went to Aurelian Springs in Halifax county last Friday where Mr. Baggett delivered the commencement address to the graduating class of Aurelian Springs High School Friday evening. The school has a handsome and commodious building, and about 600 students. Professor Vassar Matthews, formerly of Harnett county, is superintendent of the school. Mr. Matthews was at one time chairman of the board of county commissioners of Harnett. Since taking up school work he has met with splendid success.

The house was filled to overflowing when the audience gathered to hear the commencement address and closing exercises. High appreciation of Mr. Baggett's address was expressed by the people of Aurelian Springs. Mr. Gillespie declares that Mr. Baggett delivered one of the most inspiring addresses he has ever heard. Mr. Baggett and Mr. Gillespie were favorably impressed with the splendid showing made by Mr. Matthews and his school.

Mr. Matthews is a brother of Mr. Troy Matthews. He was here Monday on a short visit. He states that the authorities of Halifax county are so impressed by the results gained by his school that they are now planning to double the capacity by building and furnishing more room and equipment. Last year he had 18 graduates, 11 of whom are in the University and N. C. W. This year he has 15 graduates, all of whom state their intention of attending college.

Mr. Matthews praised Mr. Baggett's address in unqualified terms, and he said the people of the Aurelian Springs community and visitors from other parts of the county, including the county boards, proclaimed the Harnett man's speech as the best of its kind they ever listened to.

### SUPERIOR COURT BEGINS MONDAY FOR WEEK TERM

**Judge W. C. Harris of Raleigh Will Preside Over Court to Hear Criminal Cases Exclusively Next Week**

Judge W. C. Harris of Raleigh will be the judge who will preside over the next one-week term of Superior Court which convenes here Monday of next week and continues for the week for the trial of criminal cases exclusively. This will be Judge Harris' last sitting in Harnett for the six months of spring court. He will then pass on to another district. He began his service as Superior Court Judge in January in Harnett court and has made many friends here.

A heavy docket will face the court. On the calendar printed and mailed out by Clerk Chaffin appears about a hundred cases, ranging in seriousness of offense from ordinary drunkenness to murder. Liquor, bad checks, fighting, seduction, trespass, larceny and such like offenses take up most of the docket. One case of slander is to come up, also one case of obstructing road. V. P. L. and A. D. W. (violation of the prohibition law and assault with deadly weapon)—twin evils—are very prominently mentioned on the calendar. All cases that have been heard in the county recorder's court as well as in the Dunn court, and appealed, are subject to call of Solicitor Williams.

The large number of cases on docket does not signify that crime is on the increase in Harnett, but more to the point, perhaps, that Sheriff Matthews and his deputies are going into the highways and byways and compelling the wrongdoers to come in.

Chattel Mortgages at The News.

### Special Election For Local School Wins 288 to 66

By a majority vote of 69 the election in Lillington School District, to decide as to the levy of a special tax of 20 cents, was carried Tuesday. The result of the election is that a total of 50 cents special school levy is authorized in Lillington district. Of the 439 voters registered for the election, 288 voted favorably and 66 against; 85 registered voters failed to vote. All registered voters counted against the measure, whether cast or not, and thus the 85 failing votes cut down the majority that would seem on the face of the returns to have been gained. Thirteen absentees voted that were favorable to the measure were not counted, according to the pollholders, because it was demonstrated that a sufficient favorable vote was secured without the absentees. Four voters were challenged. It was claimed that two of them lived outside of the district. The four challenged were: Mrs. Fred Love, K. E. Peeden, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Olive. After consideration of the challenges, the judges allowed the votes to be counted.

The outstanding activity of the day was the zealous work of the women of the community, especially the members of the Parent Teacher Association and those who are consistently aligned with the forces that champion the cause of education. The keynote was sounded at the regular meeting of the P. T. A. Monday afternoon, and the women went to work with a determination that would put the average male politician to shame. They quietly and gracefully moved among members of their sex and pressed the urgency of the call to duty. That the women "carried the election" was the undisputed statement of close observers Tuesday night.

