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COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE

Plans Changed to Include Members of City Sunday Schools Outside City Limits - Idea Becoming Quite Popular.

As the Christmas holidays become nearer the interest in the community Christmas Tree grows stronger and broader. At this time there seems no doubt that the occasion will be a great one larger than was at first contemplated. These conditions are received with much appreciation by the ladies of the Civic League who launched the plan. The Sunday schools of the town have decided to not have any Christmas Tree or its like and will join the ladies in making the Community Tree a more glorious success. In this arrangement it has been decided to extend the privileges of the tree and the occasion to the entire membership of the Sunday Schools whether they live in town or not but will not be extended to any others out of town except members of the Sunday Schools of Louisburg.

Everybody in Louisburg will be extended an invitation to contribute to this fund and assist in making it one of the biggest events ever held in Louisburg.

Baptist State Convention

The North Carolina Baptist State Convention met last Tuesday night in the auditorium of the First Baptist church of Charlotte in its eighty-fifth annual session. Dr. Thos. W. O. Kelly, pastor of the First Baptist church of Raleigh preached the annual sermon from the text, "know ye not that they which are of faith, the same are children of Abraham. Gal. 3:7."

Immediately following the sermon the retiring president, Rev. C. H. Durham, of Winston-Salem, called the convention to order, and it proceeded to organize for this session.

Mr. E. F. Aydlette, of Elizabeth City, a prominent lawyer, and Judge John A. Oates, of Fayetteville, were nominated for president of the convention. Judge Oates was elected and made a most excellent president officer. Mr. E. F. Aydlette was then made first vice-president; Capt. T. S. Franklin, of Charlotte, second vice-president; Dr. C. B. Waller, of Asheville, third vice-president. President Chas. E. Brewer, of Meredith College Raleigh, and Walter M. Gilmore, of Louisburg, were made recording secretaries. Other officers were: Treasurer, Walter Durham, Raleigh; Auditor, F. H. Bridger, Raleigh; Trustees, W. N. Jones, D. L. Gore, H. C. Bridger, L. R. Pruett, F. P. Shields.

There were nearly 600 messengers present, representing every section of the State. The entertainment was on the Harvard plan, that is, the Charlotte people furnished the visitors with lodging and breakfast and they took dinner and supper at cafes and restaurants at their own expense. This plan proved highly satisfactory to the visitors. It enabled the convention to complete its work a half day in advance of the schedule.

The convention will go to Elizabeth City next year, with the Blackwell Memorial church, on the Harvard plan. Dr. Calvin B. Waller, of Asheville was appointed to preach the annual sermon, or his alternate, Dr. John Jeter Hunt, of Durham.

The outstanding feature of the convention just closed was the election of a Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Missions to succeed Dr. Livingston Johnson, who for fifteen years has held that position with great success and who a few weeks ago resigned to take effect the first of January to become pastor of the First Baptist church of Rocky Mount. The matter of electing his successor was taken up early Wednesday morning. There was a difference of opinion as to how the election should be held. Some wanted a large committee that would represent all the Associations appointed, and let the committee nominate a man for the place, while others favored electing the man in open session on the floor of the convention. The latter view prevailed. The following nominations were made, after a season of earnest prayer for divine guidance by Dr. H. A. Brown, of Winston-Salem, Rev. Walter N. Johnson, of Wake Forest; Rev. Chas. E. Maddy, of Raleigh; Rev. Chas. H. Durham, of Winston-Salem; Rev. W. C. Barrett, of Gastonia; Rev. Chas. L. Greaves, of Lumberton; Rev. R. A. McFarland, of Scotland Neck; Rev. W. R. Bradshaw, of Hickory.

Rev. Walter N. Johnson, of Wake Forest, was elected on the third ballot having received a majority of 92 votes. Mr. Johnson was a "dark horse," so to speak. Prior to his speech on Baptist Finance Tuesday afternoon before the pastor's conference very few had ever thought of him in connection with the place. But it is now thought by a large majority of those interested that he is preeminently the man. He has had a secretarial experience before, having been secretary of the State Board in Louisburg prior to this coming to be pastor of the Wake Forest church seven years ago.

