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LUMBERTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING

Advocates of Proposed High School Held Well-Attended Meeting at Court House—Large Number of Women and Children as Well as Men in Attendance—Music by High School Orchestra—Enthusiastic Speeches by Citizens—Two High School Boys Plead Cause of Children—Resolution Will Explain to Indians That They Will Not be Taxed—Another Meeting Will be Held Friday Evening.

Women, children and men in number just about sufficient to fill the court room assembled at the court house Thursday evening to show their interest in the proposed high school for Lumberton township. Music for the occasion was furnished by the Lumberton high school orchestra, earnest and enthusiastic speeches were made by several citizens, and altogether it was a most delightful meeting, profitable and encouraging to advocates of the high school. The influence of this meeting will be felt in the election which will be held May 4 on the question of creating of Lumberton township a high school district, issuing bonds therefor in the sum of \$20,000, and levying a special tax—a small tax—for the support of the same. And another meeting in the interest of this proposition will grow out of this meeting.

President J. P. Russell, of the Chamber of Commerce, presided, calling the meeting to order at 8:30 o'clock. "America," led by the school orchestra and sung with a will by the audience, was the first thing on the program. Mr. Russell then explained the purpose of the meeting.

Pres. Russell Explains Object. If bonds are not voted for the township high school in May, he said, there will be no high school in Lumberton next fall. We should strive to do all we can to prevent this, Philadelphia—Philadelphia has become famous and a shining example through its school, and through no other city—draws from a radius of 5 miles and those who saw the exhibit of that school at the county commencement April 9—"I can't see," he said, "how they can oppose this proposition." He conceded the honesty of those who oppose, but he believes they are mistaken. Mr. Russell called on Supt. R. E. Sentelle of the Lumberton graded and high school, to explain the situation full.

Situation Explained by Supt. Sentelle. Prof. Sentelle is intensely interested in this matter and plunged right into the subject. The proposed township high school is not for the purpose of enlarging the Lumberton graded school, as some have progressed to believe. It is to be a township institution, to be voted by the people of the township, and not a cent of the bonds or tax money can be taken for the graded school. It is to put high school facilities within the reach of every boy and girl of the township—and they have a right to this, he shouted, which assertion was greeted with hearty applause. Mr. Sentelle paid his respects to the argument some are using, that this would levy a tax on the people in the rural districts and would be of no benefit to them. He has never seen an instance, he said, where the people in the rural districts failed to take advantage of high school facilities when they had them. Very few high school pupils in the township, outside the town, it is argued. This, he submitted, is an argument in favor. They will then have something to look forward to. They will come. There are high school pupils in the school here now from the rural districts. They get to school on time. What's 5 miles to a pupil past the lower grades who wants an education? There are more tardy pupils among the town students than from the country. The present high school has graduated almost as many pupils from the rural districts as from the town. They are taking advantage of the opportunities now and paying tuition.

The trouble is now, they have been maintaining a high school in the graded school. The lower grades have become top-heavy and they must be divided next year. The high school must be moved out of the graded school. Then there will be no high school facilities in the township. This will not only push out the Lumberton boys and girls but the pupils of the township outside Lumberton. There are 125 boys and girls on the high school roll now and doubtless there are many more—how many is not known—who are not attending because conditions make the work unsatisfactory. There are boys and girls from the township away at school now who ought to be in a school here. There are others here loafing about who would be in school if high school facilities were available.

Asking No New Thing. Other townships in the county have these advantages, Mr. Sentelle pointed out. The boys and girls of this township are just as worthy as the children of other sections. Nothing more is being asked for than is done in other townships. "I challenge any man," said Mr. Sentelle, "to show me a township anywhere in the State—in the South—in the United States—that can compare with this township in wealth and population that is without high school advantages."

Shall People of This Kind Dictate? "We should not be taxed," say some, "for high school purposes. Give children elementary grades and let them go—if they are of any account they will go to college any way." Prof. Sentelle has no patience with an argument like that. "Can you take boys and girls of high school age and turn them loose to find their way to college? Shall people with views like this," he inquired, "dictate the educational policy of this community?"

