

WELCOME GRAND CHAPTER O. E. S.

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A SEMI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF WARRENTON AND WARREN COUNTY

3c. A COPY

A CONTROVERSY

"At the regular meeting of the County Board of Education Monday, Mr. John S. Davis, a member of said Board, presented a paper which he said was in the form of charges against Superintendent of Schools, H. F. Jones. Mr. Davis said that he would not press action by the Board on that day, but that he would ask that action be taken at an early date. The Chairman of said Board, Mr. John D. Newell, at once appeared to become indignant, and would not allow Mr. Davis to file the papers or read them, and said that he would adjourn the Board before it should be done. Mr. Newell went so far as to say that 'No one except State Superintendent J. Y. Joyner had the right to file charges against the County Superintendent.'"

"Mr. Newell, the Chairman, would not even allow a mention of the proceedings made in the minutes of the Board, but insisted on adjourning to the first Monday in July, and then it was that Mr. J. E. Rooker stated that he would be in favor of a called meeting as soon as an opinion could be secured from Mr. J. Y. Joyner as to whether the County Board of Education had a right to receive and hear charges against Superintendent Jones, and here the matter ended.

"Whether are we drifting anyhow? How can there ever be any peace with the present state of affairs in Warren county?"

"What were the charges?"—Norlina Heallight.

The above is clipped from the Headlight of Friday. He very properly asks the question "How can there ever be any peace with present state of affairs in Warren county." "What are the charges." The Superintendent of schools has not been furnished with a copy of the charges made by Mr. Davis. Saturday before the 1st Monday he read over a list of charges of failure to discharge my duty and of doing things contrary to law. One of the charges was that the RECORD PRINTING COMPANY was furnishing the Board of Education with printed matter "contrary to law." So far as the Superintendent of schools is concerned he welcomes any investigation Mr. Davis may make, and so stated in the presence of the Board and of Editor Hardy.

It should be plain to any man that the law should govern the method of procedure in filing charges against Superintendents, and Members of the County Boards. This is the method that the Law says must be followed.

"In case the State Superintendent shall have sufficient evidence at any time that any county superintendent of public instruction or any member of the board of education is not capable of discharging or is not discharging any duties of his office, as required by this chapter, or is guilty of immoral or disreputable conduct, HE (the State Superintendent) shall report the matter to the County Board of Education, which shall hear evidence in the case; and if after careful investigation it shall find sufficient cause for his removal it shall declare the office vacant at once and proceed to elect his successor."

The wisdom of this law is manifest, otherwise Boards of Education would be in turmoil all the time if a minority member or any citizen who did not like the Superintendent or a member of the Board could file charges and have trials galore. The chairman was therefore obeying the law and doing his duty when he positively refused to allow Mr. Davis to read his "charges," and Mr. Rooker endorsed the position taken by the chairman. The Minute of an Association or body are presumed to be the acts of the body; as no action of the Board was taken (and it could not without violating the law) no minutes could be made.

Mr. Davis was assured by the Board that he could have a hearing on his "charges" just so soon as Mr. Rooker "reports the matter to the County Board of Education," and that MUST proceed in the orderly and lawful way if he desired any action of the Board. No other course could be taken by the Board without violating the law.

So Chairman Newell "went so far," as the editor of the Headlight puts it, as to say that "No one but State Superintendent J. Y. Joyner had the right to file charges against the County Superintendent." A reading of the law should convince the Headlight and Chairman Newell and Mr. Rook-

CHAUTAUQUA CONTRACT

The Community Chautauqua which closed a five day session in Warrenton Friday night is an enterprise of high order.

It brought to Warrenton lecturers who were in touch with the bigger problems of life; musicians who were both skilled and talented; readers who were charming and delightfully entertaining.

Shall we have such a Chautauqua next year? There is no reason why we should not. We are situated in the center of a group of enterprising towns; we are large enough as a town to support such an entertainment; and the Chautauqua merits the support of this and all neighboring towns.

Thirty-five gentlemen have signed the contract for next year. Only five more names are needed in order to guarantee our presence on the chautauqua circuit for next year. Anyone may sign or two people may sign the contract together.

