

Roanoke-Chowan Times.

ANDREW J. CONNER, PUBLISHER.

"CAROLINA, CAROLINA, HEAVEN'S BLESSINGS ATTENT HER."

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NUMBER 24

Ayer's

To be sure, you are growing old. But why let everybody see it, in your gray hair? Keep your hair dark and rich and postpone age. If you will

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STATE NORMAL COLLEGE.

Work of the Past Year—The New Department of Manual Training—The Carnegie Library
At the recent commencement of the State Normal and Industrial College President Charles D. McIver made the following statement of the progress of the year: The college year just closing has been a very eventful one, and in spite of several interruptions and the shortening of the college term nearly three weeks, the work of the students, all things considered, has never been more satisfactory.

The enrollment of students in the college has been 536, and the number of students in the practice school 353. The increase in the enrollment in the college department was due to the increase of the dormitory room with which we began the year's work. The year will be memorable in the life of the college for the following reasons:

1. In the early fall the reunion of non-resident North Carolinians in which the college participated prominently, was an event full of inspiration and patriotic suggestions to all North Carolinians who attended it. The opening of the lower floor of the students' building to the work of the manual training department and the domestic science department has been a great step forward in the life of the college.

2. The burning of the main dormitory building erected in 1892, and added to from time to time until it accommodated 305 students, was a calamity with which all are familiar. For all of the great loss to the State, amounting to about \$100,000, and the individual losses to students, amounting to nearly \$30,000, there can be no adequate compensation; yet the educational effect of this calamity was striking. The self-possession of the faculty and students, their readiness to make all sorts of sacrifices for one another, and the promptness with which they adapted themselves to new and rather difficult conditions were not only an evidence of good sense and good training and generous hearts, but the very passing through such a calamity gave power to all who met it bravely and triumphed over it.

3. The donation of a library building by Mr. Andrew Carnegie in February of this year marks a new epoch in the literary life of the college.

4. The alumnae of the college have raised \$2,500 for the loan fund, which has been duplicated by the general education board, and thus \$5,000 has been added to that fund during the year. These have been the five events of the year of permanent and far-reaching interest in addition to the regular substantial work and routine growth of the institution.

The health of the college has been good. The report from the workers it has sent into the state as teachers and as workers in other lines have been encouraging, and the demand for those trained at this college is still on the increase.

The Country Newspaper.
We have had occasion several times of late to refer to the increase in the number of new country newspapers and the improvements on the ones already established. It always gives us great pleasure to note this progress. It is evidence of advancement of education in the rural districts and a greater demand among the country people for touch with the outside world. The advance along this line continues we are glad to note. New Weekly papers are constantly springing up and many that heretofore were published only once a week now see their way to giving their subscribers two issues a week. This is encouraging and a source of gratification to those who are interested in the all-round education of the people of the rural districts and the dissemination of general knowledge among them.

There is no better educator of this sturdy class of our population than clean, well edited country papers. Whenever you see such papers making a success you can set down as a self-evident proposition that there is an improvement in both the worldly goods and in the matter of education in

the people within the territory of the circulation of that paper. No man in North Carolina is able to publish a newspaper, whether a daily or weekly, "for the fun of it." In order to keep his paper afloat he must have the financial as well as the moral support of the territory in which his paper circulates or should circulate. And when you see an editor widening out in his business, either in increase of the columns of reading matter or in the number of issues per week you may set it down as a fact that his work is meeting with the appreciation of his people and that he is receiving their substantial support.

The county paper should go into every home in the sphere of influence of the paper. There is no better educator in the land. It is as good as the common school or the country academy. Many a man has made his mark in North Carolina who learned to read by diligent study of his county weekly newspaper. It has been said that the schoolmaster is a power in the land. The editor of a clean up-to-date country newspaper can wield more influence and do more for the education of the country people than can the rural common school teacher. Such an editor instructs the old as well as the young. He gives information and instruction to the heads of the family on the farm and inspires them with desire for greater information and wider instruction as well as to the children, while the school teacher can hope to reach only the young and the unemployed on the farm.

A great responsibility rests with the editor of the county newspaper. He is more than a purveyor of the local gossip. He is, or should be, an educator of the old as well as of the young, a leader of thought and a moulder of opinion among the sovereigns of the land. He can do his state great good or work immense evil as he is inclined. But to the hon or of the county newspapers of our state, be it said, he is universally interested in the cause of the former. The daily papers of the big cities have no such influence as do the county papers.

