

CLOSING DAY AND PICNIC AT SMALLS

A GLORIOUS GALA OCCASION Messrs. J. F. Taylor and Norwood L. Simmons Make Splendid Educational Addresses.

THIS SCHOOL A CREDIT

The commencement exercises of the graded school in the Small district, Highland township, took place yesterday. There was also a picnic on the grounds. There were a large crowd present, estimated to be over 800.

Mr. B. D. Rowe, in appropriate language, presided. Mr. Taylor, who made a lengthy talk on education, was followed by Mr. Simmons, who spoke on the growth of the rural school. After his speech a tempting repast, consisting of barbecue, ham, bread, and other meats, was afforded.

After luncheon, all returned to the schoolhouse where Mr. Norwood L. Simmons was presented, in ornate style, by Prof. John Paul, principal of the school. Mr. Simmons spoke for an hour on education, picturing the advance of civilization from the dark ages to modern times. The speeches were highly complimented. Small's graded school is a credit to the public school system of Beaufort county. Her work is not another argument for country graded schools. The influence for good has been far-reaching in that community and the people are rallying to its support.

MENDAL SUSMAN CELEBRATES DAY

Entertains in Honor of His 11th Birthday With a Hay-Ride.

Master Stephen Mendal Susman, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Susman, was at home yesterday afternoon from 2 to 5:30 to his many playmates and friends. The occasion was the celebration of his eleventh birthday. Games and other pleasures were indulged in, and the afternoon highly enjoyed. After refreshments had been served Master Mendal announced he had another treat in store for those present, viz. a hay-ride. This announcement came as a great surprise, for the little boy had already entertained so lavishly and charmingly. A drive was taken through all the principal streets of the city and out in the country. The party returned about 5:30 and bid farewell to Master Mendal after expressing great pleasure in being permitted to enjoy his hospitality. The young folk were in high glee and will always remember the occasion with pleasure. The following were present:

- Elizabeth Carrow, Dorothy Brown, Richard Bonner, Julia H. Bright, Corina Corden, Jack Oden, Carrie L. Work, Belle Bright, John Carter, John K. Hoyt, Jessie McCullen, John O'Hayon, Evelyn Jones, Norma Jones, Grace Jones, William Bailey, Richard Cherry, Ernest Clark, William Jackson, Emma Lea Chanocy, Della Price, Eleanor Berry, Cassie Lewis, David Bell, Edward Forbes, Charles T. Harding, Edmon Cradle, Willie Johnson, John Johnson, Lloyd Lewis, Miss Lewis, Arthur Kesseney, Roy Rosenger, Evelyn Ross, Edna Rayburn, Beth Baughman, Madeline Work, Josephine Bowen, Taylor, Howard Brown, Adeline Harris, Ram Mount, Leonard Mount, Miss Howard, Elizabeth Smith, John Cutler Taylor, Ethel Taylor, Beth Taylor, Isabel Warren, Elizabeth Sumner, Abner Sumner, Elizabeth Sumner, George Leach, William Leach, Rufus White, and many others.

MR. H. E. HODGES WRITES HIS REPLY

Answers Attack on Him by Editor W. K. Jacobson Recently.

Washington, N. C., September 1, 1909. Editor Daily News: Enclosed you will find my reply to W. K. Jacobson, you can publish it and send me a statement of the cost and I will pay it.

I had no thought of wounding the feelings of little Jakey when I wrote the article asking for information in regard to the road law, but I have heard it said that the hit dog always hollers, and judging from the way that little Jakey hollered he must have been hit very hard.

I asked the question for the benefit of all the voters and taxpayers in the township, and when you said in your comment upon my article that asked W. K. Jacobson and Hon. F. B. Hooker for an explanation of the law that the explanation would be for the benefit of all concerned upon the question at issue. But the article of little Jakey was more of a personal abuse of me than an answer or explanation of the law.

I don't think the public is especially interested in Jakey or myself, and as for his abuse of me, I have become accustomed to it, and I can say of a truth that I hold no malice against him, for I do not think he is responsible for what he says, for I feel that he belongs to that class for which our Saviour prayed when He said "Father forgive them, they know not what they do," and as for my politics, no one seems to be interested in that except little Jakey, and I fell safe in the exercise of my political opinion, because I know this government will never be controlled by men the majority of whom will be possessed of a little intellect and that has a little regard for the feelings of others as little Jakey.

