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No. 52

### THE CORN GROWING CONTEST.

Chas. F. Phillips of Randolph Won First Prize in the Boys' Competition.

Following is the report of the contestant and affidavits certifying to its correctness. A fuller account of this contest will be published in the Courier next week.

The acre of land that this corn was grown on was broken on April 2nd 1909, about 10 inches deep, the land having been in corn the previous year.

Land harrowed April 15th, then plowed with double plow April 16th plowing in 1,700 pounds of lime, then the top was smoothed off with log drag, then the land was run off 4 1-2 feet wide and planted on April 12th, ten inches apart using 100 pounds of guano to the acre. On April 30th a tremendous rain fall caused the land to bake to such an extent that the corn had to be planted over on May 8th, running planter in same furrow. Owing to the continued heavy rainfall the corn was ploughed at the following irregular intervals:

Ploughed with a single plow May 14 and 16th, which was just as corn was coming up. Chopped out May 24th; ploughed with single plow May 28; ploughed with walking cultivator June 14th. At this plowing the corn was fertilized to the extent of \$10.00 worth, including all former application with \$8.33, cotton seed meal guano, manufactured by the Southern Cotton Oil Co. of Charlotte N. C.

Ploughed with walking cultivator June 19th, 28th and July 5th. The production of the 135 bushels was at a total cost of \$26.50.

**Boys' Contest Report.**  
Thomasville R. F. D. No. 4.  
November 2nd, 1909.  
Mr. T. B. Parker, Demonstrator, Raleigh, N. C.

Dear Sir:—We, the undersigned, certify that we measured the acre of land on which Charles F. Phillips grew the corn for which he is contesting for one of the prizes offered by the State Department of Agriculture to the boys making the most corn on one acre of land. The plot of land is 98 yards long and 50 yards wide, containing 4900 square yards. We have made a diagram of the land on back of this report. We have also measured or weighed the corn, and find he made 7560 pounds of sound dry, merchantable shelled corn on the acre. It is our belief that all the corn measured grew on the acre of land above described. The report below, signed by the boy and his parent or guardian, is in our opinion, correct.

Respectfully submitted,  
J. A. Varner,  
Joseph Hancock,  
L. O. Phillips,  
Randolph County,  
Township, Tabernacle

#### Report of Contestant.

This is to certify that I, the undersigned, cultivated the above described acre of land as per my application filed with Mr. T. B. Parker, Demonstrator, Raleigh, N. C., and as per my written report accompanying this.

I also certify that all the above corn grew on the acre of land above described and that the corn shucked and weighed, by which the calculation was made, was a fair average of the entire acre.

Respectfully,  
Chas. F. Phillips Contestant.

I certify that the above report is true.  
C. H. Phillips Parent or Guardian.  
P. O. Thomasville N. C. R. F. D. No. 4.  
November 2nd 1909

#### Lunch With Teachers.

Arrangements have been made by the ladies of the Asheboro Betterment Association to join with the teachers of the county, who meet here Saturday in a social lunch. Each lady of the Asheboro Betterment Association is requested to come to the graded school on Saturday morning and bring lunch for herself and one other. Lunch will be eaten in the old school building.

#### Box Party.

Mr. A. B. Coltrane, of Glenola, informs us that there will be a party at Glenola Graded School on the night of December 23rd. The proceeds will go to the benefit of the graded school. Music will be furnished by the Progress string band. Misses Phillips and Fentress are in charge of the program.

### HIGH SCHOOL WORK IN COUNTY

Good Attendance—Growing Interest—Honor Roll of Students.

One of the most significant evidences of educational growth in the county is the excellent condition of the three public high schools. Reference has been made to this fact before. The present conditions have so completely surpassed the expectations, however, that it is necessary to call attention to what is being done in each school. Students who are ready for high school instruction are being sent to these schools from any part of the county without any tuition charges. That the people are taking advantage of this opportunity is evidenced by the attendance. The real problem is supplying a sufficient teaching force to meet the needs. It has become necessary to employ another teacher for the Farmer school, and the arrangement has already been made. There will probably be some vacancies after Christmas, and this will give an opportunity for new students. Parties having children who enter a high school in the spring should correspond with the principals of the three high schools in the county.

#### Honor Roll in the High Schools.

Early in the year the plan to have an honor roll in each high school was adopted, and has proved satisfactory in every respect. In the Trinity school, if a student does not fall below a grade of 80 on any subject, and is not absent or tardy more than twice in a month, his name goes on the honor roll. For the third month the following names appear on the roll:

First Grade—Claudia Ingram, Hazel Johnson, Herbert Johnson.