The editors of the latter should recognize their responsibility to the people and should act up to it. We are glad to record the fact that most of those whose papers come to this office recognize this responsibility and do their duty to their subscribers and their communities. The county newspaper in North Carolina is doing a great work and we honor and respect the men who shape their course and govern their policy.—Wilmington Messenger.

Headache Powders Dangerous.

(From the Newark (N. J.) News.)
Less than a year ago a young woman in Warren County was fatally poisoned by taking headache powders, and in Camden this week a little child was killed by its parent, who, with the best intentions, gave it a powder to cure it of the headache. The drug market is full of headache powders of every description. The great majority of them are composed wholly or in part of one or more of the medicinal products of coal tar. There is a large variety of these products, but their use is dangerous excepting under the advice of competent physicians. Nearly every one of them, if not the whole variety, acts upon the heart, at times with fatal results, and for this reason should be taken or administered only by a doctor's order or advice.

Teachers Association.

The colored teacher's association of Northampton will convene in Jackson at 10 o'clock A. M. on Saturday, June the 18th, 1904. Business of importance. Two topics will be discussed. The need of an Institute and the good of the teachers' Association. "The need of an Institute" by Prof. W. H. Morris of Rich Square Academy. "The good of the teacher's Association" by Prof. J. W. Blackhall of Garysburg High School. All teachers of the County are earnestly requested to be present. By order of the Executive Board of the Association.
J. N. COATS, Pres.
Mrs. E. E. ROBERTS, Sec.

RAILROAD TIES.

Timber for Them Growing Scarce and Higher—New Form Recommended.

The annual consumption of ties on 203,132 miles of railroad track in this country is 114,000,000, and it is yearly becoming harder to meet this demand. Granite, metal, and, more recently, concrete ties have been experimented with but nowhere permanently adopted, and the indications are that wooden ties are not soon to be displaced. The Bureau of Forestry has for some time been making studies and experiments designed to improve the present conditions and to prevent the exhaustion of the timbers from which ties are made. Bulletin No. 50, "Cross-Tie Rights and Rail Fastenings, with Special Reference to Treated Timbers," by Dr. Hermann von Schrenk, which has just been published, gives the latest results of these investigations.

The manner in which ties have hitherto been made has been determined largely by the ease and rapidity with which they could be cut. They have been obtained from trees of all diameters from 9 inches upward, the most serviceable portions of live straight trees being selected. The sawwood top sections and trees killed by fire, insects, disease, etc. or blown down, could not be utilized, owing to the fact that they, from sawwood or dead timber decay rapidly.

Although large ties make a better roadbed than the same amount of small ties, the first consideration is to have as great a bearing surface as possible on the ballast. A trapezoidal or modified half-round tie, with a base of 10 to 12 inches and a top bearing surface of 6 inches, distributes the weight of moving train loads upon the roadbed as effectively as a rectangular tie 10 to 12 inches broad. The half-round tie is good for the lumberman because in numerous instances two ties of this form can be made from a log which would furnish but one rectangular tie; in other cases material for several boards is saved where a rectangular tie would have taken the entire log. This form is beneficial to the forest, since it encourages the cutting of large trees and the saving of small ones until they reach more valuable size, and permits the utilization of much timber from the tops, hitherto left in the woods. The half-round tie is advantageous also, because it gives greater bearing surface per mile and a correspondingly more stable track than rectangular ties. This tie form is therefore advocated by the Bureau of Forestry as economical of timber, conservative of the lumber supply, and at the same time equally efficient with the forms in common use.

Ties are commonly graded as first, second, and third class, and culls, or ties, which either in size or in quality, fall below the specifications, but which the railroads generally accept up to a certain percentage of the total number of ties, though at a greatly reduced price. There is, however, no accepted standard as to what constitutes a first, second, or third-class tie, and the specifications of the various railroads show wide differences in the dimensions required. It is proposed by Doctor von Schrenk that a standard classification be adopted, consisting of six or more classes to be known as A, B, C, etc., each class to be of a definite size, and no provision to be made for culls. This will tend to economy, since the smaller sized ties will fall into the smaller classes and will be sold at their market value to the roads which want them, instead of, as largely now, to roads which do not want them but, having received a certain proportion of them mingled with those of the specified size, do not feel warranted in rejecting them altogether. This proposal has been adopted by the American Engineering and Maintenance of Way Association.