He says he drew the law. I think no one will doubt his word about that. If they will read the act as it stands on the statute books for it compares favorably with his explanation of the law, the petition will never be presented to the Honorable Board of County Commissioners, and the election will never be held upon any such absurd and unjust legislative act. One of the leading men in getting up the petition and who circulated the petition to the extent of securing between 500 and 800 signatures, says he will not give the question any further consideration, and that it was the most absurd, foolish and unjust law he has ever read.

This man is one of our best and most prominent citizens in this community, and a leading Democrat, which goes to show the editor of The News was right in saying that this is not a political question. He thinks that one of the first questions that Jakey will ask when he knocks at the parlor door and old St. Peter opens unto him, will be "Is there any Democrat here of the Jakey stripe?" and if the answer should be no, we think we can see little Jakey taking his departure to that country from whence none have ever returned.

One would judge from Jakey's closing words in his article that the reason he introduced such a foolish act was on account of the poor negro. He reminds me of a man I once heard talking against public schools. He said he was opposed to public schools on account of the negro, and was willing to let his own children grow up in ignorance in order to keep the negro from being educated. And Jakey's closing words sound to me like a man willing to keep the burden on the poor white man's shoulders and make him continue to work the public roads and pay his taxes extra for the same purpose. You can't work a hardship upon the negro without making it just as tough on the poor white man, who has to do manual labor.

I shall continue to do what I can against the present system of working the public roads, or any supplemental act like chapter 561, Public Laws of 1907, that Jakey says he drew and which I do not dispute. I will write these two verses for Jakey's education: If I vote, a ticket of freedom, He would turn me from my cabin called home, And brand me a blood-drawing Anarchist And threaten me with the judgment to come.

But at last across the dark pathway The light is beginning to fall, And it comes from the Socialist army Will Jakey hear and answer the call? Respectfully, H. EDGAR HODGES.

BIG RECEPTION FOR DR. COOK

An Elaborate Affair Being Planned at Danish Capital.

Copenhagen, Sept. 4.—A reception international in its interests is being prepared for Dr. Frederick A. Cook, the American discoverer of the north pole, who conquered the mysteries of the North and is expected Saturday on board the steamer Hans Egede bearing proofs of the authenticity of his claims, after having planted the American flag furthest North and claimed sovereignty for the United States over 30,000 square miles of unexplored regions of ice and rock. Danish scientists and others interested in the exploration of the American are anxious to welcome Dr. Cook and get from him the proof of his claims.

The American legation was crowded all day and thousands of telegrams from all parts of the world were received and are being held for the explorer. Tourists from every corner of the continent and Great Britain are hurrying here to take part in the welcome.

Another Message From Cook. Geneva, Sept. 3.—The Antarctic explorer DeConte, attending the scientific congress at Zermatt, received the following cable yesterday: "Reached north pole—April 24, 1908. Discovered land in far north." "Frederick Cook."

CONDITION OF COTTON CROP

Said to be A Way Below the Normal—Comparison by States.

Washington, Sept. 4.—The crop reporting board of the bureau of statistics of the United States Department of Agriculture estimates from the reports of the correspondents and agents of the bureau, that the average condition of the cotton crop on August 25, 1909, was 52.7 per cent of a normal, as compared with 71.9 on July 25, 1909, 76.1 on August 25, 1908; 73.7 on August 25, 1907; and 73.6 the average of the past ten years on August 25. Comparisons of conditions by States follow:

Table with 3 columns: State, Aug. 25, 1909, Aug. 25, 1908. Rows include Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Tennessee, Missouri, Oklahoma, and United States.

STREET IMPROVED. The Street Commissioner with a force of hands has been engaged for the past several days cleaning up gutters, etc., on Market Street, which adds considerably to its appearance.

IS OUT AGAIN. Ray, the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse L. Warren, who has been quite sick with fever, has so far recovered as to be out again to the delight of his playmates and friends.

CLEVER ARTIST HAS RETURNED

Mr. W. A. Baker, Photographer, Hon. From Richmond.

Mr. W. A. Baker, Washington's up-to-date photographer, returned last night from Richmond, Va., where he attended the twelfth annual convention of the Photographers' Association for Virginia, North and South Carolina. The sessions of the body were held in the Jefferson Hotel and auditorium and was well attended by the artists from the three States.