Fifth Grade—Loris Collett, Carrie Cranford, Fannie Crocker, Sadie Reddick.

Tenth Grade—Willie P. Mangum Weeks.

In the Liberty school if a student does not fall below a grade of 90 on any subject and is not absent or tardy during the whole month and also makes 100 on department, the name is entitled to go on the honor roll. Below appear the results of the third month's work:

Eighth Grade—Gladys Highfill.

Sixth Grade—Chan Kimrey, Garnet Michaux, Mary Bowman.

Fifth Grade—Fleming Patterson.

Fourth Grade—Leroy Caudle, Pearl Bristow, Clarence Frazier.

Third Grade—Glen Caudle, Lydia Pickett, Mary Shepherd, Lorna Smith, Clara Hinshaw, Robt. Smith, Earl Frazier, Naomi Kimrey.

First and Second Grades—Jusnita Reese, Eulah Wheeler, Lela McMaster, Lettie Perry, Ruby Lowe, Laura Etta Smith, Annie Lewis Smith.

In the Farmer school there was a necessity for more distinction, and therefore a High Honor Roll. To have the name on the High Honor Roll one must not fall below 95 on any subject and must not be absent or tardy. Hope Hubbard was the only one to reach this standard.

The regular honor roll for the month is as follows:

High School Department—Rosa Barnes, Kate Dorsett, Alma Lassiter, David Scroggs, Cammie Nance, Esta Horney.

Intermediate Grades—Mary Parker, Myrtle Barnes, Mittie Russell, Elbert Kearns, Annie Crauford, Lula Spencer, Juanita Kearns, Ruby Fuller, Luna Kearns.

Primary Grades—George Kearns, Lucile Kearns, Edith Spencer, Othel Kearns, Leatta Kearns, Wade Kearns, Carl Lassiter, Raymond Nance, Louise Kearns, Neal Kearns, Eugene Horney, Etta Pierce, Lewis Kearns, Tom Hammond, Emma Trotter, Tom Kearns, Ara Ridge, Alton Kearns, Ethel Kearns, Esther Russell.

In the Farmer school the requirements for the honor roll are the same as in the Trinity school. In the Liberty school there is a slightly higher standard.

#### Attempted Suicide.

One day last week, Mrs. Carrie D. Moore, of New Hope township went behind the house and out her throat with a razor. Fortunately the cut was not deep enough to cause death. When found she was lying under the piazza almost dead. She was the wife of one of Asheboro's best citizens and had been somewhat out of her mind for some months. The sympathy of his many friends is extended to Mr. Moore in his trouble.

### COURIER REPRESENTATIVE'S TRAVELOGUE

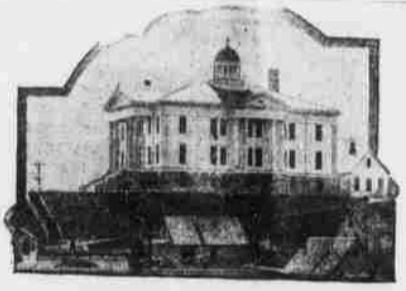
Description of the Beauties of the Alaskan Climate—Wrong Impressions Corrected—History of the Institution and Meaning of Totem Poles.

#### Alaska Historically and Geographically

Before going into the description of Alaska, I think it would be well to give a little historical data as to this vast territory, which has been called a refrigerator and has been recognized as a land of snow and ice, whose people are principally Indians, miners and missionaries. Alaska was discovered in 1741 by Russians and was sold while William H. Seward was Secretary of State to the United States in 1867, for the sum of \$7,200,000, or two cents per acre. Mr. Seward was severely criticized for this seeming extravagance which has resulted in a veritable gold mine for the United States.

eral of the Alaskan towns are, rigid up on the side of the mountain in tiers or sections, with flights of steps connecting. We counted 160 steps in one flight.

In telling of Ketchikan's possessions some one said, "We have seven hundred people, three horses, two unmarried women and plenty of salmon." The last was certainly true, for a "haul" was made for our benefit and hundreds brought up. The water seemed full of them and millions of them were jumping up out of the water. On inquiry we were told the history of the salmon. They are hatched in fresh water, they go into salt water, where they stay for from



Capitol and Court House, Juneau, Alaska.

Statistics show that since 1878 the total value of Alaskan products is \$320,000,000, almost five times the purchase price. Attention was first attracted to the wonderful seals which abounded in Alaskan waters, then in 1896, when gold was discovered in the Klondike Alaska sprang into prominence.

