

HARNETT COUNTY NEWS

CONSTRUCTIVE... Harnett's Only Countyseat Newspaper... PROGRESSIVE

Vol. XXIX—No. 12

\$2.00 PER YEAR—5c A COPY

Lillington, N. C., Thursday, March 20, 1947

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

Executives Want New Appraisals

TO PLAN FOR RE-ASSESSMENT DURING YEAR

COMMISSIONERS INSTRUCT COUNTY ATTORNEY STRICKLAND TO HAVE SPECIAL ACT PASSED TO THAT EFFECT

The Board of County Commissioners see the necessity for a county-wide re-assessment of property for taxation, and the board at its meeting here Monday instructed County Attorney K. C. Strickland to confer with Senator L. M. Chaffin in having a bill drawn for passage at the present session of the General Assembly allowing the Commissioners to order the new assessment.

The board was agreed that the new assessment is necessary on account of so many inequities being found in appraisals of property throughout the county.

It has been found that not only is property "badly out of line" in certain townships, but that property of equal value in the various townships do not "tally" in appraisal figures.

So much of an irregularity in listing values has been found that it is deemed altogether essential that an entirely new appraisal of all property be made.

County Tax Supervisor Berles Johnson told the board that if he could get the re-assessment completed this year he could get it on the tax abstracts in the listing starting next January in time for the levy of 1948.

The board was unanimous in approval of the new appraisal. Commissioner Ferd Jackson, sick at his home in Bule's Creek, delegated Commissioner Louie Byrd to cast his vote upon whatever measures might come before the board.

Farmers' Meeting Here Next Tuesday

A meeting for farmers of Harnett county who are interested in hybrid corn and pasture work will be held in the courthouse in Lillington on Tuesday night, March 25, at 7:30, stated C. R. Ammons, County Farm Agent, today.

Dr. E. R. Collins, agronomy extension specialist of State College, will be the principal speaker and will discuss hybrid corn and will also give suggestions on pastures for this area.

County Agent Ammons urges the attendance of every farmer interested in this phase of their farming operations.

Where Are You, Fred?

Mr. Fred R. Byrd is wanted, and if he knew what the Red Cross knows, he'd want to be wanted.

Mr. Byrd was last known as living on Lillington "RFD," so far as the Red Cross can learn. He was 30 years old in 1935, and a United States War Bond was issued in his name.

Friends or relatives will confer a favor if they will let Mrs. Flora Moore, executive secretary of Harnett Chapter, Red Cross, Lillington, know where Fred can be found.

ANNUAL SENIOR CLASS PLAY AT LOCAL SCHOOL

"A READY-MADE FAMILY" IS TITLE OF ENTERTAINMENT TO BE PRESENTED NEXT FRIDAY NIGHT, MARCH 21

The annual senior play, always an outstanding event of the school year, will be presented Friday night, March 21st, at 8 o'clock in the Lillington high school auditorium by members of the 1947 graduating class.

Selected for this year's presentation is "A Ready-Made Family," a three-act farce which features the difficulties facing a widow and widower, whose children object to having a step-mother and step-father, when they decide to marry. The children of each picture the other as a scheming fortune hunter and the tactics they use in an attempt to break up the marriage furnish a full evening's entertainment.

Zell Carlson portrays the part of Agnes Martyn, a widow whose three children, Bob, Edward MacDonald, Merlin, Josephine Bryan, Gracie, Elsie Byrd, and sister-in-law, Miss Lydia, portrayed by Perry Stewart, do all in their power to prevent her marriage to Henry Turner, a widower, Hoyt Sellers, while his two children Doris, Pat McRae and Sammie, Raymond Hester do all in their power to prevent his marriage to Miss Agnes Martyn. Additional comedy is furnished by Gwer Wilborn as the darky cook and Hermon Allen as the colored handy man.

IN HOSPITAL

Douglas Schaftron, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Schaftron, underwent an appendectomy at Highsmith Hospital, Fayetteville, Thursday. He is recuperating nicely and is able to have visitors.

OVER QUARTER MILLION MORE FOR REA LINES

CONGRESSMAN BAYARD CLARK INFORMS THE NEWS THAT \$382,000 ADDITIONAL HAS BEEN ALLOTTED TO OEMC

In a telegram to The News, Congressman J. Bayard Clark states that the Rural Electrification Authority has approved \$382,000 for the Central Electric Membership Corporation for constructing additional lines, including 25 miles in Harnett county.

The OEMC, with headquarters in Sanford, has on its construction maps lines that extend into Western Harnett.

