

Robeson County Schools Commencement in Lumberton April 9th.

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PUBLIC DEBATE FRIDAY NIGHT

Preliminary Contests to Decide Who Shall Go to Chapel Hill for Finals—Lumberton High School Boys Will Meet a Laurinburg Team Here and a Sanford Team at Sanford—Lumberton Debaters Stood High Last Year.

A public debate that bids fair to be one of the best ever held in Lumberton will be held in the Lumberton graded school auditorium on Friday night of this week at eight o'clock. The query is, "Resolved, That the United States Government should adopt the policy of subsidizing its merchant marines engaged in foreign trade."

Lumberton belongs to the triangle composed of Sanford, Laurinburg and Lumberton. This debate is held for the purpose of deciding who will go to Chapel Hill in April to enter another contest of the same nature which will decide who will be allowed to debate in the Aycock Memorial Cup contest. This contest is held every year and a cup is given to the best debater. The high schools of the State are divided up into sections and whoever wins in the preliminary debates go to Chapel Hill.

Friday night the negative side of Laurinburg's team will meet the affirmative of Lumberton's team here. The negative of Lumberton's team will uphold the affirmative against Sanford's team at Sanford, at the same time. Sanford's negative will uphold the affirmative against Laurinburg's team, at Laurinburg, at the same time.

Lumberton's line-up is as follows: affirmative, Rufus Sanderson and Robert Caldwell; negative, John Proctor and Robert McIntyre.

Messrs. Rufus Sanderson and John Proctor went to Chapel Hill last year and stood third in the contest, which goes to prove that Lumberton has some fine speakers. The boys have devoted more time to it this year than they did last year and there is no doubt but that they will give some one a tight race in the final debate at Chapel Hill this year.

Dreamed of Fire and Waked to Find It.

Fire which started from a coffee stand under which a lamp was left burning, was discovered in the rear of the Dixie cafe Friday morning about 3:40 by F. A. Crabtree, manager of the Thompson hotel. Mr. Crabtree went to the fire station and called out Mr. Jasper Rowan, driver of the fire truck, and they with Night Policeman Boyle put out the fire which had not made much headway, without turning in any alarm. Mr. Crabtree broke out a window and went into the building and secured a bucket of water and extinguished the blaze. It was a dream that averted a bad fire, no doubt, on this occasion. Mrs. Crabtree, who was sleeping over the cafe, dreamed that she opened a bureau drawer and found some ostrich plume on fire and on waking up she found her room filled with stifling smoke. She woke her husband and he began the investigation and found the fire. This dream might have saved lives, as all the rooms in the hotel, which is located over the cafe, were occupied.

Election for Lumberton High School District May 3.

Mr. A. E. Spivey was appointed registrar and Messrs. W. Lennon and J. B. Bowen judges for the election to determine whether or not a high school district should be established composed of Lumberton township, said election to be held on same day of town election, May 3d, by the board of county commissioners in special session here today.

It is a known fact that some change has got to be made in order to meet the demands for school facilities for Lumberton, and as a special registration for this election has been ordered, it is very essential that the voters fail not to register.

A summary of this bill, which if carried, will allow the board of school trustees to issue bonds and levy a special tax for maintaining the school, was published in a recent issue of The Robesonian.

Among the Sick.

The condition of Mrs. J. C. Maxwell, who recently underwent an operation for appendicitis at the Thompson hospital, is fast improving.

At the Thompson hospital: Mrs. H. G. Jones, who recently underwent an operation is getting along nicely. Miss Ada Henley of Marietta had her tonsils and adenoids removed by Dr. N. A. Thompson this morning. June Holmes, Indian, who recently underwent an operation for appendicitis, is getting along nicely. Master Shelton McKenzie, Jr., had his tonsils and adenoids removed a few days ago. He is getting along as well as could be expected. Mrs. Fred B. Johnson of Barnesville, who recently underwent an operation for appendicitis, will return home tomorrow.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Farmers Tobacco Warehouse Co. of Lumberton will be held at the Farmers & Merchants Bank Thursday of this week at 4 p. m.

HOG CHOLERA SERUM CHEAP

Appropriation Made by Legislature Reduces Cost—County Farm Demonstrator Blanchard Will Vaccinate Hogs Anywhere in County Free, Farmers Only Paying for Serum.