A list of the Guarantors follows:

Tasker Polk, W. B. Boyd, W. N. Boyd, W. R. Strickland, V. D. Alston, Howard F. Jones, E. W. Baxter, J. P. Scoggin, C. R. Rodwell, G. R. Scoggin, W. H. Dameron, Mrs. R. J. Jones, Mrs. W. A. Graham, M. C. McGuire, J. E. Rooker, J. B. Massenbun, J. D. Palmer, A. G. Elliott, J. J. Tarwater, H. A. Macon, C. H. Peete, J. A. Dameron, Jr., Mrs. Thomas D. Peck, Miss A. D. Graham, J. J. Macon, Mrs. A. A. Williams, B. B. Williams, R. E. Davis, E. C. Price, R. B. Boyd, W. G. Rogers, J. Edward Allen, H. A. Mosley, J. B. Palmer, W. M. Day and W. Brodie Jones.

Those interested in signing the contract should see Mr. Norwood Boyd. To whom credit is largely due for the number who have already signed.

Doing as one pleases soon ceases to be fascinating if no one objects.

"THE POTTER'S MOULDING"

Day by day the shadows lengthen,
Narrow grows life's beaten road;
Still there lingers at the sunset
In grey skies a crimson glow;

Yet I know the night of terror
Soon must hide the heart of gold,
In the furnace of the blackness,
For the Potter to remold.

For the dawn of a tomorrow,
Law gives back the gold for gold
To the miner in his caverns,
With the interest many fold.

So I wait in this deep mystery,
Seeing shadows come and go;
Waiting for the Potter's molding,
Out of dusk a heart of gold.
(Mrs.) JANE MOORE NORMENT.

er were RIGHT. So far as the Superintendent of Schools is concerned, I am ready to publish in the Warren Record to all the people of the County every charge that Mr. Davis can make against the Superintendent's "sins of omission and commission" and to answer them before the bar of public opinion at home, and in the State Capital.

Since writing the above the News Reporter has come to hand with the following editorial:

"Before the Board of Education in Warrenton last Monday a member of the Board, Mr. John S. Davis, attempted to present six specific charges against the County Superintendent of Schools charging him with absenting himself from his office and in other ways failing to discharge the duties incumbent upon the office of Superintendent of Schools. The surprise that hit the public is that the Board of Education denied to Mr. Davis the right to read the charges or to make a record of same on the minutes of the meeting. In that case, as in many others, it is fortunate that there is a court of appeal."

Nay brother, the "surprise that hit the public" is the fact that the editor of the News Reporter and the editor of the Headlight did not know the law bearing on the method of procedure in bringing charges against a member of the Board of Education and a Superintendent of schools. To say that they did not know the law is the most charitable construction, for if they knew they were wrong in their editorial expression of criticism of the Board and THEN criticized they do themselves more injury than they do the Board of Education.

—HOWARD F. JONES,
Supt. of Public Instruction.

PROGRAM OF WELCOME

The annual convention of the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star is being held in Warrenton this week. The opening exercises of welcome were held in the Academy auditorium last night from 8:30 to 10:30.

Promptly at 8:30 the Grand officers, followed by members of Warren Chapter and other visiting chapters, marched into the auditorium bearing small flags, the Grand Officers and those who were to take part in the exercises were seated on the stage, which was beautifully decorated for the occasion.

The address of welcome was delivered by Hon. Andrew J. Harriss, of Henderson, a member of Warren Chapter, on behalf of Warren Chapter. He was followed by Dr. Thomas J. Taylor, Pastor of the Baptist church, with an address of welcome on behalf of the town. Dr. Taylor assured our guests that "our doors, our hearts are open to you, and all we have is yours." Dr. Hubert Poteat, of Wake Forest, accompanied by Miss Ethel Chandler on Piano, sang to the delight of his audience and was repeatedly encored. The response to the welcome of Warren Chapter and of the town of Warrenton was made by Miss Maud Hoyle, of Charlotte, Associate Grand Conductress, on behalf of the Grand Chapter. Miss Alice Vaden Williams played two beautiful selections on Piano, the second selection being an encore. Dr. Poteat by special request sang an inspiring Scotch War Song. Judge John H. Kerr then in a happy vein introduced Dr. Hubert Poteat as speaker of the evening. Dr. Poteat chose as his subject "Fraternalism" and applying his analysis to both the Masonic fraternity and the "Starlight" (as he christened them) and all fraternities for that matter, delivered one of the most practical and inspiring addresses we have heard in a long time. Dr. Poteat is a speaker of extraordinary ability and of pleasing personality and captivated his auditors.

