

HERTFORD COUNTY HERALD

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DRAINAGE OF OUR SWAMP LANDS.

Since we have up the question of drainage, we might consider in an abbreviated way the drainage of some of our swamp lands, and more especially Ahoskie Swamp. We would urge upon the people of our county the great benefits that must of necessity accrue from the drainage of Ahoskie Swamp.

Surely, it is a great undertaking, but after all should the people who are interested in this work take up this matter in earnest, it would be a comparatively simple and paying proposition. Already one of the large landowners of the county, and a man who is interested in both farm and health improvement has openly said that he would give the sum of one thousand dollars to aid in this great work. There are others who have said they would aid in this project, altho they have no lands bordering on this swamp, but believing that it will be worth any amount of money and time simply for sanitary improvement, they are willing and ready to begin this work.

Consider, and seriously consider, what such a work would mean to a great number of our farmers—farmers whose lands border on the run of the swamp. These lands that are now lying dormant, not yielding one cent for the owners, are no doubt the most fertile of any lands in this county. With these hundreds of acres properly drained, and crops growing where now there is nothing but mud, cypress knees, possum hollows, and other worthless products, what a blessing it would be to our county.

Then, the pecuniary benefits are not the only ones by any means. The bad healthful conditions that have existed and at present exist along the route of this swamp would receive a fatal blow. One physician says that in several years practice he has observed a considerable increase of deaths in the sections lying next to this swamp over other parts of the county. There cannot but help exist bad healthful conditions where the water from these swamp lands finds its way into the water that is daily served upon our tables and drunk by every member of the household.

This would be a comparatively simple undertaking if all the people who would improve sanitary conditions were to co-operate with those who own these lands. Furthermore, our national congress, we believe, would give us an appropriation to be used in developing these lands. Our congressman, Jno. H. Small, is very much interested in this work, and he has had vast sums of money appropriated to aid in similar work for other counties and communities. Hyde County only a few years ago was simply a boggy, muddy, and seemingly unprofitable swampy expanse of land. Today, by the co-operation of national and local governments, and by the strenuous efforts of the public spirited citizenship of that county, these lands are today producing some of the very best corn of any section of the State. What was once seemingly waste lands are today yielding large and bountiful corn crops.

Clarence Poe, in the Progressive Farmer has the following to say on the subject of "Cooperation in Drainage Work:"

"In traveling over the upland South we constantly see farmers almost wasting their time on poor hillside while rich black bottom lands on the same farm, lands capable of producing three times as much per acre, are not in cultivation. It frequently happens that is expended on a poor hillside is not giving the laborer a return of more than fifty cents a day for his work, whereas labor expended on the rich bottom lands would pay for labor possibly two or three dollars per day in net profits. The policy is about as foolish as it would be for a man to plow with a poor ox while letting a strong Percheron horse stand idle in a

SCHOOL MATTERS IN HERTFORD COUNTY.

An Appeal by County Superintendent. Announcement of Meeting, November 5th, 1915.

1st. The writer has been making an effort to visit every school house, white and colored, in the county, the object being to ascertain the conditions and size of each house, what kind of seats the houses are supplied with, and how many children attend each school. We have a few houses well equipped for school work, and all honor to those communities that have taxed themselves or raised means in some other way in order to build suitable houses for their own and their neighbors' children, but the great majority of houses are not at all suitable for our children to be forced to spend six hours a day for five months or more each year. They are poorly lighted and heated, have very few comfortable desks, and about twice as many children attend many of them as can be well accommodated.

This is a mere outline of the condition of things with respect to the houses. I find many of the people not satisfied. They are speaking right out against such a state of affairs. It is of course impossible to build new houses all over the county where they are so sorely needed or to repair old ones in every case this year; therefore let us do the next best thing, namely, meet at our respective school houses at the call of the committee or some other interested person, some time before the schools open and clean up the grounds, clear away the underbrush, whitewash the trees, mend up the windows and seats, put in a good heater or repair and paint the old one, arrange for a good supply of pure water, and get about two gallons of floor oil and oil the floors in order to keep down the dust when the children are sweeping the floors.

