

Sylvan Valley News

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A HOME PAPER FOR HOME PEOPLE—ALL HOME PRINT

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COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE

An Act to Make School Attendance Compulsory.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

All Children Required to Attend School, Age 8 to 12, Term Four Months.

Section 1. That from and after the first day of July, one thousand nine hundred and thirteen, every parent, guardian, or other person in the state of North Carolina having charge or control of a child or children between the ages of eight and twelve years, shall cause such child or children to attend the local public school in the district, town or city in which he resides, continuously for four months of the school term of each year, except as hereinafter provided. This period of compulsory attendance shall commence at the beginning of the compulsory period of the school term nearest to the eighth birthday of such child or children, and shall cover the compulsory period of four consecutive school years thereafter. This period of compulsory attendance for each public school shall commence at the beginning of the school term of said school unless otherwise ordered by the county board of education or, in case of towns or cities of two thousand or more inhabitants, by the board of trustees of the public schools of said towns or cities. Continuous attendance upon some other public school or upon any private or church school taught by competent teachers may be accepted in lieu of attendance upon the local public schools: Provided, that said period of continuous attendance upon such other school shall be for at least four months of each year: Provided, further, that any private or church school receiving for instruction pupils between the ages of eight and twelve years shall be required to keep such records of attendance of said children and to render such reports of same as are hereinafter required of public schools. And attendance upon such schools refusing or neglecting to keep such records and to render such reports shall not be accepted in lieu of attendance upon the local public school of the district, town or city which the child shall be entitled to attend: Provided, the period of compulsory attendance shall be in force and apply between the ages of eight and fifteen years in Mitchell county.

EXEMPTIONS.

Sec. 2. This act shall not apply in any case in which the child's physical or mental condition, as attested by any by any legally qualified physician before any court having jurisdiction under this act, renders his attendance impracticable or inexpedient; or in any case in which the child resides two and one-half miles or more by the nearest traveled route from the school house; or in any case in which, because of extreme poverty the services of such child are necessary for his own support or the support of his parents, as attested by the affidavit of said parents and of such witnesses as the attendance officer may require; or in any case in which said parent, guardian or other person having charge or control of the child shall show before any magistrate by affidavit of himself and of such witnesses as the attendance officer may require, that the child is without necessary books and clothing for attending school, and that he is unable to provide the necessary books and clothes: Provided, that when books and clothing shall have been provided, through charity or by other means, the child shall no longer be exempt from attendance under this provision.

PARENTS SHALL CAUSE CHILDREN TO ATTEND SCHOOL.

Sec. 3. Every parent, guardian, or other person in the state of North Carolina having charge or

control of a child or children between the ages of eight and twelve years shall cause said child to attend school as aforesaid: Provided, that occasional absence from such attendance by such child amounting to not more than two unexcused absences in four consecutive weeks shall not be unlawful: Provided, further, that the superintendent, principal or teacher in charge of any school may excuse any child for a temporary absence because of unusual storm or bad weather, sickness or death in the child's family, unforeseen or unavoidable accidents, and such excuse and reason therefor shall be recorded by said superintendent, principal, or teacher in charge of school and reported to the attendance officer as hereinafter provided: Provided, further, that in case of protracted illness of any child whose attendance is required under this act, or in quarantine of the home in which the child resides, upon report of the health officer or upon satisfactory evidence to this effect, the attendance officer shall excuse from attendance such child until he is fully restored to health or until the time required by law that he shall stay out of school after quarantine has been raised.

PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF LAW.

Sec. 4. Any parent, guardian or other person violating the provisions of this act shall be liable to a fine of not less than five dollars nor more than twenty-five dollars, and upon failure or refusal to pay such fine said parent, guardian or other person shall be imprisoned not to exceed thirty days in the county jail: Provided, that the fine for any first offense may, upon the payment of such costs, be suspended and not collected until the same party is convicted of a second offense: Provided, further, that after the expiration of three days from the service of the notice by the attendance officer each and every day a parent, guardian, or other person shall willfully and unlawfully keep such child or children from school, or allow him to remain out of school, shall constitute a separate offense and shall subject said person to penalties herein prescribed.

ATTENDANCE OFFICERS, DUTIES, COMPENSATION, ETC.