While there, Mr. Baker purchased a New Century Camera, being the one used at the association. This camera is a wonder. It gives the operator the option of taking as many sittings as he desires without having to go to his dark room each time. Mr. Baker is always abreast of the times. He had an exhibition at the Association of his fine work. The prizes for the best work exhibited were given to Mr. Baker. His photographs will be published in the next issue of the News.

ARR MOVING. Mr. Rufus S. Phillips and family, who have occupied the Warren residence in Washington, D. C., for a long number of years, are moving to one on the corner of 14th and D streets.

SHOULD CLOSE PROMPTLY AT ELEVEN O'CLOCK

ALL WILL BE BENEFITTED Merchants of City Ought to Shut Store Doors Saturday Night an Hour Earlier.

The Washington merchants have always been fair and just in all their dealings with their patrons, as well as their employees. There is no town in North Carolina where there is more magnanimity shown by the business men. Every head of a firm or place of business, in this city, when shown to their satisfaction a thing is good and just, not only for themselves, but to those in their employ, they like men at once rectify their previous error and adopt the suggestion. This rule has never been deviated from in their management and dealings. The citizens of Washington and employees have no complaint to lay at the door of the merchant, both wholesale and retail. They are a body of men that sit in no small way toward carrying forward the town. The News doubts if there is a set of men anywhere that extends more leniency and favor and for this every person feels grateful. When the petition to close up the different stores at 6 p. m., was carried to the heads of the business houses, they readily and without protest signed it, and have kept their promise faithfully, with some few exceptions. The News will always commend the right, as it does in this instance, and in doing so, the paper wishes to call the merchant's attention to another item that should receive careful and undivided attention. This suggestion can work no hardship, but it will be a scheme, if successfully carried out, that will work to the advantage of all concerned.

What is the need or use in keeping open the different stores of the city after 11 o'clock Saturday night? If all the business houses of Washington would come together and adopt a rule to close promptly at 11 o'clock it would not only work to an advantage to employ, but also to the employer. Both would retire to their respective homes an hour earlier, and all given some chance to get a good rest from their hard day's work. To work from 6 a. m. to 12 p. m. is a hardship, and should be done away with, especially when there is no reason or justice in the present method. If all the merchants of the city would resolve to close an hour earlier Saturday night, the patrons would abide by the rule and do their reading before this hour. In the week days the stores have a certain hour for closing and The News believes, in fact, knows, all are satisfied. This being true, why wouldn't closing at 11 Saturday nights work out to the same satisfaction.

Some of the wholesale merchants already have resolved, and do close their places of business promptly at 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon. They realize their employees have worked hard and faithfully all the week, and desire to extend to them some courtesy. Their trade has not been one cent less since this policy was adopted. All the wholesalers should imitate this plan.

All the wholesale merchants should close at 4 o'clock Saturdays, and the retail merchants and all others should have their week's work ended promptly at 11 o'clock on Saturday nights. If this rule is decided upon it would work to the mutual advantage of all concerned. Suppose it be given a trial.

ANOTHER CARGO

Schooner Arrived This Morning With Merchandise For Wholesalers. The schooner Mary Galliard arrived this morning from Norfolk, Va., with a cargo of general merchandise for the wholesale firm of E. R. Nixon & Co., and the other wholesale merchants in the city. The schooner is now engaged in unloading her cargo.

NORFOLK EXCURSION

About fifty people left here on the special cars for Norfolk this morning. There were several cars extra which were well filled along the road.

WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT

Invitations have been received in the city to the marriage of Miss Mary Kyle, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Brown, of Salem, Va., to Mr. O. W. Brown, of Richmond, Va., on September 11, 1909.

TOOK NO CHANCES

Left Lawyers in the Midst of Argument of His Case. Fayetteville, Sept. 1.—W. J. Johnson, being tried in Cumberland Superior Court for snatching, shipped his bond last night after court had adjourned.

THREE RECORDS ARE BROKEN

New York, Sept. 4.—Three new ocean records fell to the Cunard liner Lusitania on her latest trip from Queenstown which ended last night. The Lusitania made the passage in four days, eleven hours and forty-two minutes, thereby clipping three hours and eighteen minutes from her fastest previous time. She maintained an average speed of 25.85 knots for the entire voyage, beating the Mauretania's record of 25.84, and finally by landing her passengers at the Cunard pier shortly before 8 o'clock last night she became the first liner to dock on the fourth day out from Queenstown.