Following Dr. Poteat's address Prof. J. Edward Allen on behalf of Warren Chapter presented a rose covered "Key" to the Grand Chapter and to our guests, with the assurance that it was the key to our hearts and homes. Mrs. Noland Knight, of Asheville, Grand Matron, responded in a few well chosen words of appreciation.

Miss Louise Allen, Worthy Matron of Warren Chapter, in sincere words of hospitality invited the Grand Chapter, visiting delegates, members of Warren Chapter and all present, who are not members of the Order of the Eastern Star to her home on Bragg Street to a public reception. This closed the public exercises, which were gracefully presided over by Prof. J. Edward Allen, assisted by Miss Ethel Chandler, as Pianist.

The reception at the home of Miss Allen was attended by a large number of our citizens and much enjoyed. Those in the Receiving line to whom the visitors were introduced were: Mrs. Noland Knight, Grand Matron, Mrs. Emma M. Siler, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Woodbury, Mrs. Sallie M. Betcher, Miss Maud Hoyle, Mr. J. J. Phoenix, Mrs. Clem Buckner, Mrs. Agnes Hamlin and several other prominent members of the Order who are visitors; the local Chapter was represented by Worthy Patron, W. K. Barham and Mrs. R. J. Jones; District Deputy Grand Matron; Mrs. Howard F. Jones, Past Matron; Mrs. Howard F. Jones, Chaplain; Miss Sue Burroughs, Past Matron, Miss Louise Allen, Matron, and Prof. J. Edward Allen, Grand Patron at whose home the guest assembled. Delicious fruit punch was daintily served by charming young ladies to appreciative guests.

A bashful young Scot had no courage to speak for himself. At last one Sabbath night he said, "Jane, do you ken I was here Monday night?" "Aye." "And I was here Wednesday and Thursday?" "Aye." "And once more on Friday and again last night?" "So you were." "And here I am tonight." "Yes." Finally, in desperation, "Woman, do you no smell a rat?"—Exchange.

I saw her in church as she entered
The pew.
And she felt of her belt,
At the back.

She had on a skirt that was rustly
And new,
And didn't quite know what the
fastenings might do
So she felt of her back
At the belt.

THE FARMER'S CHANCE

While stopping household leaks, and cultivating garden spaces around the home are this year everywhere critically important, the big end of the problem of feeding the nation and our allies at war concerns the production of wheat, corn, potatoes, meat and milk, butter and eggs on the largest possible scale, at the lowest possible cost, and their distribution to consumers at the lowest possible prices, with the largest possible rewards to farm producers.

A large detail in the profitable production of farm wealth lies in medium or large scale farming with a maximum of labor-saving, profit-producing farm machinery, and a minimum of farm labor.

Where Our Weakness Lies

And just here is where the South falls behind. We are small scale farmers. Our farms in North Carolina average only 35 cultivated acres per farm, and only 14.5 acres per farm worker. In the Middle West the average farms range from 111 cultivated acres in Illinois to 275 in North Dakota; and the average number of acres cultivated per farm worker range from 62 in Illinois to 156 in North Dakota.

Western farmers with abundant horse and machine power on medium and large sized farms get large yields per worker and keep production costs low.

Southern farmers on small size farms rely on excessive human labor using simple hand-tools mainly, and they produce large values per acre but small values per worker.

Our farm system is intensive; in a land where land and labor are relatively abundant, and cash operating farm capital is small. Their farm system is expansive in a region where labor is scarce, and cash operating capital is relatively abundant.

Their fundamental lack is farm labor. They are forced to farm upon large areas, and to supply labor deficiency with labor-saving, profit-producing machinery. Their farm system means small yields per acre, but large yields per worker, minimum and greater accumulation of farm production costs, maximum profits, wealth.