At the conclusion of Dr. Livingston Johnson's farewell speech as Corresponding secretary, Dr. R. T. Vann, in behalf of 150 or more friends, presented Dr. Johnson and his faithful wife, who has meant so much to him, a beautiful chest of silver. The scene that followed was very touching. Every available handkerchief in the church

was brought into active use.

This session of the convention was considered one of the very best in the long history of the convention. While there were differences of opinion often times, yet the spirit of unity and harmony that ran throughout the entire session was most remarkable.

The State Board of Missions, which reported a debt of \$5,000 last year and it was feared would be compelled to report a larger debt this year, was able to report no debt, with a balance of \$5.75 to its credit. More than \$6,000 was expended more than ever before.

Among the representative men from outside the State the following were present: Dr. B. D. Gray, of Atlanta, representing the Home Mission Board; Dr. J. F. Love, of Richmond, representing the Foreign Mission Board; Dr. A. T. Robertson, of Louisville, representing the Theological Seminary; Dr. M. G. Eaves, of Chester, Pa., representing Crozer Seminary; Prof. J. T. Henderson, of Bristol, Tenn., representing the Layments Movement.

The pastor's conference, which was held a day in advance of the regular convention, was considered one of the best features of the convention. All the addresses and sermons reached high water mark. Dr. W. R. Cullom, of Wake Forest, who has been the efficient president of this body since its organization nine years ago, refused to let his name be presented again for president. Rev. J. Clyde Turner, of Greensboro was elected president; Dr. W. R. L. Smith, of Chapel Hill, vice-president; Walter M. Gilmore of Louisburg, Secretary and Treasurer.

That substantial progress has been made by the demonstration in this State during the past year is seen from the following statistics presented by Sunday school and statistical secretary E. L. Middleton, of Raleigh.

There is now in the State 64 Associations composed of 2136 churches, with a membership of 268,088. To this number should be added approximately 1,000 other members from 19 churches not reporting their Associations.

The past year has been a record breaker in the matter of baptisms, 17,903 having been reported, a gain of 3,187 over the preceding year and 4,639 over 1913. There were 573 churches reporting no baptisms.

In the matter of contributions to the various objects fostered by the denomination, secretary Middleton characterizes the contributing churches as "assets" while the non-contributing as "liabilities." There are 307 churches in the State that belong to the latter class.

A large number of churches contributed to State Missions than to any other object; next came the Thomasville Orphanage. A total of \$208,195.94, a gain of \$13,536.26 over last year, was contributed to all objects, including State, Home, Foreign and Sunday school Missions, Orphanage, Christian Education and Ministerial Relief. The Neuse-Atlantic, with 63 churches, leads all the other Associations in the number of churches, the Roanoke being a close second with 62 churches. The West Chohan has the largest membership, 12,628, while the Chohan Association has 10,842 members. The Pilot Mountain Association reports the largest number of baptisms this year, 750, and the Roanoke is a close second with 765. In the matter of Sunday schools the West Chohan also leads the State in the largest number of schools, though the Mt. Zion has the largest enrollment, 8,318.

The West Chohan also leads all the Associations in total contributions for all objects \$14,601.26, while the Roanoke comes next with \$12,054.23. For all convention objects, the per capita contribution is 78 cents, a gain of two cents per member over last year.

The following thirteen Associations have averaged over \$1.00 per capita: Central, \$2.03; Mecklenburg Cabarrus, \$1.97; Piedmont, \$1.70; Roanoke, \$1.70; Pee Dee, \$1.66; Neuse-Atlantic, \$1.59; Raleigh, \$1.44; Buncombe, \$1.34; Roberson, \$1.33; Pilot Mountain, \$1.24; West Chohan, \$1.15; Mt. Zion, \$1.14; Flat River, \$1.07.

The 1212 women's societies, including the Woman's Missionary Societies, Young Woman's Auxiliaries, Sun Beam Bands, Royal Ambassador Chapters, have given a good account of themselves, having contributed for all objects the past year \$48,832.53. The West Chohan leads with \$3,241.88, and the Mecklenburg-Cabarrus stands next with \$2,790.49.

There has been an unprecedented growth during the past year in the Sunday school work. There are now approximately 220,000 pupils enrolled in the Baptist Sunday schools of the State, which means a gain of 13,755 members. In teacher training there are now 3,197 diplomas, 330 red seals, and 101 blue seals. A year ago there were only 102 organized classes; now there are 435 such classes with an enrollment of 13,881. In 694 churches the Sunday school enrollment is larger than the membership.

