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John B. Sherrill, Editor and Publisher.

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ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT

OF THE CONCORD PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL THIS WEEK.

Excellent Address Monday Night by Rev. T. A. Smoot Greatly Enjoyed by a Large Audience.

The annual closing exercises of the Concord Public Schools were continued Monday night at the Central Graded School building.

The exercises were opened by the audience singing "Our Public Schools" followed by a prayer by Rev. P. T. Durham. Prof. J. D. Lentz then introduced the class of 1910, twenty-two in number. He then presented Dr. J. E. Smoot, chairman of the school board, who, after giving the graduates much wholesome advice, presented to each a graduate certificate of graduation.

Prof. Lentz then introduced Rev. T. A. Smoot, pastor of Grace Street Methodist church, Wilmington, who delivered the annual literary address.

Mr. Smoot's address was a powerful plea for independent thinking and the cultivation of a strong and forceful individuality. And taking this as the main subject of his address for more than an hour he held the strictest attention of the large audience that completely filled the auditorium of the school building. Mr. Smoot began his address with a few personal remarks over the pleasure it gave him to be with the people of this section of the State. He then went off into his subject, taking up reason, independent thought and showing the good results that the exercise of these two things have in the development and creation of a strong and forceful individuality and personality that is able to stand upon its own resources.

"The power of reason is the power that leads us above the animal life and brings us civilization. The anthropoid never changed the course of a brook or broke a bough in the forest, but man, by the power of reason has changed the course of rivers and streams and cut down the forest and built empires.

He was especially forceful in exhorting the class of 1910 to be independent thinkers, using present day politics as an illustration of the failure to think independently, stating that it was not the lack of intelligence that caused men to be led to the ballot box and to follow the beaten paths that had been laid out for them but that it was a lack of independent thinking on the part of the individual.

There are men in the various spheres of life whose failures are due on account of the fact that they fail to think themselves, and turning to the graduates he urged them to stand upon their own resources and be free and independent thinkers and when you knock at the door of some institution to strive to knock as an independent thinker. "It is only when we come upon the truth in our own thinking and adopt it to our own individuality that we derive happiness and joy in our power to reason."

We do not want to depend entirely on books but everyone should cultivate a friendly attitude toward them and no man should be mastered by any book or man, but should have them as his companions and friends and tools to aid him to accomplish things. Independence in thinking does not mean that we are to cut out books as there are times in our lives when we must have them and days when we need them as there can be no true accuracy without the books but there is a difference in men in their attitude towards books and we do not want to be a slave to them. It is necessary that a mental commerce does exist among men and women as that is the only way the world's ideas and purposes can become the common property of all mankind.

"It is the man who has got in the rut and who ceases to have anything in common who is the one who ceases to enjoy life. It is the commonplace things in life that damn us and if there is any one thing our Master emphasized by His life it was that there is nothing common. Don't worry about the commonplace things or yearn for the extraordinary but let your task be noble and ennoble your task by your appreciation.

"It is only by independent thought that you will gain an individuality that will be worth while. It is your duty to maintain the dignity of your mind and thought and you can't have personality unless you think for yourself. The personality of God and the personality of the individual go together and unless your heart is filled with the principle of love and free from hate you never have a personality of force."

CLASS EXERCISES.

At the Graded School Tuesday Night—Scholarships Won by Brower and Sherrill.

The class exercises Tuesday night completed the commencement program of the Concord Public Schools and the class of 1910, twenty-two in

number passed out into history.

The exercises that night were conducted entirely by the graduating class and the auditorium was crowded with people to witness the exercises by the graduates, and no one could resist a feeling of pride when the different representatives of the class would complete their part of the programme, and as they turned back to their seats with their last duty to their class and school performed they would be greeted with deafening applause by the audience. Every one on the program performed his or her part in a manner that not only did credit to themselves but to the class and to the school.