Our fundamental lack is cash operating capital. As a result our farms upon an average are too small—much too small; our use of human labor is excessive and expensive; our yields per acre are relatively large and our yields per worker are small—amazingly small; production costs are high, the margin of profit is uniformly narrow even when crops are abundant and prices are high; and our accumulating farm wealth is little—appallingly so.

When compared with the West in per capita wealth in farm properties, the South is poor. The contrasts are startling. They have been exhibited in detail in the University News Letter, and constantly referred to in order to arouse productive thinking.

Two Main Obstacles

We have too little cash capital in our farm regions. The poverty of the South directly after the war forced us into farm tenancy and expensive credit in farm operations. These two fundamental causes keep us poor in our farm regions; and we shall not greatly increase in farm wealth and comfort until these two radical causes of our undoing disappear.

They hinder every progressive forward move that anybody can name in a fortnight of hard thinking. Together they menace economic and social development in every direction.

A Great Opportunity

If the South in these days of peril cannot or will not achieve abiding farm prosperity by producing cotton and tobacco on a bread-and-meat basis; if she must sound still further the depths of poverty resulting from expensive small-scale farming; if the increasing tendency to smaller and smaller farms, and fewer and fewer acres per farm worker cannot be changed and just the opposite tendencies established, then we will have side-stepped our largest chance to pluck a permanent advantage out of the situation produced by the present war.

Too Little Farm Machinery

Think of it! While 605,000 farm workers in North Carolina cultivate less than 9 million acres; half as many farm workers in Iowa cultivate three times as many acres. While a farm worker cultivates an average of only 14.5 acres a year in North Carolina, in Iowa he cultivates 88 acres. The simple truth is we have too

MARMADUKE NEWS ITEMS

Mr. James L. Alston and family spent Tuesday night and Wednesday with Mrs. John Powell. They took their two little daughters, Sadie and Mary back with them, the latter having completed their fort-nights visit to their Grandparents here.

The severe wind and rain storm did no serious damage here last Thursday afternoon, as we have heard reports of elsewhere.

Mrs. O. C. Davis and daughter, Mrs. John Powell with her infant son John Davis, stopped in the home of Mr. S. K. Clark for a short call Sunday afternoon.

The much needed rain fell almost incessantly Saturday night and Sunday.

Messrs. M. F. and brother, S. R. Duke, returned from Washington City Saturday, where they have been on a little pleasure trip.

Mr. H. C. Davis and family rode down to see his mother and back to Henderson Wednesday evening.

Miss Mabel will leave this week for the summer school at Greenville, N. C.

Mr. Harry Leonard and wife and little Ertie Hope spent the first Sunday with her father Mr. S. R. Duke.

"UNDINE"

MORNING PRAYER.

Oh, may I be strong and brave today,
And may I be kind and true,
And greet all men in a gracious way,
With frank good cheer in the things I say,
And love in the deeds I do.

May the simple heart of a child be mine,
And the grace of a rose in bloom:
Let me fill the day with a hope divine
And turn my face to the sky's glad shine,
With never a cloud of gloom.

With the golden levers of love and light
I would lift the world and when,
Through a path with kindly deeds made bright
I come to the calm of a starlit night,
Let me rest in peace. Amen.

—NIXON WATERMAN.

DR. BRANSON'S LETTER

Chapel Hill, N. C.
May 29, 1917

Mr. Howard F. Jones,
Warrenton, N. C.
Dear Mr. Jones:—

I greatly enjoy the items of Warren history. I clip them for our files every week. Will not these be gathered together in a volume of Warren county historic reminiscences? They ought to be.

With best wishes
Yours truly,
E. C. BRANSON.

The above letter from Dr. Branson, Professor of Rural Economics and Sociology, University of North Carolina, is appreciated by the Record, because it is a commendation of our Contributing editor, Dr. Thos. J. Taylor. (Editor).

many farm workers for the acreage under cultivation. Farm labor is scarce in the South only because our farms are too small on an average and because our reliance is on human labor mainly.