Sec. 5. The county board of education in each county shall appoint and remove at will an attendance officer for each township to enforce the provisions of this act who shall serve also as taker of the school census, performing all the duties heretofore required of the school committee as to the census under section four thousand one hundred and forty-eight of the revival of one thousand nine hundred and five of North Carolina, and as keeper of the attendance records, for which service he shall be allowed three cents per child of school age each school year. It shall be his duty to take an annual census and to furnish each superintendent, principal or teacher in charge of school with an accurate school census of the district at the opening of the school each year, and also to furnish a copy of the school census of each district to the county superintendent of public instruction. The attendance officer shall serve written or printed, or partly written and partly printed notices upon every parent, guardian, or other person violating the provisions of this act, and prompt compliance on the part of such parent, guardian, or other person shall be required. For serving such notice the attendance officer shall be allowed a fee of twenty-five cents in case of conviction, same to be taxed in bill of costs; and if any parent, guardian, or other person upon whom such notice is served fails to comply with the law within three days, then it shall be the duty of said attendance officer to prosecute such person. Prosecution under this act shall be brought in the name of the state of North Carolina before any justice of the peace,

or police justice, or recorder of any county, town or township in which the person prosecuted resides. The attendance officer shall have the right to visit and enter any office or factory or business house employing children, for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this act; when doubt exists as to the age of a child, he may require a properly attested birth certificate or affidavit stating such child's age; he shall keep an accurate record of all notices served, all cases prosecuted, and all other services performed, and shall make an annual report of same to the county board of education. In the discretion of the county board of education, the attendance officer may be allowed reasonable additional compensation from the county school fund for such services as are required of him under this act, compensation for which is not specifically provided for herein: Provided, that in case the county board of education shall appoint a school committee or township constable as attendance officer, the duties of such officer herein prescribed are hereby declared to be a part of his duties ex officio: Provided, further, that the school committee or board of trustees of any school in any town or city of five thousand or more inhabitants, operating its schools under special character, is hereby authorized and empowered, if in their judgment such action is wise, to appoint an attendance officer for the schools under their direction, fix his compensation, and pay the same out of the special tax school funds of said town or city, and assign to him other duties in addition to those enumerated above.

TEACHERS MUST CO-OPERATE, PENALTY FOR NON-COMPLIANCE.

Sec. 6. It shall be the duty of all principals and teachers to co-operate with the attendance officers in the enforcement of this law. To this end it shall be the duty of the principal or teacher in charge in every school, in which pupils between the ages of eight and twelve years are instructed, to keep an accurate record of the attendance of such pupils; to render during the period of compulsory

AN IMPORTANT MATTER

I desire to take this method in commending the board of commissioners of Transylvania county for making an appropriation necessary to secure the free treatment of the children of the county for hook-worm. Investigations in a great many counties show that a very large per cent of the children of school age in the counties where investigations have been made are infected with hook-worms, which is the cause of a great many diseases, and especially brings about a stupid condition on those so afflicted.

I certainly hope that the people of the county will be free to take their children out and have them examined, as it costs nothing, and if they are afflicted it is extremely important to have them treated at once.

The people will be fully informed of the times and places where the treatment will be dispensed.

As chairman of the board of education of the county I insisted upon the commissioners making the necessary appropriation to procure the free treatment of all the children of the county, because I honestly felt that it would be the best thing for the school children of the county who are so unfortunate as to be afflicted with the hook-worm to be treated before entering the schools, and further, our people would become more familiar with the causes and effects of the hook-worms in the country, and would thereby be caused to use more caution in the future than they have in the past in regard to the conditions of affairs which bring about the conditions that now exist.

Respectfully,
W. W. ZACHARY.

VOTE OF THANKS

On the last day of the teachers' institute, which closed on Friday of last week, the following resolutions were adopted by the teachers:

"We, the teachers enrolled in the Transylvania county teachers' institute, do hereby extend our sincere and hearty thanks to Mr. C. H. Trowbridge and Miss Hattie Aiken for their faithful services as instructors in this institute, for their painstaking care, untiring enthusiasm, and for the excellent quality of their work.

"We also wish to express our gratitude to our county superintendent for the interest taken in this institute, and to commend him most heartily for his devoted efforts in the past for the welfare of the youth of our county; and in recognition of these things we do earnestly recommend to the county board of education his re-election for another term of service."

A remedy for women that will put an end to nervousness, headaches, sickness of the stomach, painful irregularities, languidness, bad breath, poor appetite, is that fine old regulator DR. SIMMONS' SQUAW VINE COMPOUND. It is prepared for women only, being especially adapted to act on the delicate female organism. It banishes suffering, corrects weakness and the whole brood of distressing symptoms which follow disorders in the generative system. Price \$1.00 per bottle. Sold by S. M. Macfie. adv

SELICA SCHOOL

Mr. H. R. McCausland of Wadesboro, Va., has been re-elected principal of the public school at Selica.