The exercises were begun with the class of 1910 singing "Farewell to Our School." The President of the class, Miss Elizabeth Irwin Woodhouse, in a manner that showed the wisdom of her classmates in bestowing the highest honor of their class upon her, then presented to the audience the class of 1910.

Miss Mary Francis Hartsell read a paper, "The Class, Its Past and Future," which was thoroughly enjoyed by every one. Miss Hartsell traced the history of the class from the day they entered the first grade to the graduating day. Tracing their gradual growth through the different processes of development in their ascent toward graduation, recalling a number of events that had transpired during the years the class of 1910 had been on their journey toward reaching the coveted goal where they now stood, recalled the pleasant memories that lingered with them of the social events they had attended together.

Mr. William Montgomery Sherrill, class orator, delivered his oration, "The March to Appomattox." Mr. Sherrill's speech showed that in him the class had found an orator that was fully capable of delivering an oration in keeping with the high standard of excellence the class had acquired in all its undertakings.

The next number on the program was the class poem by Miss Edna Camm Campbell, class poet, which was well read, and which breathed forth in verse the tender sentiments of the members of the class of 1910.

"Henry W. Grady," a declamation, by Edwin Neil Brower, was delivered by him in such way as to win the admiration of all who heard it which showed a thorough preparation and was delivered in a forceful and direct manner that did credit both to him and his class.

"The Last Will and Testament of the Class" by Miss Margaret Query, proved to be a most delightful legal instrument and at times when she would read out some of the wills and bequests of the class they would be followed by roars of laughter from the audience.

Miss Willie May Stratford presented the class gift, a bust of Washington. In a few well chosen remarks she expressed the regret that was felt by the class in leaving the school and also their desire to donate a gift that would keep alive the memory of the class of 1910.

Mr. M. B. Stickleby, on behalf of the school, accepted the gift, speaking feelingly of the relationship between the members of the school board and the class. He closed his remarks by telling the graduating class that they rejoiced with them and expected great things of them in the life upon which they are about to enter.

Superintendent Lentz then announced the winners of the scholarships, stating at the time that on account of Prof. Webb's absence all of the scholarships could not be announced. These scholarships are given to the boy who averages over 95 and is in the estimation of the teacher prepared to enter the college in which they are given. The highest average among the boys entitles him to a scholarship to the University of North Carolina, the next highest to scholarship at Trinity College. The scholarship to the University was awarded to Mr. William Montgomery Sherrill, and the one to Trinity to Mr. Alfred Neil Brower.

Mr. Lentz then made reference to the remarkable record of one of the members of the class, Mr. William Montgomery Sherrill, who has been a student at the school for the past ten years and during that time has never missed a day or been tardy a single time or even missed a recitation. Mr. Lentz stated that Mr. Sherrill's father and mother desired to present him with a gift through the school and Dr. Smoot, chairman of the school board, in a few well chosen words presented to Mr. Sherrill a handsome gold watch.

Miss Margaret Query is another member of the graduating class who deserves special mention. She entered the graded school in the third grade and was promoted from that to the fifth. She completed the course from the third grade to graduation without missing a day or being tardy. This is a fine record.

The class and the audience joined in singing "The Class of Nineteen Ten" and the audience adjourned.

Mr. Fred Patterson, is spending the day in Charlotte.

WORK OF THE COURT.

"Snowball" Given Sentence of 30 Years in Penitentiary—Other Cases Disposed of.

The criminal cases at this term of court are being rapidly disposed of and the end of the docket is near. Solicitor Clarkson is prosecuting the cases in his usual vigorous manner, and the law breakers at this term are not faring easy, as they are surely meeting with ample punishment for their offenses. It is safe to say that those convicted at this term will hesitate many times before committing other offenses that will again bring them before the bar of justice.

