

The Albemarle Observer

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"LOOK FORWARD AND NOT BACK"

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AT WORK AGAIN ON THE PROPOSED AUDITORIUM.

The erection of a City Auditorium is prosposed, the estimated cost of which will not exceed \$20,000.00, and of this sum \$12,000.00 has been subscribed by responsible, public-spirited citizens, thus leaving a balance of \$8,000.00 to be raised by public subscription.

The undersigned, a self-appointed Committee of three, have assumed the labor incident to raising the required sum; and, that there may be no misunderstanding with respect to remuneration, it is expressly stated for the benefit of those who are apt to attribute to the Committee ulterior or mercenary motives, that not one cent in the way of compensation is expected or will be accepted. The Committee simply realizes the urgent need of a public building of this type, and is willing to donate the time and attention necessary to make it an assured fact.

The site selected for the proposed edifice is the present location of the home of Miss Martha Bright on Main street, adjoining the furniture store of L. F. Ziegler, which can be purchased for a reasonable sum. Some of our citizens think, and have so stated publicly, that it would be inadvisable to build at that particular point, asserting its remoteness from the heart of the business district as an argument against it, but such have been unable thus far to suggest a more desirable location, and until they do, the Committee is not justified in making any changes in that respect. Locations admitted to be more desirable cannot be bought for any price. However, any and all suggestions will be favorably and thoughtfully considered.

In brief, it is proposed to build two stores, dimensions 24x75 feet, abutting on Main street, and between the two stores a vestibule 15 feet wide will form the main entrance to the auditorium, which will be erected in the rear of the stores, and to which more particular reference will be made farther on. The stores and auditorium will comprise the first or ground floor of the entire structure, covering a space of approximately 65x200 feet. Immediately above the stores, and adjacent to the street, it is proposed to provide for an Assembly Room, dimensions 63x36 feet, which can be used by the public at large for meetings of a public character, social events, such as dancing, etc., and other like purposes. It is also thought that some lodge or secret order would be glad of the opportunity to lease by the year hall space with the dimensions of the proposed assembly room. Immediately in the rear of the assembly room it is planned to build offices for the use of the public officials of the City, as mayor, city clerk, city engineer, police department, superintendent of water works, etc., each of which is to be 14x24 feet, with the exception of the mayor's office, which is not to be quite so large. A corridor will separate the offices in the center, with a cloak and hat room in the forward part.

The auditorium is the building with which we are principally concerned, the stores, etc., having been planned as mere auxiliaries, chiefly for the purpose of providing an income, and also for the express purpose of reducing the first cost of erection; therefore, a more detailed description is not thought to be inappropriate at this juncture.

The stage, which will occupy the far or west end of the proposed building, is to be 28 feet long and 51 feet wide, and the main body or pit of the auditorium 80x51 feet, the estimated seating capacity of which will not be less than 450 in the pit or main body and an additional 200 in the balcony, thus providing for an aggregate seating capacity of 650 persons. Comfortable, modern and up-to-date seats will be installed and the furnishings and other like equipment will be of a kind suitable for the proposed building. Immediately adjoining the stage and separating stage from pit or main body of the auditorium, space will be provided for an orchestra, and thus adding that attractive feature to this proposed modern structure. The plans of the proposed buildings will be found in the window of the post office, on the right as you enter, and all interested in public improvements are invited to examine them. The above is a very imperfect description, and a much better and clearer idea can be had by reference to the plans.

It is thought advisable to refer briefly to the source of income, concerning which every prospective investor in stock in this public enterprise will wish to be fully informed.

Estimating the cost of the building as above described at \$20,000.00 (though it is thought it can be erected for approximately from \$1000.00 to \$1,500.00 less) an annual income of from \$800.00 to \$1200.00 must be realized in order that those who invest their funds may expect to receive from four to six per cent interest on the investment. Hardly any one will dispute the fact that the stores should rent for \$20.00 each monthly, or \$480.00 yearly. The five offices certainly for not less than \$5 each monthly, or \$300 yearly, and the auditorium can be leased for a period of five years from the date of its completion for the monthly rental of \$55.00 or an income of \$660.00 yearly from this source alone. Mr. P. W. Harrell has already signified his desire to enter into a lease for that period of time in the sum stated. The assembly room, the size of which is 36x63 feet, could be rented for dances, etc., or probably to some secret organization, or orders of like character. The income from this source would be fluctuating to say the least, yet would swell to some extent, however, slight, the income from the buildings as a whole. Thus, as will appear from a simple case of addition, the entire income from all sources would amount to not less than \$1500.00, provided, of course, the stores, auditorium, offices and assembly room could be rented regularly and for the sums specified, which is questionable to say the least. In fact there is little doubt but that the income as figured herein would be con-

