

# The Roanoke-Chowan Times.

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## DISTRICT TEACHERS' MEETING.

Only One Absentee--Live Subjects Discussed--The Professional Spirit Increasing.

On the 22nd inst. there was a very gratifying attendance--there being only one absentee--of the teachers of the Roanoke-Rich Square District at Olney school house, George, N. C. Besides the members of this particular district there were present a number of other teachers whose presence was an inspiration.

The liveliness and spontaneity with which the program was rendered was very noticeable. The discussions on the various numbers were partaken in by nearly all present and waxed so enthusiastic that it was hard to break them off and take the next subject. We afresh felt that these meetings are of so much importance to the teachers that none can afford to miss them.

The first on the program was a Round Table Discussion of Chapters V to VIII inclusive of "Checking the Waste." The excessive waste in mining coal and other fuels, also in mining some of the minerals, especially iron, was clearly set forth. Methods of preventing much of this waste and the duty, in the interest of future generations of doing so, were explained.

Then followed a paper read by Bertha Copeland on "Proper Assignment of the Lesson and its Importance." Teachers were anew impressed with the necessity, if best results are to be secured, of devoting more time to this important step in teaching. The success or failure on the part of the student in preparing the next lesson is very frequently a reflection of the teacher's performance or non-performance of the important duty of assignment.

The meeting was then favored with the presentation by H. J. Massey of his method of teaching Shakespeare in High School. In beginning the study of a play he would have students read it through first by themselves, as rapidly as possible, just to get the story. The second reading he would have done in class, preferably by the teacher who must be careful to read in the spirit of the author. The teacher must be interested, and the class will be, for interest is contagious. He would have students read the play the third time out of school, studying the characters and plot, and collecting notable passages. He would have genuine debates as to the merits of the various characters, and finally have student write a sketch of his favorite character. The presentation was decidedly interesting through out and free discussion followed.

The important subject of "Malaria" then claimed the attention of those present. A strong desire was manifested to find ways and means of checking the prevalence this vitality sapping disease. Instead of accepting it as a necessary evil we should fight it in every possible way, by screening, draining, where practical, and, by all means, taking quinine in some form during the malarial season. Quinine impregnated bonbons were passed around that all might judge of the feasibility of using them, especially for children.

At the close of the discussion the meeting became spectators of the "Demonstration of Soil Erosion" by R. A. Sullivan. This was made very vivid by having sand-table fitted out showing two

hills, one forested and the other deforested, with their respective valleys. A sprinkling device was operated to show the different effect of rain on these hills--on the former gradually soaking into the ground and finally seeping out in a clear stream, on the latter washing deep gullies down the hillside and carrying down soil making muddy streams.

The meeting was then treated to a lesson on "Phonics" by Josie Parker, a First Grade class being present. She showed remarkable power in making the class who were strangers to her feel at home. There was well illustrated the power the child has by this method, of learning new words.

Then followed an inspiring address by Supt. P. J. Long on "The Teacher's New Opportunities Arising From the Recent Legislation in Educational Matters." He placed before the teachers their duty to measure up to these opportunities. He believed that the professional spirit would increase and that our Summer Schools and Teachers' Institutes would be better attended. Teachers must bestir themselves or the transformation will not be rapid. It becomes all teachers to make themselves thoroughly familiar with their work for the next year and formulate for themselves plans, keeping the child's interests always in sight. He believed that the health of the student would be more carefully guarded and that Medical Health Inspection of the schools would soon be possible. School Gardening, Manual Training and Domestic Science would, in his opinion, receive an impetus. In a word all sides of the child's Nature will be looked after if the teachers keep pace with the educational trend of the times.

After a concert recitation of "The House by the Side of the Road" the meeting adjourned to meet at Woodland, 26th proximo.

## Vital Statistics Passed.

The much needed vital statistics law is now a reality. The House and Senate both passed the bill by large majorities. True, several serious amendments were made in the original bill, but even at that we have probably the best vital statistics law of any State in the Union.

One amendment changed the date of the effect of this law so that it does not go into effect until July 1, 1913. This really means that according to the machinery of the law, it will not be possible to put it into effect until October 1st. The remainder of the year will be devoted very largely to the matter of getting all the officers and machinery to running smoothly, but after this year we should have a nearly perfect registration of all births and deaths as any State in the Union.