Alaska is situated, as we all know, in the northwestern part of North America. It contains 586,400 square miles of territory, or is about as large as the combined area of the thirteen original states, with Maine, Vermont, Kentucky, Tennessee, West Virginia, Ohio, and nearly one-half of the great State of Washington added. Without thinking most of us would believe that after leaving the State of Washington we would soon reach Alaska soil. From the most northwesterly point of Washington to the most southeasterly point of Alaska the distance is six hundred miles. The intervening territory being Canada.

The District of Alaska is ruled by Congress, a Governor and a Judge. Its people are ambitious and progressive, and for some time past have been petitioning Congress for a Territorial form of government.

#### Climate—Land of Midnight Sun—Resources.

It is hard for one who has not been to Alaska to believe that there is a summer season there, but it is true. In fact, the climate along the Southern and southeastern coast is mild the year round, while the interior and northern part is very cold. The summers in Alaska are three months long, and during most of that season daylight lasts for the entire twenty-four hours; for this and other favorable reasons vegetation grows very rapidly.

I sat on the deck of the boat writing a letter home at 11 o'clock one night without knowledge of the time. It is said that all kinds of vegetables can be raised except corn, and the season is not long enough for it. We saw several vegetable gardens, in which potatoes, cabbage, rhubarb, lettuce, radish and other things were growing. Grass grows luxuriantly, and one gentleman told me he had sowed oats as an experiment and it was doing fine. The principal resources of Alaska are gold, copper, coal, lumber, fish and seal skins.

#### Ketchikan—The Gateway to the Panhandle of Alaska

Our first stop was at Ketchikan originally an Indian village but now a town of 700 inhabitants. The town is built as sev-

three to four years, when they return to fresh water, where they were hatched, spawn and die by beating themselves against rocks in an effort to go further up fresh water streams. It matters not how far away they get from spawning place they go back to spawn and die. They locate fresh water by jumping up in salt water. I knew that the Chinese wanted to either die on their own "happy hunting grounds" or be taken there after death, but didn't know this "fish story," which evidently is a true one.

There were several salmon canneries in Ketchikan and it is a distributing point for some gold and copper mines not far away.

The boys play baseball on the beach, the only place that is level enough. The Episcopalians have a neat little church, and in connection with it run a hospital and Indian school. There are also Methodist and Catholic churches. There were Catholic churches in every town we visited.

#### Interesting "Totem Poles."

We were introduced to the first real Totem Pole in Ketchikan, and the origin and history of totem poles have been especially interesting to me. They may contain family histories; they may illustrate legends; they may serve the place of tombstones, telling what clan the man belonged to, and they may be the coat of arms of the family, showing what family lives in the house in front of which they stand. The pole in Ketchikan stood in front of the little Indian church—it was a raven totem. They are not idols, as many suppose, but in a general way may be said to be family registers. The figure on top of the pole



Totem and Native.

is usually the principal symbol of the male occupant. Following down the pole the various grotesque carvings (all gaudily painted) represent traditional folk lore or events connected

with the early history of the tribe. Persons having the same crest are forbidden to intermarry. For instance, it is against the rules for the tribe whose emblem is the frog to marry into the frog tribe. A frog may marry a wolf, eagle or fish. All Indian children take crest of their mother. The totem pole in Ketchikan to which I referred before, was erected several years ago in the memory of John Swanson, whose wife was an Indian and who during her husband's life led a civilized life, but at his death returned to live with the Indians. The pole is in front of Mrs. Swanson's house. On the top of the pole is a carving representing an eagle, which denotes the clan to which members of her tribe belong. The remaining figures tell the family history. Nailed to the pole are the coat and cap Capt. Swanson wore while in



Native Residence and Totem Pole.

command of the Labouchere. The pole is about twenty feet high and is full of carvings. The eagle clan believe themselves to be descended from an eagle, which they accordingly reverence and protect from harm or death, believing that it is a beneficent spirit that watches over them. Almost any incident could suggest an addition for the totem poles. In fact some of the ideas come from one of the tribe who falls into a trance and relates some of the experiences he had.

When we left this interesting place the whole town was out to see us off, and several of the party wore pansies friends had picked from some flower garden.

#### MRS. WM. C. HAMMER.

#### Well Known Here.

A correspondent of the Winston Sentinel, mentioning the presence of Rev. A. W. Plyler, who was formerly a teacher in the Asheboro Schools at the Methodist Conference in Hickory, says:

"He gave up his work last year to take an advanced course in English in Chicago University. He was at New Bern recently for a month, supplying the First Methodist church during the illness of the pastor. He would like to take the work next year, but on account of his advanced age and feebleness of his father and mother, who live alone in Iredell county, the son feels it a matter of duty to spend most of his time with his parents and assist in making the closing days of their lives as comfortable and happy as circumstances and condition will permit."