A far greater economy, however, than can be hoped for from the adoption of a new tie form or a new tie classification is that promised by the studies which the Bureau of Forestry has directed towards opening new sources of supply of ties. This

aims to do by making possible the utilization of cheaper and more abundant kinds of timbers in place of the high grade woods now employed. The commonest as well as the best tie material of the past and present in this country is white oak, which resists both wear and decay excellently, and is consequently cheaper in the long run than less expensive woods like beech, red oak, or loblolly and lodgepole pine. But white oak, besides being one of our finest timber trees, is becoming high priced, and further, as railroad men know well, is becoming scarce even faster than the advancing price would indicate. Not only is it very wasteful to make ties of white oak, which can be manufactured into much more valuable products if a lower grade wood will do, but soon under the present demand, white oak ties will no longer be obtainable in the required quantity at any price.

The first step in the search for substitutes was to discover how to prevent rapid decay of softer woods when laid in the track. Preservative treatment has long been in general use abroad. With proper methods it can be made entirely successful, and impregnation with creosote, zinc chloride or other antiseptic substances allows the use of many woods hitherto passed over, as well as of sawed ties, sawwood, and dead timber. Preservative treatment can make a beech or red oak or pine tie outlast a white oak tie. But the wearing away of the soft or fibers of these woods under the rail and around the spike raises a new set of problems. Even with cheap treatment practicable, which insures against the destruction of the tie in the ground by decay, it is neither economical nor safe to equip a road with such ties unless mechanical devices can be found which will prevent rapid wear. Ties chemically treated resist decay, but the softer woods can not withstand wear of the rails nor hold the spikes under the heavy traffic of American roads.

This is true not only of ties upon which the rails rest directly but also where the old forms of steel plates inserted between rail and tie are used. Indeed, the thin plates with prongs or spines and flanges hitherto generally used in the United States, appear to hasten rather than retard wear of the tie. With accompanying screw-spikes, which hold the rail firmly to the tie, several forms of plates can be introduced successfully. Wooden tie-plates can be used, which, when worn out, are easily replaced.

The functions of spikes are, first, to hold the ties to the rails, and second, to prevent the rails from spreading. Nail spikes are still used for this purpose in this country. In driving a spike into a white oak tie the strong and elastic fiber of the wood is bent downward, maintaining a close contact, so that powerful resistance is offered to its withdrawal. When driven into such woods as hemlock and western yellow, lodgepole, loblolly, or shortleaf pine, the fibers of the wood are crushed and broken. As a result the spikes do not hold with sufficient firmness to withstand the undulatory motion of the rail nor the lateral pressure against them; they become loosened, and the constant friction enlarges the spike hole until water collects in it and decay begins. The spike must soon be driven in a new place, and this constant respiking rapidly ruins the tie. Even if the tie has been treated with a solution like zinc chloride, the water will leach out the salt, so that decay producing factors begin their work. The solution of this difficulty is achieved by the use of a screw-spike. In the soft woods screw-spikes will resist nearly three times as great a strain as nail spikes. If inserted in a screw dowel of hard wood the power of the screw-spike is still greater. A key, operated by two men, a handpower screw-pike driving machine, or a machine with electric power may be employed to insert screw spikes.

Arrangements are being made for the extensive introduction of these appliances, the need of which has developed so conspicuously in the brief experience with treated timbers. If in the maintenance of a stable track, so in-

dispensable for the safety of trains moving at a high rate of speed, the proposed equipment fulfills the promise of experimental tests, an important step in the better utilization of our forest resources will have been made.

National Righteousness.

Is SOLOMON'S word true, "Righteousness exalteth a nation?" "Perhaps," says the "practical" politician, "righteousness exalts a nation in the opinion of heaven; but it has nothing to do with a nation's rating among financiers, in commerce, or in war. Where is the balance of trade? For what interest can the nation borrow? Those are the questions?"

If the "practical" politician is right, the opinion of heaven has no influence on the fortunes of earth. But the "practical" politician is entirely mistaken. Not all the gold in our banks is an asset so valuable as the reputation for national honesty. Though our army and navy were increased ten times, they would be powerless were we known as a cowardly people. However fertile our valleys, men would not emigrate thither in such vast numbers were our government unjust and tyrannical.

