

To Judge a Man's Character, First Find the Food Upon Which His Brain Feeds--Good Reading Makes Good Men

THE OLD LOG SCHOOL HOUSE NO MORE YET ITS MENTION BRING HAPPY MEMORIES

School Houses 30 Years Ago and Now. Teachers Were Then Paid so Much a Head to Teach the Three "R's." Buildings Were Rudely Constructed of Logs With No Modern Equipment as Now

Dear Editor:—I would like to submit a short discussion relating to Public School development to the readers of this paper, especially to those who are teachers, for the success of the school depends very largely upon what sort of a teacher it has. The public schools of Newbern County have taken wonderful strides in the upward way, since thirty years back. It was no strange thing, even twenty years ago, to see school buildings in a more but, made of logs. The cracks of such an "educational center" were drenched with clay. The room was heated by a fireplace which occupied nearly the whole of one end of the building. The scanty supply of light came through an opening in the side wall, caused by the removal of a log; parts of the building would sometimes be punched out to give more light when needed. The seats were simple benches made of boards and had no backs. These were so high that the children's feet seldom touched the rough floor, which was made with boards, also having wide cracks between them.

A provision was made for writing which consisted of a long plank some ten or fifteen inches wide. This was fastened to the wall just below the opening. This rude contrivance served as a writing desk for the entire school.

Such a school was usually kept by a teacher who agreed to instruct the children in spelling, reading, grammar, arithmetic and writing. Sometimes Geography was taught. The teacher charged a certain amount of money per head for his work, which was paid by the patrons of the school. The teacher did not have to be examined in order to teach such a school. However, our fathers and grandfathers usually got their education in this type of school. Really very few of them ever got a large share of knowledge. A good reason for this is the fact that schools were few and far between. It was a common thing for children to walk a distance of five miles to school and five miles back home. People did learn one thing by attending these primitive schools, and they could apply the knowledge exceptionally well, too—the art of walking.

But the day of such schools has gone by, save for a few exceptions in the more remote and obscure corners of the state. Teachers, what has brought about this marvelous change in the school work of the state? Why has our state expended such large sums of money in the creation of thousands of new schools? And, why has it become necessary for teachers to undergo an educational test before they are rightfully qualified to teach such schools?

In answer to the first question I will say that our state assembly plainly saw the condition of the state as regards educational qualification. This honorable assembly saw, too, what such a feeble equipment would lead to. They were strongly convinced that something must be done to better the deplorable condition of most schools then existing. To remedy the awful defect, and to promote the much needed advancement along

the track of knowledge. The state voted large sums for the exclusive purpose of building more and much better schools throughout the state. From this fact has arisen the great demand for more and better teachers. Not only has the state established rural schools from border to border, where the children may get instruction, but at a number of points it has established colleges where the teachers may, by attending, be more efficiently prepared for their work in imparting knowledge in the rural schools.

You will all agree that the schools should be supplied with only good teachers. Every school wants the best teachers that can be had. Since only good teachers are desired in the schools, it has become necessary to test teachers for the purpose of determining their fitness for so responsible a position.

Dear fellow teachers, I fear that scarcely a one of us realize the intense responsibility resting upon us as teachers. Many of us do not stop to think that the nation's future lies at our disposal. The idea that we are training boys who will be governors, congressmen, senators and presidents seldom fills through our minds.

It rarely occurs to us that the girls who take our training will become instructors in every field of educational development—that they will become teachers, preachers, doctors, lawyers and the like. Do we, as teachers, appreciate the importance of the foundation upon which the mountains of human usefulness will rest? And do we realize that we cannot be too careful in the building of this foundation? I fear some of us do not, and yet we all know that only too well the most useful citizen is he who can accomplish most and serve his country best, and this would be impossible were it not for the right sort of foundation.

We teachers constantly find ourselves grumbling about our salary. Hardly one teacher in twenty will admit that they are paid well enough. This is because they do not weigh their work in the balances of worth. I must confess that in my judgment there are many of us who deserve more money, but I do not lose sight of the fact that some of us are overpaid. Many of us have left undone what we should have done as regards our duty. In the first place I would ask: "Have we acquainted ourselves with the existing conditions of our respective schools, and adjusted ourselves suitably? Secondly, have we done all we might in getting the children to attend school regularly, and have we been as thorough in the presentation of the subject-matter as we might? Thirdly, could we not get better results from our school room labors if we would unify our efforts more firmly in the promotion of education?"

