

The Mount Airy News.

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RURAL SCHOOL BUILDING BIDS REJECTED

County Board to Consider Revised Bids Next Monday—\$150,000 to be Spent

The school board of Surry County in session at Dohson Monday failed to let the contracts for the school building program that the board has outlined for its year's work. In the program are seven large modern school buildings to be erected and additions to others. The bids submitted by a half a dozen or more contractors were higher than the board could accept, or rather the price asked for the work took all the money the board had for the program and left nothing to buy heating plants, desks and other school equipment necessary after the buildings are completed.

The specification called for a better grade of school building than has been built in the past. For instance instead of a composition shingle roof the specification called for an asbestos roof. Another improvement asked for was the use of oak or gum flooring instead of No. 1 pine, and also a wainscoting around the walls instead of plastering to the floor. These three items of improvement that were asked over what has been demanded of the buildings in the past is said to have run the cost of the buildings considerably higher. When the board saw that their money was about to be exhausted in the actual construction of the buildings, having nothing for equipment and fixtures, new figures were asked and the contractors will submit bids next Monday on buildings with a composition roof, No. 1 pine floor, and no wainscoting around the wall, besides other short cuts that may be made in the construction of the buildings. All the buildings will be equipped with steam heat throughout, and the plans being used are standard school building plans adopted and approved by the state board of education.

The work contemplated during the summer and fall calls for the expenditure of about \$150,000. This money is being borrowed from the state school building fund and is to be repaid by the county in twenty annual installments together with 5 per cent interest. In bidding on this large amount of work one item that entered in the cost of construction that the contractors had to consider was the cost of a bond. To protect the county in this work a sufficient bond is to be required of the successful bidder and one contractor has estimated that the bond alone will cost \$1,600.00. Another point that the contractor has to consider is that if he takes the work at a price that the bonding company considers too low for good workmanship and safe business then they refuse to sell a bond in such cases. The bonding companies when a bond is applied for require a copy of the plans and specifications and the price that the work is being done for, and then they have experts to go over the figures and determine whether or not they can furnish the bond to protect the county. It will be remembered that the original contractors who took the court house job, went into bankruptcy rather than finish the job at a loss and the bonding company took over the work and completed it for the county at a loss of several thousand dollars. Another time a contractor who had secured the contract to build one of the county's school buildings some time ago sent his figures to the bonding company and when they had been verified the company refused to grant the bond on the ground that the work could not be done for the price the contractor accepted it for. These circumstances all go to show the many details that must be considered in the state and county work and the safe guard that surrounds the expenditure of the public funds.

Oct. 6 to Be North Carolina Day at Sesqui Exposition
Raleigh, May 15.—At the request of Governor McLean, October 6 has been named as North Carolina day at the sesqui-centennial exposition, held in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the country's independence, by the exposition officials at Philadelphia, the governor announced Saturday.
On this day a special North Carolina program will be rendered.

CROWDS ATTEND STATE SPELLING BEE

Charlotte Scene of Interesting Contest Between Expert Spellers of the State

Charlotte, May 16.—Louise Efrid, of Albemarle, representing Stanly county was last night victorious over 30 other contestants in The Charlotte Observer's spelling bee at the city auditorium and was acclaimed state champion.

She won the match from Charles B. Griffin, representing Bertie county, when she correctly spelled the word "crystallize."

Miss Efrid, who is 13 years of age and who is in the eighth grade in the Albemarle high school, will be given a trip to Washington where she will compete with the state champions from the other states of the union as North Carolina's representative.

In addition to this she was awarded a \$100 prize.

Charles Griffin was presented with \$50 as runner-up and Ruth Cobb, of Polk county, was awarded \$25 for taking third place.

Last night's contest was heard by more than 1,000 people, who sat through the three hours and displayed a lively interest in the entire procedure.

Men and women from the far eastern counties had come to hear their candidates for the honor of state champion speller. Some had made the journey from the mountain counties while others had motored from the nearby cities to hear their favorites.

The three winners were from widely scattered sections of the state. First prize went to a piedmont county girl. Second prize was awarded to a boy hailing from the flat, sandy reaches of the coastal plain. The third prize was taken by a girl living in the mountains of the west.

Most popular of any of the contestants with the audience was a midget of a girl, Mary Washington, from Granville county, the smallest of the crowd. She was ten but looked hardly over seven or eight. When she sat down, fourth from the last on the word "continuously" she was accorded an ovation, the like of which was not given any other boy or girl in the contest, not even the winners.

Louise Efrid, best based in words of the 31 erudite children assembled on the auditorium stage last night is an orphan. Both her father and mother died, she said after the contest when she was very young. She now lives with her grandfather, J. W. Efrid.