The Baptist in the State now own three colleges and fourteen secondary schools valued at \$1,504,765. Last year there were 196 teachers and officers in these institutions, and 3,600 pupils. There are six other Baptist schools under private control.

Mr. J. G. Mills, an expert accountant of Wake Forest, is in Louisburg auditing the books of the town.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS

We Are in Need of Cash and Must Ask You To Pay Up

Aside from the fact that this has been a tight year financially with all of us, it is absolutely necessary for us to adopt some means of collecting our subscription accounts at least every two years. There are a great number of our subscribers who take pleasure in keeping their accounts paid up promptly, there are still others whose circumstances force them to become delinquent, but we have a large number who wait to be asked for their subscriptions before they offer to pay. Those of the first class we have no reference to in this, only to thank them for their valued interest in our publication. To the second class we are going to say that we have been in a tight place financially this year and it has become absolutely necessary that we ask you to assist us, with at least a part of not all your arrears. To the others we must ask them to make a settlement. To run a newspaper it takes a lot of cash, you can't pay labor with promises, and as there is no other source for us to look to except the money we have let you have on subscription and other accounts we must insist that you let us have what you owe. A newspaper man is often abused for continuing his publication after the paid in advance time was out and as all cases we have are where it was continued at the request of the subscriber, either directly or indirectly, we do not feel that we will be entitled to anything of this kind. Our leniency has been an accommodation to you, now we want you to accommodate us. You might think that because your account amounts to only a few dollars, possibly not more than one, that it is a small matter and will not amount to anything if we don't get it. It is not that. From our side it seems that anyone would make it convenient to pay a small amount to assist one who has accommodated them in the amount to get out of a financial strain. When you realize that we have a thousand or more just like you, you can see the benefits. Or don't you think a thousand dollars would assist our business?

To do this we have had to get assistance as we have all the work we can attend to in the office. So when you are called on or receive a letter let your admittance come right along. If you feel that there is an error in your dates we will gladly investigate and correct same should it be there, and the fact that we have a letter and a bill sent you is not intended for a discourtesy, but to show to you that it is a necessity for us to raise some cash.

We sincerely hope you will be as ready and anxious to assist us in the payment of the amount you owe as we have been to assist you in carrying your paper over time.

SCHOOL COLUMN

1. The School Column will not be published again before the Christmas Holidays. I hope each teacher in the county will spend a most pleasant Christmas.

2. Our teachers' meeting was held last Saturday with 71 teachers present. Most of the teachers who could not be here on that day have notified me that they are prepared for the examination and will take it in the near future. I can safely say that 95 per cent of the teachers in the county have done the work of these meetings, which is a great improvement over last year. In the general session, we completed our year's work in "Teaching The Common Branches." The teachers then divided themselves into three sections, each section concentrating its time and study on two subjects, History and Arithmetic. We feel sure that much has been accomplished in these meetings. The weather has been favorable and the roads which has been proven by the attendance. The work has been connected, something definite has been accomplished, and we have from three to five months to put into practice what we have learned. I wish to express to the teachers my appreciation for their hearty co-operation with me in this work. I believe that we have laid in the past six weeks a foundation for the best school year that Franklin county has ever known.

3. The Township representatives will meet with me in the office next

Saturday to make plans for the township meetings after Christmas. The teachers are urgently requested to send to your representative or to me any suggestions for these meetings. Do not hesitate to do this as we want the program to meet your needs.

4. When you notify a parent at the end of the week concerning the absence of a child, be sure to send your attendance officer a copy of the same. Do not forget the monthly report to the attendance officer and to the County Superintendent, for the attendance officer is dependent upon this report in notifying the parents to meet him at some designated place. The responsibility is mostly with the teachers for any action the attendance officer may take will be largely influenced by your recommendation. Let us all co-operate together to carry out this law, that the children in the county may have a chance to be in school.