Blanchard has on hand a full supply of hog cholera serum and any farmer in Robeson county may have his hogs vaccinated by paying merely the small cost of the serum. Mr. Blanchard charges nothing for his services. And the serum costs less now than it did a week ago by reason of the fact that an appropriation of \$5,000 made for hog cholera work in the State by the recent Legislature has become available. The cost now of the serum to vaccinate a pig about 5 months old is only 15 cents.

The meetings held at Red Springs and Philadelphia Wednesday of last week, mentioned in Thursday's Robesonian, when State Veterinarian B. B. Flowe and Mr. T. E. Brown of Raleigh, the latter in charge of Boys' Corn Clubs in the State, and Mr. Blanchard met with a number of farmers were profitable occasions for the farmers. There were farmers at both places from all over the county, and in the afternoon Mr. Blanchard vaccinated 57 hogs in that section. He will vaccinate as many more in the same section this week. An interesting account of the impressions received on this visit to Robeson by Mr. Brown is reproduced elsewhere in this issue from Friday's News and Observer.

LATEST WAR NEWS

Relations Between Italy and Austria Believed to Have Reached Acute Stage—Airships Raid Paris But Do Little Damage—Allied Fleet Soon Will Renew Attack on Dardanelles—Bread Famine in Vienna.

The relations between Italy and Austria are believed to have reached an acute stage. A Rome dispatch says Austrian and German subjects have been advised by their consuls to leave Italy in the shortest possible time and that a number of Germans who recently arrived in Italy are being watched because of a suspicion that they are military spies.

There have been reports for some days that Germany's efforts to secure the continued neutrality of Italy by inducing Austria to cede Trent and other territory to her were not meeting with success. Italy, it was said, demanded that the territory be ceded to her immediately, but that the Teutonic allies desired to make the transfer after the war.

A Paris dispatch states that Zeppelin airships raided Paris early yesterday morning and dropped a dozen bombs, but that the damage done was unimportant. Paris is said to have remained calm while the invasion was in progress, residents of the city exhibiting more curiosity than fear. Only 7 or 8 persons were hurt.

Admirals of the Allied fleet are believed to have decided unanimously at a conference Friday to renew soon the general attack on the Dardanelles.

A Vienna dispatch of the 21st states: "Many districts in Vienna are reported to have been virtually without bread for a week. The government order curtailing production one-fourth has been repeated, but the situation is said to have shown no improvement, bakers being unable to obtain flour."

H. H. Riddle of McMillan's Siding Killed by Train.

The dead body of H. H. Riddle, about 26 years old, bookkeeper for the McMillan Trading Co. of McMillan's Siding, this county, was found yesterday morning between the double tracks of the A. C. L. Railroad one and a half miles south of Fayetteville. A coroner's inquest was held at Fayetteville yesterday afternoon and the verdict was that deceased came to his death by being struck by a train about midnight Saturday night—his watch stopped at 12:19—but recommended rigid investigation by the grand jury. Six witnesses testified that Riddle was put down from an automobile at the Holt, Margan village Saturday night and that Riddle was drunk; that two of the witnesses, Melvin and Wervale, and Riddle came back to Fayetteville in another car; that Riddle was left at the gate of a house in the red light district and that the next heard of him was the finding of his body. The occupant of the house said an unknown man tried to enter her house at that hour but was refused admittance. W. C. Riddle, father of the deceased, carried the body to his home in lower Cumberland yesterday afternoon.

Chairman Simmons of the finance committee of the United States Senate took issue Saturday with prospects of a large Treasury deficit in a statement saying his investigations at the Treasury have convinced him the deficit will not exceed \$26,000,000. There have been conflicting estimates of the probable deficit, some of them as high as \$130,000,000 and Senator Simmons decided to ascertain the real facts.

COUNTY COMMENCEMENT

Interest Increasing Daily in the County Commencement to be Held in Lumberton April 9—Some of the Contests Explained.

Interest is increasing daily in the Robeson county commencement that will be held in Lumberton April 9. It is expected that Robeson county's commencement will be far ahead of the great Bladen county commencement held at Elizabethtown Friday last week, an account of which is published elsewhere in this issue.