A few other minor amendments were adopted, but if these alterations are found to be too serious a handicap on the bill, some future Legislature will doubtless remove them. In the meantime, North Carolina has much to be thankful for in this bill, and we will soon assume our place as a registration State.

"Ar'n't you the boy who was here a week ago looking for a position?"

"Yes, sir."

"I thought so. And didn't I tell you then that I wanted an older boy?"

"Yes, sir; that's why I'm here now."

## SEABOARD LOCALS.

Dr. Stancell Suffering With Rheumatism--Easter Festivities--General and Personal Items.

Mrs. Jim G. Edwards and daughter are visiting in the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Whitehead, of the Harris' Shop vicinity.

Messrs. Jethro Harris of Trinity College, Spurgeon Clarke, Wake Forest College, and Herman Lassiter of University College of Medicine, Richmond, Va., came home for the Easter holidays. Mr. Lassiter has been indisposed for some time and has been ordered to take not less than a two week's rest.

Misses Minnie Taylor, Littleton College faculty and sister, Emma, of Roanoke Rapids faculty, returned to their respective positions, after spending the holidays with their mother, Mrs. Mollie Taylor.

We do not remember ever to have experienced more ideal Easter weather. In consequence everybody was out, either riding or walking.

Miss Josie Maddrey, Mr. Lewis Sessions and Master Bernley Dossy, Norfolk, Va., spent the Easter holidays in the home of Mrs. R. M. Maddrey.

Mr. Garland Grubbs and bride returned to Suffolk, Va., Friday after spending a week here with his mother, Mrs. Lucie M. Grubbs.

Mr. C. P. Stephenson is further improving his store building on Main St. by having a broad double porch added to the front. His daughter, Mrs. Mattie M. Gav, whose millinery establishment occupies the second floor, will find her quarters much more comfortable as the warm days approach.

Ex Sheriff Buffaloe and daughter, Miss Lucy, Misses Helen and Pearl Grant, Jackson, were appreciated guests of the family of Mrs. R. M. Maddrey last Sunday afternoon.

Mr. A. Weaver and son John, who have positions at Vaughan, spent Easter here with his family.

Dr. M. R. Stephenson and Mr. W. H. Howell returned Sunday from a week's business trip to Lexington, Ky., and points in other nearby states.

The Easter egg hunt, on the Baptist church grounds last Saturday afternoon, given complimentary to the Seaboard Sunbeams, was largely attended by the little folks of town and community and enjoyed to the utmost.

Mrs. Alma Railey returned to her beautiful country home near Margarettsville Monday afternoon, after spending a few days here with relatives.

Mr. Rob Maddey and sister, Mrs. J. J. Darden, Mapleton, spent Easter here with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. D. B. Maddrey.

Mr. Jno. T. Ramsay and wife, Richmond, Va., are spending a few days in the pleasant home of his mother, Mrs. Bettie Phillips Ramsay.

A party of young people from here journeyed to old Jordan's mill Monday morning and spent the day fishing and eating. The weather was all that could be desired for such an excursion, and pleasant memories of the day will long live in the minds of those who constituted this Easter picnic party. It was given in honor of Miss E. Josie Maddrey, of Norfolk.

Mr. J. T. Pruden, wife and little daughter, Ida, spent Easter here with her mother, Mrs. Mary

E. Gay and other relatives. These good people were former residents here and never let an opportunity pass to revisit their first love.

Miss Edna Futrell, who spent the winter here in the home of her sister, Mrs. J. G. L. Crocker, will leave Tuesday for a protracted visit to relatives of Conway and adjacent community.

Our market was well supplied last week with fresh herring and shad. They find eager purchasers among the housewives, who are wondering each day what they shall find to cook.

Rev. J. N. Cole, superintendent of the Methodist Orphanage, Raleigh, preached to a full house at the M. E. church Sunday evening and received, as usual, a very liberal donation to the Institution he so ably represents.

Mrs. Mary E. Gay, who has been assisting in nursing her brother, Dr. R. H. Stancell, who is suffering intensely with rheumatism, came home Friday to be with her daughter, Mrs. J. T. Pruden, with the promise she would return as soon as this visit ended. True to her promise, she returned to Margarettsville Monday and will not be at home here until his condition is greatly improved.

Drs. Lewis and Morehead were here last week inspecting the pupils of Seaboard State High School. This step if taken years ago, would have saved much suffering as well as inconvenience. They found a few pupils here in need of immediate medical attention.