Never before she says, has she been as far north as Washington and she is "thrilled" at the prospect. One of her aunts, with whom she came to Charlotte last night, will accompany her on the trip in the capacity of chaperone.

When she finished the match, she was tearful but made no demonstration.

The first girl to sit down was Fannie Whitlow, of Iredell, but confusion as to whether or not she had actually missed the word caused her to be brought back. Roy Watkins, of Forest City, representing Rutherford county sat down next on "quotations."

The following was the order in which the contestants misspelled words and the words they were unable to spell:

Elizabeth Jackson, of Perquimans county on "assure." Frances McDowell, of Edgecombe county, on "renewal." Billie Sloan, of Macon county, on "capacity." Lena Ray, of Robeson county, on "alfalfa." Augusta Katz, of Burke, on "excellent." Stella Keckie, of Caldwell, on "succeeded." Dora Reec, of Gaston, on "association."

Josephine Deal, of Catawba, on "correspond." Edith Robbins, of Avery, on "advisable." Halbert Cochran, of Surry, and Audrey James, of Scotland, both sat down on the word "assessment." Jean Cromartie, of Bladen, on "quantities." Leona Johnson, of Anson, on "client." Fannie Whitlow, of Iredell, on "courts."

Mount Airy's Greatest Trade Event

The Merchants of Mount Airy are this week offering the trading public the greatest trade values ever offered here. Beginning Thursday, May 20th, and lasting through Saturday, the 22nd, the Merchants of Mount Airy, forty-two in number, are putting on a Dollar Day Sale. Never before in the history of Mount Airy have forty-two of our merchants, associated together as they are at this time, offered to the public such values in merchandise. Not only dry goods merchants, but merchants in every line of business in the city of Mount Airy are participating in this great Dollar Day event. Several carloads of high class goods have been shipped here in the last few weeks to supply the merchants with additional merchandise to offer to the public at low prices during the three days, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, May 20th, 21st and 22nd. All the citizens throughout Surry Stokes, Carroll, Patrick, Grayson and Wilkes counties have been notified of the great values to be offered here during the three days, and Mount Airy merchants are expecting the greatest crowd of shoppers to visit the city during these three days that has ever gathered here previous to this event.

If you have not planned to be in Mount Airy either during Thursday, Friday or Saturday, and take advantage of the great values offered, we suggest that you at once make preparations and not fail to be on hand for the Dollar Days, for if you do not, we are sure you will lose one of the greatest opportunities ever given the trading public in Mount Airy and Surry county to purchase merchandise at such low prices.

This paper is carrying a copy of some of the values offered by some of the leading merchants and the windows of the stores are all decorated, and the streets with banners stretched from one side to the other, welcoming the trading public to our town. While our merchants have not itemized the articles that have been reduced, they are many, and the trading public will find that each merchant taking part in the Dollar Day event has bargains unseen or unheard of in Mount Airy before.

Siloam News.

Siloam, May 17.—The farmers of this section are busy fixing their land and setting their tobacco.

Mrs. Caroline Hill, age 73 years of Pilot Mountain, and widow of the late Wesley Hill, was laid to rest in "The Hills Grove" cemetery, Tuesday afternoon. Mrs. Hill was the last of a large family to pass away. She had been confined to her bed for a few weeks, with heart drops, which caused her death. No children were born into her home, but they raised two of their nephews, Buck and Jasper Hill, who survive. She was a member of the Baptist church of Pilot Mountain, a kind and loving neighbor. Rev. N. H. Matthews and Rev. H. M. Welman, of Pilot Mountain, conducted the funeral services.

"Billy Sunday Club" No. 15 of Winston-Salem, will hold services at Hills Grove Baptist church Sunday evening, May 23 at 7:45 o'clock. Everybody is invited to come and hear them.

Siloam township Sunday School convention was held at Pine Hill Methodist church, with something like 400 people present. There were four churches represented with programs. Namely: Stanford church, Pine Hill, New Siloam and Poplar Springs. One church was represented that didn't have any program, Old Siloam church.

"Billy Sunday Club" No. 4 conducted services at Pine Hill Friends church Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, and also Sunday night at 7:30 o'clock. They were attended by large throngs of people both times. The people were very attentive, and took much interest in their good work.

Rev. Lowell Martin, a well known minister of the Rockford township, preached at Hills Grove church Sunday evening at 8 o'clock. He delivered an interesting sermon from the text, "Whatever a man soweth that shall he also reap."

Little Miss Alice Mae Chilton, aged six years, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Chilton, died at the Baptist Hospital, Winston-Salem, Tuesday night, May 11. The funeral and interment took place at Friends church Pine Hill. She is survived by her father, mother and little brother.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Kemp Atkinson.

