

Jackson County Journal

THE YEAR IN ADVANCE IN THE COUNTY

SYLVA, N. C., MAY 9, 1924

\$2.00 THE YEAR IN ADVANCE OUT SIDE THE COUNTY

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE MADE AT DILLSBORO SCHOOL

A large delegation of Dillsboro citizens appeared before the county board of education, on Monday, and secured a protest at the removal of the high school grades to the Dillsboro High School. The delegation was represented by Walter E. Moore, E. P. Stillwell, attorneys. Following these gentlemen, Mr. Lawrence, assistant supervisor of high schools, of the state department of education, gave the views of the department on the matter, and pointed out the experts of the department that the consolidation plan is the only way whereby high schools that attract and keep the children in school after they pass the compulsory age can be provided, and as the only way whereby adequate high school facilities can be provided for all the children in the state, without the being prohibitive.

The Dillsboro people insisted that they were not throwing stones at the Dillsboro High School, but that they were fearful that the removal of the high school grades, now taught at Dillsboro, would to a great extent down their excellent school, cost the loss of the services of Mr. Watson, their present principal, and leave them with an elementary school of not the best grade.

The county board of education voted that the purpose of the consolidation was to give Dillsboro and the district of the consolidated district a strong elementary school, as well as to the high school provided for the districts in Dillsboro and Dix Creek be immediately a compromise, which appeared satisfactory to all concerned. It was reached when it was agreed to reach that the elementary school at Dillsboro and Dix Creek be immediately consolidated at Dillsboro, two rooms be added to the Dillsboro building, and water and other facilities be provided in the building, and that Dillsboro be paid to pay Mr. Watson, the principal, a salary above the state schedule, in order to hold the school who has made Dillsboro's school the most excellent one, with the best and assistance of the Dillsboro-ship.

It was said to be satisfactory to the Dillsboro citizenship as well as the county board of education, it is in keeping with the county-wide organization already approved and adopted by the board.

EPISCOPAL SERVICES SUNDAY

Special interest attaches itself to the service to be held at Saint David's Episcopal church in Cullowhee on Sunday morning next at 11:15 o'clock. At that time the Rector, the Rev. Lawrence S. McClellan, Jr., will be a series of four sermons dedicated to and designed for the students of the Cullowhee Normal School. The series of sermons will have for their general theme, "The Spirit of Youth: An Age of Readjustment" and the first sermon will take as its theme, "Springtime—The Forward Looking Thoughts and Actions." It is now expected that these sermons, when completed and revised will be in book form about Christmas, 1924. There will be special and appropriate music at this service at Cullowhee. Miss Dorothy Clements will have charge of the music and the members of the faculty and the student body will assist her. All are invited to attend. What the Rev. Mr. McClellan will say in his first sermon, the opening in the series, will be of vital interest to the people of Jackson County.

REALTY TRANSFERS

C. W. Hanie to John C. Jones, 4 acres in Sylva, \$10.00.
Thomas F. Parker and S. P. Ravel to Charles J. Metz 535 acres in Cashiers Valley, \$13,467.
J. C. Henley to Jane Henley, 67 acres in Dix Creek, \$1.00.
T. J. Jones to Lee Bradley, 20 acres in Bakers creek, \$105.00.

A COUNTY WIDE PLAN OF SCHOOL ORGANIZATION

(Continued.)
By O. S. DILLARD

In a recent issue of the Journal, I attempted to set up the standards that a county wide system of schools will bring to our people.

The first of these requirements is for a uniform length of term. In this county at present the school term varies in length from six to eight months. In other words some of the children have a term of school one third longer than some of the other children. For example the children of Sylva township have 160 days while the children of Savannah have only 120 days.

If Johnny Jones enters the first grade in the Sylva schools at six years old, and he is a normal child, then at the age of thirteen he should have finished the seven grades of the elementary school, and be ready for the first year in high school.

If Billy Smith who lives in Savannah or some other of the less wealthy districts of the county, which are unable to support a term of school for eight months, enters school at the age of six he will lose two months each year, and instead of being able to complete the seven grades of the elementary school at thirteen years of age, he will be fifteen years and two months old in other words that child has lost over two full years of the very period in which he can make the most progress in school.