Another REA unit, the South River Electric Membership Corporation, with headquarters at Stedman in Cumberland county, has more extensive construction plans in Harnett. The SREMC lines begin at Wilborn's Station on Highway 15-A a couple of miles south of Lillington, and extend to the following points, after branching in various ways: Broadway, Manchester and Raven Rock.

The SREMC lines include 235 miles in Harnett county. R. R. Edwards, with offices at Stedman is general manager, and there are nine directors for Harnett. The Cline Construction Company is building the REA lines for the SREMC in this county. A portion of the crew is making headquarters in Lillington.

SOME GO OVER TOP IN DRIVE

Anderson Creek and Nell's Creek Quickly Raise Their Quotas in Red Cross Fund Drive

Chapter Chairman R. B. O'Quinn of Lillington reports that at least two of the townships within the chapter's jurisdiction have gone over the top in raising their quotas in the current Red Cross drive. Anderson Creek raised its quota of \$150 by the 14th of March. It was the first to raise its quota, and Chairman O'Quinn gives Prof. Yates credit for holding the record of Anderson Creek, which has raised its quota for the past four years.

Another township, Nell's Creek, raised its quota of \$250 by the 17th of March. Miss Ada Cobb, the township leader, is given credit for this accomplishment.

Chairman O'Quinn states that he is hoping to complete the drive this week.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Baggett announce the birth of a son, William Baggett, on Thursday, March 13th, at Pittman Hospital, Fayetteville.

Flued Out

Around 3,000 students were absent from classrooms in Harnett county schools Monday as the result of influenza, according to Supt. C. Reid Ross, who estimated as high as 45 per cent were absent from some of the schools, notably Boone Trail, which closed last Wednesday afternoon till Monday morning of this week.

Supt. Ross thinks the schools will be operated on a normal basis within a few days. There are about 12,000 students in the Harnett schools.

Some of the faculty members were also out on account of flu illness.

TAX COLLECTOR NOW GIVING HIS FINAL WARNING

PENALTY INCREASES AGAIN APRIL 1, AND LIST OF LAND FOR DELINQUENT TAX SALE TO APPEAR APRIL 10

Harnett County Tax Collector W. D. Harrington has been warning delinquents all along, but now he has arrived at his final appeal for settlement of 1946 taxes.

Giving notice that the penalty for nonpayment will again increase after April 1st, the collector also warns that his list of property to be offered for sale on Monday, May 5th, will appear in the county's newspapers for the first time on April 10. The list will continue in the advertisement until the last week in April.

Mr. Harrington has noticed a decided improvement in taxpaying the past few weeks. Since last fall his collections had been running rather slow as compared with former years, but in his last monthly report to the Commissioners he showed that his percentage of the levy collected had taken a pleasing boost.

Those who have not settled for 1946 taxes can save not only the extra cost of the increased penalty but an added cost if their property is advertised for sale beginning April 19.

Local Lady's Father Dies in Halifax

Mrs. Mamie Ammons left Tuesday morning for Halifax county to be present at the funeral of her father, Mr. John Riggan, who died early Tuesday morning at the age of 93, after being quite ill since last December.

Sunday Speaker

"Forgotten Dreams" is the subject of the radio address of Bishop Paul E. Martin of Little Rock, Ark., over the Methodist Hour radio program on Sunday morning, March 23. The broadcast can be heard over station WPTF at 8:30 A. M.

Prospect of Acquiring Campbell Plant Halts Selection School Site

HEAVY DOCKET BEING UNLOADED AT RAPID PACE

SOLICITOR JACK HOOKS MAKING GOOD PROGRESS IN RELIEVING CRIMINAL DOCKET OF NUMEROUS CASES

From present appearances a much lightened criminal docket will be the result of Solicitor Jack Hooks' strenuous work this week in Harnett Superior Court. The court went straightway to work at ten o'clock Monday morning when Judge Paul Edmondson of Goldsboro, newly appointed jurist, ordered Sheriff Bill Salmon to open the court.

Judge Edmondson, holding his first court in Harnett, omitted a charge to the Grand Jury so that the jurors could get along with their investigations immediately.

Four cases were disposed of before noon Monday. They were:

Carson Adams, pleading guilty of forgery, was given 18 months on the roads, suspended upon five years probation.

Charlie Smith was given 90 days on the roads for assault on Ruth McLamb, but sentence was suspended two years upon good behavior and payment of cost.

Thomas Mauldin was fined \$25 and cost for driving without a license.