Let White Folks Settle It. Referring to the fact that Indians have registered for this election, Mr. Sentelle declared that the white people ought to be allowed to settle the question without the interference of the Indians, which statement was greeted with applause. They are qualified voters and cannot be kept from voting, but they are exempt from taxation for this proposed school, they will share neither the benefits nor the burdens of the tax, and they have no moral right to say whether the white people shall vote to provide adequate school facilities for their own children.

May Defeat Boys and Girls. "Some have boasted that they would defeat me," said Mr. Sentelle. "You may defeat the boys and girls of this township," he declared, "by voting down this proposed school, but you will not defeat me." He quoted United States Commissioner of Education P. P. Claxton, who boldly declared in a speech the other day that every boy and girl of high school age is entitled to high school facilities, that pupils are spending too much time in the elementary grades and not enough in the high school.

Faith in People of Lumberton Township. Supt. Sentelle closed by saying that he has faith in the people of Lumberton township that they are not going to vote against a worthy measure of this kind. "Carolina" and Selections by 'Orchestra.' After Mr. Sentelle's speech "Carolina" was sung by the audience, led by the school children. Then the high school orchestra rendered a selection. Mr. Russell had announced that the orchestra had in engagement elsewhere and wanted to play at that time instead of later, so that they might go. The selection rendered carried the audience away and the audience, each and several, made up its mind, severally and collectively, that it—they—would have more music out of that orchestra than any other if the orchestra missed its other engagement. The applause was insistent; it would not be denied; and the orchestra was accommodating. Another piece was played, the same being enjoyed immensely, and Mr. Russell thanked the orchestra on behalf of the audience for the excellent music. The orchestra is composed of the following:

High School Orchestra. Miss Mayce Glasgow, directress; first violins—Misses Margaret Pope and Vashti White, Robt. Caldwell, Harold Humphrey; second violins—Misses Evelyn Sentelle and Viola Jenkins; first cornet—Miss Glasgow; second cornet—Hazel Carlyle; trombone—Abner Nash; drums—Rufus Sanderson; piano—Miss Carrie Mae Hedgpech.

High School Heartily Favors. Mr. T. L. Johnson, attorney and member of the county board of education, was next called upon by Mr. Russell. Mr. Johnson said that this matter is not one that appeals to him from a personal standpoint—but from any selfish motive—but because it is for the good of the community. The proposed high school would be a community asset; the community will be at least \$40,000 richer when it spends \$20,000 for a high school. Lumberton township will be infinitely better off when it has such a school.

No Sound Arguments Against. Mr. Johnson said that while some of his good friends were opposed to this matter he had heard no arguments against the establishment of the school that appealed to him. The argument that the present facilities of the graded school are not sufficient for this is a township proposition, entirely separate, and distinct from the graded school, as Prof. Sentelle explained. Then there is the argument that it will increase taxes. Mr. Johnson said he has often thought that it was unfortunate the American Revolution turned upon the question of taxation, for there has been prejudice against taxation from that day to this. This prejudice against taxation in this State explains the difference between the wealth of some other States and the comparative poverty of this State. We spend in North Carolina about \$6 per capita for education; Virginia spends \$12; Michigan spends \$30; Minnesota spends \$25; North Dakota spends \$35—North Carolina spends less than any other State except South Carolina and New Mexico. Mr. Johnson said he was struck with a remark made by Mr. F. F. Wetmore—who came to Robeson a few years ago from a Western State—a remark made on the street in

Complaint Has Come to The Robesonian about people tying stock to trees. The Robesonian is asked to ask folks please not to do it. A colored woman last night said that she had just had to go out and take away from a young oak that she has raised with care from an acorn a mule that had been tied to it by its thoughtful owner when there was a regular hitching post near by. So please don't do it. Tie to the post instead.