In the Course of Study prescribed by the state department of education the following statement is found: "The Course of Study is outlined for a term of eight months, and adequate provisions should be made for the accomplishment of the work as planned." Also, "In schools having only six months term, it is impossible to complete the work as outlined for each grade. Teachers and all school officials should realize this and make it clear alike to pupils and parents.

Therefore as stated above the only children who can complete a grade a year are those who live in the wealthy districts where it is possible to maintain an eight months term of school. By study of the school conditions of the county we find that only 45 per cent of the children of the county have the benefit of a term of eight months. To put it in another way, the child in the short term school must spend from one to two years more in the elementary school than they should. This results in a great economic loss both to pupils and parents. The result of such a condition is that hundreds of boys and girls drop out of school even before the elementary school is completed. If they manage to complete the elementary school, they are so overage and so handicapped when they enter high school that more than half of them drop out in the first year of high school.

In 1914-15, 937 children enrolled in the first grade of the schools of Jackson County. Had all conditions been favorable we should have had practically all this number the next year in the second grade of school. But what do we find? Instead of the 937, the number dropped to 780; the next year to 668, and with the succeeding years, we find the number correspondingly decreasing until only 221 remained in the seventh grade, and in the ninth grade the number had dwindled till only 53 remained. At the close of next year, when the 11 year period for the completion of the high school is up, we will find less than forty pupils in the last year of the high school. What has become of the other 900 pupils? Most of them have fallen by the wayside, and have had shut in their faces forever the door of educational opportunities.

As was stated above, the short term of school makes it impossible for a child to complete a grade in school at the normal age. The consequent result of this then is that we find the grades of all our schools filled with children ranging from one to five years over age for that grade. In the first grade of school the normal age of the child is either six or seven. Then in the other grades he should be either seven-or-eight and so on through all the grades of the school. But what do we find in this county? In the first grade of the schools of the county for 1923 we find 902 children enrolled. Of this number 384 or 42.5 per cent are from one to eight years over age. This number of children increases year by year as they progress through the grades until in the seventh grade we find 156 children out of 200 or 78.1 per cent. In the eighth grade we find that 86.1 are over age.

None of these figures take into account the number of children that are forced to drop out because of economic reasons are because of their age.

I submit that there is but one remedy for this condition of affairs. That is for the county to adopt and put into operation a county wide system of schools with a minimum term of eight months as a standard. Thus every child whether he lives in the wealthy districts of the county or the poor district will have the same advantages as to length of term and can be reasonably expected to finish the elementary school at a proper age.

In succeeding articles, I will attempt to discuss the other things that a county wide organization will bring about, chief among which will be both elementary and high schools with comfortable and adequate buildings modernly equipped, transportation provided wherever necessary to provide these schools, and a distribution of the tax burden that will equalize the educational opportunities of all the children of the county.

SYLVA COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE CLOSSES

With the presentation of the Commencement play "The Path Across The Hill", at the auditorium, Tuesday evening, the Sylva Collegiate Institute Commencement exercises closed, and the school completed one of the most successful year's work in its history.

The play was unusually good and unusually well presented, and was enjoyed by a large audience.

The exercises began Friday evening with the annual concert, under direction of Miss Esther Kinney, director of music.

Sunday morning, at the Baptist church, the baccalaureate sermon was delivered to a large congregation, by Dr. R. C. Campbell, pastor of the First Baptist church of Canton. It was an able effort and well received.

On Monday morning at 10:30 the class day exercises were held, by members of the senior class, at which time the class history, poem, prophecy oration, last will and testament and other efforts were delivered.

