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INTERESTING EXPERIMENT BY COUNTY SCHOOL AUTHORITIES

Number of Districts Have Been Consolidated During the Past Two School Years

TWO DISCONTINUED WHERE THERE WERE NO BUILDINGS

Trucks Used Past Term with Very Satisfactory Results—Don't Want Old System

In keeping with the building of larger and better residences, faster methods of travel, modern methods of farming and the new way of doing things in general, the county board of education and the superintendent of schools have for the past two years been making some efforts along the line of improving the school system of the county. Generally speaking these efforts have met the approval of the people, but in some instances strong protest has been registered, to be sure by men who are honest in their ideas and intentions.

A brief review of the work along the line of consolidation will serve to better inform the public of just what has been done and why such steps were taken. The school authorities doubtless believe that just as ox carts, as means of travel, forked sticks as implements of farming, proclaiming the news from houseposts as a means of advertising and printing newspapers from handset type on hand presses are out of date, so are the poorly lighted, poorly-ventilated one teacher schools.

Action Taken

Acting upon this principle two years ago the school in the McLarty district, in east Monroe township, where the school was taught in a poorly-lighted and ventilated outbuilding, with twenty-four students in the district, was done away with and the students were sent to Wingate and Rock Rest where good teachers and splendid equipment were available. The ones living the greatest distance from these schools travel only two and a half miles, it is stated, and they were the most anxious for the better advantage.

The Burnt House school, in Marshville township, is another example of poorly-equipped school that was taught in an outbuilding under trying circumstances and that has been discontinued and made a part of the Bellfield and Wingate districts. This school had only fifteen students, but they were as much entitled to educational advantages as anybody else, which they now have.

On Larger Scale

Last year the authorities decided to try out the consolidation proposition on a little more extensive plan and the Turner district, in Buford township, was thrown with the Prospect district. The result is that the patrons of that district generally are well satisfied with the system of trucking the students in to Prospect, and the consolidated district has decided to erect a modern brick building and make Prospect a high school, which Buford has long needed. The people of that section are very enthusiastic over the proposition.

Midway and Mount Pleasant, in Buford township, which were already two-teacher schools, were thrown together last year and a modern two-story building with six class rooms and an auditorium was erected. No truck is used in this district and the greatest distance traveled by any student is about two miles, and there seems to be no protest.

As an experiment the Walker district was last year induced to use a truck for carrying the students to Waxhaw and were promised that they might go back to the old school if at the end of the term the new arrangement did not prove to be satisfactory, but the county superintendent reports that nobody wants to revert to the old way.

Bakers, Mineral Springs, and Pleasant Grove districts were also consolidated last year and a modern, well-equipped building is in use at Mineral Springs, the students living at greatest distance being required to go about three miles, two or three patrons still protesting about the move.

Ebenezer and Center Grove, in Vance and Goose Creek townships, have been consolidated. Before consolidation the average attendance in Center Grove, according to records in the superintendent's office, was 18 while that of Ebenezer was 50, making an average for the two schools of 68. Last year the average in the consolidated district was 105, 15 of whom were high school students, which gives an increase of 37 students since the districts were consolidated.

Piney View and Stallings have been consolidated with Indian Trail and two miles is the greatest distance traveled by any student in this district.

Larger Communities

The above furnishes a fairly accurate review of what has been done in the way of making larger and better communities out of small ones with poorly equipped schools.

People are sometimes reluctant to give up a small one-room school house that has become the center of the community life, but experience seems to show that where a community once decides to enlarge its bounds and provide more modern and efficient school facilities the community spirit is not destroyed, but broadened and made stronger.

Preaching services will be held at Pleasant View in North Monroe Sunday at 11 o'clock. Sacred Harp singing at 10 o'clock before preaching.

SPLENDID REPORT ON REHABILITATION WORK

Local Committee Has Been Busy and Has Rendered Aid to Seven Disabled Persons

Believing a certain amount of publicity to be essential in connection with rehabilitation work in this county, this report, covering the period from March 4th to July 4th, is submitted by the Union county committee on Rehabilitation. This committee was organized on March 4th of this year by H. L. Staton, Supervisor of Industrial Rehabilitation for the State of North Carolina, to assist the state board in investigating cases in Union county. Similar committees are being organized throughout the state, the local committee being one of the first five to start handling this humanitarian work which is attracting widespread attention.