Sarah Hurwitz, of Moore, on "equipped." Mattie Parson, of Wilkes, on "candidacy." Edward Todd, of Rowan, on "zephyr."

The last thirteen, standing at the conclusion of the second period sat down in the order as follows:

Alles Armfield, of Cabarrus, on "persuade." Lorena Rutledge, of Davie, on "Mottoes." Agnes Harrell, of Cleveland, on "Metropolis." Allan McLean, of Charlotte, on "rummage." Effie Baker, of Union, on "Counselor." Rosanella Cash, of Forsythe, on "ethereal." Mary Alice Long, of Mecklenburg, on "susceptibility." Perry Parks, of Richmond, on "abhor." Mary Washington, of Granville, on "continuously." Ruth Cobb, of Polk, on "stupified." Charles B. Griffin, of Bertie, on "crystalline."

CROP REPORTS DISCOURAGING

Unseasonable and Dry Weather Retarding Growth of Crops All Over State—Fruit Seems To Be Safe.

Raleigh, May 8.—That North Carolina is in a critical condition at the present time is evident from many of the reports received from all parts of the State by the North Carolina Crop Reporting Service in relation to the government crop report, released from the National Crop Reporting Board this afternoon. This condition has been brought about by the unusually cold weather in April, combined with excessively dry conditions.

According to several hundred reports received from crop reporters familiar with the different agricultural sections of North Carolina, farm progress is being greatly hindered both as to planting and plant growth by the cool and dry weather. While the damage by frost on April 20 was heavy to truck and fruit, it was not disastrous to either as was thought at the time, altho in some localities it was very serious. Many orchards and fields were entirely killed. Investigation is now underway in the fruit and trucking regions. The latest information indicates that the Sandhills peach crop will be some less than the 2,000 car loads made last year. The May crop will largely determine the results. The truck in eastern counties has largely been planted over or partially recovered from the freeze.

The Irish potato crop has been reduced very little in acreage from the 25 per cent increase over a year ago, due to the cold, but the stands and growth have been seriously handicapped. Of course, the potatoes are sprouting out now and new plants growing rapidly, making the crop late.

The apple crop in the mountainous section of the State seems to be in fairly good condition, as the freeze did very little damage in the commercial areas. The present outlook is for 75 per cent condition as compared with 84 last year. Peaches are 67 per cent with 75 per cent last year. Of course these conditions may be changed as a result of varying weather later, insects and other natural causes.

Cotton and tobacco show tendencies toward increased acreage, with plantings progressing rapidly. Of course, it is almost too dry for results to be anticipated yet.

Farming activities have been as good as the dry condition of the soil would permit. The work was relatively late in being begun in the early spring. The plowing shows 83 per cent completed on May 1, as compared with 89 per cent a year ago. The spring sowing and plantings are still later delays as only 62 per cent of the seeding was completed by May 1, as compared with 78 per cent a year ago. The work seems to be from 10 to 12 days late and the farmers are rather gloomy as to the outlook.

SPRINGS DEVELOPMENT RAPIDLY PROGRESSING

Newly Elected Officials Pushing Work to Completion—Have Publicity Bureau

The stockholders of the White Sulphur Springs Company met in Mount Airy May 12th at which time new directors were elected. The following stockholders were present: T. D. Gilliam and J. W. Sechrest, of High Point, E. P. Holt, of Oak Ridge, C. O. Watson and J. A. Latimer, of Greensboro, J. H. Gwyn, P. H. Haskin, J. C. Marion, Mrs. Virginia Marion and J. H. Folger of Mount Airy. In addition to these the following stockholders were represented by proxy: J. E. Millis, H. A. Millis, A. S. Caldwell, T. V. Rochelle, E. J. Davis, S. L. Davis, and J. E. Marsh of High Point, and John Banner of Mount Airy.

The following were elected members of the Board of Directors: T. D. Gilliam, E. P. Holt, John Banner, J. H. Gwyn, J. C. Marion, J. H. Folger and J. A. Latimer.

On adjournment of the stockholders meeting, the newly elected directors met and elected the following officers: President, T. D. Gilliam; 1st Vice President, J. H. Gwyn; 2nd Vice President, J. C. Marion; Secretary & Treasurer, John Banner.

J. A. Latimer of Greensboro, district manager for one of the larger of the Western North Carolina developments, was elected director of sales with instructions to proceed with organization of a sales force, advertising campaign and other details to place before the public, not only of this section of the state but throughout North Carolina the popularity of White Sulphur Springs and the desirability of property there as home sites and investment. The Carl J. Balliett Advertising Agency of Greensboro has been selected to handle the advertising. A complete program has been mapped out and several visits by officials of this company have been made to the property.