LARGE SUPPLY OF BIVALVE

Oyster Season Bids Fair to Surpass All Others of Recent Years. There are assurances of an abundant supply of oysters during present season. The natural beds in the creeks and sounds are well stocked with oyster growth, and the planters, The News is told, have a considerable supply of the bivalve.

LARGE METEOR FELL AT ASHEVILLE, N. C.

Asheville, N. C., Sept. 4.—Blazing with amazing splendor, a large meteor formed a brilliant spectacle of the skies for late pedestrians on the streets last night. The meteor passed over the Federal building and midway in its flight it became a glowing ball of fire about twelve inches in diameter to the naked eye.

TAX ASSESSMENT IN THIS STATE

An Increase of Over Sixteen Millions in North Carolina.

Raleigh, N. C., Sept. 4.—That the tax assessment valuation of all corporations in North Carolina, including railroads, telephone, telegraph, light, street railway, banks, building and loan associations and general private corporations aggregate \$188,299,995, a total increase of \$16,590,403, is the official announcement just made by the Corporation Commission, this work of assessment as to corporations generally having been in progress for the past three months with attendant special interest in connection with the work of fixing the corporate excess of private corporations of which there are upward of 3,000, and the assessment of the capital of banks and insurance companies.

The general assessment of railroads takes place only once in four years, so that this time there was merely the addition of appraisements of extensions and adjustments made necessary by physical changes and changes in equipment. The assessments of the various classes of corporations and the increases as compared with last year follow: Railroads, \$86,345,553, increase \$764,799; Telephones, telegraph, electric light, street railway and similar semi-public corporations, \$7,774,544, increase \$372,391; Bank stock, less real estate owned, \$16,892,831, increase \$1,392,527; Building and loan, \$1,683,711, increase \$50,028.

Private corporations in which insurance companies are also included, \$72,302,356, increase \$19,919,707. These assessments are being certified now to the registers of deeds of the various counties for the collection of taxes on the basis of these assessments. It is interesting to note that Guilford has the largest assessment, the amount being \$6,793,117, with Mecklenburg second with \$5,960,107. Some of the other county totals are: Buncombe, \$3,768,325; New Hanover, \$2,095,381; Forsyth, \$3,307,304; Craven, \$1,582,745.

POSTOFFICE HOLIDAY

On account of Monday being Labor Day and a general holiday, the general delivery window at the city postoffice will only be open from 11:30 to 12:30 and from 7 to 7:30 p. m. The carrier windows will observe the same rule. Patrons of the office will take notice.

HORSE TAKES FRIGHT AT DEPOT

A horse belonging to a Mr. Williams of Shelburne, N. C., and attached to a buggy, took fright at the Norfolk and Southern depot this morning and dashed up the street toward Second street. In running he managed to clear himself of the vehicle. The animal with parts of the harness hanging on went up Second street at a rapid pace. Just before reaching the residence of Mr. W. J. Floyd he threw the sidewalk and came near injuring Mr. Floyd's child. The runaway was stopped at the Washington Horse Exchange stables.

TO START NEXT WEEK

To Begin the Erection of Bungalow in Nicholsonville at Once. Dr. L. H. Mann is having material hauled on his lot in Nicholsonville next to the home of Solicitor H. S. Ward, to begin the erection of a bungalow, which he will occupy when finished.

OFFERS DR. COOK \$250,000

New York, N. Y., Sept. 4.—A theatrical manager of this city sent a cable message tonight to Dr. Cook offering him \$250,000 for 250 lectures on his experiences in the far North.

A WOMAN IS SEVERELY INJURED

While working for a week on the street, a woman was severely injured by a horse-drawn carriage. She was taken to the hospital and is expected to recover.

PROF. MACLEAN WILL SPEAK

He will Address the Young Men's Christian League Tomorrow.

The Young Men's Christian League will have their regular Sunday afternoon meeting at the Chamber of Commerce rooms tomorrow at 4 o'clock. The speaker for the occasion will be Prof. H. H. MacLean, formerly principal of the Washington Public Schools, now superintendent of the schools at Arden, N. C. Mr. MacLean is a most attractive and interesting speaker, and a large crowd should hear him. The ladies are especially invited to be present. Good music.