The Union county committee has been most active, having investigated and reported seven cases, all of which have received favorable action by the state board, and the committee has been highly commended by the supervisor for the work accomplished. This committee is composed of the following: Chairman, W. M. Gordon, medical officer, Dr. G. B. Nance, field representative, Rev. E. C. Snyder, secretary, Chas. W. Orton, Prof. Ray Funderburk and E. C. Carpenter.

Following is a list of the cases investigated, giving the nature of disability, together with a report of the action taken by the state board:

Wm. P. Stegall, Marshville N. C., route 4, left leg off just below hip. Supplied with artificial leg, given an allowance for living expenses while learning the shoe repairing trade, supplied with tools, given medical attention.

Ed Cuthbertson, Marshville, right leg off, four inches above ankle. Supplied with artificial leg, employment secured.

Dock Meachum, Monroe, right leg off, four inches below hip. Supplied with artificial leg.

Lewis Bivens, Monroe, right foot off, six inches above ankle. Supplied with artificial leg.

Bessie Roseboro, Monroe, left hand off at wrist joint. Supplied with artificial hand.

Chas. L. Helms, Unionville, route 2, right leg off four inches above knee. Artificial leg supplied.

James McKinney, Waxhaw, right leg off four inches above ankle. Supplied with artificial leg.

Any cases of crippled or disabled residents of Union county requiring assistance should be reported to Rev. E. C. Snyder, county welfare officer, or to secretary Chas. W. Orton, at the Chamber of Commerce.

Death of Mrs. Wilson

Mrs. L. L. Wilson died at her home in Danville, Va., last Saturday night at 12 o'clock. She is survived by her husband and four children and an infant, the mother dying within a few minutes after her birth. Mrs. Wilson before her marriage, was Miss Pattie Moore, daughter of the late Esq. and Mrs. H. C. Moore, of the Rock Rest community, and a sister of Mr. O. H. Moore, of Monroe, and Frank, James, A. D. Henry and Jesse Moore, all of this county. Mrs. Wilson died on her 29th birthday. She was a devoted wife and mother, a member of the Baptist church since girlhood and at the time of her death was a member of the First Baptist church at Charlotte. She was before her marriage a trained nurse. By her request she was buried at Sugar Creek church, four miles north of Charlotte, and funeral services were conducted at 10 o'clock Monday morning, Rev. Dr. Orr conducting the services. None of Mrs. Wilson's brothers went to Danville because of train connection, but met the funeral party at Charlotte and from there went to Mr. Wilson's old home at Sugar Creek. Mr. Wilson was for a number of years a Charlotte policeman and men from the force acted as pall bearers. The children, a girl six years old, and two little boys, four and two years old respectively and an infant of few days survive. The children are fine little fellows and have a good home with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson who live four miles north of Charlotte.

Eld's New Store

The half million dollar department store the Elds are going to build at Charlotte will be built for less than half that amount, which goes to show pre-war prices for labor and material now prevail. The bare building will cost \$236,000. A feature of interest will be the display window and entrances, which will occupy a space 24 feet deep across the front. With two show cases with edges on the sidewalk and entrance on either side and between them, with cases on either side of the entrances and two cases back of the sidewalk cases, with a vestibule between, ample space for displaying goods will be provided. Entrance to the store proper will be through three doors, between the back cases, as well as three from the sidewalk. The work on this great mercantile building, which will be the largest in the state and one of the largest in the South, is expected to start as soon as the supplies can be placed and the building will probably be completed within the next eight months.

Prof. A. A. Hasty left yesterday for his home in Georgetown, Ga., after spending several days with his brother, Mr. W. D. Hasty, of Marshville township, and his sister, Mrs. R. J. Hailey of Marshville. For some time Mrs. Hailey has been in ill health and her many friends are very solicitous about her condition.

WORMS ACTUALLY EATING ALL FOLIAGE FROM TREES

Esq. C. J. Braswell and Mr. H. W. Williams Tell a Most Interesting Story of Their Ravages

FISH ARE DYING FROM POISON IN THE WATER

Bits of Leaves and Worm Dust Falling Continually Like Showers of Rain—Feared Will Attack Crops.