Supt. Pools has furnished The Robesonian the following explanation of some of the contests that will be held at the county commencement:

Spelling Contest
Words for the elementary grades will be selected from Reed's Word Lessons (Books 2 and 3). For the high school grades, Reed's Word Lessons, Book 3 and Part Four. Should there be a tie, an additional list of words will be selected and given out until the tie is broken.

Relay Race.
This race requires four boys from each school. Each school places a boy on the line with a small flag in his hand. As he is running the block, another boy is placed on the line from each school, who takes the flag from the first runner and proceeds as the first. This it is continued through the race. The school coming out ahead wins.

Potato Race.
There will be six or more potatoes put in boxes which will be placed in a row. Thirty-five yards from this line the same number of empty boxes will be placed in a row. Each contestant will have to carry the potatoes to the empty boxes, one at a time. The potatoes must be put in the boxes and not thrown on the ground near them.

Each contestant must have attended school 30 per cent of the school up to the time of the contests.

Notices of New Advertisements.

Bethune's annual educational tour of Washington will be made in June. It is for teachers and pupils.

The "Cash Store" at St. Pauls invites ladies to inspect its line of spring millinery.

"Are you looking for the tall daisies?" The Farmers & Merchants Bank asks you, and tell you how to make the violets surpass the daisies.

Bargains in real estate—L. B. Blackburn.

House for rent—L. B. Blackburn.

Coburn's Minstrels at opera house Friday night.

Pictures of uality at Pastime theatre.

Watch found.

Big 10-days' sale of furniture at Fairmont began Saturday.

Star theatre.

Pocketbook lost.

Hemp Growers and Importers Uneasy

Washington Dispatch, 20th.

A committee of hemp growers from Yucatan, Mexico, and representatives of American hemp importers laid before the State Department today an appeal for action by the United States that would terminate the revolutionary troubles between General Alvarado, the Carranza governor of Yucatan, and an opposing faction. The committee probably will discuss the situation with Secretary Bryan next Monday.

—Mr. Geo. T. Graham of Tolaresville is among the visitors in town today. Mr. Graham talks like a man who raises plenty of food for his family and stock.

WITHIN THE STATE

Items of Interest in Brief Form From All Over North Carolina.

Officials of the Southern Railway Friday applied to the Corporation Commission for permission to discontinue trains directly affecting service at Greensboro, Raleigh, Goldsboro, Durham, Charlotte, Salisbury, Winston-Salem and Wilkesboro, claiming that war-time depression makes it necessary and that the trains would be restored as soon as conditions reach normal again. The Commission has the matter under advisement and will wait the filing of detailed statements.

Burglars entered the postoffice at Chandler, Buncombe county, early Friday, cracked the safe with a charge of nitroglycerine, secured stamps and money to the value of about \$700 and made their escape in an automobile.

The twenty-fifth annual session of the Baptist Woman's Missionary Union of North Carolina will be held in New Bern March 23-26. The present indications are for one of the largest and most interesting meetings ever held.

Hickory dispatch, 20th: Garfield McGalliard, Glenn and Dewey Yount, Joe Bass, Vance Lawrence, Carl Brooks, Jodie Starnes, Ezra Rink, Dick and Frank Byers, the 10 young white boys arrested in connection with the murder of Pink Goodson, a negro 58 years of age, in his home near Hickory, last Saturday night were set at liberty at the preliminary hearing here today, the evidence introduced being insufficient to even cause the counsel for the State to ask that they or any of them be held for Superior Court.

Davidson county may issue bonds to the amount of \$300,000 and macadamize its roads, according to a decision of Judge Lyon at chambers in Greensboro Saturday. He declined to make permanent the temporary injunction he issued a few days ago enjoining the sale of bonds or other acts upon the part of the road commissioners named in the act of the last Legislature, known as the Leonard act.

Jesse C. Walker, now in jail at Southport awaiting trial on the charge of murdering Sheriff Jackson Stanland of Brunswick county in the fall of 1908, is said to be the same man who, in 1909, under the name of Paul Williams, killed a deputy sheriff in Oklahoma, where he escaped from the State prison after serving 3 years of a 30-year sentence. The identification seems to be complete.

