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NO. 25

Compulsory Attendance

An Act to Make School Attendance Compulsory. All Children Required to Attend School, Age 8 to 12, Term 4 Months

Sec. 1. That from and after the first day of July, one thousand nine hundred and thirteen, every parent, guardian, or other person in the State of North Carolina having charge or control of a child or children between the ages of eight and twelve years, shall cause such child or children to attend the local public school in the district, town or city in which he resides continuously for four months of the school term of each year, except as hereinafter provided. This period of compulsory attendance shall commence at the beginning of the compulsory period of the school term nearest to the eighth birthday of such child or children, and shall cover the compulsory period of four consecutive school years thereafter. This period of compulsory attendance for each public school shall commence at beginning of school term said school unless otherwise ordered by the county board of education or in case of towns or cities of two thousand or more inhabitants, by the board of trustees of the public schools of said towns or cities. Continuous attendance upon some other public school or upon any private or church school taught by competent teachers may be accepted in lieu of attendance upon the local public schools: Provided that said period of continuous attendance upon such other school shall be for at least four months of each year: Provided further, that any private or church school receiving for instruction pupils between the ages of eight and twelve years shall be required to keep such records of attendance of said children and to render such reports, same as are hereinafter required of public schools. And attendance upon such schools refusing or neglecting to keep such records and to render such reports shall not be accepted in lieu of attendance upon the local public school of the district, town or city which the child shall be entitled to attend: Provided, the period of compulsory attendance shall be in force and apply between the ages of eight and fifteen years in Mitchell County.

EXEMPTIONS.

Sec. 2. This act shall not apply in any case in which the child's physical or mental condition, as attested by any legally qualified physician before any court having jurisdiction under this act renders his attendance impracticable or inexpedient; or in any case in which the child resides two and one half mile or more by the nearest traveled route from the school house, or in any case in which, because of extreme poverty the services of such child are necessary for his own support or the support of his parents, as attested by the affidavit of said parents and of such witnesses as the attendance officer may require; or in any case in which said parent, guardian or other person having charge or control of the child shall show before any magistrate by affidavit of himself and of such witnesses as the attendance officer may require, that the child is without necessary books and clothing for attending school, and that he is unable to provide the necessary books and clothes. Provided that when books and clothing shall have been provided through charity or by other means, the child shall no longer be exempt from attendance under this provision.

PARENTS SHALL CAUSE CHILDREN TO ATTEND SCHOOL.

Sec. 3. Every parent, guardian, or other person in the State of North Carolina having charge or control of a child or children between the ages of eight and twelve years shall cause said child to attend school as aforesaid: Provided that occasional absence from such attendance by such child amounting to not more than two unexcused absences in four consecutive weeks shall not be unlawful: Provided, further, that the superintendent, principal or teacher in charge of any school may excuse any child for a temporary absence because of unusual storm or bad weather, sickness or death in the child's family, unforeseen or unavoidable accidents, and such excuse and reason therefor shall be recorded by said superintendent, principal, or teacher in charge of school and reported to the attendance officer as hereinafter provided: Provided, further, that in case of protracted illness of any child whose attendance is required under this act, or in case of quarantine of the home in which the child resides, upon report of the health officer or upon satisfactory evidence to this effect, the attendance officer shall excuse from attendance such child until he is fully restored to health or until the time required by law that he shall stay out of school after quarantine has been raised.

PENALTY FOR VIOLATING OF LAW.

Sec. 4. Any parent, guardian or other person violating the provisions of this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be liable to a fine of not less than five dollars nor more than twenty-five dollars, and upon failure or refusal to pay such fine said parent, guardian, or other person shall be imprisoned not to exceed thirty days in the county jail: Provided that the fine for any first offense may, upon the payments of cost, be suspended and not collected until the same party is convicted of a second offense: Provided further that after the expiration of three days from the service of the notice by the attendance officer each and every day a parent, guardian, or other person shall willfully and unlawfully keep such child or children from school, or allow him to remain out of school, shall constitute a separate offense and shall subject said person to penalties herein prescribed.

Attendance Officers, duties, Compensation etc.