CHURCH DIRECTORY FOR TOMORROW

First Methodist Church, West Second street, Rev. M. T. Plyler, pastor. Services morning and evening at the usual hours. Preaching by Rev. T. N. Ivey, D. D., editor of the North Carolina Christian Advocate, Raleigh, N. C., both morning and evening. Sunday school, 9:45 a. m., C. F. Bland, superintendent; E. R. Nixon, assistant. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening. All cordially invited. Seats free. Excellent music.

Christian Church, East Second street, Rev. Robert V. Hope, pastor. Morning subject, "The law a schoolmaster." Evening subject, "Kadesh-barnea." Bible School at 4:00 p. m., J. B. Latham, superintendent. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening. All strangers cordially invited to any and all services. Seats free.

First Presbyterian Church, Olden street, Rev. H. B. Bearright, pastor. Services at 11 a. m. No service at night on account of the absence of the pastor. Sunday School at 9:45 a. m., Jno. B. Sparrow, superintendent. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at the usual hour. All invited. Good music.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Boner street, Rev. Nathaniel Harding, rector. Morning prayer with sermon at 11 a. m. Evening song at 6 p. m. Sunday School at 9:30, C. H. Harding, superintendent. Good music. Seats free. All welcome.

First Baptist Church, Market street, Rev. J. A. Sullivan, pastor. Sunday School, 9:45 a. m., S. P. Willis, superintendent. Subject of lesson, "Paul's Farewell." 11 a. m. morning worship. Sermon subject, "How We May Know God." 3 p. m. evening worship. Sermon subject, "Who is Going to Heaven?" 8:45 p. m., Lord's Supper. Monday, September 6th, 5 p. m., Sunbeam meeting. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at usual hour, led by the Junior Baracas. 8:45 p. m., choir practice. Excellent music. Polite ushers.

The oftener you look back the faster you don't go. A girl seldom refuses a man unless she is reasonably sure he will propose again.

HANGING NEW CABLES TODAY

The Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company are engaged in placing their cables for the new exchange. They started yesterday in hanging three 200-pair cables. The cables run from the central office to the corner of Main and Market street where they will be distributed out. A two 200-pair cable is to run from the central office to the corner of Main and Gladden streets where the distribution will take place.

QUESTIONS HAS ARISEN ON ACCOUNT OF COOK NOT BEING AN OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF UNITED STATES

Washington, Sept. 4.—When Assistant to the Attorney General Ellis, of the Department of Justice, was asked if he believed the United States could legally lay claim to some 30,000 square miles of territory at and surrounding the north pole, as reported, has been discovered by an American citizen, not an official representative of this government, he said: "This is the most remarkable question that has been asked me since I have been connected with the department of justice. It is a question quite naturally, which has never come up before, and the possibility of its ever being raised even, has never been considered in the history of man. I would not venture to give any opinion on the subject whatever at this time. Why don't you ask the Department of State about it? They are particularly interested."

Rear Admiral William S. Cowles is acting secretary of the navy during the absence of Assistant Secretary Winthrop, who left for New York last night. When asked if he thought the United States could lay claim to some 30,000 square miles of territory surrounding the north pole by reason of its reported discovery by Dr. Cook, he was inclined to treat the question in a jocular spirit. "It's pretty early in the morning to ask a question of that sort," he said, laughingly. "Why don't you ask the polar bear up there what they think about it? They are particularly interested and ought to have something to say about it. Speaking officially, I know nothing that really would come before the Navy Department for consideration, although, of course, the department would be most deeply interested in the subject."

Another high navy department official, whose name may not be given, was also disposed to view the question from a humorous standpoint. "Why not ask the general land office people what they think about it? They ought to be particularly interested," he said in reply to the question. "When the suggestion was made that the general land office has troubles of its own just at present and is not looking for more, the official in question said: 'Well, Ballinger and Pinchot seem to be greatly interested in land questions just now, and so should be in a position to speak about lands with authority. They might even give an opinion as to who is entitled to any coast lands that may be located at the north pole.' When Assistant Secretary of State Adee was asked by a reporter for the American News Service what claim the United States could legally make to some 30,000 square miles of territory contiguous to the north pole, he said that in view of the fact that the question is chiefly a legal one, he preferred that it be answered by the legal advisers of the department. The discovery of the north pole by an American, he said, was a matter upon which every American has good reason for self-congratulation."