Among the Sick. Mr. T. C. Barnes, who was operated on some time ago for head trouble, is able to be out again. Mr. P. P. Green is able to be out again after being confined to his room for a few days with tonsillitis. Mrs. P. J. Israel of the Jennings cotton mill had her adenoids removed by Dr. N. A. Thompson at the Thompson hospital Friday. She is getting along nicely.

TOWN PRIMARY TOMORROW

Mayor, 3 Town Commissioners, Chief of Police, 3 School Trustees, and Board of Audit and Finance to be Nominated—Candidates. Tomorrow is town primary day in Lumberton, and judging from the number who have their hats in the ring it will be a day of much work. The following men are either making the race or allowing their friends to make it for them:

For mayor—A. E. White, present incumbent; and W. A. McPhaul, incumbent; W. A. McPhaul. For chief of police—H. H. Redfearn, present incumbent; E. S. McNeill, P. P. Green, W. J. Britt; D. P. Walters.

For town commissioners, three to be elected—K. M. Barnes, A. S. King, W. S. Wishart, J. E. Bullard, C. M. Barker, M. N. Folger, D. B. McNeill, Woodberry Lennon. School trustees, three to be elected—C. V. Brown, L. T. Tawansend, Geo. L. Thompson, H. B. Jennings, E. L. Holloway, E. J. Britt.

Audit and finance committee, three to be elected—Frank Gough, H. M. McAllister, W. S. Britt, all present incumbents. Had it not been for the fact that the town commissioners met Saturday afternoon and extended the time for candidate to fire their names for 6 o'clock Friday afternoon to 6 o'clock Saturday afternoon, a good many of the above aspirants would have been prohibited from having a chance to win or lose, as up to 6 o'clock Friday evening no names at all had been handed in to the primary managers for school trustees, only two—Redfearn and Walters—had entered for chief of police, and only four—W. S. Wishart, A. S. King, C. M. Barker and I. E. Bullard—had entered for town commissioners.

The name of Mr. L. R. Varner, present chairman of the board of graded school trustees, was handed in for that board but Mr. Varner has had his name taken down. He declines to run, standing by the statement made some time ago in The Robesonian to the effect that he would not be a candidate to succeed himself.

Now the lists are closed, and, brethren, you will please select the candidates of your choice tomorrow and vote for them.

Warehouse Containing 250 Bales of Cotton and Residence Burned as Result of Being Struck by Lightning—The Misses Morgan Moved Out of Residence Day It Was Struck—Water Cooled High—Shannon News Notes and Personal Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Shannon, Apr. 23—A severe electric storm, accompanied by wind, hail and rain, passed through this section Wednesday afternoon beginning about five o'clock and lasting for several hours. The cotton warehouse of Messrs. John A. and M. H. McPhaul was struck by lightning and burned down. It contained about 250 bales of cotton, all of which was burned. This loss was partly covered by insurance. The residence of the late James H. Morgan was also struck and totally destroyed by fire. No one was injured owing to the fact that Misses Mary and Alice Morgan, who had been living in this residence alone since Mr. Morgan's death, had moved to Red Springs that day. Some furniture that had been left in the house was burned, too. We understand that there was some insurance. Water courses are very high and have been causing some inconveniences in traveling. There has been some uneasiness concerning the Raft Swamp crossing between here and Red Springs but it is still passable. Mrs. Mary Klapp and Miss Bertha Hasty were visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Klapp recently.

Mrs. R. J. Smith is visiting at the home of her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Alf. H. McLeod, of Lumberton. Mr. Raymond Corbett of Ivanhoe was a visitor here today. Mr. Otis Parish of Clio, S. C., visited friends in this community Sunday. Mrs. Watson, who had been visiting her brother, Mr. D. D. Hinson, has returned to her home in Rockingham. Little Miss Harriet Ella McPhail of Red Springs has been visiting at the home of her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Currie.