The directors ordered work on hotel building, grounds and golf course rushed to a rapid completion as well as the general development of the first units of lots. Crews are now at work on the hotel grounds and golf links and material and men are being assembled for a thorough remodeling of the White Sulphur Springs hotel and adjacent buildings and it will be good news to the public to know that it is the plans of the company to have this popular resort of the last half century thoroughly renovated and opened by July 1st. The new manager of the hotel will be announced within the next few days.

The first unit of the golf course, nine holes, is 65 per cent completed. Plans for the early future call for an additional nine holes. In addition to this it is planned to have one large lake of approximately fifty acres, several smaller lakes, swimming pool, new dancing pavilion and many other improvements that will place White Sulphur Springs among the leading resorts in North Carolina and make of this development one of the most desirable resort and suburban projects in this section of the South.

In addition to the present holdings of the company, which are quite large, considerable adjacent land has been acquired and a number of other interesting announcements in connection with the development will be made within next few weeks.

When interviewed by a News reporter, Mr. Latimer stated that he would as soon as possible move his family to Mount Airy so that he might be on the spot all the time. He stated that of the developments he has been connected with none seem to have more natural advantages than White Sulphur Springs and that in his opinion, the springs and the splendid city of Mount Airy with wonderful skyline and excellent climate of this section insures the success of the enterprise.

Tractors, road machines, teams and men under the direction of P. H. Haskin, engineer and one of the promoters of the development, are rapidly changing the looks of the property. Mr. Haskin was formerly connected with Earle Draper of Charlotte, who has been termed the wizard of developing, and brings to this development a wealth of experience along landscape and engineering lines.

A visit to Mount Airy's master

suburb in the making will be an interesting trip to any who wishes to see this city take her rightful place among the resort section of the state and South.

BIG AIRSHIP SUCCESSFUL IN FLIGHT OVER POLE

Daring Explorers Make Flight of 72 Hours Over Frozen North, Arriving in Teller, Alaska.

Nome, Alaska, May 16.—Lieutenant Hjalmar Riiser-Larsen, Norwegian, second pilot, said today that thin ice and open water were found at the North Pole, but no land was discovered in the Arctic wastes by the Amundsen-Ellsworth expedition, which arrived at Teller, Alaska, Thursday night in the dirigible Norge from King's Bay, Spitzbergen.

Teller is 75 miles northwest of Nome. The big airship was in the air about 72 hours.

Considerable time was spent at the North Pole making observations, the Norge having descended to within 600 feet of the ice, and rose to an altitude of 4,000 feet.

Over Point Barrow, on the Arctic coast, 550 miles northwest of here, ice formed on the whirling propellers of the ship and then broke off, cutting the big gas bag. Loss of helium gas made the Norge extremely heavy. A fair wind aided it on the voyage from Barrow to Teller.

The crew of 18 arrived at Teller very tired, but in excellent physical condition.

Preparatory to landing, an anchor was dropped from the Norge and Sergeant Ettore Arduino, assistant mechanic, descended and supervised the landing. A strong wind blew while the airship was being lowered and T. A. Pellerson, manager of the Teller Lighterage company, grabbed the bow line of the ship and headed it into the wind.

After motion pictures were taken of the successful transpolar flying craft it was deflated in 30 minutes. A perfect landing was made on the frozen bay of Grantley harbor at Teller. The work of dismantling the Norge was being done under the direction of Colonel Umberto Nobile, an Italian, first pilot and designer and constructor of the ship. It is to be preserved for reconstruction.

Captain Amundsen and Wisting are the only two men in the world to have visited both the North and South Poles, Wisting having accompanied Amundsen when he discovered the South Pole. At Nome, Amundsen declared that a wireless station should be erected at Teller, as it is the only real harbor in this section.

The Snake river, seven miles west of here, affords Nome its only harbor. Lieutenant Omdahl, who is to return to Teller in the launch, Pippin, with Captain A. Patterson, master of the little craft that brought Amundsen and three of his party to Nome today, said that the engines of the Norge were in good condition and worked perfectly. The other three airmen are to remain in Nome.

Colonel Nobile was very proud of the ship he piloted as it performed its feat nobly.

Amundsen said he knew the position of the Norge at all times.

Gulford To Lead \$250,000 For Road

Greensboro, May 3.—Gulford county commissioners this afternoon voted to lend the state highway commission \$250,000, half of the sum needed to widen the Greensboro-High Point road link in route No. 10, to thirty feet, straighten it and repair it. The commissioners also voted to build another soil road from Greensboro to High Point north of the present route. Provision will be made for hard-surfacing it in a few years.

Farm labor still continues to show considerable shortage as compared with the demand. Pastures, which offer a good index to weather conditions, show a condition 15 per cent not lower than a year ago. While the quantity of hay on farms is about 15 per cent of last year's crop, it is about the same as a year ago.