The papers report that 308,000 negro laborers have moved out of twelve Southern States during the last eight months—35,000 out of North Carolina alone. Decreasing farm labor means more idle acres and a dwindling agriculture; or it can mean larger farms, less human power and more horse and machine power. Southern agriculture will inevitably move along one or the other of these two lines. The first means stagnation; the second means progress.

Urgent Needs

We must have greater wealth in our farm regions, larger farms, more cash operating capital, more livestock and livestock products, more grain, hay, and forage crops, and a safer basis for abiding farm prosperity. We must have more farm machinery, and we must produce larger yields per worker on our farms.

These can all come in due season if only we will lay down cotton and tobacco culture on bread-and-meat foundations during these critical times. If we will not feed ourselves this year, it is safe to say we will never do it under any conceivable circumstances short of bankruptcy and sheer starvation.—News Letter.

CHILDREN'S DAY

The annual children's day exercises were held before an interested congregation in the Methodist church Sunday evening at eight-thirty.

The program opened with "Jesus, Great Captain," sweetly sung by the children as they entered the chancel. Prayer was offered by Rev. R. H. Broom, and response was made by congregation joining with the choir and singing "God Bless the Children."

The Superintendent then stated the purpose of Children's Day. A day of gratitude, a day of praise to Christ, and a day emphasizing the importance of children as the very cornerstone of all christian endeavor.

After two songs, the reading was begun by little Misses Fannie Scoggin, Rachael Mullen and Mary Petway Davis, each reciting a verse with a central thought that we as little children were beginners upon the path of righteousness.

Little Misses Lucy Boyd, Alice Littlepage Burwell, Fannie Scoggin, and Mattie Marks each then recited a verse from the Bible. Each verse showing God's love for little children, and His promise to them.

The progress made by and love shown the Sunday School by the Juniors from nine to twelve, was told by little Miss Elizabeth Williams. "The Bible and Its Message of Peace and Good Will" was portrayed by Misses Mary and Olivia Burwell, each holding a bible and reciting a verse. After they finished, Misses Lucy Boyd, Lucy Scoggin, Mabel Buchanan, Eva Williams, Zenobia Lancaster, Eloise Mullen, Charles Ray Rodwell, and Richard Buchanan each recited a verse of scripture whose main topic was Peace. These exercises closed by all reciting in concert.

"Speed the day when peace shall reign
Over strife victorious;
For the promise is no vain—
God shall rule all-glorious."

The story of Jesus and the feeding of the multitude and the joy resulting to that boy who helped Christ by giving the loaves and fishes was pleasantly read by Miss Mariam Boyd.

Mr. Broom stated that the contribution was to go to needy Sunday Schools and emphasized the need under which some schools were laboring. A liberal contribution was the result.

The readings were interspersed by children's songs, and the program closed with the song "Lead us, Mighty Captain"—a prayer for guidance and support.

For the success of this enterprising and inspiring program credit must be given to Miss Mariam Boyd, the efficient leader.

JUNE.

Are beautiful roses in full bloom;
Beneath the window of my room
Sweet honeysuckle climbs and twines
While just beyond are stately pines,
In whose green depths one may forget
The ofttimes stress of life; and yet
With subtle power they impart
Their own deep calmness to my heart.
From yonder lane beside the mill,
At dusk comes call of whip-poorwill.
A quiet streamlet glides beneath
The worn old bridge, and still as death
The old ponds sleeps. While like a dream
Brightly the fireflies fit and gleam.
Oh, is the locust now in bloom,
And does the breeze waft its perfume
Across, the dew-meadows still,
While day breaks golden o'er the hill?
I hear a mocking bird in song
With magis music all day long,
And night casts shadows o'er the moon.
Oh, glad am I 'Tis June! 'Tis June!
—Elizabeth Nelson, in Home and School.

LET THE PUBLIC JUDGE

Mr. Editor:

Referring to an editorial in the Headlight of June 8th in criticism of my action taken in regard to charges of Mr. Davis, I wish to state that I have not the time nor the inclination just now to engage in newspaper controversy, but am willing that the people be the judge. Therefore I wish you to publish the school Law in regard to this matter.

Respectfully,
J. D. NEWELL,
Chm. Board.

Too many men salt away money
In the brine of other people's tears.