

The Mt. Airy News
is published weekly by the Mountain News Co., Inc., at Mount Airy, N.C.

SUBSCRIPTION—\$4.00
One year.

Circulation Books Open to All.

Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at Mount Airy, N.C., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

ARGUING ABOUT OUR SCHOOLS.

Quite a controversy has been carried on in recent days between some of the leading educators of the state as to the progress or lack of progress in educational matters.

Some University professors have criticized our school system and they have been answered by Dr. Chas. L. Cox and others.

All seem to agree that we are badly behind in many respects. The key to the whole situation, it seems to us, is the fact that the teachers are not able to enlist the cooperation of the parents. It is mighty hard to educate a child when the folks back home are not in sympathy with the effort.

The trouble dates away back. Just why, we do not know, but when this state was settled there came along many people who seem to have no ambition in life. True, many came who had ability. They were not content to live it toil-free. They sought the best lands along the rivers and built good homes and accumulated property and educated their children, even when we had no schools. They formed the famous South. But along with these came a whole host of folk who were content to build a cabin in the woods on the poorest land and eke out a bare living. They remained in this condition generation after generation and made up the servant class for the more prosperous neighbors. Account for it as you may, but these conditions existed here for many generations after this country was settled. These people who were never able to get ahead in the world paid almost no attention to the education of their children. They are yet uninterested in their education. And we have such a large number of families in this class that it becomes a serious problem for our schools in many ways. These people will oppose any forward move that is made in school matters. They will antagonize the teachers and the school boards and the welfare officers and block the wheels of progress in a hundred ways if they can.

It is no easy problem to make a school system work harmoniously when there is so much lack of cooperation. Every one of these people who are never in sympathy with schools have votes and politicians cater to them and aid them in the positions they take. To make progress in the face of such opposition is a wonder. Yet we are making progress. But we will go forward with much effort for the reason that we have this backward class here with us, and they will be slow to emerge out of their present mental darkness. It will take generations to get rid of the conditions we must face now and for a long time to come.

WHEN THE GOOD YEARS COME.

It is well worth recording what has happened to the farmers in this section this year. When the bad years come, and come they will, it may be well to be able to recall this year when the crops are so fine. Not in the history of this section have farmers had such a wonderful year. But this is not true of all sections, for the rains have been local, and while the finest crops are growing in some neighborhoods, in sections only a few miles away there has been a shortage of rain.

It was the pleasure of the editor to visit the home of Mr. John J. Simpson who lives a mile south of White Plains, last Sunday. Mr. Simpson says that he has never known a better crop year. His corn is the finest he ever had, his cane field is the best he ever had and he expects to be able to make no less than 300 gallons of syrup to say nothing of the seed that he will produce for his large flock of poultry.

In the spring Mr. Simpson had fourteen colonies of bees and he has produced 1800 pounds of honey. A few of his best colonies of bees made over 200 pounds each. A large part of the honey is the finest sourwood and is worth 30 cents the pound. In addition to all this he has a water-melon patch of two acres and they are large and fine and almost ready for market. Truly it is proving to be a fine crop year in that neighborhood.

Negroes Break Jail.

Three negroes succeeded in breaking their way out of Dobson jail Monday night and making good their escape for the time being. George McClellan, of this city, is thought to have been the one who engineered the plan to make the escape, as his mechanics were more boys. The two boys were in jail awaiting trial on a larceny charge and McClellan was sent over by Judge Lewellyn for supporting his family. The three were in a back cell on the first floor and after tearing away the bars it was an easy matter to leap through the jail window in the ground. In breaking through the bars they had used a part of the iron bed as a crow bar.

The beds themselves are supposed to be indestructible, but in some way they managed to cut one of the heavy side rails loose and with it they made the large hole bars from their fastenings in the floor until they could crawl through the opening.

The Mountain News Has A Full Page Advertising Space.

POWER COMPANY.

EXTENDING LINES.
Quarry and Laurel River Sections Soon to be Supplied With Electricity.

A force of workmen are busily engaged in extending the power lines of the Mountain Public Utility Co. to various sections of this city. The lines have already been set heading out to the quarry, the line running to Quarry Hill above the eastern mill will make use of the current. A line will run to Hammertown going as far as Will Kirkman's. The present line that runs beyond the cemetery will be extended a mile or more on both the Springs road and the Woods Gap, and it is probable that a line will be run up the Fancy Gap.

Residents and business people who are adjacent to the power line on these routes will thus be able to avail themselves of the electricity of the company. Considerable work is also planned for the remaining parts of the entire system in the city, but this will be taken up after the outlying sections of the city have been wired and supplied with power.

A white way for the city is on the company's program, but it will be several months before this work can be reached, as the emergency problems are being taken care of first. Besides the initial cost of the local system to the power company which was about \$150,000 they expect to spend an additional \$100,000 on the improvements that have been decided upon. All over the city larger wires and stronger transformers will be used which will afford a steady flow of current and the absence of line drop, thus giving us the best electrical service that engineers can devise.

Campaign Against Typhoid Drawing To A Close.

The County Health department under the direction of Dr. G. H. Summer will soon bring to a close its intensive campaign against typhoid fever that has been waged for the past two months. Dr. Summer has visited almost every nook and corner of the county during that time and has vaccinated more than 3,000 people against typhoid. Besides the appointments he has been keeping as advertised some time ago, he has made three new appointments as follows:

On Friday of every week he will

be at Ladonia at 2:30 P.M., and

Blevins store at 9:30. And on Wednesdays at 11 A.M. he will be at Union school house.

