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LASKER NEWS.

Announcements—Leading Social Events—General and Personal News Briefly Told.

Mr. W. S. DeLoatch, who teaches at Rehoboth, spent Saturday and Sunday in town.

Miss Ruth Dowell spent from Friday afternoon till Monday A. M. with relatives and friends in Rich Square and Ahoskie.

Miss Mary Parker, who teaches in district No. 44, north of town, spent the past week end in town, the guest of Mrs. J. J. Parker.

Mr. C. C. Parker is on the sick list.

The local Farmers' Union has changed its time for meeting from Saturday afternoon to Wednesday evening before the second and fourth Sundays of each month. This organization is becoming very popular among our farmers.

Rev. Lloyd Parker of Woodland, spent Friday night in the home of Mr. C. W. Draper.

Parker's big brick store house is nearing completion. The finishing touches are being applied, and it will be ready for occupancy in the course of a few weeks.

Rev. W. B. North, Ph. D., filled his regular appointments in the Methodist churches here Sunday. He preached thoughtful and practical sermons to large congregations.

A missionary program of unusual interest was rendered by the Fourth Department of the Epworth League in the Methodist church last Sunday evening.

The subject of the program was "The Call of Christ to the Church." Mr. R. L. Scott was the leader. Excellent addresses were made by Messrs. Ralph Parker and D. A. Parker, and Dr. W. B. North, the pastor, after an appropriate outline was made by the leader. The leading musical number was a quartette sung by Misses Lina Gray and Lota Lee Draper and Messrs. B. H. Parker and Stanley C. Draper.

A Baraca class will be organized in the Methodist Sunday School next Sunday morning at 10 o'clock. A long list of charter members is expected. A committee from the Baraca class of the M. E. church of Rich Square is expected to be present and assist in effecting the organization. The young men of the community are cordially invited to join the class next Sunday.

One of the leading social events of the season was a Valentine party given by Miss Lota Lee Draper and Miss Lina Maie Gray in the home of Mr. C. W. Draper last Friday evening. A goodly number of guests were present. Quite a number of out of town friends had been invited, but on account of the very unfavorable weather, the only out of town guest was Rev. Lloyd Parker of Woodland. An unusually interesting contest was held during the evening. The successful contestants, to whom a beautiful bouquet of pink, white and red carnations was awarded, were Miss Clara Vaughan and Stanley C. Draper. The leading feature of the evening was a supper. About 10:30 the guests were escorted to the beautifully decorated dining room, in the center of which was a table loaded with fruits, candies, cakes, delicious Hanbury Ice cream, etc.

The Graded School will appropriately celebrate George Washington's Birthday next Friday. An excellent program consisting

of music, addresses, recitations, etc., is being prepared for the occasion. The program will be public, and it is earnestly desired that the patrons and friends of the school will attend the exercises if possible. Time for meeting, 2:30 o'clock, in Graded School Auditorium.

Mrs. J. J. Parker delightfully entertained the young people of the town in her home on Saturday evening in honor of her guest, Miss Mary Parker. The evening was most pleasantly spent by all present. The leading features of the evening were two interesting contests, and a sumptuous supper. In the first contest the prize, which was a box of delicious candy, was awarded jointly to Miss Lillian Pope and Stanley C. Draper; the prize for the second contest was a beautifully bound volume of Longfellow's Poems, and it was awarded to Miss Clara Vaughan. It was an evening of great enjoyment to all present.

The Third Department of the Epworth League will render a Literary Program in the home of Mr. C. DeLoatch next Friday evening, as follows:

Subject: George Washington.

Leader—Mr. R. L. Scott.

Musical Selection.

Address, The Character of Washington—Stanley C. Draper.

Recitation, Washington's Birthday—Magenta Parker.

Musical Selection.

Dialogue—Lee Parker and Otis Rose.

Recitation, Tommy's Queries—Jennings Rose.

Quartette—Misses Maie Gray and Ruth Dowell, and B. H. Parker and Stanley C. Draper.

An interesting number by Miss Lillian Pope.

Social hour.

The program will begin at 8 o'clock. At 7 o'clock the business meeting of the League will be called in Mr. DeLoatch's home. All the Leaguers are expected to be present.

Woodland News.

