

Is a Paper Devoted to the Upbuilding of the Sandhill Territory of North Carolina

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VASS-LAKEVIEW SCHOOL CLOSÉS

Rev. D. McD. Monroe Preaches
Sermon and Dr. E. Perisho
Delivers Address

The finals of the Vass-Lakeview High School began May 2nd, and ended May 6th. The various programs were given in the beautiful auditorium of the new \$50,000 school building.

On Saturday evening, a mixed program was given by the elementary grades. The first and second grades entertained with four numbers, "The Raggedy Man," by the first grade; "The Kazou Band," by boys of the second grade dressed in "band uniforms" and playing instruments equally as genuine as the uniforms; "Fairy Medley," by girls of the second grade, and "Windmills and Wooden Shoes," by the first grade. The fairy medley by ten little fairies in white was strikingly beautiful, and the little Dutch boys and girls gave a very pleasing number.

This was followed by a delightful operetta, "The Golden Whistle," by the third, fourth and fifth grades. The curtains opened upon a woodland scene with Beffo, a little boy, taking a nap in the woods. A little old woman appeared and gives him the Golden Whistle, with which he can summon all the fairy folks of the woods, birds, flowers, and butterflies, and they prove most charming companions. Then, the whistle is stolen by a cunning little white rabbit. The Fairy Queen is called to Beffo's aid, the culprit captured, and happiness restored. The queen releases the old woman from the evil enchantment which has been over her, and she stands revealed a lovely young girl, and much merriment and rejoicing follow. The final march was a pretty spectacle with the sprightly elves, bright colored birds, beautiful pink roses, yellow butterflies, dainty and graceful, and the Queen and her attendants. The part of Beffo was played by Herman Parker the Little Old Woman, Eunice Thompson; Fairy Queen, Katherine Graham of the ninth grade, and White Rabbit, Douglas Gardner.

A play, "Closing Day at Beansville School," was given by the sixth and seventh grades, and the young people acquitted themselves creditably.

On Sunday morning at eleven o'clock, the sermon to the graduating class was preached in the Methodist

Church by the Rev. D. McD. Monroe, of the Presbyterian Church. The scripture lesson was read by the Rev. E. McWhorter. Prof. Matthews, in a few well-chosen words, introduced Rev. Monroe, who took as a subject "The Thought Home," basing his remarks on the last four words of Phil. 4:8, "Think on These Things." Mr. Monroe stressed the importance of having a thought home that was fashioned after the teachings of Christ, emphasizing the fact that what we are is determined by what we think.

Miss Lecta Richardson presented her vocal and piano pupils in a recital on Monday evening. Choruses, piano solos, duets, a trio, a musical recitation, plantation songs by four small boys, and three numbers sung in French by the French class made up a program varied enough to prove very enjoyable.

On Tuesday afternoon, the people of the community had the rare pleasure of hearing Dr. Elwood Perisho, of Guilford College, in an address on the Value of Education. Dr. Perisho's address is an outstanding event of the Commencement season, and has been the subject of much favorable comment. Dr. Perisho expressed himself as being highly pleased with the new auditorium.

A great crowd assembled Tuesday evening for the class exercises. The stage was beautifully decorated with ferns and blooming plants. The seniors, led by dainty little Miss Lucile Thompson, class mascot, marched onto the stage and rendered

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RECORDER'S COURT OPENED ON MONDAY

Starts Off in Good Shape With
Officers Showing
Ability

(Bion H. Butler)

The new recorder's court opened on Monday in the court house at Carthage with a fair sprinkling of business. I went over to see it get under way, not particularly because of any interest in any of the cases, but more to look in on the new legal institution. It is much like any other court except that it has no jury. This cuts out one big item of expense and delay, for while a jury trial has its certain advantages it has also its uncertain burden of taking a lot of time and of involving delay, and confusing many a

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FARM LIFE SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT

This School Closes the Best
Year Since Its
Establishment

On Tuesday, May 5, the Sandhill Farm Life School closed one of the most successful sessions of its history.

After a successful class play on Saturday night; a strong, helpful baccalaureate sermon by Dr. R. C. Gilmore, on Sunday afternoon; and, a unique and pleasing class exercise on Monday night; the climax was reached in the closing exercises of Tuesday morning.

There was not an idle moment on Tuesday, from 9 a. m. to 1 p. m. First on the day's program, was the Annual Declamation and Recitation contests. This contest was much better than usual, and the honors were warmly contested. After considerable deliberation and discussion, the judges awarded the declamation medal to Mr. Roosevelt Ransdell, and the recitation medal to Miss Mary Gladys Stephenson, both of Wake county.