#### Randolph Book Club.

Mrs. R. C. Kelly entertained the members of the Randolph Book Club last Thursday. Besides the regular members were Mrs. J. V. Hunter, Mrs. H. B. Hiatt and Miss Bettie Standback, of Mt. Gilead, who was the guest of Mrs. W. A. Underwood. Mrs. W. H. Moring read a most interesting article on Milan and the Italian Lakes, while Mrs. Herbert Moffitt gave a splendid description of St. Peter's and the Vatican.

Mrs. J. D. Simpson who conducted the question box had given to each person questions on Italy and they were answered during roll call. After the program Mrs. Kelly served delicious refreshments.

#### Traffic Blocked by Snow

It is hard to realize that while we are enjoying such mild weather here in Randolph County, cold weather and snow are blocking traffic on railroads in Minnesota. Reports from there show that freight traffic on the Northern Pacific and Great Northern Railways, is delayed more by the cold weather and deep snow than by the strike of the switchmen.

### The Good Roads Meeting—Large and Representative Attendance.

On Tuesday, December 7th, at the noon recess of court a good roads meeting was held in the new Court House in Asheboro. The spacious court room was filled with a large and attentive audience who listened to the speeches with close attention.

Frank H. Wood, at the suggestion of Solicitor Hamner was voted to the Chair and in a neat speech the chairman introduced Mr. Pratt of the Department of Agriculture who, in a speech which covered the subject in a masterly manner, urged upon the citizens of Randolph county the actual necessity for the improvements of the roads throughout the county and told of the great benefit good roads would be to the farmers especially. Mr. Pratt first took up the practical results of good roads which he said were:

First—Economy in hauling produce to market, explaining the difference in the cost of hauling on a good, smooth, hard road and the prevalent mud roads as often found. The speaker stated that a farmer who lived ten miles from market on a good hard road was practically as near as one who lived only five miles away on a poorly kept road and that the former was able to market his produce when the prices were high in the fall and winter, whereas the latter, very often was unable to get to market at all at that season of the year on account of the State of the road.

Second—The saving in wear and tear on harness, wagons and live stock, pointing out that when teams were not working they were not making any money for their owners. Statistics show that North Carolina loses each year nearly \$11,000,000, due to the loss of hauling over bad roads, which loss would be saved to the farmers if the roads leading to their farms were in good condition.

Third—The relation of good roads to education cannot be emphasized too much. The speaker here pointed out the benefits which would accrue in this respect if one graded school building were built to take the place of nine or ten of the old fashioned school houses scattered throughout the county.

Fourth—The relation of good roads to the R. F. D. routes. The Postmaster General has ordered that where the roads were not kept in good condition for travel by buggy on any route that the route would be discontinued. This would be a hard blow to those living along such a route as the benefits of the rural routes were inestimable.

A further synopsis of Mr. Pratt's speech will be given in a future issue. Mr. W. L. Spoon, of Alamance county, was the next speaker, and a synopsis of his speech will appear in a future issue. Dr. Long was the last speaker and made an interesting and instructive talk, which will be published in full in next week's issue of The Courier.

#### County Teachers' Meeting.

Notice is hereby given that there will be a meeting of the County Teachers' Association in Asheboro next Saturday, December 11. This is a county meeting, and all teachers in the county are expected to be present, unless satisfactory excuse can be given for the absence of any one. The roll of schools will be called, and if teachers do not answer to their name, such fact will be recorded.

Some of our previous meetings have been unpleasant because of the long sessions we were compelled to hold. In this meeting the situation will be relieved, and lunch will be served to all teachers. The meeting will be opened at 10:30 in the forenoon. After a session of perhaps two hours, there will be lunch in the old school building, and another session in the afternoon. One hour of the afternoon session will be devoted to Betterment Work. We will close the meeting in time for all teachers to reach home before night.

A good program for this meeting has been arranged. Dr. Weeks will be present to deliver an address on an important subject. Also Mr. Bivins has promised to make good his former effort to be with us. Mr. Bivins writes that he will not miss the train this time, and that he will certainly be here. Teachers cannot afford to miss the message which he comes to give. Other speakers will discuss important topics. All teachers are urged to attend this meeting.

E. J. COLTRANE,  
County Supt. of Schools.