Rev. J. W. Downey preached a very interesting sermon here on Sunday morning. He also filled his regular appointment at Creeksville Sunday afternoon.

Messrs. C. J. Vaughan and W. C. Swindell went to Norfolk Monday on business.

Mrs. Annie Boone of Jackson is spending some time here with her daughter, Mrs. H. P. Dunning.

Mr. Dan Holloman left Monday to accept a position in Franklin, Va.

Miss McNemar was entertained at the Harrell House while here.

Mr. C. W. Parker, Jr. left school last week on account of the illness of his father. He returned Monday.

Several from here are expecting to attend the Brown-Outland marriage at George Wednesday night.

Mesdames Q. H. Cooke and L. C. Copeland spent last Wednesday in Rich Square.

A Psalm of Life.

From the Nordheim View

Lives of poor men oft remind us honest toil don't stand a chance; the more we work we leave behind us bigger patches on our pants. On our pants once new and glossy now are patches of different hue; all because subscribers linger and won't pay up for The View. Then let all be up and doing; send in your mite, be it ever so small, or when the blasts of March shall strike us we shall have no pants at all.

Subscribe to the TIMES.

A SIX MONTHS' SCHOOL.

The People Demanding That the Country Boys and Girls be Given Better Opportunities.

The time has come when our State cannot afford to neglect to provide a longer school term than heretofore. We all know that a six months' school term is needed, as the greatest number of the boys and girls of our State get their education in the public schools. North Carolina is a great State and can be made greater if we educate the mass of people in schools of six months with compulsory education; that is the only means whereby they can ever hope to be trained and educated.

This question of an additional two months to the public school term is a great one and is being discussed with much interest by men of every calling all over the State. Some of the schools of the State have a five months' term, and only a few a six months' term. What we want is that the school term shall be the same length in every county in North Carolina. Now is the time to take hold of this great question and do all we can for the enactment of a longer school term. The country boys and girls of North Carolina today have a poorer chance for education than children anywhere else in the United States except New Mexico. North Carolina is giving the country boys and girls a school term of only ninety-three days, while some other States are giving one hundred and seventy and one hundred and eighty days. Why can't we do as well? There is no reason why we can't come up to the standard. If the county superintendents would urge the board of education, the school committeemen and other citizens who are interested, to see or write their representatives to use their influence for the passage of this law, I am sure it would mean its enactment at this session of the Legislature. Other interests have had their way in North Carolina regardless of what happened to the country boys and girls; and the people propose now to demand that the country boys and girls shall have their way regardless of what happens to other things. We must all join together in demanding that the Legislature of North Carolina shall not adjourn this spring until it has made absolute and unqualified provision to furnish at least a six months' school term for every boy and girl in our State.

RUTH PALMER WAFF.

Woodland, N. C.

India's Cotton-Crop Forecast.

The Economist, London England.

The recently issued official forecast of the Indian cotton crop gives the area and estimated yield up to the end of November, 1912. It is stated that the season has been favorable except in parts of Bombay Presidency and Hyderabad, where tracts suffered from insufficient moisture.

The total area under cotton cultivation in India at the period named is returned at 20,941,000 acres, or 8 per cent more than on the corresponding date of 1911, and the yield at 4,330,000 bales (of 400 pounds), a gain of 40 per cent. Owing to the major portion of the crop in southern India being sown later than elsewhere, the returns to the end of November are necessarily below the final ones.

SEVERD NEWS.

Messrs. R. E. Barrett, Ernest DeLoatch and Spier Edwards of Boykins, Va., were seen on our streets last Tuesday.

Mr. L. T. Spence of Conway, but who was one of our boys last year, was a visitor here Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. White, Mrs. Clayton Long and Mr. Archie Pruden motored over to Murfreesboro last Monday to call on the young ladies from here who are students at Chowan College.

Mrs. Charley Edwards and children of Kelford are visiting her mother, Mrs. India Johnson.

Messrs. W. H. and G. W. Pruden, who have been suffering with rheumatism the greater part of this year, are still confined to their rooms.

Miss Stanley of Garysburg and one of the Northampton teachers visited her friend, Miss Maud Harris, last Saturday.

Owing to the bad condition of the roads on account of the snow, the teachers of this district failed to meet here last Saturday as scheduled. A number of the patrons of the school had gathered to welcome the teachers and they, with what teachers did come, enjoyed the feast of good things provided and then, dispersed to their homes.