The following cases have been disposed of:

Adam Harris, larceny, guilty; 120 days on the road.
Buelah Jackson, a. d. w., pleads guilty; fined \$25.00 and costs.
Paul Ingram, larceny, guilty; 90 days on the road.
Nathaniel Fincher, larceny; 120 days on the road.
Frank Blackwood, store breaking, guilty; 18 months on the road.
John Russell, larceny, guilty; 120 days on the road.

Robert Burton, the negro who broke into the residence of Mr. J. K. Patterson the first of March, was tried Monday afternoon on the charge of burglary. After the evidence had been submitted Burton's counsel, Messrs. Williams and Stickleby, submitted to burglary in the second degree for their client. Mr. Williams stated to the Court that they were confident that the jury would convict Burton, although Burton strongly denied that he was the one who entered the house, that they as his counsel thought it the wisest step to submit to burglary in the second degree and thereby save Burton's life. Judge Pell promptly sentenced Burton to 30 years at hard labor in the State penitentiary.

Burton is known here as "Snowball," and is probably the blackest negro in North Carolina. He has served a number of sentences on the road in this and other counties. He drank liquor and sniffed cocaine and was a lazy indolent negro, a menace to his race and civilization, and there was little sympathy even among his own race for him when sentence was pronounced.

The case of the State vs. Dry and Blake, charged with the murder of Myrtle Flowe, was continued until next court, as the decision of the Supreme Court has not been certified to the Superior Court.

The case of Krimminger for cutting a telephone wire, which was tried some time ago in a magistrate's court, at which time the justice failed to bind the defendant over to court and the prosecution took an appeal on the matter of costs, was heard yesterday afternoon and after all the evidence was submitted the case was dismissed and the costs will have to be paid by Krimminger.

Other cases disposed of were:

Mack Gunter, affray; fined \$30 including costs.
Bob Ritchie, store breaking; 60 days on the road.
George Jones, larceny, four months on chain gang.

The case against Fannie Jefferson, charged with infanticide was continued until next term of court. An agreement was made between the solicitor and the defendant's counsel, Messrs. Hartsell and Maness, that physician practicing in this State, who is a specialist in mental diseases be employed and examine the defendant and to appear here at the next term of court to give testimony in the case. The Jefferson negro will plead insanity in her defense.

Catawba College Commencement.

Following is the programme for the commencement at Catawba College, Newton:

May 29, 8 p. m.—Baccalaureate sermon, Rev. J. D. Andrews, Burlington, N. C.

May 30, 8 p. m.—Dramatic performance.

May 31, 1 to 5 p. m.—Art exhibit. 8 p. m.—Alumni oration, W. Banks Dove, '96, Columbia, S. C.

10 p. m.—Alumni luncheon. 2:30 p. m.—Commencement address, Hon. T. W. Bickett, Attorney General of North Carolina.

June 1, 10:30 a. m.—Graduating exercises. 8 p. m.—Commencement concert.

Odd Fellow's Meeting.

The Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows is in session this week at Goldsboro. The beautiful and imposing Jacobi memorial building recently completed on the spacious grounds of the State orphan home of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows to the memory of the "Father of the Home," the late lamented Nathaniel Jacobi, of Wilmington, was formally received by the State Grand Lodge.

Mr. R. N. Hackett, of Wilkesboro, was elected Grand Master, and Winston-Salem was chosen as the next place of meeting.

ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT AT MT. PLEASANT.

Complete Programme of the Exercises at the Institute and Seminary, May 16 to 18.

We thank the faculty of the Mt. Pleasant Collegiate Institute for an invitation to the closing exercises of the Institute and Seminary, which will take place this year from May 16 to 18. There are six graduates this year, namely: W. H. Dutton, G. H. Faggart, D. S. Lippard, J. E. Miller, J. C. Peck, D. L. Ridenhour.

The following is a complete programme of all the exercises at both institutions:

Monday, May 16, 10:30 a. m.—Contest in debate, Mount Pleasant Collegiate Institute. Query: "Resolved, That Labor Unions are Beneficial to Our Country." Affirmative: H. E. Cline, H. A. Fisher, Z. B. Trexler; Negative: I. R. Crane, I. L. Hoffner, D. C. Trexler.