The legislative commission which has in charge the investigation of the charges against Judge Frank Carter in the Abernethy-Carter contempt case with a view to determining whether there are grounds to warrant impeachment proceedings against Judge Carter, was scheduled to hold its initial meeting this morning in the hall of the House of Representatives at Raleigh. Mr. R. A. Dougherty is chairman of the commission.

Charlotte's first celebration of Dollar Day last Thursday is reported as being a great success. It is said that genuine bargains were offered and that thousands of purchases were made by visitors who thronged the city.

—Today at the Star theatre they will show the third episode of the Tracy O' Hearts, most thrilling yet shown. In addition they will have three other reels. Always a good comedy, a good laugh, assured daily. See their ad on another page of this issue.

BLADEN COMMENCEMENT

First County Commencement a Complete Success—Supt. Joyner Heard by 3,000 People—Practically Every School in County in Parade of 1,500 Children.

Elizabethtown Cor., 19th, Wilmington Star, by J. Bayard Clark. Beneath the stately long leaf pines which lend distinction to the grounds on which the high school building stands at this place and which self-same pines on a day gone by listened in majestic silence to a memorable contest between the immortal Vance and the forceful Settle, there formed in parade today fifteen hundred bright eyed boys and girls gathered from the schools of Bladen county and marched thence to the court house door where they were received by Dr. J. Y. Joyner, the patriarch of education in North Carolina.

This was a sight not soon to be forgotten, the kind of thing to behold which makes a man's heart beat faster, stirs within him all that is best and gives one more confidence in the future of his country than the parade of marshaled armies. And the children were not all. If 3,000 is not the correct figure for the crowd that attended first county commencement in Bladen it is erroneous only because it is too small.

So many doors were open as the only place that could be found here to accommodate the largest crowd that has gathered at this historic hill since Governor Aycock spoke here in the famous Red Shirt campaign. So, patiently and with apt attention they gathered around the court house, such of them as could be seated, and listened to one of those characteristic speeches of Dr. Joyner's, a speech which it would be useless for this feeble scribe to attempt to eulogize.

A picnic dinner was spread on the court house lawn on a table fully 300 feet long, a table laden to its capacity with such good things to eat as only the good, honest and true hearted people of Bladen know just how to prepare.

Practically every school in the county was represented by colors of every kind, and the rivalry of the keenest. It also remembered that marshals mounted on frisky steeds and bedecked in such manner as the station demanded hurried hither and thither on missions the great importance of which was known only to themselves.

There was displayed on the court house during the day exhibits from the various schools of manual art, sewing, drawing and lettering work. These exhibits cannot be too highly praised, so high an authority as Dr. Joyner passing compliments on them that will long be remembered by the schools.

In the afternoon athletic contests between the various schools were engaged in as were also declamations, recitations and theme writing. In all of these the rivalry was keen. It is not possible to give in detail here the names of the various contestants or even the winners of the prizes. Suffice it to say that each contest was largely participated in, and that not one disgruntled person was found after the result of the contests was announced.

It would not be meet to close this article without saying a word in praise of Prof. B. J. Cromartie, county superintendent, and Mrs. Jessie Lee Clark, principal of the school here, and who was in active charge of the formation of the county commencement. Their untiring efforts has been abundantly crowned with success, and success is a big word. Our understanding of the purpose of a county commencement is that it is to stir up interest in school and school work and create a friendly rivalry between schools for the purpose of developing a local pride in each school, instill in them a desire to excel and give a broader view of what others are accomplishing. If there be the purposes then county commencement in Bladen was a complete success. All in all, it was a gala day for the county and the results of this day's doings will be heard from in the future.

Missionary Day at Long Branch Next Sunday.

Missionary day will be observed at Long Branch Baptist church next Sunday (fourth Sunday) at 3:30 o'clock in the afternoon. Mr. Frank Gough of Lumberton will make the address of the occasion. The public is invited.

—Madam Eldon, the palmist, left this morning for Bennettsville, S. C., after spending some time here telling the folks who wished what had been their lot and what would be. Some were pleased and made to believe she was a wonder, while others felt like they ought to have their half-dollar back. As one of the ministers in town remarked yesterday, "Judging from the way folks had money to have their palms read, times must not be so hard after all."

J. D. Wallace, 64 years old, one of the men wounded in the pistol battle at Pageland, S. C., March 12 in which J. W. Arant was killed instantly and five others were wounded, died at the Presbyterian hospital at Charlotte Friday.