2nd. The schools will open the 15th of November, and we want to have a meeting to get ready for the session. This meeting will be at Winton the 5th of November beginning at ten o'clock, a morning and an afternoon session. We are going to invite to that meeting the Board of Education, the school committeemen of the county, the attendance officers, and every person who is at all interested in the uplift of the county. Of course every teacher will be present, for no live teacher could afford to stay away.

Among the subjects of interest to come before the meeting for consideration will be "Moonlight Schools." We hope to have some one who is well acquainted with this very important move in our State to speak for us on that occasion. Let us get together on the day named and make it a good day for the schools in which our boys and girls are being trained for life's duties.

N. W. BRITTON,
County Superintendent.

Diplomatic Johnny.
John was playing in the back yard with a crowd of other little fellows. Suddenly someone said, "Let's have a party." A cordingly, each one went to his mother for something to contribute. John's mother was making cookies and gave him one for each of the others. When he came down and saw that "the other little boys brought bread and butter," he exclaimed, "O, everybody eat what they brought!"

stable. Drainage work offers a fine field for co operation among farmers, and we hope the farmers will take advantage of this opportunity to improve their farms."

We are sure the people of our county, and especially those whose farm lands border on Ahoskie Swamp, would be glad to co-operate in a movement to drain this vast stretch of useless lands. What they need most of all is someone to take the lead and show that it can be, and no doubt they would be ready and willing to support this worthy undertaking.

NATION-WIDE MEDICAL EXAMINATION DAY.

Will be Chief Feature of Annual Tuberculosis Week, December 6th to 12th 1915.

One of the chief features of the annual Tuberculosis Week which will be observed this year, December 6 to 12, will be a nation wide Medical Examination Day. This announcement has just been made by the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, which association believes that the next great step in the prevention of disease is the inauguration of an universal periodical Medical Examination.

Medical Examination Day is set for Wednesday, December 8, and will be the first effort on a national scale to urge an annual physical examination for everyone. Plans for the day include an appeal to induce everyone, sick and well, to see a doctor and see whether or not they are in good physical condition. The scheme includes also the inauguration on the part of factories, stores and offices of an annual physical examination for all employees. Thousands of anti-tuberculosis associations, other societies and dispensaries all over the country, are expected to co-operate in furnishing free examinations for those not able to pay a physician.

Tuberculosis week will end with the sixth annual celebration of Tuberculosis Sunday. Last year on Tuberculosis Sunday over 100,000 churches in the United States gave attention to the subject of tuberculosis either by sermons, talks, money contributions or exercises. This year the governors of all the States will again be asked to issue proclamations calling attention to this important means of increasing the knowledge of the public on the cause of, and means of avoiding, tuberculosis. Clubs, lodges and societies will also be asked to consider this subject at their meetings either on Tuberculosis Sunday or at some other time during Tuberculosis Week.

Prize Winners Announced in Better Babies Contest.

Ahoskie Baby Scores One Hundred and Receives Medal.

Joseph Samuel Womble Jr., of Carthage, age 36 months, again made the highest score and won the gold medal in the Better Babies Contest, held in Raleigh last week. This baby scored 100 per cent on every point and was on the day of his examination exactly three years old. This is the second time that this Better Baby has carried off the highest honor of the Contest. Last year he won the gold medal on a similar score of 100. Three other babies made scores of 100 but owing to the fact that Joseph Samuel Womble was oldest of the four and that his score varied least, the judges again awarded him the gold medal.

The babies receiving the Bronze Medals, the next highest honor, three of whom were 100 per cent babies, were: Milton R. Gibson, Jr., Raleigh, age nine months, score 100; Inez Lee Willoughby, Ahoskie, age 6 months, score 100; Edith Outlaw, Middlesex, age 17 months, score 100; Henry Clinton Watkins, Wake Forest, age 10 months, score 99.5.