Sec. 5. The county board of education in each county shall appoint and remove at will an attendance officer for each township to enforce the provisions of this act who shall serve also as taker of the school census, performing all the duties heretofore required of the school committee as to the section four-thousand one hundred and forty-eight of the revision of one thousand nine hundred and five of North Carolina, and as keeper of the attendance records for which service he shall be allowed three cents per child of school age each school year. It will be his duty to take an annual census and to furnish each superintendent, principal, or teacher in charge of school with an accurate school census of the district at the opening of the school each year, and also to furnish a copy of the census of each district to the county superintendent of public instruction. The attendance officer shall serve written or printed, or partly written and part-

ly printed notices upon every parent, guardian, or other persons violating the provisions of this act, and prompt compliance on the part of such parent guardian or other person shall be required. For serving such notice the attending officer shall be allowed a fee of 25 cents in case of conviction, same to be taxed in bill of cost; and if any parent, guardian, or other person upon whom such notice is served fails to comply with the law within three days then it shall be the duty of said attendance officer to prosecute such person. Prosecution under this act shall be brought in the name of the State of North Carolina before any justice of the peace, or police justice, or recorder of any county, town or township in which the person prosecuted resides. The attendance officer shall have the right to visit and enter any office or factory or business house employing children, for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this act; when doubt exists as to the age of a child, he may require a properly attested birth certificate or affidavit stating such child's age; he shall keep an accurate record of all notices served, all cases prosecuted, and all other services performed and shall make an annual report of same to the county board of education. In the discretion of the county board of education, the attendance officer may be allowed reasonable additional compensation from the county school fund for such services as are required of him under this act, compensation for which is not specifically provided for herein: Provided, that in case the county board of education shall appoint a school committeeman or township constable as attendance officer, the duties of such officer herein prescribed are hereby declared to be a part of his duties ex officio: Provided further, that the school committee or board of trustees of any school in any town or city of five thousand or more inhabitants, operating its schools under special character, is hereby authorized and empowered, if in their judgment such action is wise, to appoint an attendance officer for the schools under their direction, fix his compensation, and pay the same out of the special tax school funds of said town or city, and assign to him other duties in addition to those enumerated above.

Teachers must co-operate, penalty for non-compliance.

Sec. 6. It shall be the duty of all principals and teachers to co-operate with the attendance officers in the enforcement of this law. To this end it shall be the duty of the principal or teacher in charge in every school, in which pupils between the ages of eight and twelve years are instructed; to keep an accurate record of the attendance of such pupils; to render during the period of compulsory attendance of each school term weekly reports of same to the attendance officer and the county superintendent of public instruction, showing all absences, excused and unexcused, and, in the case of an excused absence, to state the reason for which the pupil was excused. Upon the willful or negligent failure of any principal or teacher in charge of any school to comply with the provisions of this section the county superintendent shall deduct from his or her salary for the current month the sum of 5 dollars before approving the voucher therefor.

Opening Powellville School

The opening of the Powellville Graded School on Monday was an interesting event. A large number of children were enrolled and classified. In the afternoon a large number of citizens gathered in the spacious auditorium and the building was formally dedicated. Prof. Herbert W. Early and Gov. Francis D. Winston were the speakers.

Prof. Early showed a good hold on the new educational life, and his excellent talk gave evidence that he will soon have the educational work and the schools of the county well in hand. As is usual with him, Gov. Winston talked along very practical lines. He urged that the school be made the center around which every interest in the community should revolve. He stressed the idea of community co-operation along all lines, social, financial

and educational. He pictured the community, the model school with library, amusement hall, social gathering, reading room and lecture bureau. Hon. John C. Britton, our Representative, was present and made a few encouraging remarks. He has taken much interest in the new school.

Joseph N. Thomas

At the last reunion of the Con

Civil Actions Set for Trial At the 1913 Bertie Superior Court.

Hon. R. B. Peebles, Judge

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 12th, 1913

No. 8.	T. J. White	vs	Winston & Matthews
No. 4.	Perry C. Tyler	"	J. & E. Mahoney
No. 7.	J. C. Rawls	"	W. C. Askew
No. 27.	S. W. Kenney Admr.	"	Seaboard Air Line Railway
No. 11.	St. Leon Mizell, &c.	"	Jos. D. Sessoms et al.
No. 24.	A. B. Burden	"	C. T. White

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1913

No. 19.	Jos. B. Spivey	"	John Mizell
No. 25.	J. B. Thorne	"	Atlantic Coast Line R. R. Co.
No. 33.	D. W. Miller	"	Atlantic Coast Line R. R. Co
No. 35.	D. L. White	"	American Peanut Corporation
No. 36.	D. L. White	"	"
No. 37.	Bettie Rayner	"	"
No. 38.	C. W. Mitchell	"	"
No. 39.	A. J. Early	"	"