Miss Mary Rice has been elected first assistant, and Miss Ara Davis teacher of the primary department. Both of these young ladies are from Asheville and were students at Brevard Institute the last session.

Selica is one of the largest schools of the county. Mr. McCausland made a good record there last year, and the school prospects are bright under his management.

SOME CORRECTIONS

In view of the fact that the write-up of the new ordinances in last week's issue was taken from the ordinances as they appeared on second reading, there were a few errors in the special privilege taxes, several changes being made on third reading.

A tax of five dollars is imposed upon fish and oyster dealers except when in connection with a market. No extra tax is placed on the markets for handling fish and oysters.

The tax on barber shops was changed from two dollars a chair to four dollars for the first chair and two dollars for each additional chair.

Ice dealers are charged twenty-five dollars instead of ten.

Instead of one per cent of gross receipts express companies are charged ten dollars; light and gas companies twenty-five dollars, and power companies twenty-five dollars.

The ordinance forbidding fox hunting on the streets caused some of our readers to become humorists, and a number of additions have been proposed. One suggested that the speed of motor cycles should be limited to at least three hundred miles an hour on the business streets, while another imposed a very heavy penalty on anyone who should ride, drive or walk on the streets of Brevard. Another would prevent all persons from hunting, fishing, trapping, cutting wood or timber, digging roots, setting fires, ranging stock, or grazing in the business section of the town.

DEATH OF MISS ROWE

Miss Marjorie Rowe died at her home on East Main street last Friday. Her death was sudden and came as a shock to her friends. While she had for a number of years been a victim of tuberculosis, her sudden death was not caused directly by this disease.

Funeral services were held at the home last Monday morning and continued at the grave in the Gillespie burying ground, conducted by Rev. L. D. Thompson, the young lady's pastor. The pall bearers were: Messrs. Fred Johnson, Fred Miller, Clay Ross, Mack Allison, Walter Whitmire and Overton Erwin.

Relatives from a distance present at the funeral were Mr. I. Newton Rowe, an uncle, and Mrs. Alpha Rowe and Mrs. Eliza Stuckey, aunts of the deceased, all from Washington C. H., Ohio, and Mrs. Nina Duncan, an aunt, from Greenville, Ohio.

Miss Marjorie Rowe was born August 27, 1891, in Fayette county, Ohio. In early life she joined the M. E. church, from which her membership was transferred to the M. E. Church, South. Three or four years ago she came to Brevard with her mother, Mrs. Josie Rowe, and her sister, Miss Amanda. About two years ago the young ladies, both in feeble health, were caused to suffer the loss of their mother. The only surviving member of the family is Miss Amanda Rowe. The hearts of all friends, and no doubt all in the community, were touched by the peculiar sadness connected with the latest bereavement of this sister, who is far from her former home and herself suffering from a protracted disease.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to thank the friends and neighbors for the sympathy and kindness shown during the sickness and death of our sister and niece, and for the beautiful flowers.

AMANDA ROWE,
UNCLE AND AUNTS.

CEDAR MOUNTAIN NEWS

Rev. E. Allison delivered a good sermon to the people present at Rocky Hill church on the fourth Sunday in June.

Miss Nina Cassell has been visiting friends in this section some few days.

On account of sickness Uncle Billie has not been keeping up with his correspondence. He wishes to say that he is feeling fine at this writing and hopes to report the news from Cedar Mountain every week.

Miss Leslie McGaha is visiting her sister this week.

J. E. McCrary and brother visited their parents on Saluda Sunday.

Mr. Otis Shipman passed through this section Thursday on his way to Caesars Head.

Misses Audra Burns and Lottie Heath are visiting their cousins, Mr. Leonard and Miss Carrie Burns, this week.

Mr. Markley Jones was a visitor in this section Wednesday on business.

Mr. Ellison McCrary from Saluda was a visitor to Cedar Mountain Tuesday.

Look for rattle snakes. Mr. Joe Johnson, the postman from Pisgah Forest to Cedar Mountain, secured a large rattler with eleven rattles. Dry, hot July causes them to visit us more frequently. Uncle Billie is afraid of snakes.

Jack's Wife must be snake bitten.

UNCLE BILLIE!

Last Wednesday Mr. E. H. Kitchen of Balsam Grove brought into this office and left here the skin of a rattlesnake which, minus head and rattles, measured eight feet one inch. It was not, however, a Transylvania bred rattler, but was sent from Golan, Texas, by Mr. Kitchen's brother, J. H. Kitchen. Rattles don't grow that long in this country.