An unrighteous people can transform into a desert a land once flowing with milk and honey. That is what has happened to Palestine under the rule of the Turk. A righteous people can take the most bleak and barren country and render it a glory and power in the world. That is what the Pilgrims and Puritans did in New England.

It is no accident of geography that the Christian nations rule the world. If the Germans and not the Chinese had dwelt through all these ages in China, that marvelous rich region would have been the focus of the world. It is no accident that, of the Christian nations; the most prosperous and powerful are the Protestant. It is because their religion is the purest. South America possesses natural advantages unique and supreme, but Catholicism has cast its blight over the continent. Italy and Spain, were it not for their religion would quite certainly be more prosperous than Germany and Holland. The chief element in national prosperity is national character, and the chief element of national character is religion.

If this is true, it is not strange that we hear so little about religion in our legislative bodies, our political conventions, and our newspapers! When a new measure is introduced, should not the very first question be, "Is it right?" "not, "Is it in accordance with the law of the land?" but "Is it in accordance with the law of God?" Not, "Will it make us richer, more powerful?" Not, "Will it bring more votes to our party?" but, "Will this measure have the blessing of God, which means all other blessings imaginable?"

There are men in our national councils who ask the right question first; but they are far too few. They are few because so few of the voters ask the right question first. It is folly to expect our rulers to rise above the level of the people from which they spring. If our chief thought is for party, for prejudice, for national vainglory for dollars and cents, theirs will also be. And so let each citizen say to himself, "My country's prosperity depends upon me. Upon my intelligent knowledge of affairs and men. Upon the clearness of my conscience, the purity of my motives, the prompt courage of my obedience to the divine law. God help me to be a man for my country's sake!"—Sel

SHINGLES & BRICK.

If in need of Shingles or Brick call on or write,
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To be Located at
JACKSON, N. C.
Will be open for Business during month of July, 1904
Persons desiring to subscribe for the stock of this Bank will apply either in person or in writing to one of the undersigned Committee, and the share or shares subscribed for will be reserved for them.
The shares will be fifty dollars each and until June 15, 1904, will be sold at par; after that time, none will be sold except at a premium.
PAYMENTS: One half on or before July 1, 1904, balance in five equal monthly installments; or all cash at option of the purchaser. Deferred payment to bear interest from July 1, 1904.
J. T. FLYTHE, } COMMITTEE.
PAUL J. LONG, }
B. S. GAY, }

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THE IDEAL LIFE POLICY takes the place of the bread-winner. Our Annuity, Disability and Endowment Policy provides a guaranteed annual income for the widow and orphans, for the mother or father and for the insured in old age.
HOW IT WORKS
WISCONSIN, N. C., Jan. 30, 1904.
Received from the Security Life and Annuity Company \$25.00 in payment of the first quarterly installment of a life annuity of \$500. under policy No. 197, on the life of my son, the late Rev. Robert Ernest Caldwell, of Weldon, N. C.
(Signed) Nannie Weatherly Caldwell.
The income begins immediately upon receipt of satisfactory proof of death. Dr. Caldwell died Jan. 8, 1904, and the first installment was paid Jan. 20th.
J. VAN LINDLEY, R. E. FORSTER, GEO. A. GEMSLEY,
President, Actuary, Secretary

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And one of the Largest in the Southern States. We Have Patterns for, and Manufacture
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COTTON GIN MACHINERY—The most complete and perfect outfits made anywhere for improving the sample of cotton, and the cheapest to operate.
SAW MILLS of the variable feed and friction type, eight different styles and sizes.
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Some acts in our history
We were born in Charlotte 23 years ago. We have grown since every year. We have built more engines than any factory in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana or Texas, and we have built more cotton presses than any factory in the world. We are the only builders of cotton gin machinery in the Carolinas. Our business in this line has increased over 25 per cent every year since we started in. Last year it increased 40 per cent. We know what our own people need for putting into marketable shape the South's great products—lumber and cotton—and we supply it. That's one of the secrets The others are that we have it right, and the price is right.
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" \$10. " " \$7.00.
" \$8. " " \$6.00.
25c. Silk gingham at 18c. the yard.
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Fine Millinery a Specialty with Annie Cora Lawrence from Armstrong & Carter's at the head.
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