5. Of what value are your trustees to you in your school work? Get these people interested in what you are doing by giving them some service to perform. How many teachers in the county have had a meeting of your trustees at the school building since the opening of your school? I believe it will be a great help to you in your work to have your trustees to meet with you at least once every one or two months and at these times to talk over the school problems in your community. Ask them to meet you an hour before school closes, let them

see and familiarize themselves with your work; after school keep them thirty minutes and go over with them different phases of the needs of the school. By bringing yourselves more closely together, you will be making for your school more earnest and sympathetic friends, ones that you can call upon in "Time of Trouble" with the assurance that they will decide with you and also share a part of your responsibility.

6. What have you done to increase the attractiveness of your school grounds? If a "Ground Inspector" were to come around how many points do you think you would score? If you have large boys you can get them interested in this work if not appoint a "School-Ground Beautifying Day" and get the people in your community to come to your aid. Many schools in the country have already done much of this work which has impressed me with its importance.

7. The schools will close Wednesday December 22nd and open the 3rd of January.

8. The teachers will please send in their reports on the moonlight schools as early as possible.

9. The County School Commencement will be on the 24th, of March.

10. In the third grade the arithmetic should be placed in the hands of the pupil. When the work of this grade is completed the child should be able to work any problem to page 155 in Milnes Book I. The following work should be emphasized in this grade:

(a) A revise of the work done in the second grade.

(b) Multiplicative facts. It may take one or more recitations to learn each fact, but be sure that the pupil not only knows but can use intelligently each one before a new fact is taken up.

(c) Multiplying by units and tens.

(d) Multiplying by three or more figures.

(e) Short division.

(f) Do not forget the daily, rapid, oral drill.

(g) Emphasize each fact learned with home problems that will be interesting to the pupils.

11. In your first, second and third grade history work much interest and valuable instruction can be obtained by observing National and State holidays.

(a) Thanksgiving Day, North Carolina Day, Christmas Day, Lee's Birthday, Washington's Birthday and etc. This work can be made interesting by such pictures as "The Pilgrims Going to Church," by construction work, having the children to draw the Mayflower, Log cabins and etc., and by telling the pupils interesting stories of the boyhood of our great men.

9 and 10 will be continued in our next column.

12. If the teachers will keep up with the assignment each week in the other Reading Circle Books you will have no trouble in completing this work by the 17th, of March.

13. The following teachers passed a satisfactory examination last Saturday on the work of the Teachers' Meetings and are therefore entitled to the certificate issued from this office:

Annie Rowe, Lucile Ellis, Lucy Wiggs, Annie J. Perry, Ruth Conyers, Rebecca Hollingsworth, Vannie Phillips, Mattie P. Green, Lucile F. Jones, Elizabeth Jones, Doris Dickerson, Bessie Fleming, Chessie Wheelson, Minda Green, Elizabeth Underwood, Mrs. H. R. Parrish, Sallie V. Harris, Lucy Bobbitt, Marvin Keith, Pearl Daniel, Eugenia Boone, Beulah Stallings, W. S. Howell, Pauline Smith, Ava Crawford, J. G. Lee, G. M. Beam, J. C. Gardner, Mamie G. Dickens, K. A. Pittman, Annie Wilder, E. L. Ward, W. D. Loy, Olivia Johnson, R. B. McBride, Lillie Leonard, Val Alston, Sallie Louise Macon, Ethel Swendell, Lola Long, Oma White, T. H. Sledge, Carrie Wright, Clara Long, Ruby Harris, Mary Mitchell, Daisy Dean, Ada Valentine, Nan Hines, Emma Gay, Eva Duke, Mary Tharington, Belle Wright, Lena Gill, Lillie Harper, Mabel Stephens, Annie Scruggs, Mrs. W. L. Beasley, Ernestine Hayes, Edna Cobb, and Clara Bobbitt.

14. I will be glad to publish any school news from any community. Let the other fellows see what you are doing.

Louisburg Baptist Church

Public worship Sunday 11 a. m. and 7:45 p. m. conducted by the pastor. At the morning hour the theme of the sermon will be, "The Leaven That Was Hid in Three Measures of Meal," at night the last of the series on "The Four-Square" will be given, "The Young Man in Religion" being the specific theme.

Sunday school 9:45 a. m. B. Y. P. U. 7:15 p. m. You are cordially invited to all of these services.

Epsom Graded School

On next Friday evening December 17th, at 7:30 o'clock, the Epsom Graded School will close for the holidays and will give a play entitled, "The Old Country Store." This play will be presented in the school Auditorium and the public is cordially invited to come out. We promise to give you your moneys worth. The admission will be 15 and 25 cents. If you want to laugh for about one hour and a half you can't afford to miss it.