The date of the Sandhills peach show at Hamlet has been changed to Tuesday, July 25. Great preparations are being made and this is expected to be a great event for the sandhill section of the state. The Redskin is gaining quite a reputation and it affords North Carolinians a great deal of pleasure to know that no section of the country is growing finer peaches than our own Tar Heel state.

Esq. C. J. Braswell and Mr. H. W. Williams tell a most unusual story of the manner in which some kind of worm is eating the leaves from trees in Goose Creek and New Salem townships and in that part of Mecklenburg county adjoining the western border of Union. These gentlemen say that their are great armies of the worm that keep up such continual eating that leaves and worm dust fall in the woods incessantly as though a shower of rain were falling.

In many places the trees have already been completely stripped of their foliage and the ground is covered with worm dust. Near the water courses bits of leaves and worm dust have fallen and the water has become black and the fish are dying from the effects of it. Mr. Williams says the Spanish oak is coming in for the greater part of the damage, but that all kinds of trees are being attacked and their leaves destroyed. He believes that by the last of August every tree within a scope of miles and miles in that section will be without any leaves at all and he is fearful that the worms will then attack crops.

Mr. Williams states that the worm is of a streaked color and is from one-half to two inches in length, and that he has seen a few of the kind before, but never has seen any appreciable damage done by it until this season. "Why," said Mr. Williams, "there is a big oak in our yard under which I have always been accustomed to take a rest after dinner, but the worms are working such havoc that I have to lay my hat over my face to keep the falling bits of leaves and worm dust out of my face. Mr. Williams seems to be distressed over the situation and believes that should these hordes of worms attack the crops later in the season, there will be nothing left."

Had a Pleasant Time in Boone

Monroe Route 4, July 11.—On May 29th I left Monroe for Boone. In Gaston's I met Miss Carrie Gaffney from Gaffney, S. C., and others who were on their way to Boone. We went from Gastonia to Lenoir by rail, and from Lenoir to Boone, a distance of thirty-two miles, on an automobile. We passed over some of the grandest scenery east of the Mississippi river. Blowing Rock, Grandfather Mountain and other interesting scenes were on our route. It took us four hours to motor over the mountains to Boone when we realized that we had landed in a lovely valley surrounded by majestic mountain scenery. We spent six weeks in the Appalachian State Normal, one of the best schools in the state. Boone is a place where you never grow homesick. The cold water, invigorating air and wonderful scenery make you feel young again. Union county had a number of teachers there representing her schools, and we feel that our attending the school will make us more able to assist our county superintendent in meeting the problems that confront our schools for another year.—Mrs. Julia St. Clair.

Death of a Baby

The nine-months-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Wade T. McCorkle of Rock Hill, S. C., that suffered a brief illness that culminated in death the 10th, was laid to rest in New Hope cemetery the 11th, in the presence of a host of relatives and friends. It was a solemn moment when the pretty infant in its beautiful white casket was lowered in the grave and the last rites were said over its little body. But in that solemn hour many expressed their hope of meeting it again. It is gone but not forgotten. And dear "dad's" heart is broken. Because his Douglas has gone to rest. He has crossed the river Jordan, and with Jesus shall ever be. With ten thousand angels Beckoning you and me. —Rev. V. O. McSwain.

You Guard Against Burglars, But What About Rats?

Rats steal millions of dollars worth of grain, chickens, eggs, etc. Destroy property and are a menace to health. If you are troubled with rats, try RAT-SNAP. It will surely kill them—prevent odors. Cats or dogs won't touch it. Comes in cakes. Three sizes, 35c, 65c, \$1.25. Sold and guaranteed by Smith-Lee Co., Monroe Hardware Co., Union Drug Co., English Drug Co.

Lake Tonawanda is becoming quite a favorite place for picnics. Yesterday the Wadesboro Baptist Sunday school held its annual picnic at Lake Tonawanda, last night the American Legion met there for their picnic and tonight the Kiwanians will have a big time at the same place.

UNION COUNTY FARMERS WILL GO TO TEST FARM

Annual Picnic at Iredell Test Farm Near Statesville to Be Held On Thursday, July 20th.