**An Interesting Contest**  
The election was the one topic of absorbing interest in the district during the days immediately preceding the election and when the voting was taking place. A session of County Recorder's Court was going on while the ballots were being counted, but Judge Caviness and Solicitor Taylor failed to draw the usual crowds to their show. Their attendance was slim except for the patrons who reside outside the limits of Lillington School District. Many county elections have taken place without exciting as much enthusiasm as was manifested here Tuesday in the school election.

The election was marked by the good humor of the participants. Except for one or two perturbed citizens who insisted that their rights were being violated when adherents to their line of thought were being challenged at the polls, participants in the election "said it with votes" and a smile. Good humor prevailed around the ballot box during the day, except for the instance mentioned.

**What the Election Means**  
The voting authorizes the school authorities to levy 20 cents additional to the 30 cents levy already authorized for Lillington School District as a special fund, with which to operate the local school for the extra two months, making eight months of school. The county operates the school for six months. Fifty cents is all that can be levied. It is the constitutional limit. Heretofore the local levy has been higher. Last year it was 65 cents, and for a few years before that it was 70 cents. But the county has assumed the indebtedness on account of the buildings, and all that is necessary for the district now is a fund for defraying the expense of the seventh and eighth month of the school term. Statements made by some people to the effect that 50 cents would be levied in addition to the levy which has formerly been made, is entirely misleading. There is no truth at all in the report.

The local board of trustees met in the office of Superintendent Gentry Tuesday afternoon for the purpose of arranging the budget for the 1927-28 session, and J. R. Baggett, chairman of the board, stated to The News that the figures in the budget revealed that only 45 cents of the

authorized 50 cents would be necessary. He further stated that it is altogether possible that only 40 cents would be needed. If this proves to be the case, only so much of the 50 cents authorized will be levied. It seems that there is to be some increase in listings of taxable property in the district. New wealth has come in.

**School Will Continue**  
The idea of making the term nine months for Lillington School has been abandoned for the present. It was seen that the extra tax would be a burden upon the people of the district, and while it was agreed that a nine-month term would place the school on a higher rating and be of great benefit to the students because of the additional facilities for their graduation with better chances of making good in their pursuit of higher learning, the school authorities deemed it unwise to ask for the ninth month just yet. It is hinted that the State Education Department may help in some way to add the ninth month without cost to the local district. However that may be, there is sufficient consultation now in the fact that Lillington School will continue in its progressive course. Plans are already being laid for a profitable session in 1927-28.

### WORLD F. E. A. TO OFFER \$50 PRIZE ON ILLITERACY

**For Best Poster Depicting Some Phase of Illiteracy—Posters Should Be Sent Some Time in July**

A fifty dollar prize is offered by the World Federation of Education Associations for the best Illiteracy Poster submitted at its meeting in Toronto, Canada, August 7-12.

The contest is open to students of elementary and high schools, state normal schools and teachers colleges.

The poster should be designed to depict some phase of illiteracy and its handicap to a nation, a community or an individual.

No poster will be returned. The best of those not winning a prize will be given honorable mention and will be displayed widely.

Posters should be sent during July—not later than July 15th—by prepaid express or parcel post to Committee on Arrangements of the World Federation, 220 St. James Hall, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada.

For further information, write to Dr. A. O. THOMAS, President, World Federation of Education Association, Augusta, Maine.

### FIDELIS CLASS ENTERTAINS CITIZENS BARACA CLASS

Costs, May 18.—On Wednesday evening the Fidelis Class of Coats Baptist Sunday School entertained the Citizens Baraca Class. At 6:30 the two classes gathered in a beautiful grove near Mr. T. D. Stewart's home. On an improvised table was spread a delightful lunch consisting of fried chicken, salad, coffee and bottled drinks. Mrs. Lucy Kelly, president of Fidelis, welcomed the guests. Mr. Inbia Smith, superintendent of the Sunday School, pronounced the invocation. Dr. Garner Fuquay, teacher of the Citizens Baraca, spoke in behalf of his class.

This social grew out of a contest between the two classes for the highest percentage of attendance during the preceding months. Both classes were greatly stimulated and benefited especially by the picnic.

### PREACHING AT EPHRAIM

Rev. E. B. Carr will fill his first appointment at Ephraim next Sunday morning at 11:00 o'clock. All members are requested to be present. Visitors cordially welcomed.