The graduating exercises were held on Monday evening with the salutatory by Lawrence Monteith, and address by Dr. Q. C. Davis, pastor of the First Baptist church of Albemarle the class song, the valedictory, by Miss Nola Higdon and the class benediction by Sanford Smith. Diplomas and certificates were delivered to the following graduates and post graduates; Nola Higdon, Mildred Cowan, Dixie Henson, Wayne Woodard, Marguerite Hope, Sanford Smith, Louise Parker, Nora Patterson, James Black, Gladys Cody, Stanley Lovingood, Evangeline Hope Jennings Bryson, Sophia Chastain Gov Wilson, Bessie Snyder, James Mason, Carrie Cope, Lora Dills, Rex Queen, Claud Jones, Garland Jones, Wallace McCracken, and the commercial class; Bessie Hoffman, Evangeline Hope John J. Matlock, Marguerite Hope Gilmer Moody, Madge Beatty, Jack Zimmerman, and Lambert Leopard.

CLERK OF JACKSON COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT DIES SUDDENLY

William L. Henson, clerk of the Jackson County Superior Court died suddenly at his home near Sylva, Monday morning. The suddenness of the death of Mr. Henson brought a great shock to the people of this community and county, as he had been in his usual health and attending to his official duties up to within a few hours of his death.

Mr. Henson was one of the best known and most popular men of the county, of which he was a native and a most useful citizen, was a member of the Sylva Baptist church and of the Masonic order. He was a progressive leader in the political and business life of the county, and besides the office he held at the time of his death, he had been county superintendent of public instruction and had taught in the schools of the county.

In 1914 he was elected clerk of the superior court on the Democratic ticket, was re-elected in 1918 and was elected in 1922, and was re-elected by the people, the bar and the judiciary as being one of the best and most efficient clerks of the court in North Carolina. He is survived by his widow, and three children (two sons and one daughter) who are all well. His brother Sam and C. Henson, of Cullowhee, B. B.

Henson, of Waynesville and three sisters, Mrs. S. H. Phillips, of Asheville; Mrs. T. C. Hester, of Hays, and Mrs. Rufus Long, of Clay county.

The funeral was conducted at the Cullowhee Baptist church, Tuesday afternoon by Rev. W. Ross Yorkley, W. F. West, Rev. Thad F. Deitz and Prof. R. L. Madison. Following the church services the body was taken in charge by the Masonic fraternity and buried with Masonic honors.

One of the largest crowds ever attending a funeral in Jackson county and the profusion of floral tributes attested the esteem in which Mr. Henson was held by all the people of this county.

SHOAL CREEK

Prof. and Mrs. Chas. Owen, of Waynesville were visitors at Shoal Creek, Sunday.

Mr. Clark Webb spent part of last week in Asheville.

Mr. H. G. Ferguson and Mrs. J. L. Ferguson went to Waynesville, Saturday to visit relatives.

Mr. G. T. Cooper went to Franklin on business last week.

Mrs. W. F. Battle is visiting relatives in Candler.

Mr. J. E. Hoyle went to Sylva, Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. William Howell, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Owen, Mrs. W. A. Hyatt and Prof. and Mrs. C. F. Owen dined at Mr. H. G. Ferguson's Sunday.

Mrs. G. T. Cooper called at Mr. York Howell's Sunday afternoon.

Mr. S. M. Crisp and Mr. Phil Crisp attended the funeral of Mr. John Monteith, Saturday, at Forneys Creek.

Mrs. W. A. Reagan spent Sunday at Mr. W. F. House's.

Mr. J. L. Cooper and family and Mr. Wayne Colwell of Whittier called at Mr. G. T. Cooper's Sunday.

Mr. Jess Nelson, who has been spending a few weeks in Colorado, has returned home.

The residence of Mr. P. H. Ferguson has a new coat of paint inside and outside.

An organ in the home of Mr. D. L. Oxner.

BALSAM

Last Sunday was preaching day in Balsam. Rev. Geo. Snyder, of Beala, preached Sunday morning. Rev. O. J. Jones, of Sylva filled his regular appointment in the Methodist church in the afternoon and Rev. Lawrence Crawford, of Tuckasee preached Sunday night. We understand that Rev. Wm. Pruitt, of Hazelwood will preach here next Sunday.

Miss Alma Foster is visiting her aunt, Mrs. Maud Mehaffey near East La Porte.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Mehaffey, from near East La Porte, spent the week end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Mehaffey.

Messrs. T. R. C. Duncan and R. C. Jones, Jr., went to Sylva Monday.