SEVERAL HUNDRED ARE EXPECTED FROM UNION

Trip May Be Made in One Day But Accommodations For Stop-Over Being Arranged.

Next Thursday, July 20th, is the date of the annual picnic at Iredell Test Farm, near Statesville. On this occasion thousands of farmers assemble annually to study the experiments on this farm. Every farmer who desires to know the most economical methods of improving his soil and increasing crop yield per acre, and wants information that will give inspiration and a vision of what he can do on his own farm, should visit this farm and learn in a day what would take him years of careful experiments conducted by himself on his own farm to find out. We do not know anything that will be more helpful to the ambitious farmer than to take a day off and visit this farm.

We have been inquiring as to details and find that the best way to go is by way of Salisbury. Farmers from the western part of the county can go by way of Charlotte to Salisbury, those from other sections of the county will find the route much shorter to go by way of Concord. We are informed that in dry weather the road is fairly good from the Union county line to Concord.

It is 26 miles from Salisbury to Statesville, 44 miles from Charlotte to Salisbury, by way of Concord. The trip can be made in a day and five or six hours spent on the farm by driving two or three hours in the night on the homeward trip. Those desiring to prolong the trip will have straw beds provided, but in case you desire to spend the night, quilts or blankets should be carried.

We will greatly appreciate a card from each farmer who intends to make the trip so that we may know what information to give the authorities as to how many will go from this county.

There will, in addition to the field crops, be many interesting live stock features, and livestock judging will be a feature of the day.

We would like to see several hundred farmers from this county take this trip. It will do us all good to get out and mingle with farmers of other sections, see the crops and learn how things are done by them. Make up your mind to go; it will be profitable to you.—T. J. W. Broom.

Notice of Summer School for Teachers

The county summer school for teachers will open Thursday, July 18, 1922, at 9 o'clock in the Monroe High School building. Teachers should remember that certificates cannot be secured or renewed without summer school credit. This is the last opportunity this year to secure summer school credit.

Inexperienced teachers who expect to attend the school should bring a certificate from the last school attended that he has completed at least the standard ninth grade of work. Teachers who cannot show such a record will be required to stand examination before being admitted to the summer school.

All teachers who have no experience in teaching, holders of second grade, provisional B, provisional A, and provisional elementary certificates are required to attend. All elementary certificates expiring 1922 can be renewed by attending the summer school. There is no other way for renewing certificates.

A representative of the State Department of Education will be at the opening Tuesday, July 18th. All prospective teachers should be present the first day.

Miss Sallie Summer, of Lincolnton will teach the Primary department. Miss Ruby Sisk, of Franklin, will teach the grammar grade department. The county superintendent will be the director and will teach four classes each day.

In order to secure credit toward a higher certificate and a better salary it is necessary to attend every day.

Teachers who wish to take the course in Primary Methods should bring their books in the first, second and third grades in school. Other teachers should bring the Grammar Grade books.

Legionnaires Have Picnic

One of the most enjoyable occasions ever held under the auspices of Melvin Deese Post No. 27 was the annual legion picnic held at Lake Tonawanda yesterday evening and night from six to eleven o'clock. An estimated number of one hundred ex-servicemen and not less than fifty of the Legion auxiliary were on hand to eat and have a good time.

A real picnic dinner along with tubs of ice cold lemonade was furnished by the Auxiliary and served in the regular army style. Paper plates and cups were used instead of the regular army mess kits and canteens. Immediately after supper the entire company enjoyed a regular old South Carolina watermelon feast.

WOOL BUYERS HERE FOR UNION PRODUCT

This County in the Lead of Piedmont Counties in Production of Good Grade of Wool

Buyers are here today to bid on about 3400 pounds of Union county wool that Farm Demonstrator T. J. W. Broom has gathered from farmers of the county and had placed in the cotton ware house here. This wool is being sold in a lump for about fifty Union county farmers who have learned the value of cooperative marketing and it will bring around 40 cents a pound. It was graded Wednesday by S. T. Greenwood of the Bureau of Markets, Washington, assisted by George Evans, of the sheep extension division of the A. & E. College at Raleigh. Farm Demonstrator Broom was also present. He states that there are seven grades of wool in Union county, several grades sometimes coming from the same sheep.