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EFFORT TO BREAK ALLIES' LINE

Engaged in Deadly Contest With Teutons—Conflicting Claims Made—Gas Bomb Defended—Germans Transfer Large Number of Troops to West—The Dardanelles—Italy and Greece Still Debating. London Dispatch, 25th.

The German rushes in Flanders and the Woeyre, where they claim considerable successes, are believed to be forerunners of another big effort to break through the allied lines in the west. For many days Belgium has been under the observation of the British, while German reinforcements are being moved to the south to take part in the new offensive, which they hope to carry them to Calais. The attack in Flanders, originally levelled at the British lines held by the Canadians, on the immediate right of the French and here for two days the men from the Dominion have been engaged in a deadly contest with the Germans. The Germans claim further progress toward Ypres and that British counter-attacks have been repulsed.

The French, on the other hand, declare the allies' counter-attacks, since with success, and that the British hold all their positions, and meet the charge that the Germans are using bombs containing asphyxiating gases. The Franfurter Zeitung justifies the use of these missiles on the ground that the allies have done likewise.

The German attack in the Woeyre or in the Meuse hills, was directed against the French positions south-west of Cambrai, and, according to Berlin, the French suffered a heavy defeat. Paris, however, says that in a counter-attack the Germans were driven out of the French first line, which they had pushed back.

These offensive movements by the Germans have been made possible by the state of the ground in the east, where operations are virtually impossible until floods have subsided. Taking advantage of these conditions, the Germans transferred a large number of troops to the east to make another big effort, which shows they are not content to rely on a passive policy.

It is believed that a half million more German troops have reached Flanders, and that more guns and material are to be used than were provided for the original attempts to break the allied armies in the west—attempts which met with failure both in August and in October.

In the meantime the eastern front is enjoying a period of comparative calm, except in the mid-Carpathians, where the Russians continue to attack the Austrians in Uszk pass and to the eastward, where the Austrians and Germans are trying to crush the Russian flank. Both sides report successes.

Operations in the Dardanelles still are apparently confined to the bombardment of the Turkish entrenchments, while preparations are being made for landing the allied forces, part of which is already on Turkish territory at Erzer and other points.

Italy and Greece continue to debate what steps, if any, they will take, and Rumania, it is believed, waits on Italy's decision. It is stated that Austrian and German diplomat, at Rome are prepared to recommend acceptance of Italy's terms, but are waiting for instructions from Vienna, which has the last word. Greece, too, is considering terms which, however, came from the allies, and Athens is torn by divided opinion, adherents of ex-Premier Venizelos demanding immediate intervention and the government supporters insisting that the integrity of the country must be guaranteed before Greece takes up arms. An Athens dispatch tonight says that a decision is expected some time this week.

Legal notice of mortgagee's sale of land—E. M. Johnson, commissioner, Johnson & Johnson, attorneys, Program Star theatre. White-faced black Spanish roosters for sale—Leon Edge. Field peas, all varieties, for sale. "The Master Mind" at Pastime theatre April 30. Legal notice of re-sale by mortgagee—J. L. Shaw, mortgagee, Johnson & Johnson, attorneys. Purse containing money lost. Dwelling house for rent—Frank Gough. Tobacco plants for sale—W. G. Pope. 4-room house for rent—Wright J. Prevatt.

Philadelphus School Commencement This Week. The Philadelphus high and farm-life school will close Friday of this week. The commencement exercises will be held Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Mr. Thos. L. Johnson of Lumberton will deliver the literary address Friday. The exercises as a whole will be very highly entertaining and no doubt will be attended by large crowds. Mr. W. T. Sanderson has opened up a fruit and cold drink business in a small metal building, Chestnut and Fourth streets. Good middling cotton is bringing 9 3-4 and middling 9 1-4 cents per pound on the local market today.

