

School Tardies and Absences Big Expense

314 Pupils Absent in the Local Schools During the Past Month

In a statement made by school officials this morning the problem caused by absences and tardies and the effect on school work was clearly outlined.

The absentee-tardy problem is both detrimental to the work of the teachers and costly to taxpayers; besides the child is missing some of the most important work done in school.

At 8:50 sharp in the local school, five minutes after the morning bell rings, each teacher checks up on her presences and passes immediately to the work of the first class. Oftentimes the teacher makes the assignment for the following day; or she introduces the immediate lesson by necessary explanations. It takes about five minutes for this. If three pupils are tardy, coming in at different times, besides interfering with the interest of the class, it takes 15 minutes of the teacher's time which is due the class. To go back and explain or assign again for each of the three puts her behind fifteen minutes for the day. The teacher must go back and explain for the benefit of those late comers or they will get behind in their work and grow to be constant sources of trouble to the teacher, hindrance to the class, and worry of parents, for surely a chronic late-comer will sooner or later fail in his work.

Besides worry over a child's failure in school, which is not infrequently caused by the child's late coming and his being absent, the parents pay for something that is never delivered. The schooling that is provided at no little cost is run with the absent or tardy child not getting the benefit. Here are the facts as they exist in Williamston.

Not counting interest on bonds, the depreciation of school plant, nor the annual cost of repairs to the buildings, the cost of running the school is approximately \$1600 per month. This includes teachers' salaries, fuel, janitorial service and miscellaneous items. For each of the 20 days in the school month this means \$80. expense. This means approximately 20 cents per day for each of the 425 pupils enrolled. Last month there were 314 absences which amounts to \$62.80. These pupils failed to get the benefit of that \$62.80 which came from the pockets of taxpayers. Each tardy is valued from every angle to be one-half as costly as one absence. It disturbs and costs of teachers' time cents, tardies no doubt would be more costly than this. Then ten cents for each of 345 tardies in W. H. S. last month means a monetary loss of \$34.50, bringing the cost of both tardies and absences up to the large sum of \$97.30.

What this \$97.30, if rightly used, would mean to the pupils of Williamston can't be determined. Doubtless, if the number of tardies and absences was cut about 95 per cent, there would be on the part of those who come late now greater interest in this work and fewer failures at the end of school. Teachers would have more time for individual work, pupils would get what has been provided for them by the taxpayers, and a more unified purpose and more definite accomplishments would be the results.

Club Dance Here Next Monday Night

The Woman's Club's third dance will be given next Monday night in the club hall from 9 to 12. The Robersonville orchestra with Mrs. W. B. Watts at the piano will furnish the music.

At The STRAND THEATRE

SATURDAY
Do Not Miss—
Al Hoxie in "The Fighting Ranger"
Our Gang Comedy "GOOD CHEER"
Episode No. 21 "OFFICER 444"
Always a Good Show

One-Half of Town Taxes Collected To Date; Only 2 Months To Collect Rest

Small Loss Incurred in the Collection of the Town's Light Bills

Taxes paid by property holders in the town during this week has carried the amount collected to over one-half the total or slightly over \$18,000.00. A ten months' period has been used to collect that amount, and there remain only two months in which to complete the task. No information could be had from the treasurer's office this morning relative to the prospects of collecting the outstanding sum. It was stated, however, that when the first of May came, the time for advertising delinquents, the administration would be forced to resort to the process provided by law in those cases where the taxes remain unpaid.

At a meeting of the board of commissioners several months ago the budget was prepared for the year. Basing its action on the budget's figures local taxes were reduced by the board, but it was clearly seen that a 100 per cent collection would be necessary in order that the reduction might hold.

This morning the town met a very large obligation when it paid R. S. Dixon, New York, \$10,000.00, the last payment on a \$15,000.00 note made around four years ago. In a talk made before the Kiwanis Club a few weeks ago Mayor Coburn gave a brief summary of the town's finances. The payment of the Dixon note is another feature to be added to the Mayor's summary, for the commissioners did what seemed impossible when they paid the note in the face of a reduction in taxes.