The number of prizes by the citizens and various organization of Raleigh were awarded as follows: The \$25 in gold given by the Raleigh Clearing House for the Raleigh baby scoring the highest went to Milton R. Gibson, Jr. The silver cup from the Woman's Club to the highest scoring Raleigh girl went to Marie Lipford Washburn, and the ten dollars in gold from the Wake County Medical Society to the third highest scoring Wake County boy went to Gordon Smith, Jr. The gold necklace given by Thomas Blake, Jay, went to Ella Currin Rux,

INSTALLATION OF EPWORTH LEAGUE OFFICERS.

The Murfreesboro Epworth League has made a splendid record in all departments since its organization about two years ago. At the regular service Sunday night October 17th, the following officers having been previously elected were installed for the ensuing year. E. N. Evans, President, R. C. Nicholson, Vice-Pres., Miss Gertrude Lawrence, 1st Supt., Miss Elma Grimes 2nd Supt., Miss Mary Evans, 3rd Supt., Miss Sara Vaughan, 4th Supt., Miss Eva Gary Sec., Miss Thelma Nicholson, Corresponding Sec., Mrs. Vergie Wynn, Treas., Miss Elva Worrell, Era Agent, Mr. Roger Vinson, Press Reporter.

Banquet.
On Oct. 22 there was a banquet given in honor of the above newly installed officers at the home of Miss Gertrude Lawrence. The League colors, white and yellow were used in the dining room, the centre piece of marigold and white cosmos.

After the guests were seated and the blessing asked by Rev. B. B. Slaughter, the first course, fruit punch was served. Then the Toast Master, Rev. B. B. Slaughter gave us an idea of the work of the League, calling upon the President, E. N. Evans, for a toast, who responded in a pleasing manner, his subject being "Team Work," following by Vice-Pres., R. C. Nicholson, with a toast "To Epworth Leaguers," next Miss Gertrude Lawrence, 1st Supt. giving good points on the Devotional department.

Hot rolls, oysters and coffee were served, after which toasts were called for again, Miss Elma Grimes, 2nd Supt. responded, Social Service, being her subject, Miss Marie Evans, 3rd Supt., responded with ideas upon the Literary department, then Miss Sara Vaughan, 4th Supt. with a pleasing Poem on the 4th department.

After a salad and sandwich course was served, Mr. Roger Vinson, Press Reporter gave a humorous Toast "To Women," then Miss Thelma Nicholson, Corresponding Secretary, responded with a poem, "The Spirit Meeting," then an ice course with cake was enjoyed.

Miss Elva Worrell gave the parting toast, in which she expressed our enjoyment of the occasion.

The object of the banquet was to stimulate interest in and plan for League work for the coming year.

There will be a League Social for the entire League during the first week in November.

Roger Vinson, press reporter.

CULTIVATE YOUR PERSIMMONS

There came to us recently from the U. S. Department of Agriculture an illustrated communication on the subject of cultivating persimmons, which have the highest food value of any fruit except dates. The article seems to offer such worthwhile information to our farmer readers that we are publishing it elsewhere in this issue of The Herald.

This article should be of special interest to our farmer subscribers, especially to those who have persimmon trees on their plantations.

If our farmer readers will take the advice of experts, and utilize the fruit from these trees, what many of us have considered as almost worthless fruit can be made a thing of value. Learn to increase the value of farm products by heeding the advice of experts. If you have not been cultivating your persimmon trees, read this article, and begin now.

Henderson; the gold ring from Jolly and Wynne's went to Margraet E. Ford, Bethel; the silver spoon from Mabler's went to Margaret L. Washam, Belmont, and the sweater suit from Belk Bros. went to Louis Campbell Boyd, Raleigh.

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If not, we invite you to open an account today.

We will serve you faithfully.

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Better be an Ant Than a Grasshopper.

"There be things which are little upon the earth but are exceeding wise: The Ants are a people not strong, yet they prepare their meat in the summer." Proverbs 30:24 and 25.

The Squirrel has stored his granaries full of food; the Bee has all his honey put up; the Ant's food bins are full to bursting.

But the Grasshopper, the singer, the dancer, the frivolous one—what is left of him but a slow perishing from hungry, a certain doom!

Are you, like the Ant, "Exceeding Wise"? Have you money in the bank? Or will you go hungry, like the foolish, imprudent Grasshopper? After you have thought this—think of our Bank.

BE AN ANT.

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