Immediately after this contest, followed the graduation exercises. Mr. A. B. Cameron, County Supt. of Schools, was first on the program, and after a brief address, introduced to the audience the speaker of the day, Dr. Elwood C. Perisho, of Guilford College. The genial manner and ready wit of Dr. Perisho, completely captivated the audience. In a forceful and folksy manner, he impressed upon his hearers, "The purpose of a school."

Following this address, Superintendent Hutchison awarded prizes and medals to those pupils, whose attainments merited special recognition.

Last on the program was the delivery of diplomas, by Mr. John R. McQueen, chairman of the board of trustees. The senior class was composed of seventeen members; fourteen young ladies and three young men. Mr. McQueen impressed upon the seniors, their responsibility to make good for the school, and for North Carolina.

At the close of the exercises, every one assembled on the campus, to enjoy a most bountiful picnic dinner, served by the ladies of the community.

The day was pronounced a success by all and a very fitting close to a successful session.

Moore County

The Pilot is this week starting to give its readers a bit of old history of Moore County. Some time we may miss a week, but it is our plan to carry some every week during the summer.

Moore County was formed in 1784 from Cleveland County and was named in honor of Hon. Alford Moore, who was prominent in the days of the revolution as soldier and statesman. The soils of the county are varied from heavy clay and stony lands to the sand types of soils. Originally the county was as well timbered in hard woods and pine as any other section of the state. The first county court was held in April 1785.

The first sheriff was Wm. Scoggin. The next were: Richard Feagan, Cornelius Dowd, Wm. Barrett and Malcom Gilchrist.

All the above served two years each. Malcom McNeill elected 1794 served 12 years, John McIver from 1808 to 1816.

John McLewson from 1816 to 1820 Duncan Murcheson from 1820 to 1824 Dan McNeill from 1824 to 1832 Norman McDonald from 1832 to 1834 Evander McIntush from 1834 to 1840 Alex Kelly from 1840 to 1844 Wm. Wadsworth from 1844 to 1846 A. R. Wadsworth from 1846 to 1850 K. H. Worthy from 1850 to 1856 Thomas W. Ritter from 1856 to 1860 K. H. Worthy from 1860 to 1871 J. M. Morgan from 1871 to 1876 J. J. Wicker from 1876 to 1880 W. M. Black from 1880 to 1888 John L. Currie from 1888 to 1896 S. M. Jones from 1896 to 1902

Alex Turner from 1902 to 1905 A. C. Kelly from 1905 to 1910 D. H. Blue from 1910 to 1922 R. G. Fry from 1922 to 1926.

Clerks of the County Court were: Phil Alston 1784 to 1785 (six months). James Alston, son of Phil, was chosen Feb. 1785, who was only 18 years of age, with the understanding that George Glascock have the control of the office. Differences, political, arose that put Alston out and put Glascock in, this action started trouble between Phil Alston and Glascock. Glascock was killed in August 1787, supposedly through the direction of Alston, who was tried for murder but proved an alibi and went free. Alston, conscious of his guilt and the feeling of the people was such that he sold out and moved to Tennessee. Not very long after this Alston was killed and an investigation followed fixing the guilt upon a negro owned by Alston. The negro admitted the killing, also the killing of Glascock by orders of his master, Phil Alston.

From August 1787 Joseph Roberson was clerk until 1792; Archibald McBryde from 1792 to 1808; Cornelius Dowd from 1808 to 1832; A. C. Currie from 1832 to 1855, time of his death. A. H. McNeill from 1855 to 1868, when the county court was abolished.

The Clerks of Superior court were: Wm. Martin from 1808 to 1819 Archibald McBryde from 1819 to 1827 James McBryde from 1827 to 1833 John Morrison from 1833 to 1854 George S. Cole from 1854 to 1862 I. H. Caddell from 1862 to 1868 A. H. McNeill from 1868 to 1886 (Continued on page 6)

PINEHURST PUBLIC SCHOOLS CLOSÉS

Most Successful Year of its
History—Seven Receive
Diplomas

During the short period that superintendent W. P. Morton has been connected with the Pinehurst Schools a splendid constructive program has been developed. Eight clubs for both boys and girls have been organized, which have made generous contributions to the school in many ways. A system for checking absences from all classes has been inaugurated. This system enables the teachers to keep a closer tab on students who absent themselves from class for any reason. Only good, legitimate excuses are accepted from students, and an accounting is had with all students who cannot give a reasonable excuse for such absences. During the year Athletics have been placed upon a higher plane than ever before. The basket-ball

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OLD-TIME SCOTCH BURYING GROUND

Once Favored City of Dead
Now Covered With
Forest

(Bion H. Butler)

Out from Carthage a few miles on the old stage road, and between Mt. Carmel and Bethlehem churches, on top of one of the highest summits in Moore county, is a curious and interesting old burial place which has been prominent in the local history for a century or more. From the high hill top a remarkable view of a big share of Moore county awaits the traveler who will climb up, for in all directions the ground falls away into the valleys, and the hills beyond are hidden in the haze of the distance. An abandoned field tops the hill, along side of it being the grave yard, now grown up with trees, some of them giants in their size.