Mr. P. W. Edwards spent last week in Richmond, Va., attending the Grand Lodge of Masons.

Under the auspices of the Betterment Association and for the benefit of the school, the play, "Next Door" will be given by local talent in the auditorium of the High School building on Friday evening, Feb. 28th. This play is a good one, full of clean fun and laughter and all who wish to enjoy an evening of pleasure are invited to come. Admission 25 and 15 cents. Reserved seats 35 cents.

Be Careful Where You Buy Your Cotton Seed.

Many farmers will be looking out for new varieties in cotton seed. This is well, but try them in a small way until you see how they are adapted to your soils and climatic conditions. However, in selecting the new seed, be careful to inquire if the cotton is free from anthracnose or boll-rot. This is a disease that can be easily introduced by purchasing seed from careless or unscrupulous dealers. Every State should enact a law similar to the South Carolina law against selling diseased cotton seed. In fact the law should apply to all seeds. Anthracnose is costing the cotton growers of the South millions of dollars annually. I have seen fields this year where 25 per cent or more of the bolls were affected. Be sure and plant only seed that are free from the disease, and on land that did not grow cotton last year and you will not be troubled with it. The fungus cannot live in the soil over a year, but will live in the seed as long as three years. Avoid this cotton disease as you would a disease affecting livestock. A stitch in time frequently saves more than nine.—T. B. Parker, in the Progressive Farmer.

Wanted, No Amateur.

Edith and Flora were spending their summer vacation in the country.

"Do you know," said Edith, "He told me that he had never kissed any girl before."

"What did you tell him?" asked Flora.

"Why," replied Edith, "I told him I was no agricultural experiment station."—Harper's Bazaar.

TARIFF REVISION.

The South Not Wholly Freed From Fetish of Free Trade, Which Belonged to Institution of Slavery.

Tariff revision under Democratic rule seems to be taking its usual course, to some extent. Articles of Southern make are put down, and those of Northern make are more or less upheld. We make no complaint in this matter against our Northern friends, for the fault rather rests upon and with our representatives in Congress. It is proposed to make a very decided cut of the tariff on cotton goods, while the late news is that the tariff on woolen goods remains almost the same. Southern representatives in Congress have moved in some degree away from the old fetish of free trade which belonged to the institution of slavery, but we are not yet wholly freed from it. Without any quarrel whatever with the woolen trade, we know, it could better stand a cut than the Southern cotton goods could. Our representatives in Congress have been so long advocating free trade, that it is hard for them to refuse to acquiesce in a cut on Southern products towards a free trade basis, but meanwhile Northern Congressmen get the highest tariff possible and hold to it. While the Southern Congressmen are pursuing a theory, and let the practical results go in deference to the theory, the Northern representatives are pursuing practical results and getting them.—Charlotte Observer.

Winton Locals.

Messrs. J. H. Jenkins, J. H. Lee and E. L. Banks were in Norfolk last week on business.

Miss Ruth Vann of Chowan College spent last week at home in order to have some dental work done.

Mr. Louis Daniel, having finished his law course at Chapel Hill, has returned home where he will practice.

Mr. E. F. Banks has been on the sick list, but is improving now.

Mr. F. E. Hines, near Winton, lost a very valuable horse Sunday night.

Mr. Leonard Story has accepted a position on the steamer, Carolina.

Miss Gladys Browne spent from Thursday until Sunday at home on account of the illness of her mother.

Mr. D. P. Harris made quite a short trip to Murfreesboro last week.

Miss Chlorine Liverman spent last week in Norfolk.

Mr. John E. Vann is still improving but has not been able to return to his work yet.

Miss Ina Mitchell of Chowan College spent last Saturday and Sunday at home.

Rev. D. P. Harris filled his regular appointment at the Chowan Church Sunday.

Mr. Adrian Mitchell went to Norfolk last week on business.

Miss Ruby Cowan of Cofield spent Sunday with Miss Pearle Jenkins.

A charter has been issued for the new bank and the stockholders are preparing to go to work. The lot has been bought. It is the place known as the Old Faison Store.

North Carolina Day was observed at the Winton Graded School Feb. 6th. There was quite a full attendance for such an occasion.