Monday, May 16, 2:30 p. m.—Senior Class play, Mont Amoena Seminary.

Monday, May 16, 4:30 p. m.—Contest in Declamation, M. P. C. I. J. N. Auten, O. L. Flowe, H. P. Garmon, I. J. Lowder, D. P. Whitley, J. L. Yost.

Monday, May 16, 8:30 p. m.—Annual drama M. P. C. I. and M. A. C.

Tuesday, May 17, 10:30 a. m.—Address before the Literary Societies, M. P. C. I. President Henry Louis Smith, LL. D.

Tuesday, May 17, 3:00 p. m.—Contests in oratory, M. P. C. I. W. H. Dutton, O. H. Faggart, D. S. Lippard, J. E. Miller, J. C. Peck, D. L. Ridenhour.

Tuesday, May 17, 8:30 p. m.—Exercises in expression and music, M. A. S.

Wednesday, May 18, 10:30 a. m.—Baccalaureate sermon, Rev. R. L. Patterson, B. D.

Awarding of medals and diplomas. Marshals—Gerhardt Society: D. L. Ridenhour, Chief; J. L. Yost, I. L. Hoffner, H. M. Faggart; Ludwig Society: J. O. Gluyas, I. R. Crane, H. M. Taylor.

The Board of trustees of the Collegiate Institute will meet in the Chapel Tuesday May 17, 9 a. m.

Memorial Day Observed. Memorial Day was very appropriately observed here Tuesday with exercises by the children, an address by Rev. Dr. J. M. Grier and the songs by the Veterans' Choir. Dr. Grier's address was short but most appropriate, his tribute to the Confederate dead being most beautiful. The songs by the veterans was thoroughly enjoyed and for the manner in which they sang "We Are Tenting on the Old Camp Ground" the large crowd felt deeply indebted to them.

Crosses of Honor were presented to the veterans who had not received them by Mrs. W. J. Montgomery on behalf of the Daughters of the Confederacy. The following veterans received the crosses: W. J. Black, J. D. Eudy, A. M. Hinson, A. W. Neal, D. M. Blackwelder and W. H. Mincey. Many lovely little children gathered there to place tender flowers upon the monument erected to commemorate the memory of the Confederate dead of this county.

All the veterans of the county are invited to meet at the court house on the birthday of Jefferson Davis, when dinner will be served them by the Daughters of the Confederacy.

Civil Docket Taken Up.

The civil docket was taken up at the morning session of court. Two cases have been disposed of. Anna Hall vs. Dan Hall, colored, for divorce. Divorce granted. Bessie Barrier vs. Felix Barrier, colored, suit for divorce; divorce granted.

The case of Bird vs. North Carolina Railway Co. is being tried now. Bird was injured at the Southern yard in Spencer in the fall of 1908 while riding on one of the Southern's freight trains. This case was tried here last year and a verdict was rendered in favor of the plaintiff. The defendant company appealed to the Supreme Court and a new trial was granted. It will probably consume the remainder of the week to try this case. Messrs. Montgomery & Crowell, G. W. Garland and E. T. Candler represent the plaintiff and L. C. Caldwell and L. T. Hartsell the defendant company.

Commencement at Laura Sunderland School.

The annual commencement exercises of the Laura Sunderland School will take place this year on May nineteenth and twentieth. On Thursday, May 19th, at 8 o'clock p. m., the annual recital will take place, and on Friday evening at the same hour the class exercises. There are ten graduates this year, namely: Margaret Elizabeth White, Ethel Campbell Cathey, Minnie Bell Waycaster, Lala Edna Cook, Verile Parker, Wenonah Roseth Frieze, Loma Elizabeth Trull, Minnie Caroline Marshall, Fanny Lindora Rogers, Minnie Joyner.

Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Grant, of Anderson, S. C., are here attending court.

SAD DEATH OF A YOUNG LADY.

Miss Mace Parks Passed Away Yesterday Afternoon After a Three Weeks Illness of Typhoid Fever.

Miss Mace Elizabeth Parks, the youngest daughter of Capt. and Mrs. H. B. Parks, died yesterday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock, after an illness of three weeks of typhoid fever. Miss Parks was a student at Peace Institute, Raleigh, and returned home Tuesday two weeks ago accompanied by a trained nurse from Raleigh. Her condition rapidly changed for the worse, and there was never and change in her condition that would give hope for her recovery. She grew rapidly worse yesterday morning and gradually grew weaker during the day until her death at 3:30 in the afternoon.

Miss Parks was seventeen years old the second day of last October. After completing the preparatory school here she entered the Southern Presbyterian College at Red Springs last fall a year ago, remaining in school there for one year. She entered Peace Institute last fall, and has been a student there until she returned home two weeks ago.

She was just entering a beautiful young womanhood, and her death is a peculiarly sad one. She was very popular with those who knew her, and her bright laugh and sunny disposition will be much missed in a large circle. At the very threshold of life, when its beauties are just beginning to unfold to her, she is called to lay it down.

Miss Parks is survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Parks; four sisters, Mesdames T. M. Crowell, E. W. Freeze, Lucia Parks Stephens and Miss Geneva Parks, and three brothers, Messrs. P. B. Parks, of Morganton, Hugh Parks, of this city, and Mr. Joe Parks, now attending Lehigh University.

The funeral services will be held this afternoon at 4 o'clock at the First Presbyterian church, conducted by her pastor, Rev. Dr. J. M. Grier.

The following young gentlemen will act as pall bearers: Frank Caldwell, Cyrus White, Jno. Porter, Cloud Corl, Cobb Morris and J. L. Walthall. Mr. P. B. Parks, of Morganton, a brother, and Mrs. E. W. Freeze and Mrs. T. M. Crowell, sisters, are here to attend the funeral.

THE STREET CAR LINE.

It is Expected that the Cars Will be Running Within 40 Days.

Mr. W. F. Snider, of Salisbury, president of the Piedmont Carolina Railway, returned Tuesday night from Grand Rapids, Mich., where he purchased the majority of the stock of the Salisbury-Spencer Street Car Co., including the gas and electric plant, for his company. This is the company that is constructing the street car line in this city and Mr. T. H. Vanderford stated yesterday that this will mean a big improvement in the line for this city.

When asked as to when the care would be in operation in this city, Mr. Vanderford said that he thought that it would be within thirty or forty days. That the poles for the trolley line were being prepared now, and a large force of hands would begin work Monday in putting them up; that by the time this work is completed the track will have already been completed to the depot, and that they would then put the care in operation, but would continue the work of completing the line over the proposed route.

When asked as to the report that the deal for the Salisbury-Spencer line Mr. Vanderford stated that it was not and that the line was purchased solely for the Piedmont Carolina Railway Company.

Death of Prof. Webb's Mother.

Mrs. R. S. Webb, mother of Prof. A. S. Webb, of Concord, died Tuesday morning at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Cannon, near Greensboro, after a few days illness of pneumonia. Mr. Webb was called to his mother's bedside last week and remained with her until the end came. She was the widow of the Rev. R. S. Webb, for many years a prominent minister of the Western North Carolina Conference. Mrs. Webb was 67 years of age, and a woman of beautiful Christian character. The interment took place near Mebane this afternoon.

China Grove Votes Special Tax.

On last Tuesday China Grove voted on the question of a special school tax, and we are glad to say that a special tax was carried, though by a very narrow majority. The tax is 25 cents on the \$100 valuation, and 75 cents on the poll. The registered vote was 172, and there were 94 votes cast for the tax, 12 more than necessary. It will be seen that the battle was hard fought, as 62 people actually voted against it, though not to vote at all was to register oneself against it.