Good-morning again!

AMONG THE VISITORS.

Personal Items About Some You Know And Some You Do Not Know.

Mr. Ben T. Holden went to Raleigh Wednesday.

Mrs. A. M. Hall returned the past week from a trip to Baltimore.

Mr. T. B. Suggs, of Wilson, was a visitor to Louisburg the past week.

Mr. M. C. Yarboro, of Nash county, was a visitor to Louisburg the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Holt, of Wilsons Mills, visited relatives in Louisburg yesterday.

Mrs. D. F. McKinne left Monday for St. Luke's hospital Richmond for treatment.

Mrs. G. L. Aycock leaves today for Norfolk to spend Xmas with her mother, Mrs. J. A. Goodwyn.

Mr. S. C. Foster left Wednesday to be present at the annual meeting of the Texas Oil Co., at Norfolk.

Ingleside Items.

The Woman's Betterment Association of the Ingleside school got busy again, and gave us one of the best musical entertainments that we have ever attended, on Saturday evening of December 4th. We were expecting a young lady from Elon College to give us a humorous recital, but on account of sickness she was not able to fill the appointment. Yet the Association has no apology to render whatever for the program which was rendered in the form of an "Old time Fiddlers Convention."

A two dollar and a half prize was given to the two men making the best music; this inspired the men to put forth their very best talent.

After a hot battle for more than an hour with the bows and strings, the judges rendered a decision in favor of the Holmes brothers, of Epsom, this met with a loud applause from the entire audience, which packed the auditorium.

After the musical, an oyster supper was given, which was very appropriate just at that late hour because we were all hungry.

We regret very much to note that Mr. W. C. Roberson, who has been living in this school district for the past five years, expects to move near Epsom this week, also Mr. Al Johnson who has been a patron of this school for th past three years expects to move to Louisburg soon. Our very best wishes follow these people to their new homes.

Members of the Corinth and Trinity Sunday schools are practicing on a play to be given sometime soon, the time for the play has not yet been decided on at this time. This play is developing into one of unusual interest, and we feel sure that it will be a great success, and will reflect credit upon those who have it in charge, as well as upon the Sunday schools.

Mr. Beck Resigns

Mr. R. C. Beck, who for a number of years past has been Superintendent of the Light and Water Plant of Louisburg placed his resignation before the Board of Commissioners at a special meeting held on Monday night. The resignation was caused from an order of the Board of Commissioners on Friday night wherein he was instructed to remain at the Power house in the day time and run the machinery and Mr. Beck feels that his agreement with the town was that he should Superintend the plant and have charge of outside work. Not feeling that it was his duty to take up the position as engineer with his duties as Superintendent he offered his resignation to take effect the first of January, after completing the month of December as he begun the month's work.

Mr. Beck is a first-class electrician and in his resignation the town loses the services of a competent employe. He informs us, however that he will remain in Louisburg and take personal charge of the firm of Beck & Newell of which he is a member and conduct their electrical and automobile supply business on a larger scale. They will conduct a department for all kinds of wiring for houses in addition to their other business.

Mrs. Songer Entertains

On the 9th, of December Mrs. Songer delightfully entertained her many friends in her attractive home at Fairview.

At ten o'clock the parlor doors were thrown open to her numerous friends. At 1:30 o'clock the delicious dinner was spread on a table on the lawn, the dinner consisted of barbecue, chicken, ham, pickles, custards, cakes, potatoes. Mrs. S. A. Marshburn, of Spring Hope asked the blessing, then everyone ate very heartily. After dinner they assembled in the parlor. A program had been prepared by a few of the guests. Mrs. John Bryon read a very instructive paper which was enjoyed by all, Miss Sadie Strickland and Mrs. S. A. Marshburn delightfully rendered piano solos. Miss Bernice Baker recited, "Our hired girl," which was enjoyed by all. Mrs. Clyde Brantley of Zebulon, and Miss Mabel Moore furnished us with vocal music.

Mrs. Songer is a charming hostess and has gained the love of many people in this community. She is going to return to former home in Pennsylvania in a few weeks. We regret very much to see her leave.