

PHELPS-STOKES FUND TO THE RESCUE

Of the Farm Life School. Dr. J. Y. Joyner, Superintendent of Education, Also Approves Support by the State

A Monument to the Enthusiasm and Devoted Care of the Women's Auxiliary in its Effort to Establish a Broad System of Country Education



THE LADIES of the Sandhills, organized for home defence, among whom many of the most helpful are the residents of Pinehurst, have established a neighborhood boarding school at Eureka, seven miles from here, known as the Sandhill Farm Life School.

This notable endeavor for local improvement has met the approval and support of one of the great National agents for the encouragement of education, and the executive committee of the Phelps-Stokes Fund have given \$250 to help along. It is easy to realize how material this assistance is in view of the fact that a scholar's entire board and tuition is only \$7 a month.

It is in the country—a new and ample High School building, a simple, comfortable dormitory for girls with a kitchen, and another lesser building, quarters for boys; a hundred acres of land, a small farm, and the beginnings of the live stock needed. A simple, frugal beginning in material equipment. But in education so remarkably well planned, and of so vital to the eager life of the country children, that it has elicited the enthusiasm and wonder of all that have seen it.

What has been done has been thoroughly done. The Academic course is in the hands of able and experienced teachers, who would be a credit to any school, carrying the instruction to the 11th grade. Miss Cressnell gives piano-forte lessons and brings the children up familiar with the old songs and the simpler music which is their birthright.

This much one may take for granted, although a pretty good school is a monument anywhere. But it is only the beginning. From first to last, with the most painstaking care, the girls are taught right living—the conduct of a home upon modern hygienic lines. Cooking is not only a matter of theory, but daily practice. The girls prepare every meal eaten in the place—not after their manner, but after the fashion of a master of the art. Besides this each day they assemble in the great kitchen, a model of method and cleanliness, and are given a course from biscuits to biscuit tortoni.

Domestic science in all its branches are required, and practiced. The day I visited the place to see two friends of mine, they were not inclined to parley. They were housekeepers for the week, and were earnestly bent upon making a record for the neatness and attractiveness of all quarters.

Every single particle of the work about the school is done by the scholars. The boys plow the land and learn by dint of hard work to be real farmers. They cut

the wood, and mend the blinds, and grade the road, and tend the furnace, and paint the shed, and cultivate the garden. They drive the bay team to town and come singing back of an evening with a load of provender, doing and learning and seeing life at the same time.

The school is full. The children are all from the neighborhood and intend to remain there—and are seeking what very few can ever find, a place to fit them for the life they anticipate. Elementary education, fellowship, a glimpse of art and music and philosophy, an echo from the myriad wonders and ambitions and dreams of the ages and the wide world, combined with the proper ordering of their daily lives exactly as they are ordained to lead them hereafter, are here provided.

The Training Camp

A conscientious effort has been made by the Sandhill Board of Trade, and Mr. Roger Derby, to obtain the location at Pinehurst of the Winter Military Training Camp to be started this season in the South. Mr. Derby spent the week end with General Wood and Captain Gordon Johnson on Governor's Island, and consulted with them frankly upon the advantages and disadvantages of this and other possible situations. Of course the main purpose is for the South to have the best possible site for the training camp, and for all hands to join in with the utmost enthusiasm for its success. It appeared upon final thought to be wiser to hold the training school at an established military post, and it was so decided.

However the spirit and the co-operation of this community was a source of satisfaction to the general and the department, and we are assured our outfit for our own military company, and the officers to train it, and every reasonable opportunity to join in manoeuvres with the regular army.

Comprehensive plans are on foot for recruiting for the coming encampment and we are expected to lead in the movement, as the community led the South in attendance at Plattsburg. As soon as they are complete we will present them to the public.

Dr. J. Y. Joyner

Superintendent of Education of North Carolina, spent a short time at the Carolina while inspecting the Farm Life School and the Derby Memorial School at the Drowning Creek Plantation. By his recommendation the State is to provide \$2,500 to the former, on the condition that the neighborhood supply an equal amount. It will.

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