We are proud to say that there are few counties whose public school systems are better than ours. Let us unite steadfastly in the work of making our school system one of the best in the state.

VICTOR G. WILLIAMS.

BOY ASSAULTS LAWYER IN COURT ROOM

Shaken From Rear End of the Court Room and Assaulted Lawyer Who Was Once Running His Mother; Six Now Requested to Plead Guilty

Port Worth, Texas, Feb. 19.—"That's insulting," exclaimed young Lynn Boyce, as lawyers for the defense in the recent trial questioned his mother today. Thrusting from the rear of the court room young Boyce charged for the examining attorney. His attack was compelled to intervene before the youth was ejected from court.

Mrs. Boyce was on the stand for the state in the trial of John Paul Cook, accused of the murder of Captain A. O. Boyce. The murder grew

THE BALMY DAYS OF SPRING BRING THOUGHTS OF REST AND RECREATION

Washington Offers Attractive Rest Spots for Tired Tollers—An Ideal Ground for Pic-Nics and Excursionists—Boating, Bathing and Fishing May be Done to While away the Hours.

Had it ever occurred to that we most wish for. The many of our people that it imprisoned denseness of the crowded cities would give days of rest just to be able to rest one day in just such a spot as is found in Washington Park, along the Pamlico.



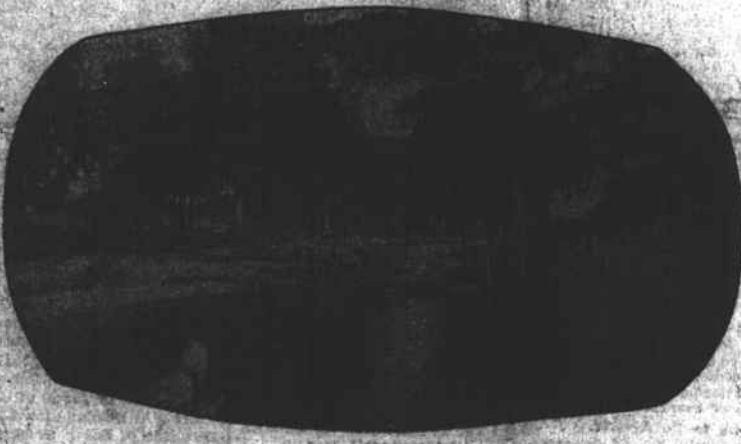
A PLEASANT PASTIME.

Here one may take his canoe, or have his pleasure launch and sport in the placid waters of this beautiful river. Should he desire to fish, it is only a few moments out until he finds good fishing. Tiring of this mo-

notory, he may bathe his tired body in its pure waters, and return to childhood and make "frog houses" and play upon the sandy beach.

There are farmers' gatherings, Sunday school picnics and various

outings that are sometimes perplexed as to where to go to have an outing. We are sure the city of Washington will join us in impressing upon all such that no more beautiful spot exists under the sun than can here be found.



A COOL AND SHADY SPOT.

There are delightful shade trees, cool breezes and ample room for any gathering that might wish to visit this city. But—Washington should make it known that we have this delightful spot, without money and without price, and that whomever will, may come, and that we will extend to them a hearty welcome.

Through the courtesy of Mr. A. C.

Hathaway, we are permitted to make this broad statement, and we sincerely believe that as the season of excursions approaches, we should make an effort to divert every such outing to this city. All such advertise the town, and instead of costing us a cent, they will scatter a few pennies here and there. Then those of us who may chance to stroll down along the beach while the strangers are here

guests will have an opportunity, perhaps, of meeting some of them and impressing upon their minds that Washington would be a good place to make their permanent abiding place. How would it do to let the railroads place Washington Park upon their advertising matter as a place of recreation to which all excursionists are welcome. All these little things help.

TEN THOUSAND ACRES TO BE DRAINED IN CRAVEN

Interesting Steps Taken by the Citizens of a Neighboring County to Reclaim Their Fertile Areas.

Newbern, Feb. 19.—The people in the vicinity of Dover, Craven county, are making remarkable progress along the lines of industrial development and are setting an example that should be followed all over North Carolina, where agricultural lands are unproductive because of a lack of drainage.