There are now 20 cases of typhoid fever reported to Dr. Summer from different parts of the county. Twelve of them are here in Mount Airy, one in Elkin and seven in the rural districts. In this city 10 of the cases are in five families living on Granite street. The outbreak on this street has been traced to an open well from which the families were using water. The well has been closed and everything possible is being done to prevent any further spread of the disease in that section. This brings home the pleadings of the health department that every one should be vaccinated against typhoid. The service is free to all and the treatment is recognized to be almost a certain immunity against the disease.

For several weeks the health department will be kept busy vaccinating school children against small pox. The state school law requires that all children attending school shall be vaccinated and Dr. Summer requests that the parents bring their children and have this done at once, so the child can get down to its school work at the outset of the school term.

City Schools Opened Monday.

The Mount Airy schools have opened with the largest enrollment in the history of the town and already, the first week of school, every building is crowded and Prof. Hurst has found it necessary to open at least two basement rooms to seat the overflow. Seats will be brought here by truck and every effort made to secure competent teachers and to care for all the children in an orderly and acceptable way. The enrollment was larger on Saturday at the Rockford Street school than all last year and 76 pupils, two seventh grade classes, were sent to the High school building but on Monday Miss Merritt, principal at Rockford Street school, found she had only 11 less pupils than before the 76 were removed as others had come in.

Owing to the congestion occasioned by the heavy enrollment and moving pupils from one building to another we could not get the actual figures on the enrollment in the school. About 350 High School pupils enrolled the first day and their figures will probably go to 400 or over. About 25% of the high school pupils come from the territory outside the city.

The faculty headed by Supt. J. H. Hurst is as follows:

Elementary.

Almeda Anderson, Elsie Long, Elizabeth Ashby, Eugenia Roper, Elizabeth Daniel, Hettie Aiken, Mrs. Mabel A. Foy, Lydia Tyson, Jessie Smith, Gertrude Dealey, Elsie Sparger, Mary McArn, Clara Baity, Mrs. A. P. Turnage, Vesta Compton, Jean Culbertson, Regine Quisenberry, Laura Hendrick, Verna Harkrader, Louise Fox, Mrs. E. S. Hendrix, Lucile Marshall, Mrs. Ann F. Carter, Edith Caldwell, Metta McGowan, Phoebe Worth, Grace Foy, Mae Smith, Sarah E. Merritt.

High School.

Margaret Sparger, Mary E. Ables, Ethel Murray, Lavinia Powell, Evelyn Sprinkle, J. Samuel Brown, Lorraine Kelly, Debbie Reynolds, Flora Simmer, H. M. Finch, Mabel Fisher, Sue M. Brett.

Commercial.

Dorothy Tiller, Marian Prather.

Music.

Piano: Nell Fowles, Ruth Dobson.

Athletics.

W. Ross Richardson.

Colored.

J. J. Jones, Mrs. J. J. Jones, Fannie McCallum.

T. M. Robertson.

Is spending a few days in this city with relatives and friends. He has been in Texas for seven years and this is his first visit to his native country.

POWER COMPANY.

EXTENDING LINES.

Quarry and Laurel River Sections Soon to be Supplied With Electricity.

At The Office or in the Home

A Fountain Pen is one of the handiest and most economical items of every day use you can imagine. Our stock comprises many sizes and styles for your choice.

The Best of Everything

W. S. Wolfe Drug Company



Fifth Annual Heatrola Club Now Forming

Want a Ton of Coal—FREE?

You can get it by joining our Heatrola Free Coal Club—a part of the national Free Coal Club that you will read about this week in the Saturday Evening Post. This is the fifth consecutive year that thousands of tons of coal will be given away.

Join our Free Coal Club now, and you will get a ton of coal free with an Estate Heatrola—delivered long before the cold weather sets in, and to be paid for on easy, convenient terms. The enrollment fee of \$5 is applied to the purchase price of the Heatrola. Remember, the Heatrola—the original first-floor heating plant—will give you furnace comfort, at a saving of 45% in fuel. And the Heatrola is so beautiful—it looks like a fine mahogany cabinet. Everyone admires it!

Estate HEATROLA

Carter-Walker Furniture Company



No Oratory Necessary

You can leave off the ear muffs with perfect safety when you come in to look at a Pathfinder Tire. We don't have to "talk 'em up."

Pathfinders will speak for themselves—on looks. They're made and guaranteed by the world's largest manufacturers of quality tires—which assures quality. And they're priced so low you'll have a hard time persuading yourself to leave without one.

So—come prepared to buy. We have your size, Clincher, Straight Side or Balloon.

Holcomb & Midkiff

"Tire Headquarters"

WE ALSO SELL GOODYEAR TIRES AND TUBES

W. W. Woodruff is spending this week in New York and other northern cities in the interest of W. W. Woodruff's Son & Co., of Lowgap. This concern has a nationwide trade in galvanized hardware and other hardware and decorative materials and Mr. Woodruff is making a trip by which he will get in personal touch with a large number of their customers.

T. M. Robertson, of Wise, Texas, is spending a few days in this city with relatives and friends. He has been in Texas for seven years and this is his first visit to his native country.