V. W. Lewis of the Bureau of Markets will have charge of the sale which takes place at three o'clock this afternoon. Mr. Broom says the principal part of Union county wool comes from grade Shropshire sheep and is a very fine quality. The county also produces more wool than any county in the state with the exception of a few of the mountain counties. Sales have recently been conducted in Mecklenburg county, where 1900 pounds were put on the market; Anson, where 1700 pounds were sold; and in Rowan, Cabarrus, Catawba and Davidson together 4700 were sold. At Tarboro five counties together but 5000 on the market, which shows that Union is ahead of all others so far. Several new flocks will be started in Union this year.

THE WEEK'S SOCIAL NEWS

Miss Mary Frances Lemmond entertained about twenty-five of her friends Wednesday morning and afternoon at a rook party, the occasion being her fourteenth birthday. Four tables were arranged for rook. The prize, a vanity box, was won by Miss Annie Louise Caldwell. Those present in the morning were: Misses Annie Louise Caldwell, Eleanor Stevens, Ashe A. Lane, Irene Presson, Virginia Neal, Virginia Baskerville, Charlotte Faulkner, Janie Weaver, Mary E. Faust, Claudia Brown and guest, Miss Mosley, Virginia Laney, Jessamine Austin, Margaret Henderson. A salad course was served. The favors were pink baskets filled with pink and white mints. Those present in the afternoon were: Kathleen Mangum, Mozelle Howie, Sara Horton, Sara Glenn, Margaret Thompson, Katherine Williams, Agnes Pinkston and Ruby Lemmond. An ice course was served.

On Wednesday morning Mrs. A. L. Monroe entertained the Wednesday morning bridge club at her home on Houston street. The invited guests were Mesdames Charles Redfern, D. L. Middleton, John Sikes, Carr Bowie, James Griffith, James A. Stewart, A. F. Stevens of Winston-Salem and J. C. Richardson. Ginger ale salad, club sandwiches, asparagus sandwiches, olives, wafers and ice tea were served. Mrs. James Nance and Mrs. J. V. Henderson, daughters of the hostess, assisted in serving.

Mr. Hugh Houston and Miss Mozelle Kitchin were married yesterday at noon at the residence of the bride in Columbia, S. C. Only a few relatives and friends of the contracting parties were present. Mr. Houston is a son of Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Houston of Monroe and is a young man of fine character and excellent business ability. He is engaged in the automobile business in Columbia and has had marked success. The bride is an attractive and accomplished young lady. Mr. and Mrs. Houston are very popular among a large number of friends in the two Carolinas who wish them much success and happiness. Immediately after the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Houston left for a tour of northern points, after which they will return to be at home in Columbia.

Miss Octavia Houston and Mr. Phillip I. Fisher were married Monday afternoon at five o'clock at "The Little Church Around the Corner," New York City. Miss Houston was attired in a navy blue suit, accessories to match, with a corsage of orchids and valley lilies. Mr. Fisher is a son of Dr. P. P. Fisher of Sharon, Pa. He is manager of the Standard Oil Company and is stationed at Beaurouth, Syria. He sailed in the early part of June from Nerfina, a town in Asiatic Turkey. Miss Houston is one of Monroe's attractive and popular young ladies. She has many friends who wish her much happiness. After a visit to Sharon and Monroe they will sail on the 10th of September.

Miss Ruby Chaney, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Chaney, who live a few miles northeast of Monroe, is seriously ill in the Ellen Fitzgerald hospital, after undergoing an operation for appendicitis Wednesday. However, her condition is slightly improved from yesterday.

Charlie Harris, colored, died Wednesday at 12:30 o'clock at his home in the western part of town. For a number of years Charlie worked for Mr. J. T. Shute. He was also an employee of the Monroe Hardware Co. for some time and was highly respected among the white people. He went to his work as usual the morning he died, and died in the day he stopped Mr. Randolph Redfeard, who was passing in a car and requested him to carry him home. Mr. Redfeard assisted him into the car and carried him home, but did not know that he was in such a critical condition.