The board of drainage commissioners of the Moseley creek drainage district has just awarded the contract for the construction of about fourteen miles of drainage canals, the purpose of which is to drain about ten thousand acres of fertile swamp land, which up to this time has been practically valueless for agricultural purposes. This soil, which is to be reclaimed from its overgrown condition, is as fertile as any land on the Atlantic seaboard, and the immense value of the improvement can hardly be appreciated by one who is not familiar with the great agricultural possibilities of the swamp lands of eastern Carolina.

The enterprising people of this community have availed themselves of the opportunity afforded by the

North Carolina drainage law to embrace their lands in a drainage district and issue bonds to pay for these improvements. They had the district established in accordance with the law and employed an expert drainage engineer to make a complete survey of the district and draw up plans and specifications for the necessary canals. Then they issued bonds in the sum of \$45,000 which have been sold to the Newbern Banking & Trust Co. at a handsome premium. The fact that these bonds were sold to a local firm at a price above par is a flattering testimonial as to the value of these bonds as an investment and it further shows that the people of this section are alive to improvements and progress and that they are not dependent upon foreign capital for financial backing.

The district is the first to be established in this immediate section of the state, and too much credit cannot be given to the progressive men who have given their best efforts to making the proposition a success. They have set an example that should be followed by all progressive communities in North Carolina and especially in the eastern section, where thousands of acres of the most fertile lands in the world are now lying in idleness because of being too wet for cultivation, and which when reclaimed will make of eastern Carolina the garden spot of the world, a position which it is eventually to hold by reason of its unequalled resources of soil and climate.

The drainage commissioners are Messrs. C. V. Richardson, J. H. West, and W. H. Waters. Mr. Richardson has the honor of being chairman of the board and for this position he is an ideal man because of his splendid business qualifications and progressive ideas along all lines of industrial development. The engineer for the district is Mr. R. R. Eagle, civil and drainage engineer of Newbern, and who has handled the work so satisfactorily that the commissioners have elected him superintendent of construction in charge of the entire work.

The contract was let on the entire work to the Brett Engineering & Contracting Co. of Wilson, who were the lowest bidders. This firm has done the greater part of all the drainage construction in North Carolina and is splendidly equipped with all modern dredging machinery for the handling of this class of work.

PEOPLE YOU KNOW COMING AND GOING

Miss Lillian Hill is the guest of relatives and friends in Philadelphia.

Geo. Bowers, of the firm of Bowers-Lewis Co., left today for a two weeks stay in New York.

CAPTAIN AND MRS. LEACH ENTERTAINS VISITORS

Friends of Captain Leach From Key-stone and Empire States are Entertained at His Hospitable Home.

Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Leach very pleasantly entertained at their beautiful home on West Main street, last evening quite a large company, complimentary to their guests.

Mrs. Leach entertained her Bridge club. There were various games indulged in. Mrs. M. H. Bonner was the most successful, having made the highest score. George Washington score cards, and other decorations were used suitable to the season.

After the games were played the hostess, with her attractive daughter, and bright sons, Masters George and Richard, served delicious refreshments in four courses.

Among the visitors and invited Mrs. Sinks, Scranton, Pa.; Mr. and Mrs. Rainau and son Ned, Wilkes-barre, Pa.; Mr. Wallis, Elmira, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Dumay, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Gorham, Mendames D. T. Taylor, M. H. Bonner, J. B. Moore, A. D. MacLean, A. Q. Guilford, H. H. Jenkins, L. L. Knight, J. C. Rodman, J. B. Fowle, W. C. Rodman, B. G. Moss, W. C. Carter, J. H. Hodges, E. W. Ayers, Morris Fremont and Misses Julia Hoyt, Bettie Harvey, Elizabeth Mayo, Mary Cowell, Mary Wright, Annie Cox, Jennie Cox, and Messrs. Cecil Fisher and Frank and Dick Cox of this city.

BRIEF NOTES OF INTEREST GATHERED HERE AND THERE

Tomorrow being Washington's birthday, the post office will observe Sunday hours.

We are in receipt of a postal from Mr. T. R. Tyer informing us that the governor will not be at Gaylord on the 23rd instant as advertised.

Adm. Wednesday and the beginning of the Lenten season.

Two Shakespearean plays are booked for this city next week by a company of fifteen people. A matinee performance producing the Merchant of Venice and in the evening rendering Hamlet.

The largest number of shad came into the market yesterday that has been seen here this year.

Owing to tomorrow being Washington's birthday, the Public Library will be closed all day.

IN JUDGE BRAGAW'S COURT.