J. L. Massey was given 12 months on the roads for assault with a deadly weapon, suspended two years upon payment of cost and good behavior.

Solicitor Hooks sent to the Grand Jury an indictment against Reuben Bass of Sampson county, charging him with assault and robbery upon Mr. George William Butler, retired merchant of Dunn. Mr. Butler is the father of Mrs. Kyle Matthews of Lillington.

Worth Allen, charged with house-breaking and larceny, plead not guilty. He was found guilty of forcible trespass. Prayer for judgment continued two years upon payment of costs and \$100 for S. Y. Weaver, and remain of good behavior.

Elias Norris, forcible trespass, plead guilty, 6 months on roads, suspended 2 years upon payment of cost and \$50 fine, and remain of good behavior.

Leon McLean pleaded guilty of second degree murder. Sentence is yet to be pronounced.

Mary Lee Davis was found guilty of forgery. Sentence is yet to be pronounced.

As The News goes to press the case of Sanford E. Spread, charged with murder, is being heard. He is charged with stabbing a Negro woman to death in Dunn.

Solicitor Hooks thinks he can complete the court's work by this (Thursday) afternoon or night.

ATTEND SCHOOL IN GOLDSBORO

Agent O'Quinn, James Cameron, Jr., and Tillmon Smith Attend Machinery School

T. D. O'Quinn, Assistant Farm Agent of Harnett County, James Cameron, Jr., of the Boone Trail Community, and Tillmon Smith of the LaFayette Community, 4-H Club boys, have been attending a machinery school conducted in Goldsboro for 4-H Club boys of eastern North Carolina, on March 17th, 18th, and 19th.

This tractor and machinery school is being conducted under the supervision of J. C. Ferguson of the Agriculture Engineering Department of State College, and one of the major companies.

Two schools of this type are being conducted in the State where two 4-H Club boys from the various counties have an opportunity to study a close-up of the operation, maintenance, repair and upkeep of mechanized farm equipment.

Superior Court Judge Is Slain in His Home

Superior Court Judge Everett Thompson was shot to death last Sunday night as he sat in his home reading a newspaper. George E. Pritchard, who had held a longtime grudge against Judge Thompson, fired the shot through a window, then killed himself before leaving the home.

Judge Thompson, who had held court a number of times in Lillington, was very popular here where hundreds of his acquaintances and friends were shocked to learn of his death.

Will His College Move?



PRESIDENT LESLIE CAMPBELL

President Campbell views the possibility of his school, Campbell College, being moved from its present location. It depends upon what the Baptist decide at their meeting in May.

MAY SEEK PAY FOR MAYOR AND COUNCILMEN

SENATOR CHAFFIN WILL LOOK INTO PROVISIONS OF CHARTER AND MAY INTRODUCE BILL TO MAKE SALARIES

Harnett's Senator Leo M. Chaffin, president of Lillington, has been asked to introduce a bill in the present General Assembly to provide for a small salary to the Mayor of Lillington and each of its five Councilmen.

When approached upon the subject, Senator Chaffin stated that he is under the impression that the town can pay its Mayor and Councilmen if it sees fit. However, he stated, he will look into the charter and see whether any such provision is made.

It is not the intent to employ an "all-time Mayor and Councilmen" but to attach to their term of office a small sum sufficient to pay for time in attending meetings and looking after the affairs of the town.

A mass meeting is called to be held April 7 to nominate a Mayor and five Councilmen to succeed those who have served for the past two years, some of them for several terms. Mayor John O. Sutton has let it be known that he will not accept another term. How many of the five Councilmen are agreeable to another term has not been ascertained.

The general election to confirm these nominations will be held May 5. Notice of the meeting is being given in The News.

Sugar Calendar

Spare Stamp 58, for 5 pounds, expires March 31.
Spare Stamp 11, for 10 pounds, good April 1.

SCHOOL BOARD WAITS TO HEAR BAPTISTS PLANS

SUGGESTION THAT SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION MAY DECIDE TO MOVE COLLEGE OPENS NEW ASPECT

All action in regard to selection of a site for the new schoolhouse at Bule's Creek is definitely held in abeyance by virtue of a decision of the Board of Education taken at a meeting Monday morning. No further attempt will be made to selecting the site till after the meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in May.

Mr. Charles Ross and Judge Floyd Taylor appeared before the special meeting of the County School Board in its offices in the Agriculture Building Monday morning. The possibility that, because of the removal of Wake Forest College to Winston-Salem, the Baptists might want to move Campbell College to Wake Forest or make some other plans whereby the denomination's preparatory schools in this section may coordinate or merge their work, was presented to the Board of Education.