Mr. W. M. Hutchinson, of Atlanta, was in Balsam, Sunday.

Master Benjamin Bryson has returned from a visit in Toxaway.

Mrs. Sara Bryson is visiting in Asheville this week.

Mrs. T. M. Rickards and Mr. Geo. T. Knight attended services in the Presbyterian church in Waynesville Sunday morning.

Mother's Day will be observed in the Methodist church Sunday afternoon. Everybody invited.

Mr. Otho Jones, Jr., of Sylva accompanied his father to Balsam, Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Maybelle Perry went to Sylva Monday.

Mrs. D. W. Ensley went to Addie Monday to see Mrs. Estes Bryson, who is quite sick.

Mr. Cleve Shuler is sick with flu. In fact there are many cases of flu near Balsam.

JUDGE BRYSON WILL APPOINT CLERK

It is the duty of Judge Thad D. Bryson, of Bryson City, the resident judge of this district, under the constitution of North Carolina, to make an appointment of a clerk of the superior court to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. W. L. Henson; and as the superior court opens here this month, it is expected that the appointment will be made within a short time.

The appointment made by Judge Bryson will hold only until after the fall election, at which time a clerk will be elected for a term of only two years, or until the regular judicial election is held.

REGISTERS AND JUDGES APPOINTED

The following is the list of registrars and judges that have been appointed for the several voting precincts in Jackson county for the coming primary and election.

Cashier's Valley, C. G. Rogers registrar, T. F. Fugate, Q. T. Wike, judges. Hamburg, H. H. Bryson registrar; Columbus Wilson, J. M. Cunningham, judges.

Mountain, Jno. A. Stewart, registrar; Oscar Coggins, W. F. Moody, judges.

Canada, Ransom Shelton, registrar; Milas Galloway, Mack Nicholson, judges.

Tuckasee, Ferry Meddleton registrar; P. N. Price, Jno. A. Hooper, judges.

East La Porte, Jerry Moody, registrar; Chas. Robinson, Jno. Green, judges.

Cullowhee, Jno. Phillips, registrar; Jno. Stephaus, Oscar Ensley, judges.

Green's Creek, Chas. Allison, registrar; Golman Green, J. C. Reed, judges.

Savannah, J. J. Cowan, registrar; Clinton Sutton, Garland Buchanan, judges.

Webster, Frank Henson, registrar; Walter Frizzel, W. C. Cagle, judges.

Addie, R. R. Fisher, registrar; W. A. Clayton, Chas. Crawford, judges.

Willetts, L. C. Sutton, registrar; Rick Henson, M. J. Henry, judges.

Balsam, Geo. Bryson, registrar; C. C. Crawford, W. D. Ensley, judges.

Sylva, North Ward, E. E. Grow, registrar; R. U. Sutton, B. G. Painter, judges.

Sylva, South Ward, Don Davis, registrar; L. C. Hall, S. C. Cogdill, judges.

Dillsboro, Wm. Fowler, registrar; J. J. Mason, M. B. Cannon, judges.

Barker's Creek, Ben D. Jones registrar; Jno. R. Dills, Alonzo Sutton, judges.

Qualla, C. Y. Dunlap, registrar; Robt. Hall, J. D. Hooper, judges.

Caney Fork, J. C. Brown, registrar; Aaron Hooper, Marion Nicholson, judges.

The registration books opened last Saturday, and all voters whose name are not on the registration books must register if they wish to participate in the primary.

DEAD BABE FOUND IN GARBAGE BARREL

Haywood Journal, Apr. 30.—About ten days ago at Sunburst an infant child, which had apparently been dead a month or more, was found in a garbage barrel in the rear of a hotel at the above-named place, Sunburst being a sawmill town in the extreme southern part of Haywood county.

This week a young woman, who claims to be a Mrs. Jennings, and who had been working as a helper in the boarding house for some time was arrested on charge and suspicion of being the guilty person and the baby being her own. The Jennings woman was brought to Waynesville Tuesday and at the preliminary hearing probable cause was found and she was sent to jail without bond. No eyewitnesses to the crime have as yet been found; but it is reported that much circumstantial evidence was brought out. When found the baby was badly charred and burned.