In the case of Moore vs. Bonner, which consumed the greater part of Monday and a portion of yesterday, the jury awarded the plaintiff a verdict of \$125.

Mr. P. Q. Bryan was admitted to the bar and the oath administered in the presence of the Bar Association of Washington.

One divorce case, colored, was disposed of, that making the third for the two days court.

Court adjourned with the case of Stille vs. Washington and Vande-meer railroad company in progress, which was resumed on convening this morning.

MR. SMALL EXPLAINS.

Denies He Used Department Agents Improperly in State.

Washington, Feb. 20.—Denial was made in the house by Representative Small, of North Carolina, that he had ever used expert lectures of the agricultural department in his district for political or campaign purposes.

Mr. Small called attention to the statements made by Chief Engineer Wright, of the Florida drainage service, that his report on the everglades investigation had been delayed because he had been detained in Mr. Small's district.

ONE OF THE BEST.

While all of Mr. Latham's articles on progressive farming are good, in our opinion the one which will appear in tomorrow's issue is the best yet. It deals with the selection of the seed, which is as important, if not more so than any other one feature of the operation.

WEATHER REPORT.

Rain this afternoon and probably tonight. Colder tonight. Thursday generally fair and colder. High south, shifting to west winds.

NEW BERN WAXES WROTH AND HOLDS A GREAT MEETING

INCENSED AT BAKER BRYAN'S ACQUITTAL A PUBLIC MEETING IS HELD AND RESOLUTIONS PASSED.

THE JURY IS CONDEMNED

THE CITIZENS PLEDGE THEMSELVES TO NEVER AGAIN SHIRK JURY DUTY—A STINGING RESOLVE ADMINISTERED.

New Bern, Feb. 20.—One of the most unusual demonstrations ever witnessed in this county was pulled off at the court house last night.

Never before during the writer's recollection has the court house been filled with such an enormous crowd of representative business and professional men.

The meeting, which was called by circulars, was for the purpose of condemning the verdict of the jury in the Baker Bryan case.

When the court house was filled to overflowing, Mr. S. M. Brinson called the meeting to order and asked that Mr. L. H. Cutler, Sr., be called to the chair. He was unanimously elected chairman of the meeting. The members of the daily press present were elected as secretaries of the meeting.

Mr. Brinson thereupon read the following resolutions:

Whereas, This community has watched with interest the proceedings in the trial of Baker Bryan for murder, and anxiously awaited the verdict of the jury in this important trial, and

Whereas, To the surprise of all who heard or read the testimony and to the dismay of all who are interested in the enforcement of law and suppression of vice, the jury rendered a verdict which sets at liberty the said Baker Bryan and which encourages and—in a measure—justifies the distrust of the jury system as we have it administered.

Resolved, By the citizens of New Bern—assembled in Mass Meeting—that the verdict, as announced, meets with our unqualified disapproval.

Resolved, That occurrences such as this are the legitimate consequence of a series of lesser crimes committed openly and flagrantly in this community which have gone unpunished.

With every failure of law enforcement in minor cases, the criminal element has received comfort and gained assurance, and progress in crime, which has culminated in murder, is due to laxity of law enforcement.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this meeting that officials of the city and county, who are charged with the duty of enforcing our criminal laws, should more diligently and faithfully perform their duties, and that the law abiding citizens of the community—instead of shirking jury duty and other obligations of citizenship—should lend moral support and give physical aid to the officers of the law in the discharge of their duties.

Short talks were made by Messrs. J. B. Blades, Dave Brinson, Rev. Dr. Carter, Rev. J. B. Hurley, Dr. L. Duffer, Dr. Summerville, Rev. H. A. Merfeld, Mr. W. R. Barrington, H. B. Craven, F. S. Ernul.

IF EVER A MAN WAS EXCUSED YOU ARE

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 20, 1912. Editor Washington Daily News, Washington, N. C.

Dear Sir:—Sometime ago some one told the Governor that your paper desired an advanced copy of his recent speech in order that you might publish same, and me instructed me to send you a copy.

I regret to say that in some way it slipped out of my mind at the proper time and that I failed to send it. The fault is entirely mine and I trust you will pardon me for this oversight.

Yours truly,
ALEX. J. FIELD.
Private Secretary.

It is "unknown" to us, Mr. Field, if "someone told the governor" this, and we would like to add that you are more than excusable. We are not prepared to speak for those papers to whom you did send it.