

STATE LIBRARY

THE BOY WHO MESSED UP EVERYTHING.

"I want one thousand newspapers." The circulation man of the Detroit Free Press looked in amazement at the freckled-faced lad who made this astonishing request. "Got the money?" he asked. "No, sir." "Get out!" The boy got out. He went directly upstairs to the office of the publisher, where big men could not enter without an appointment. "I want fifteen hundred papers, Mr. Storey," said the boy. Then he explained that the people along the line of the railroad where he had run as train newsboy, would be eager to get the news of the battle of Pittsburg Landing. "Can you pay for them?" asked Mr. Storey. "Soon as I sell them?," answered the boy. Mr. Storey wrote something on a slip of paper and the boy took it down to the circulation man. "Fifteen hundred!" growled the man, "thought you only wanted a thousand?" "Oh, I thought I might as well be refused fifteen hundred as a thousand," grinned the boy. And that is one of the things that helped Thomas Edison, the world's greatest inventor, to success. He had learned of this battle. He knew the people along the line would be anxious to hear the news. He had no money, but he had courage and, what is better, he had the habit of thinking things out, of thinking ahead. Usually he sold about sixty papers along this train route. How could he sell fifteen hundred? He had thought that all out in advance and he went to a telegraph operator, whom he knew was fond of reading. "If you'll wire ahead to every stop that there's a big battle and I am coming with papers telling the story and with a list of the dead and wounded, I'll give you a daily paper and two magazines a month for six months," bargained young Edison. "I'll do it," agreed the operator. When Edison reached his first stop, at Utica, there was a mob waiting for the papers. "I thought it was an excursion at first," said Mr. Edison. "I sold more than half my papers there, charging ten cents each. At Mt. Clemens there was another big crowd and at Port Huron I sold out, getting 25 cents each for all I sold at the last two places." Not long after that young Edison noticed how eager the railroad men were for news. They would sit and gossip about railroad affairs like a lot of women at a quilting party. He got an old hand press, some type, and set it up in one end of the baggage car where he kept his papers. It wasn't long before three boys were helping him and he was printing 400 copies a week. If Brakeman Jim Jones broke a leg or Locomotive No. 9928 blew out a cylinder, he put it in his paper and the men liked it. At that time he was experimenting with chemicals and tipped over a bottle of phosphorous which set the car afire. There was a lot of smoke but he got the fire out. The conductor, who disliked him, threw off his printing plant, chemicals and papers at the next stop and boxed his ears so violently that it led to his permanent deafness. The railroad people let him go back, on his promise not to mess things up with his chemicals any more. There had been many complaints about that "Edison boy who messes everything up with his chemicals." Not long after that the little two-year-old son of the station master and telegraph operator at Mt. Clemens sat in the middle of the track as a string of cars were being shunted down. Young Edison saw him. Instead of shouting and frightening the baby he jumped from the baggage car door where he was standing, threw the baby off the track and managed to get up so that the car actually bumped him out of the way. "I'm a poor man," said the station master, "but you can have the few hundred dollars I have saved up, and welcome." "Don't want your money, but will you teach me how to send telegraph messages?" begged Edison. In two months' time he was a capable telegraph operator. He invented the duplex telegraph and nearly starved before he could get it

adopted. He landed in New York City with a dollar in his pocket looking for work. Three nights he slept on park benches. One day he went without food. As he was passing a broker's office he saw the stock ticker stop and there was great excitement inside. He stepped in while they were yelling for someone to go here and someone there and have it fixed. "I think I can fix it for you," he said. They let him try. He opened the ticker, lifted a loose contact spring that had fallen between the wheels and it started up again. Just as he did this the man who had a big interest in the ticker service saw him. "We're having trouble with this service. If you can keep it going for us we'll give you \$300 a month," he said. "I nearly fainted when I heard this," says Edison, "but I remained calm and agreed to do it, demanding an advance in 'good faith.' I really didn't want it for 'good faith' but for pork and beans. I hadn't eaten for nearly thirty hours. Nothing ever tasted quite so good as that dish of pork and beans." Edison kept using his brains while holding down this job. He learned why the tickers wouldn't work well and he improved them, securing a patent. When the company asked him to make a offer he wanted \$5,000. He was about to ask for it in fear and trembling when he used his brains again. "I'll make them do the offering," he thought. They gave him \$40,000. He made exactly \$35,000 by using his brains. All the world knows of his rapid rise after that. This money enabled him to build a laboratory and experiment. Everyone knows how he invented the incandescent light, the phonograph, moving pictures, quadruplex telegraph, speaking parts of the telephone, electric railways, storage batteries and scores of other great things. And practically all the schooling he got was at his mother's knee. But he used his brains about the newspapers, the railroad men's paper, the little boy on the tracks—everything. Today he continues to sit in his West Orange, N. J., laboratory, and think, sometimes for ten hours at a stretch. And if brains are not to be used why do we have them?—Judson D. Stuart in American Boy.