We learn that the hustling town of China Grove will soon have cement sidewalks, and we are glad to note this evidence of progress.

MT. PLEASANT DEPARTMENT.

CONDUCTED BY H. M. FAGGART.

Miss Mary Harris, of Salisbury, is spending the week with Miss Mary Heilig.

Mr. Ed Beaver is here from Elton, Ga., visiting his parents.

Mr. Emmitt Thompson, of Salisbury, was in our town Tuesday. Cadet Charles Misenheimer was called to Asheville Sunday to be at the bedside of his brother, who is very ill.

Quite a number of our people went the "Humming Bird."

Paul Gilmore in "The Mummy and over to Concord Tuesday night to hear Mr. Harry Overman, of Salisbury, in our town this week taking the census of our manufacturing establishments.

Miss Hazel Cobb, who has been attending school at the Seminary returned to her home at McLeansville Tuesday.

The manager of the Institute ball team is making arrangements for a good game of ball to be played here Saturday. He will have one of the best amateur teams in the State here, and a lively game is promised.

There will be an ice cream supper given by the Mt. Pleasant Cornet band on Mr. L. J. Foil's lawn Saturday night. The public is cordially invited.

The Institute and Seminary are having their final examinations this week and are preparing for commencement. The drama this year will be something of unusual interest. "Little Em'ly" will be presented Monday night. This is an excellent play and will please any audience to hear it.

GRAND JURY'S REPORT.

Recommend that a New Floor be Placed in Clerk's Office.

The grand jury, W. R. Archibald, foreman, completed its work yesterday, and was discharged. The following is their report:

We the grand jurors for the May term, 1910, of Superior Court of Cabarrus county, beg leave to submit the following report.

We have acted on all bills of indictment handed to us by the Solicitor, and made presentments of all violations of the law that have come to our knowledge.

We visited the county home, by committee, and found twenty-six inmates. Thirteen each white and colored. The sanitary conditions were good, and the inmates expressed themselves satisfied with the treatment.

We visited the chain gang, by committee, and found fifteen convicts, six white and nine colored. The convicts expressed themselves pleased with the treatment received. The sanitary conditions of the camp were good.

We visited the jail in a body, and found fifteen prisoners, eight colored and seven white. They expressed themselves pleased with the treatment received. Found the building in a sanitary condition.

We visited the offices of the court, and find the records properly kept and would recommend that a new floor be put in the clerk's office; also that some repairs be made in the plastering in the hall.

Having completed all work assigned to us we respectfully ask that we be discharged.

Respectfully submitted,
W. R. ARCHIBALD,
Foreman of this Grand Jury.

Brushing up the Depot.

The account of the condition of the passenger station in Monday's issue of The Tribune has produced results. Mr. V. M. Camden, trainmaster, from Charlotte, came over to Concord the next day and had several negroes at work with mops cleaning the floors and walls of the station. The old stove has been removed and a glass has replaced the old tin cup. Mr. Camden stated to a representative of The Tribune that he would also replace the old red water cooler with the top knocked off with a new one, and that the depot will be put in as good shape as possible.

It matters not how earnest an effort is made on the part of the employees of the road to clean up the station here it will be impossible to keep it decent. When a building has become old and dilapidated and has stood for many years with practically no attention, it is impossible to clean it up in one afternoon. No matter how clean and sanitary the present station could be made its size alone makes it unfit for use in a city the size of Concord. Our people appreciate the work of Mr. Camden, but what they imperatively need is a new passenger station equal to the demands of our important city.

Yesterday's Charlotte Chronicle: Mrs. D. P. Hutchinson and Miss Selene Hutchinson are spending the day in Concord as the guests of Mrs. J. M. Odell. The many friends of Mrs. Odell will learn with pleasure that she is recovering from her recent illness.