OLD FOLKS DAY WAS GREAT SUCCESS IN WINGATE CHURCH

Without Piano or Other Musical Instrument Boys and Girls of Another Age Sang Old Songs

THE PASTOR PREACHED ON "GETTING READY TO MOVE"

Wingate Citizen Kills Cat and Then Sees It Walking Around Disappearing Mysteriously

Wingate, July 13.—Old Folks Day at the Baptist church Sunday was a great success. A large number of old people were present and everything was carried out in old style, as it was years ago. The singing was led by Mr. N. W. Bivens who has been the leader in singing for a good many years in this church. Old songs were sung without the organ or piano, among them being "How Firm a Foundation," "When I Can Read My Title Clear," and "The Parting Hand."

After the interesting song service Mr. J. W. Bivens made a short talk, after which the pastor preached an interesting and helpful sermon on "Getting Ready to Move." His text was taken from Second Corinthians, 6th chapter, 1st verse.

Miss Lillian Cathey is recuperating from an attack of Typhoid fever.

Mr. Claude Duncan of Indian Trail is visiting relatives here. Work on the new dormitory is rapidly progressing. The brick work has been completed and the roof is being put on this week. It is hoped that the new building will be ready for occupancy by time school opens August 22. Applications are already coming in for rooms in the new building.

Miss Nora Lee Gaddy has returned from Laurinburg where she visited relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Hinson, Mrs. W. A. Chaney and Mr. Bruce Hinson are spending a few days at Lake Junaluska.

Does a cat have seven lives? is the question a certain citizen of our town asked a few days ago. For some time this particular citizen has been missing some of his small chickens. Just a few days ago this citizen went to his chicken "coop" and saw an old cat catch one of the small chickens. Action was at once taken toward killing the cat. He went to a neighbor's house to get him to kill it for him, but he wouldn't do it. Because he believed it would bring bad luck. Somehow or other he managed to borrow a shot gun and killed the cat. A few days afterwards he was at a neighbor's house and he and his neighbor happened to see a black and white spotted cat sneak out of a small patch of cane and go right to the spot where the cat was buried and disappear. This cat, the citizen says, was exactly like the one he killed and it is the reason he asks the question. After burying the dead cat about two feet deep in ground he has about decided to dig down and see if the cat is still there. This citizen says upon seeing such a happening as this he feels sneakyish, and has about come to the conclusion that if a cat doesn't have seven lives, he believes it has two, because of this incident.

THEY DIVIDED THE GOAT AMONG THEM

Rufe Little's Neighbors Saved the Meat—Mr. Griffin Bitten by Spider—Beemer Harrell Weds

(From Marshville Home, 11th.)

South Marshville township was visited by a severe wind and rain storm Thursday afternoon. A small out-house on Mr. Rufe Little's place was blown down and killed his William goat. Rufe wasn't at home but his neighbors came in and dressed the goat and distributed to each his portion of the meat.

Mr. Hurley Griffin was made very sick for a while last week by a bite from a spider. The spider usually sends its poison into the system without the swellings that result from snake bites, and several days are required for recovery from the effects. A lingering headache still reminds Mr. Griffin that the poison of the insect has not yet left his system.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Hamilton of North Marshville township, gave their mother a surprise birthday party and big dinner at the home yesterday. All the children and their families were present and it is needless to say that it was a most enjoyable day for all. The children are: Prof. Jackson Hamilton, of Pineville, Mrs. J. B. Harrell of Marshville, Messrs. W. W. and Floyd Hamilton of Charlotte, J. W. Hamilton, of Monroe, M. A. Hamilton of Midland, and G. R. Hamilton of Danville, Va. Mr. William Boyd, of Pineville, was also present.

Mr. Bennett Harrell, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Harrell, of Marshville, and Miss Ruth Roberts, of Ninety-Six, S. C., will be married tonight at the home of the bride. Miss Roberts is a graduate of Winthrop College, and has taught for several years. Mr. Harrell is a graduate of the University of North Carolina and has been very successful as a Y. M. C. A. worker, being secretary at New Bern this year. After a short stay in the eastern part of the state they will visit relatives here and will make their home at Newbern. Mr. Shelton Harrell, of Charlotte will attend the wedding and will be his brother's best man.

Children's Day exercises will be observed at Antioch church, in Sandy Ridge township, the fourth Sunday night, July 23rd, beginning at 8:30 o'clock.