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER, 14, 1913

No. 45.	Lucy A. Pritchard, et al.	"	David J Morris, et al.
No. 48.	E. V. Gaskins	"	E. L. Crumpler
No. 5.	H. C. Roundtree, et al.	"	J. T. Powell
No. 14.	T. N. Charles	"	W. J. Liverman
No. 16.	Charles T. Peele	"	Isa G. Powell, adm'x
No. 22.	J. W. Godwin	"	Pate Evans
No. 29.	Geo. E. & Sarah Simmons,	"	J. E. Jordan

MOIIONS

No. 21.	Pearl Lynch	"	R. H. Minton
No. 28.	C. L. Hoggard	"	Alfred Watford
No. 30.	J. H. Hyatt	"	Pell Powell
No. 31.	Bank of Roxobel	"	Wimbrow Bros & Co.
No. 32.	Paul Holley	"	W. M. Sitterson, admr
No. 34.	Sawyer-Stephens Co Inc.	"	J. M. Bachus
No. 40.	E. D. Holloman, et al	"	Pernecia Holloman, et al
No. 41.	Edgar R. Smith, et al	"	Ex Parte
No. 42.	J. H. Hyatt	"	Sip Ward
No. 44.	J. H. Nowell, et al	"	Branning Mfg Co
No. 46.	Flemming Christian Co Inc	"	John G. Pritchard
No. 47.	Norfolk Live Stock Co	"	Edward Perry

CONTINUED BY CONSENT

The following cases have been continued by consent and will not be tried at this term of Court.

No. 1.	Charles Tayloe	"	Wellington & Powellville R. R. Co
No. 2.	J. G. Johnson, et al	"	The Branning Manufacturing Co
No. 3.	J. A. Creech	"	J. W. Ward Jr et al
No. 6.	F. A. Milliner	"	Stephen Sandor, et al
No. 9.	Richard Thompson	"	Georgianna Thompson
No. 10.	H. W. Gatling	"	Tilden Early
No. 12.	W. H. Mitchell, et al	"	Aulander Realty Co
No. 13.	Ohio Pottery & Glass Co	"	S. Swain
No. 15.	Mary J. Bazemore	"	Charles Bazemore
No. 17.	Isabel Walton	"	Mrs. Mattie Pittman, et al
No. 18.	China Speller	"	Edward Speller
No. 20.	M. G. Brown	"	John Vaughan
No. 23.	W. M. Nichols	"	Tilden Early, et al
No. 26.	J. K. Nichols	"	J. P. Morris
No. 43.	J. G. Johnson & wife	"	The Branning Mfg Co

Cases not tried on the days for which they are set, will go over and take precedence of all cases on next day's calendar.

Witnesses will not be allowed to prove for attendance before the day set for the trial of the cases in which were subpoenaed nor for attendance in case continued by consent. Causes to be heard on motion may be tried at any time.

W. L. LYON, clerk Superior court

RIVERSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH.

A New Church Organized Near Mt. Gould, on Chowan River, Has Forty-Four Members.

Rev. S. B. Barnes the Pastor

Rev. J. O. Alderman, reports to us the organization of Riverside church, near Mt. Gould Wharf, on Chowan River, in Bertie County. The organization was effective on Sept. 7th, Rev. S. B. Barnes being Chairman of Presbytery, Brother Alderman being Secretary, and the deacons from Bethany Church also assisting Bro. Barnes was called to the pastorate of the church. Three deacons were elected, each having served in the church from which he came: Brethren Wood Farless from Bethany, S. A. Adams from Capeharts, and Cullen Holder from Coleraine. The new church starts off finely with forty four members and good prospects.

federate Veterans, the roll call disclosed many soldiers who had joined the host gone before us. Passing years will make the number larger. While his late

comrades were fraternizing and greeting each other warmly in August last, my old friend, Mr. Joe Thomas, was languishing on a sick bed. He has since been called to the great beyond. I have known him all my life. He married my kinswoman. He was an upright man. His neighbors respected him. He was ever present with them in sickness and sorrow. They will miss him. He was a christian. He was a quiet man in his church meetings. He said but little. He was faithful and loving. He early enlisted in the Confederacy. He was a dutiful soldier, obedient, uncomplaining, and prompt and brave. He lived on his farm and raised a family of good sons and daughters. He lost a son in the early part of this year. They are together now. He was my father's friend and later he transferred that friendship to me. He lived more than four score years. He lived decently and honorably. He died well respected and much loved. When the final roll is called he can and will answer modestly, but clearly, "Here, Lord". God grant we all may be as fortunate.

FRANCIS D. WINSTON,