LITERARY MEETING OF WARRENTON BAPTIST PHILATHEA CLASS

The Baptist Philathea Class held its first literary meeting in the home of Mrs. Lizzie Tarwater, Thursday evening, March 22nd, 1917, from eight to eleven o'clock. The meeting was called to order by President, Miss Ethel Chandler. The roll was called by the Secretary, and each member answered with a quotation from Longfellow. The subject of the evening was Longfellow, and the following program was rendered: Sssay on Longfellow's Life Miss Julia Council Reading—Sketch of Longfellow's poems. Miss Alice Rooker Recitation—The Village Blacksmith Miss Annie M. Rodgers Reading—The Psalm of Life Recitation—Maidenhood Miss Nan Rodwell Reading—Paul Revere's Ride Miss Emily Hilliard Sketch of Longfellow's Home Miss Mary R. Burroughs Reading—Excelsior Miss Jennie Jeffers Reading—The Children's Footsteps Mrs. B. P. Terrell. Our teacher, Mrs. V. L. Pendleton, gave us a very interesting talk of her visit through West Minister Abbey, which added very much to the enjoyment of the occasion. After the program was completed delightful refreshments were served. The next meeting of the class will be at the home of Miss Effie Ellington, on April 2nd, 1917. "REPORTER"

WELCOME HOME COMPANY "H"

Company "H" is Expected on Shoofly. Committee Will Meet Soldiers at Depot. Ladies Will Serve Coffee and Sandwiches

Company "H" will arrive this evening on the Shoofly and will be met at Depot by the men of our local Committee, who will accompany them to the Armory. Upon arriving at the Armory an informal reception will be held, participated in by the citizens generally. After a few minutes of social greeting, the Company will be served in the Armory a light luncheon of coffee, sandwiches, etc., by the ladies of the local Committee. After the luncheon the Company will be given a "Smoker" by the citizens of the town. After an hour spent in informal greeting the citizens will retire and the Company will prepare for a Night's rest at Home-sweet home. *** Wednesday the following program will be observed: The Company will drill for a short while (if weather permits) on the Court House Square at 10:30 A. M. At 11 o'clock the Company will assemble in the front seats at the Opera House, the citizens filling in the rear. The Committee of Welcome will assemble on the Stage in Chairs provided for them. The Chairman of the Committee will call the assembly to order, and an Invocation will be offered by Doctor T. J. Taylor. "The Old North State" will be sung by the audience, lead by Graded School. "My Be-setting Sin"—a Recitation, by Lucy Boyd "The Star Spangled Banner"—will be sung by the audience "America for Me", a Recitation—by Olivia Burwell Address of Welcome for the County—Hon. Tasker Polk Address of Welcome for the Town of Warrenton—Prof. John Graham "America"—sung by the audience Benediction, by Rev. R. H. Broom The audience will remain standing, until the Military Company leaves the building, then disburse. The Company will return to its Armory, and will be invited to attend a Banquet in the Masonic Banquet Hall to be served under the direction of the ladies of the Committee. Blessing by Rev. E. W. Baxter

PLANTING DAY, APRIL 5th, 1917.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE RALEIGH

A PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

Our forefathers established the noble custom of setting apart a day in autumn on which to return thanks to the Lord of the Harvest for having blessed them with the "kindly fruits of the earth." A true interpretation of the Thanksgiving spirit comprehends all reasonable efforts on our parts to insure bounty. The conditions which now confront us appeal for activity on our part with peculiar and compelling power. 1. The world war has drawn to the battle lines millions of those who in times of peace "went forth to sow." China and the United States are about to swell the legions who fight and must be fed. 2. From the south the boll weevil is marching on North Carolina. Full cribs and smokehouses are the sure and safe defense against the coming of this pest. In every State the destruction of cotton by the boll weevil has been followed by a paralysis of the farmer's credit. Being forewarned of the steady advance of this enemy and the certain consequence of its attack, it will be colossal stupidity to fail to meet it with the only weapons that have proved effective, to-wit, broad acres of grains and grasses. 3. The amended crop-lien law was framed to give to the small farmer a decent chance to escape from a credit system that levies upon the right to live and labor the heaviest tribute imposed upon a helpless people since Augustus Caesar issued his decree that all the world should be taxed. But the farmer who fails to increase his food and feed crops will deny to himself and family the blessings of the law. The merchant will properly refuse to make unlimited advances under the new law. Long profits will no longer tempt him to take long chances. He will wisely and justly insist that the farmer must produce his own meat and meal, and when he has done this he will find no difficulty in obtaining other necessary supplies. All these things make a substantial increase in our food crops essential to our self-preservation. Now, therefore, I, Thomas Walter Bickett, Governor of North Carolina, do hereby designate and set apart

THURSDAY, THE FIFTH DAY OF APRIL, 1917 AS PLANTING DAY

and on that day I earnestly urge: 1. All mayors of incorporated towns to call the people together and devise and put into execution practical ways and means of having every vacant lot in and adjacent to the town planted to grain or grass, peas or potatoes. 2. All farmer's organization of every kind to meet and counsel their members to heavily increase their food and feed crops this year. 3. All landlords to insist that their tenants shall plant food and feed crops ample for the sustenance of their families and their livestock. 4. All merchants and bankers to counsel their customers who are engaged in farming to increase the acreage planted to food and feed crops to such an extent that it will be unnecessary for them to purchase any food supplies next year. The times are troublous. No man can say what an hour may bring forth; but if we shall act with prudence and diligence, the "meal will waste nor will the oil fail." Done at our city of Raleigh, this the 16th day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventeen, and in the one hundred and forty-first year of our American Independence. T. W. BICKETT, Governor.

BY THE GOVERNOR: Sandford Marten, Private Secretary. A clergyman was annoyed by people talking and giggling during the service. He paused, looked at the disturbers, and said: "Some years since, as I was preaching, a young man who sat before me was constantly laughing, talking, and making uncouth grimaces. I paused and administer a severe rebuke. After the close of the services a gentleman said to me: " 'Sir, you made a great mistake; that young man is an idiot.' Since then I have always been afraid to reprove those who misbehave in chapel lest I should repeat the mistake and reprove another idiot." During the rest of the services there was good order.

FEDERATION OF BIBLE CLASSES TO MEET AT ROCKY MOUNT.

The second annual meeting of the Federation of Adult Bible Classes of the North Carolina Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, will be held at Rocky Mount, N. C., April 3rd to 5th. The North Carolina Conference of the M. E. Church has been paying especial attention to the Wesley Bible Class Movement in the State, and the various classes have been organized into a Federation looking to closer cooperation. The first annual meeting was held at Fayetteville, N. C., in 1916, at which time the organization was perfected with W. H. Newell, of Rocky Mount, N. C., as President. There are seven hundred and forty-five (745) Sunday Schools in the North Carolina Conference; five hundred and fifty-six (556) of these have organized Wesley Bible Classes for Adults, placing the North Carolina Conference second to the largest in the forty-five Conferences in the Southern States. In the work of this organization especial attention is given to the organization of the "teen" age and adult classes in order that through them better work may be done in the various Sunday Schools. This great meeting is to be held in the First M. E. Church at Rocky Mt., April 3rd, and continuing through the 4th and 5th. Attractive musical programmes will be rendered at the evening meetings, and addresses will be delivered by some of the most prominent speakers of the State. The morning and afternoon sessions will be devoted largely to round table discussion in which the various delegates will be expected to give experiences and observation relative to class and Sunday School work. A great number of ministers of the North Carolina Conference, as well as many prominent laymen of the State who are interested in Sunday School work, will be present.