siderably reduced by reason of bad rents, failure to rent, repairs, insurance, taxes, etc., and, therefore it must be candidly conceded that the income for any one year would not equal the sum of \$1,500.00. However, suppose we allow for a 40 per cent. reduction which in all probability would off-set the cost of maintenance, repairs, insurance, taxes, failure to rent, etc., there yet remains \$900.00 net income or 4 1/2 per cent. on the investment. Mr. P. W. Harrell is willing to enter into a binding contract to lease the auditorium as soon as completed for a term of five years, on the rental basis of \$55.00 per month, or \$660.00 yearly. That being true, the public would have reasonable cause to expect some excellent productions in the line of good plays, comedies, etc., for Mr. Harrell is well informed and his judgment may be depended upon in that respect.

Every natural advantage is ours. Edenton is the second oldest city in the State, and historically among, if not the first in importance, having at an earlier period in our history been the seat of government. Yet, for several decades the population has remained approximately the same, and few, if any public improvements have been made. Therefore in the expressive words of Longfellow:

"Let us then be up and doing,"
W. H. WARD,
H. R. LEARY,
Committee.

Edenton, N. C.
Oct. 5, 1915.
To The Citizens of The Town of Edenton:

Upon request of the Auditorium Committee, I certify that the sum of \$6,000.00, the sale price of my property on Main street, adjoining the furniture store of L. F. Ziegler, is the amount for which I have granted an option to said Committee, and that not one cent of said sum is to be paid by me to any one of the members of the said Committee in the way of Commissions, or otherwise; that the said sum represents the true sale price, and is the amount I have agreed to accept for the same.

Respectfully,
(Miss) M. C. BRIGHT.

Public Schools to Open in November

The Board of Education at its last meeting ordered that the white public schools, except in special cases, begin on the first Monday in November. It further ordered that the colored schools begin the last Monday in November.

J. O. ALDERMAN,
County Supt.

NOTICE

Examination for Teachers.

Beginning at 9 o'clock on Monday Oct. 11 and lasting two days, Monday and Tuesday, examinations will be held at the negro public school building in Edenton for the negro teachers of Chowan county.

On Wednesday and Thursday of the same week examinations will be held at the Court House for white public school teachers.

J. O. ALDERMAN.

SOME FACTS ABOUT OUR SCHOOL EQUIPMENT

The Graded School opened up this year with the largest attendance in its history, enrolling 350 the first day. This is an increase of 43 over last year's opening and an increase of 36 over the opening of year before last. Already a score more children have been enrolled than had been enrolled last year at Christmas. The crowded condition of the school is becoming distressing.

We have in our grammar school upon an average of fifty pupils to the teacher. This is twenty more than a teacher should have to teach. This is unsatisfactory both from the standpoint of teacher and pupil. The strain on the teacher is too great and the individual attention received by the pupil is too meagre.

From a sanitary standpoint conditions are even worse. The state department of education recommends that each child have at least 250 cubic feet of breathing space. This much is necessary that the atmosphere of the room do not become contaminated and poisonous. No pupil or teacher can do good work with bad air to breathe. They become sluggish and drowsy. Vitality and energy are lacking, to say nothing about the permanent injury to health.

Let us see how much breathing space we have per pupil in our school. At the Paxton building, where the beginners go—the place above all others where conditions should be ideal and pleasant—there, instead of a breathing space of 250 cubic feet, we have a breathing space of 89 cubic feet to the pupil. At the main building conditions are only slightly improved. In Miss Smith's room the pupils have a breathing space of only 135 cubic feet; in Miss Coke's room 150 cubic feet; in Miss Moore's room 170 cubic feet; in Miss Alderman's room 160 cubic feet; and in Miss Jones' room 116 cubic feet. In the high school the rooms are slightly less crowded.

These are the conditions that confront us. They must be met. The only way to meet them is with a new building. From the standpoint of school buildings and equipment we are very much behind other towns in the State of our size. By way of comparison let us notice the value of the school equipment in some of these towns about the size of Edenton and smaller. The town of Lumberton with a population of at least five or six hundred less than ours, has a school equipment valued at \$60,000. The town of Waynesville, with a population of more than one thousand less than ours has a school equipment valued at \$50,000. Rockingham with a population of 2,500 people has an equipment worth \$43,000. Murphy, a town of eight hundred people situated in the back-woods of North Carolina mountains, has a school equipment worth \$40,000. Cary, a little town of four hundred people in Wake county, has an equipment worth \$41,000.