Upon this presentation, the School Board decided it will be wise to await that decision.

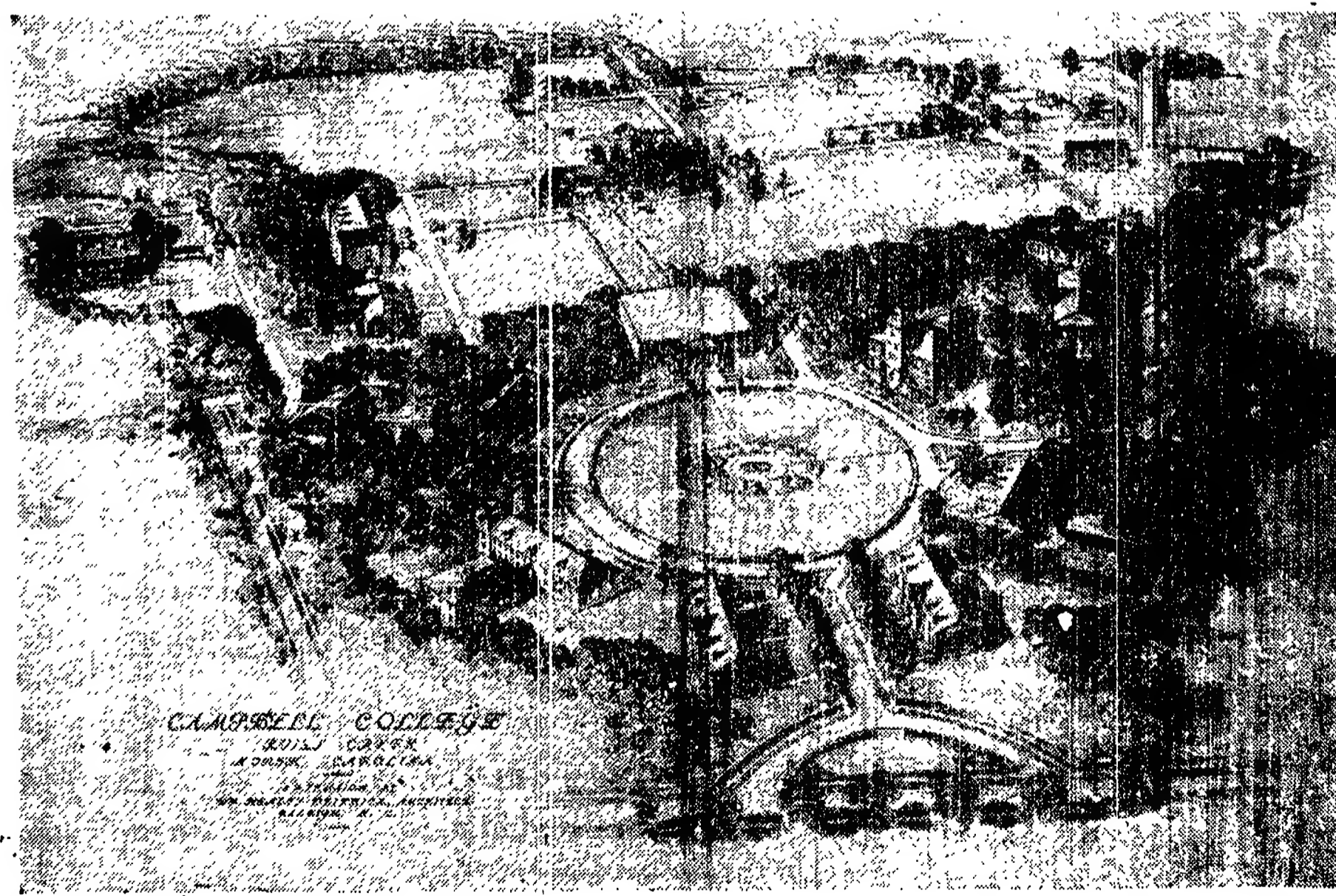
Prospect of acquiring the Campbell College plant in its entirety is held out by the possibility of such a move on the part of the Baptists reacted very favorably with the School Board members, who have grown weary of the task of selecting a site in Bule's Creek that will be agreeable to all parties.