TO THE SUPERINTENDENTS AND PRINCIPALS, TEACHERS OF HOUSEHOLD ECONOMIC, IN THE SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA:

For several years the State Normal and Industrial College has watched with much interest the efforts of the teachers of Household Economics to organize themselves into a compact and forceful body which will facilitate the exchange of ideas and be able to mould public opinion in the matter of teaching this science. Last November at a meeting in Raleigh a number of teachers of these branches met and formed a temporary organization, electing a temporary president and secretary, and authorized these officers to arrange for and advertise a meeting to be held in Greensboro early in the spring. The State Normal and Industrial College is cooperating with these officers in arranging for such a conference, and pledges itself to do all it can to make the meeting a success. The meeting is to take place on Friday and Saturday 13th and 14th of April, and a tentative program will be circulated very shortly. The best available men and women who are authorities on the subjects of Household Economics will be secured for the occasion, who will give addresses, and lead in round table discussions in which the special problems of the individuals teachers will be discussed, and as far as possible solved. For such a meeting Greensboro is particularly suited on account of the fact of its accessibility, and because of the splendidly equipped departments of Home Economics at the State Normal and Industrial College. The college will furnish a place of meeting and free entertainment to all who may find it possible to attend. All superintendents and principals are earnestly urged to grant leave of absence for all teachers wishing to come, and the latter and all others interested are cordially invited to be present. Please signify your intention of being present by a card addressed to President J. I. Foust, State Normal and Industrial College, Greensboro, N. C., and further information will be forwarded to you within the next few weeks. LIZZIE J. RODDICK, Temporary President C. W. HEWLETT, E. E. BALCOMB, LIZIE J. RODDICK, Committee.

FOR LARGE SCALE FERTILITY DEPEND ON LEGUMES.

For a number of years the Division of Agronomy of the Experiment Station has been studying the soils in different parts of the State in a scientifically critical way. During this time considerable information has been gathered, with reference to the needs of the main soil types found in different parts of the State. In a general way, it may be stated that most of the soils in the Piedmont section are in need of nitrogen and phosphoric acid, while those of the eastern part of the State are in need of nitrogen and potash. Phosphoric acid in the soils of the eastern section is usual contained in small quantities, yet it seems to be less essential, at the present time, than either nitrogen or potash. This is probably due to the fact that the phosphoric acid content is in a more available form, that the plants may secure it more easily than when contained in the soils of the Piedmont and mountain sections. Taking the State as a whole, nitrogen is one of the main constituents which must be provided to secure maximum crop yields. One of the most effective and cheapest ways, in many cases, to supply this nitrogen is by growing of leguminous crops. These when properly selected, put in, inoculated, and cultivated, give splendid results. It should be the plan of every farmer to grow the nitrogen required in his soil for subsequent crops. The only way under the sun the farmer can, at the present time, secure the plant-food constituents required in his soil for crop production is by addition of materials carrying these plant-food constituents or by the growing of leguminous crops which are able to take nitrogen from the air for storage in the soil when the crops are plowed back into it. Any other method of handling the crop will not restore to the soil the amount of nitrogen the crop took from the air and from the soil. It should be the plan of every progressive farmer this year, especially, to grow more of the leguminous crops than has been the custom heretofore. These may be grown in corn, in cotton, after small grains, and after Irish potatoes. The selection of the legume or legumes to be used for the purpose of different farmers will depend upon the climate, the character of soil, and the purpose for which the crops are to be grown. Generally speaking, for summer growth, soybeans, velvet beans, and cowpeas are the ones to be depended upon largely. For winter growth, crimson clover and hairy vetch, in the eastern and lower Piedmont sections of the State; and red clover and crimson clover for the upper Piedmont and mountain sections of the State.—Extensive Farm News. THE TEACHER She knows full well the verbs and nouns, Can locate all the streams and towns, And trace linguistic ups and downs— And all for forty dollars. In mathematics, science, art, And agriculture's busy mart She always takes a leading part— And all for forty dollars. Her garb is always trim and neat, Her shoes just fit her dainty feet, Her wardrobe's always quite complete, And all for forty dollars. She goes each year to summer school, To learn the pedagogic rule And buys each latest book and tool— And all for forty dollars. She gives her substance to the poor, Receives the pleaders at her door, And buys their tickets by the score— And all for forty dollars. She teaches thirty girls and boys, Smiles through their questions and their noise, And never loses equipoise— And all for forty dollars. —Exchange. *** She had her beaux by the score, And teaches Susie "Never more" For now she's busy tending Joe, At less than Forty dollars.