Our town has far outgrown our school facilities, and while we

have kept pace with progress in many other ways, we have fallen far short in school facilities. The question is squarely before us now. We will continue to vote for a better future. Will we continue to withhold from our children what other towns are freely giving theirs? Do our children not deserve as good facilities for their education as the children of other towns? The time is here upon us when the erudition of the past will not suffice for present necessities.

Do you want your child to have a comfortable building in which to go to school?

Do you want your child to be surrounded by sanitary conditions at school?

Are you satisfied with anything but the best for your child?

HOG CHOLERA AND HOW TO KEEP IT UNDER CONTROL.

Government Expert in Chowan County to Show Farmers How to Save Their Meat.

Hog cholera, the most costly of all animal diseases, and which annually takes a toll of over \$75,000,000 from the American farmer, is to be combatted in Chowan county, for Dr. F. D. Owen, of the United States Department of Agriculture, is about to open a campaign of Education and Demonstration at several points in Chowan county to show the farmers how this costly disease can be controlled, and if proper cooperation is given, can be entirely eradicated.

Dr. Owen states that his work consists in going right out into the farming districts and there showing, by means of practical demonstrations how to make use of the anti-hog cholera serum, and then also, at nights or in the afternoons if arrangement can be made for a darkened hall, to give an illustrated lecture on the disease, showing by means of a stereopticon and about 60 slides, how this serum is made, how it is to be used, its limitations as well as its benefits, and also how to clean up and disinfect farms, and many other pictures showing how the swine industry can be made a very profitable one in North Carolina if we can but control or get rid of entirely, this banicap, hog cholera.

This anti-hog cholera serum that is used so successfully in combating this disease is nothing more or less than the blood of another HEALTHY hog that has been made so immune that he has a great deal more of the fighting powers than he needs for himself, and it is borrowed and used in protecting other hogs. But one thing that Dr. Owen insists upon, and that is the serum must not be regarded as a patent medicine, neither must it always be regarded as a CURE, for as the following figures, quoted by Dr. Owen, show, the serum has a great deal more value in its being a preventative against the disease than as a cure for it after the animals are sick.

He summarizes the efficacy of the serum in this way:— The usual number of hogs to die from

hog cholera, when the serum is 85 per cent or 850 hogs out of each thousand to get sick will die. Now when the serum is used as a preventative, that is, used in advance of the disease but after the animals had been exposed to it, this loss was cut down from the usual 85 per cent. to 3-10 of one per cent., or in other words, from the 850 hogs in a thousand to but three hogs in a thousand.

And in a test conducted upon over 53,000 hogs that were actually sick at the time they were treated, the loss was reduced from the usual 85 per thousand to 291 per thousand. Thus it is clearly demonstrated that the serum is a preventive first of all, but even though the animals were sick, that it even then does usually pay to inoculate and save many. For these figures were secured from using the serum on tens of thousands of hogs and covered all sorts of cases and conditions.

One other thing that Dr. Owen lays great stress upon, as a representative of the United States, and that is, the uselessness of farmers spending their hard earned money for all kinds of patent so-called cures and remedies. For he says that the Department of Agriculture has had the best minds of the Veterinary profession searching for years for a cure for hog cholera which could be depended upon, and such a thing has never yet been found.

The work of Dr. Owen will begin at Elm Grove, Odd Fellows Hall on Oct. 14, and the next day he will at Rocky Hook, and on Saturday, the 16, he will give an address at Edenton in the Opera House at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, the other two places being at night, at 7:30. As there will be no charge for admission to these addresses, and as it is for the good of our farmers, we hope that every one will make it a point of attending and learning of this work.

Attention! Look! Notice!

Sunbury, N. C.
Oct. 4, 1915.

Mr. Editor: We wish to make some correction to the Sunbury News of last week about a ball game played here. It said that Silver Spring beat the Sunbury High School boys 28 to 4 in favor of Silver Spring. This was a mistake. The Sunbury High School boys played against the Gates county team and Gates county won.

Yours truly,
JNO. B. HARRELL,
C. C. MANFING.

Rocky Hook Items.

Mesdames R. B. Hollowell, Clara Ashley, Fannie Haste and Miss Mollie Bunch left Tuesday to attend the Woman's Association to be held at Sawyer Creek Wednesday.

Mr. John W. Hollowell spent Sunday afternoon North Edenton.

Mr. M. Bunch is very ill at this writing.

Mrs. W. D. Byrd continues ill. There was a large crowd at Sunday school Sunday. The collection for State missions was \$10.85.

Bro. Josiah Elliott dined at Mr. R. B. Hollowell Sunday.

Mr. N. W. Bunch is all smiles—"It's a boy."