All who have not planted Irish potatoes find that the order of the day now. If there was no full moon in March there are some among us who would never plant this wholesome food.

Early cabbage are looking fine in this locality. If the present spring weather abides with us our market will soon be bountifully supplied with this earliest of all vegetables.

## Woodland News.

Mrs. Parthenia Hackney of Eagletown visited friends here Sunday and Monday. While here, she made some very helpful talks in the Epworth League meeting Sunday night and at the academy Monday morning.

Miss Nina Holloman of Chowan College spent from Friday until Monday with her people here.

Mrs. Wheeler of Norfolk visited her sister, Mrs. A. P. Joyner, a few days last week.

Mrs. C. J. Vaughan, Misses Sibyl Harrell and Inez Benthall left Tuesday morning for Raleigh to attend the annual Missionary Union in session there this week. Mrs. Vaughan represents the Woman's Society here, Miss Benthall the Y. W. A's. and Miss Harrell the Sunbeams.

Misses Vester and Elsie Benthall and Lillie Cooke visited relatives and friends near Vann's Grove Sunday.

Mrs. J. W. Downey and children are spending several weeks with their relatives in Petersburg, Va. Rev. Mr. Downey attended the Missionary Convention at Aulander and went from there to Roxobel to fill his appointments Saturday and Sunday.

Our teachers and pupils are hard at work, both with lessons and commencement exercises. The town is looking forward to commencement as a very enjoyable occasion. Our wide-awake teachers will do all possible to make it what it should be.

The debate Friday night attracted quite a crowd. The debaters were very much interested in their question--Resolved that the world is growing better, and it was really a pleasure to listen to their well prepared speeches.

## FRJJA JACKSON.

Court Next Week--Betterment Meeting Postponed--General and Personal News Items.

Miss Rosa Perry of Littleton was in Jackson from Friday until Monday, the guest of Mrs. E. J. Gay.

Mr. Paul North, who is a student of Trinity College, spent the Easter holidays with his parents, Dr. and Mrs. W. B. North.

Miss Rosalie Young of Durham is the guest of her cousin, Mr. W. D. Barbee, at the home of Mrs. Robert Burnette.

Mr. Badger Gay, who is in college in Richmond, came home Friday.

Miss Ellen Bowen returned Saturday from a visit to Portsmouth and Port Norfolk, Va.

Mr. H. Stuart Lewis of Suffolk spent Easter in his old home here.

Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Brockenbrough of Tappahannock, Va., arrived on Monday to visit Mr. and Mrs. H. K. Burgwyn.

Miss Johnson of Virginia is visiting Miss Lessie Wright.

Dr. S. B. Boone, who is taking a course in surgery in Johns Hopkins, is at home for a few days.

Mr. W. H. S. Burgwyn and Mr. Lunsford Long were in town on professional business this week.

Mr. W. H. Buffaloe and daughter, Miss Lucye Buffaloe, visited Mrs. H. Carlton Maddrey in Seaboard Sunday.

Mr. J. G. Stancell of Margarettsville was in Jackson Monday.

The spring term of Superior Court will convene here on March 31st, Judge Charles M. Cook, presiding.

Special Easter music was excellently rendered by the choir of the Methodist church at the morning and evening services on Sunday.

Monday was a holiday for the pupils of the graded school.

The meeting of the Betterment Association, called for Friday, the 28th, will be postponed until the following Friday, April 4, as the auditorium will be in use by our Rich Square friends during the afternoon, preparatory to the presentation of the play, "The Country Doctor," that evening. The Betterment Association will serve refreshments after the play.

Twenty-six maple trees have been planted on the school grounds. Other improvements will soon follow.

The items from Jackson go to the "TIMES" on Tuesday morning. Otherwise, the society events of the season would occupy an important place in these columns.

"Oh thank you," exclaimed an elderly lady to a laborer who surrendered his seat in a crowded car; thank you very much!"

"That's all right, mum," was the rejoinder. As the lady sat down the chivalrous laborer added: "Wot I say is a man never ort to let a woman stand. Some men never gets up unless she's pretty, but you see, mum' it don't make no difference to me."

The curate of a large and fashionable church was endeavoring to teach the significance of white to a Sunday school class.

"Why," said he, "does a bride invariably desire to be clothed in white at her marriage?" As no one answered, he explained. "White," said he, "stands for joy, and the wedding day is the most joyous occasion of a woman's life."

A small boy queried. "Why do the men all wear black?"