LUMBERTON BOYS WIN

Borough's High School Boys at Conway. Lumberton won out in the debate held at Conway, S. C., Friday night with the Borough high school. The query debated was, "Resolved: That the United States Should Adopt the Policy of Subsidizing its Merchant Marine, Engaged in Foreign Trade." Messrs. John Proctor and Robert McIntyre upheld the negative for Lumberton while Messrs. Stokes King and Howard Little upheld the affirmative for Boroughs. The debating was fine on both sides and it was a hard matter to decide which side did win. After much consideration, however, they decided in favor of Lumberton. It will be remembered that this is the same query that was debated in the preliminaries for the Aycock Memorial Cup contest, Messrs. Proctor and McIntyre won out in the first preliminary at Chapel Hill on the negative side.

The boys were accompanied by Prof. R. E. Sentelle. In speaking of the people of Conway, Prof. Sentelle complimented them highly. They were exceedingly nice to the Lumberton boys and did everything possible to make their stay pleasant for them.

FAIRMONT NEWS LETTER

A Near-Serious Accident—Fishing Time—"Hard Times" Over—Persepolis.

Fairmont, Apr. 23—We came very near having a serious accident a few days ago, when a little boy on a bicycle collided with an automobile at the intersection of two streets. No one was to blame. It was a matter of thoughtlessness upon the part of the boy. The scare it gave the parties concerned, as well as the lookers on, was the worst harm done.

Fishing is engaged in very extensively by the sporting class. Good luck grows the efforts of some, only to start more poles flubbing, but it is by fishing like other things; one doesn't always succeed.

The proverbial hard times are about to afflict themselves to the people of the people to them—anyway, folks have quit talking so much about that, which is much better for all, because bright hopes and bright prospects are not helping to take a double dose of "blimey" at the hands of every fellow in the town.

John Andrews is off for Raleigh to take a special examination before the State Board of Undertakers in Henderson, which session is on May 4th.

Miss Evelyn Braswell, who is home on a vacation from Florida is taking the place of Mr. E. Fisher as operator in the railroad office here, while Mr. Fisher is in Port Tampa, Fla., taking in the sights, and sweating off the recent town campaign. You see, things got pretty lively here in a friendly way, and now that the decision has been made, everything is moving on as before and everybody is hurt.

We are glad to be able to say that all the sick previously mentioned in this department are doing well.

W. W. W.

Looking After Tobacco Warehouse. Mr. E. O. Bransford of Wendell, this State, was here Saturday with a view to making contract for managing the tobacco warehouse here during the sales season this year. While no definite arrangements were made it is expected that Mr. Bransford and Mr. E. W. Harris of the same town will conduct the warehouse. Mr. Bransford was favorably impressed with Lumberton and the chances for building up one of the best markets for the "weed" in this entire section. Mr. Bransford is the father of the Mullins, S. C., tobacco market, known as one of the very best in the South Carolina belt. He thinks that prices will be high for good tobacco this year.

Basketball Game This Afternoon—Baseball. The Lumberton baseball team defeated the Jennings cotton mill team Saturday afternoon 13 to 4. The feature of the game was the pitching of Glover, Lumberton has a fine ball team and with a little more practice it would rank with the best. The Lumberton basketball team will meet Carolina College here this afternoon at 5 o'clock. It will be remembered that Lumberton defeated this team in a game at Maxton some time ago.

Rubbed With Gasoline. Near Fire: Burned. Mrs. Geo. Tedder, who lives at the Jennings cotton mills, was severely burned last evening when gasoline which she was rubbing on one of her legs to relieve rheumatism caught from a fire near which she was standing. She was several feet from the fire. Her clothes also caught, but the fire was extinguished by a daughter who was nearby. She is resting as well as could be expected today.

John Henry Singletary, Aged Colored Man, Passes. John Henry Singletary, colored, aged 75 years, died Friday morning at 4 o'clock of paralysis. Deceased was an honest and industrious man and had many friends among both races. He had been Dr. H. T. Pope's driver for a number of years.

BRIEF ITEMS OF LOCAL NEWS

Mrs. W. L. Riddle sent to The Robesonian office Tuesday some radishes raised in her own garden. Callie Wilkins, age 22, Indian, of Wade, who had been in the Thompson hospital here for some time, died Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock of acute Bright's disease.