The man Jennings, who claims to be the husband of the accused woman, was also sent to jail the same day on a whiskey charge.

NUMBER OF CANDIDATES FILE FOR OFFICE

Eight Democrats have filed their names as candidates for various offices in the June primary in Jackson county.

For Senator from the 27th Senatorial District; Walter E. Moore and Dan Tompkins.

For Representative; Robert L. Madison.

For Sheriff; Claude Wike and N. L. Sutton.

For Register of Deeds; Ernest Monteith and Walter Ashe.

For Judge of the Recorder's Court; J. J. Hooker.

MOTHERS' DAY

Mother's Day will be observed at the Methodist church Sunday morning at 11:00 o'clock. The pastor's sermon will deal with the honor due to our mothers, and will indicate how we may best render that honor. There will be readings and songs appropriate to the occasion. The public is invited to attend.

WORK ON GLENVILLE ROAD TO BE RESUMED

The construction work on the highway from Tuckasee to Glenville, via the High Falls of the Tuckasee, will be resumed at once, by the state highway commission, Judge Webb, in the federal court, having granted a permanent injunction, asked for by the highway commission, against Brooks-Calloway Company forbidding the construction company to remove any of its machinery from the road.

The work was stopped several weeks ago when the Brooks Calloway Company threw up the sponge and declared its inability to complete the job. Immediately the state highway commission asked an injunction to retain the machinery of the machinery of the company. The injunction granted by Judge Webb gives the right to the state highway commission to use the machinery of the Brooks-Calloway Company for the completion of the construction work.

TO THE ALUMNAE OF JACKSON COUNTY

If you know that you could help to insure a future of useful, intelligent womanhood for even one girl, wouldn't you do it?

The North Carolina College for Women at Greensboro has a problem, a problem in Dollars and Sense-sense of duty. Problems of this kind are not new to our alumnae for she has solved them before, but this time she comes to you and puts her problem, squarely up to you, who, as an alumna, rank as her first friend in time of need. She appeals to that soulful college spirit which you have helped to create. She appeals in the name of the future womanhood of the Old North State.

Can You Fail Her?

If you knew that \$300.00 plus more would help to realize the dream for a handsome student-alumnae building on the college campus and it you knew that you had two years to pay it in, if necessary, WOULD YOU GIVE IT? NOW IS THE TIME.

Just one thing is missing on the campus at our college, that is essential, and that is an alumnae home. A place where we can go and be at home, when visiting friends at the college, a place where community interests may be united through social contact in which the highest type of college spirit is developed. Other colleges have found it necessary to build such a home, are we going to fall behind?

Not just a few alumnae can do this thing. We must all help. Jackson county has few alumnae compared with some of the other counties. Let's make it 100 per cent.

Some of the workers will call on you with cards. Pledges must be in by May 10th.

The present student body and faculty have already pledged \$25,000.00.

Ready now, with the old time campus spirit—INVEST.

The following committees have been appointed:

Executive Council, Ruth Allison, Jane Coward, Dorothy Clement.

Publicity Committee, Lucy Wells, Dixie Coward, Maggie Hunter.

Advertising Committee, Mrs. David H. Brown, Miss Blanche Grigg, Mrs. N. N. Coward.

Subscription Committee, Dorothy Clement, Ruth Allison, Jane Coward, Mary Hunter, Harriett Christy, Mrs. Ed Reed.

FATHER OF SYLVA MAN DIES

The following is taken from the Haywood Journal of April 30:

Mr. James Russell, a respected citizen of lower Fines Creek, died at his home last Friday night, April 25, after an illness of several years.

Mr. Russell was 67 year of age. He had suffered long with heart trouble, then paralysis a short time ago, when he grew rapidly worse.

Mr. Russell was a good, honest, law-abiding citizen, as all who know him can testify. He was a kind father, and devoted to his home. He had been a consistent member of the Fines Creek Methodist church for many years. The funeral service was conducted at the church Sunday morning, by his pastor, Rev. Mr. Summers, after which internment was in Fines Creek cemetery.

Mr. Russell was the father of Mr. Cordell Russell, of Sylva.