President Leslie Campbell of Campbell College, who was present at the Board of Education meeting, was questioned by The News concerning the possibility of his school's removal from its present site. President Campbell explained that in the absence of definite information upon plans that might be adopted by the Baptist Convention, he could not advance any opinion. But he did not speak in any unfavorable terms regarding such transfer, if and when it should be made.

For some time there has been talk of the possibility of removal of Campbell College when the transfer of Wake Forest College takes place. This has been discussed both in connection with and separate from the likelihood that the Baptists will make some disposition of the Meredith College plant. Since the present-day trend is definitely favoring co-educational institutions, both Campbell College and Meredith College may be moved to Wake Forest to supplant the old institution that will be moved to Winston-Salem.

In its present stage, all this is hardly above the line of speculation, but those who have given the matter serious study feel quite certain that something of the kind will be done, and the decision to do whatever is finally done will probably be (Continued on page ten)

PROSPECT?



Prospect of the Harnett county school system being able to acquire the plant of Campbell College to add to its group of consolidated schools was brought to the front Monday morning when suggestion was made to the Board of Education that the time may not be far distant when Campbell College may be moved, probably to Wake Forest.

The Education Board, in its quest for a site for a new public school building at Bule's Creek, had been stymied for some weeks through dis-

agreement of patrons in that district over a suitable site for the new building.

It was at a special meeting of the School Board Monday morning that decision on a site was expected to be reached. The suggestion of being able to acquire the Campbell College plant put at rest all activity in regard to the site selection, and the matter was postponed till sometime after the Southern Baptist Convention to be held in May.

President Leslie Campbell was

loath to advance an opinion about the acquisition of the college plant, nor for that matter would he suggest that the college definitely may be moved. But he entertains the opinion, along with other leading Baptists, that some important move will be made in regard to Harnett's Junior College when the Baptists meet in May. The removal of Wake Forest College to Winston-Salem is mainly prompting the suggestion that the Baptists may see fit to place Campbell College on the Wake For-

est site, together, possibly, with Meredith College at Raleigh. "The Baptists have large plans for their schools in North Carolina," suggested one prominent citizen who is as much in the "know" as anyone else. "The plant at Campbell College would fit in nicely with Harnett's ambition for a junior college, a vocational, business and home economics school, centrally located. It would put Harnett's school system on the educational map in North Carolina with outstanding importance.

"GONE GOSLING"?

(By Gerald W. Johnson)
Why wriggle and squirm and pussyfoot to avoid facing the truth that in the end must be faced anyhow? Everyone in North Carolina seems to be trying to dodge the necessity of saying so, but everyone knows that the minute that Reynolds gift was made to Wake Forest, Meredith College was a gone gosling.

How could it be otherwise? In accepting the gift North Carolina Baptists accepted the responsibility of making Wake Forest worth an investment of ten millions, plus whatever may be put into the building fund. It is solely the Baptists' responsibility, for the Reynolds family merely endowed the institution. They studiously avoided making the slightest suggestion as to how it should be run. That is left entirely to the Baptists.

But common decency requires that a group that has accepted so large a gift must make an adequate return. The only return the Baptists can make is to run that college well, extremely well. The highest level of excellence it can possibly attain is the least it can do to justify the investment of so much money.

Yet if Wake Forest rises to the academic level that decency requires it to reach, it will be by long odds the best Baptist college in existence—for Brown and Chicago are both universities. Well, women are already admitted to Wake Forest and have been for some years. Is a North Carolina Baptist girl, then, likely to be content with poorly equipped,

skimpily endowed Meredith when she can just as easily attend a college, also Baptist, but among the best in the country? Not if she has intelligence enough to be college material in the first place.

The problem facing the North Carolina Baptists, therefore, is not what to do with the property at Wake Forest, but what to do with that at Raleigh. The logical answer is to sell it to the State for incorporation with the University of North Carolina branch there.

If sentiment forbids the immediate demobilization of Meredith, let it move to Wake Forest for the time being; indeed, it might serve as the nucleus for creation of a large and extremely valuable junior college that would be an eastern feeder for the college at Winston-Salem, balancing Mars Hill in the west. The name is an honorable one, not only for the record the college has made under heavy handicaps, but as perpetuating the memory of one of the early battlers for the education of North Carolina women. There is no reason why it should not be preserved as the name of a preparatory school of an excellence rivaling, on its own level, that of the college at Winston-Salem.

But it is idle to shut our eyes to the fact that Meredith is sunk, unless, indeed, Wake Forest shifts its plain duty; for its duty is to set up and maintain a standard that will put it completely out of the class of colleges that have not its opportunity.