Mrs. H. M. Bensley was called Thursday to the home of her parents near Goldsboro on account of the illness of a small sister and brother, both of whom have pneumonia.

Mrs. Ola Lamb, who last January applied for a divorce from her husband Walter A. Lamb of Lumberton, leaves today for Raleigh, where she has accepted a position as stenographer.

Elizabeth Osborne Whaley, 8 months in weight, was born on the 14th inst. to Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Whaley at Jeffries' Heights, Fletcher. The proud father is a son of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Whaley of Lumberton.

It is thought that two attempts were made last week to burn the colored graded school building. Tuesday night and again Wednesday night fire was discovered in two different rooms and extinguished before great damage was done.

Rev. J. F. Gorrell and Mr. M. G. McKenzie returned Friday night from Mt. Pisgah, Harnett county, where they attended Presbytery held in that place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The next Presbytery will be held at Hamlet.

Mr. C. B. Mears, who has been mentioned in recent issues of The Robesonian, about two weeks ago drank witch hazel in which bichloride of mercury had been dissolved, was able to be out Friday and it is now thought that he will recover.

The Star theatre entertained the fifth and sixth grades of the graded school Friday afternoon from 2:30 to 6:30, showing 5 reels of motion pictures. It entertains two grades every Friday afternoon and will continue to do so until the entire school has been entertained.

Mr. S. H. Williams of Marion, S. C., passed through town Saturday on route to Atlanta, Ga., where he will spend some time visiting relatives. Mr. Williams said he could not get a better "road show" anywhere than the town. There it's one of the very best.

The principal of the Oorum high school asks The Robesonian to say that it has been decided to change the charge for the concert which will be given by that school tomorrow evening from 25 and 15 cents to 45 and 19 cents. The Wednesday evening exercises will be free to all.

"Business has been very good for this season of the year for the past two weeks," was the remark of a Lumberton merchant Friday. Judging from the appearance of things generally the Lumberton merchants seem to be enjoying a good spring trade, and the beauty of it is the fact that most of it is cash business.

Free seeds all gone. Many more could have been given away. As soon as The Robesonian came out last Monday with a brief mention of free seeds, garden and flower seeds, sent by Congressman Godwin and this office for distribution, folks began to come for them, and many called during the next few days. The last one of the packages was taken Friday.

Chestnut Street Methodist Sunday school now has an excellent orchestra. It played for the first time at Sunday school a week ago yesterday. It is composed of the following: G. E. Ranee, Jr., director, and alto; Miss Georgia Whitfield, piano; Misses Claudia Davis, Vashti White and Viola Jenkins and Master Harrell Humphrey, violin; Rudolph Thompson and Honey High, cornet; T. S. Golden, French horn.

Rev. Thomas Wytche of Albemarle has been a guest since Saturday at the home of Mayor and Mrs. A. E. White. He preached yesterday morning and last evening at Chestnut Street Methodist church upon the invitation of the pastor, Rev. Dr. W. B. North. Mr. Wytche's father, Rev. Ira Wytche, was pastor of the Methodist church here some 40 odd years ago, when the church was included in the circuit which embraced the county. The church then was located on what is now Water street, near where Mr. J. H. Floyd lives. Mr. Wytche and his father's family are remembered by many older residents of the town. He will leave for his home this evening.

At the Coast Line depot in Wilmington Thursday 500 pints of whiskey were seized by the police. It was shipped as dry goods to one B. R. Richardson, believed to be a mythical person. The discovery was made because one of the bottles was broken and the odor of corn liquor filled the air. "Blind tiger" whiskey is understood to be worth \$1.25 a pint in Wilmington now, so the shipment seized is considered worth the rise of \$600.

Col. A. H. Boyden of Salisbury has been elected president of the North Carolina Soldiers' Home at Raleigh to succeed the late A. B. Andrews.