The spot was chosen by the early settlers a century or more ago, and has been known to the present generation, and apparently to those of older days as the "Old Scotch Grave Yard," as it was the final home of many of the original inhabitants, the Scotch of the revolutionary days. Old stones still bear the names and dates of the occupants of the graves and of their interment, extremely few being of recent period, although at rare intervals a new mound is made to care for some one whose relations with the old times prompt a requisition on this ancient place of sepulture. To those familiar with the story of Moore county in the older time the grave yard calls back names well known through the upper Cape Fear Valley, many of the sleepers representing families still prominent in the county or adjoining counties. But by far the large proportion are of a generation of which few are recalled by those now living, for the old cemetery is given up to its early population except as a rare kinsman with a memory of his fathers is occasionally taken there for his eternal rest.

The interments cover a wide area. Just where the boundaries are can be determined only by careful exploration, as here and there among the forest trees a stone rises with its message, or a pine knot tells of an occupant forgotten by all but a possible older person who may recall the burial there in days long gone of one still remembered.

There is a curious interest in drifting about in a spot of this sort, but there on the high summit I found another feature that aroused a line of thought that led me wandering

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Monthly Report of County Taxes

Below is Sheriff Fry's report for April tax collections. The statement shows a quarter of a million dollars turned over to the treasurer April 30, and it also fortifies the office of county auditor in the figures amounting to \$10,507 found in unlisted taxes and in the sheriff's discoveries. The auditor's office has found much more than enough to pay all the expenses of the office, making the office profitable in this respect alone if in no other, although its other benefits are recognized as of great importance. The report shows:

Report on the Public Taxes for the month of April, 1925.

Subjects	Last Report	This Month	To Date
Ad Valorem and Polls.....	\$343,547.70		\$348,547.70
Sheriff's Discoveries & Unlisted.....	6,717.05	\$ 3,790.73	10,507.78
Schedule B, Nos.	858.63		858.63
TOTAL TAXES	\$356,123.38	\$ 3,790.73	\$359,914.11
Reliefs or Abatements.....	1,341.66	218.46	1,560.12
Collected (Down)	225,182.82	34,770.37	259,953.19
TOTAL	\$226,524.44	\$ 34,988.83	\$261,513.31
Balance, Receipt on Hand.....	\$129,598.90		\$ 98,400.80
CASH Collected (as above) -	\$225,182.82	\$ 34,770.37	\$259,953.19
Deposited County Treasurer -	217,000.00	35,000.00	252,000.00
Commissions Retained -	6,487.70	681.00	7,168.70
Balance, Cash on Hand -	\$ 1,695.12		\$ 784.49

I hereby certify that the above is a true account of the public taxes charged to me and returned by me, and that the return is a full and true record of all unlisted taxes collected.

R. G. FRY, Sheriff.

Will Moore County Participate in This?

Much has been said about the State School Equalization Fund and, of course, Moore County, like all other counties that are justly entitled to part of this fund, will expect to receive its proportional part. From year to year the Legislature prescribes general law under which this distribution is made. It appears from the recent act of the General Assembly that Moore County will have to increase its school rate on tax levy at least one cent to qualify in the final distribution this year. The following is taken from the Act of 1925:

"Sec. 2. (a) That since the total amount of the Equalizing Fund apportioned for teachers', principals' and superintendents' salaries to the several counties of the State for the year one thousand nine hundred twenty-three-twenty-four was \$1,164,461.97, the same amount shall be apportioned to the same counties and on the same basis for the year one thousand nine hundred twenty-five—twenty-six, and for the year one thousand nine hundred twenty-six—twenty-seven. The remainder of the Equalizing Fund for the year one thousand nine hundred twenty-five—twenty-six and for the year one thousand nine hundred twenty-six—twenty-seven shall be apportioned as provided below: "Said commission shall have authority to apportion the remainder of the Equalizing Fund on any basis that it may adopt which will give a fair and just apportionment to those counties that need it most, but no county shall receive any of this remainder until it has levied a tax on its present property valuation of at least forty-four (44) cents on the one hundred dollars for teachers', principals' and superintendents' salaries. When the said commission by a majority vote shall have reached a decision for each year, it shall certify its findings to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction on or before the first day of June, and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction shall put the same into effect."

The rate in Moore County for 1924 was 43 cents on the one hundred dollar valuation. This presents to the officials of Moore County the opportunity of levying before June 1st an additional one cent, or more, on the one hundred dollars and thereby qualifying Moore County in the distribution of some \$300,000 to be divided among the counties participating in the regular Million Dollar Equalizing Fund.

This is a question of a penny investment for a dollar profit.