BRIEF ITEMS OF LOCAL NEWS

—Middling cotton is bringing 8 cents per pound on the local market today.

—Mr. Luther Cox is having a four-room residence erected on his lot on the "town commons."

—A little sleet fell hereabouts about noon Saturday when there was a change of weather to colder.

—Special communication St. Alban's Lodge No. 114, A. F. & A. M., tomorrow evening at 8 o'clock. Work in third degree.

—Mr. A. Weinstein returned Friday from New York, where he spent several days buying goods for his department store.

—Messrs. A. W. McLean, R. C. Lawrence and E. J. Britt will leave tonight for Raleigh to attend the Supreme Court this week.

—Lumberton Lodge No. 245, I. O. O. F., will meet in the W. O. W. Hall over the postoffice tonight at 8 o'clock. A full attendance is desired.

—Mr. Hardy Parnell of Boie was among the visitors in town Friday. Mr. Parnell got on the "God-blessed" list by paying his subscription more than a year in advance.

—Mrs. R. C. Lawrence and Miss Minnie Lennon left this morning for Baltimore, where Miss Lennon will consult a specialist. Mrs. Lawrence went for the purpose of shopping.

—Will Hall, colored, was given a hearing before Recorder E. M. Britt Saturday on a charge of stealing a half-ton of cotton seed meal. He drew a sentence of four months on the roads.

—Messrs. J. P. Newman and Shep Nash while returning from Red Springs on an automobile had a break down about ten miles from town and had the "pleasure" of walking on in. They came in on the "ankle express" about 9 of the clock last night.

—Rev. Paul T. Britt of Mt. Eliam passed through town Friday en route to Brunswick county, where he is pastor of several churches, yesterday and Saturday being his regular appointment at one of his churches.

—Mayor and Mrs. A. E. White returned Friday night from New York, where they spent some time. Mr. White went to New York to buy new goods for the department store of Messrs. White & Gough, of which firm he is senior member.

—Mr. W. M. Jackson and Miss Lucy M. Burney, both of Bladen county, were happily united in the bonds of matrimony in Register of Deeds M. W. Floyd's office by Justice Lubin Prevatt about 11 o'clock this morning. Quite a number witnessed the ceremony.

—Mr. D. R. Rhodes of Bloomingdale was a Lumberton visitor Friday. Mr. Rhodes says he has cut his cotton acreage and will not buy any fertilizer at all. He says he has plenty of the raised kind of fertilizer to make corn a plenty, with seasons and work added.

—As an insurance man Mr. J. W. Currie of Lumberton, general agent for the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company of Greensboro in this district, stands in the front row. He moved his office from Fayetteville to Lumberton just a year ago and during the time since he moved here he has sold \$275,000 worth of life insurance. Mr. Currie has an office in the opera house.

—Mrs. E. J. Ketchum, mother of Mrs. N. H. M'White of Lumberton, died at her home in Wilmington Thursday afternoon at 1 o'clock. Mrs. Ketchum had been ill for some time and her death was expected. Mrs. M'White left Thursday morning to be with her mother but she died before Mrs. M'White could reach her. The interment was in Wilmington Friday evening. Those attending the funeral from here were Mr. and Mrs. N. H. M'White and son.

—The basketball team of the Lumberton graded school met the Fayetteville basketball team at Fayetteville Friday in a game of basketball. Lumberton was defeated by a score of 64 to 4. This defeat was due to the lack of team work, however. The Fayetteville team will come to Lumberton at an early date for another game. The girls are getting in trim for this game and expect to prove that even though they were defeated in Saturday's game, they will be victorious in the next game.

—The Pastime theatre offers its friends two pictures today in which will be seen two Lumberton favorites. Alice Joyce will be featured in "Nina of the Theatre," a 2-reel Kalem, and Francis X. Bushman will be featured in "Trinkets of Tragedy," a 2-reel Essany. Miss Joyce won first prize in the popularity contest in the Motion Picture Magazine, Christmas, 1914, also finished second in popularity contest which closes in April issue of the Ladies World. Mr. Bushman won a first prize in the hero contest in the Ladies World in 1914, and now stands second in the great artists contest running in Motion Picture Magazine. These twoplayers are among the very best in the movie world.