The treasurer's books are packed full of all sorts of information. One place it was noticed that the light commission is establishing a record in its collections. This may bring to a close a two-year period in which hardly three hundred dollars will be lost in bad light bills.

Many Enjoy Square Dance Wednesday

The old-fashioned square dance came back into its own here last Wednesday night when many couples from the community assembled in the Dixie warehouse and engaged in the steps for over two hours. With Mr. Will Taylor, of near here the twenty and more couples filled the orders, not as accurately as was in the case of years back but with equally as much pleasure. The orchestra, composed of citizens from the surrounding community, went through the evening with all ease, taking time out every now and then to tune up for the next set.

Not all the pleasure was on the dance floor, for it was a real treat to hundreds of spectators who were not so well acquainted with that type of dance.

One of the present-day college chaps thought Mr. Taylor was calling signals like they do in football games. Another spectator tried in vain to understand the figures, but decided it required practice instead of observation to learn the dance.

No admission was charged, and the dance was free. It was a gathering where every one enjoyed himself.

Proof of "Where There's a Will There's a Way"

Dr. R. T. Vann, who visited our town Tuesday and preached at the Baptist church that night, demonstrates the truth of the saying, "where there is a will there is a way."

A man now 76 years old, he is without a hand, the right arm being off well above the elbow and the left about 4 inches below. Yet he succeeds in being secretary of the board of benevolence in the Baptist State convention, at present acting pastor of the First Baptist Church in Raleigh, and he also preaches at various places in the State upon frequent calls. He also fishes in the summer and hunts in the winter. Dr. Vann is said to be a good shot at birds on the wing; and as to turkeys and deer, they find him just as dangerous as a young man with two hands.

He had the misfortune to fall a few months before Christmas and broke his longest piece of arm and sprained his short piece. This accident slowed him up for a few weeks, making it necessary for him to enter a hospital for a while. It seemed that it was not so lone some for the Doctor while he was in the hospital, as his wife was also there at the same time as the result of an automobile smash up.

We have but few citizens of the State who have made a greater contribution to the people than Dr. Vann. Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Bundy, of Hertford visited friends here last night.

Crusader Has Big Audiences Every Night

Services Will Continue Through Sunday Evening

Kiwanis Hears Rev. Halleck Tells of Work His Club is Doing in the City of Wilmington

Local Kiwanians at their meeting here last Wednesday had the opportunity of hearing Kiwanian E. W. Halleck, of Wilmington, discuss the principles of the club and the work it is doing in the country. While these principles, according to Mr. Halleck, may be divided in many ways, they come under one great principle, that is to acquire worth-while and unselfish ideals of citizenship and carry it to others that we might help in the tasks laid before them. To do this, we must educate and train. He illustrated this by explaining a phase of the work now being carried on by his club in the City of Wilmington. The club has undertaken to care for 425 boys who are underlings so far as opportunities go. They are really wayward boys with insufficient home opportunities and blessings to make them the equals of the other boys in the same town. His club is fostering these 425 boys by offering them the opportunities so badly needed, and by extending them a hand that cares. The address was of a very high order and full of that kind of material that builds up man in every aspect.

Willie W. Lilley Died at His Home Last Night

Willie W. Lilley, of Smithwick's Creek died last night from an attack of pneumonia which had lasted for only about three days. Although he had not been very well for two weeks or more, Mr. Lilley went about his work until he was stricken by pneumonia.

Mr. Lilley was about 45 years old. Three years ago he married Miss Claudie Harris who with a six months old son survive, also two brothers, S. J. and Simon Lilley and two sisters, Mrs. W. S. Barber of Jamesville and Mrs. G. S. Lilley of Merry Hill.

Mr. Lilley had lived all his life on the farm upon which he was born. He was a good farmer and a good neighbor. Burial will take place this afternoon at 3 o'clock in the family plot on the home farm. The funeral service will be by W. B. Harrington and A. J. Manning.

Dr. Vann Closed Mission School Tuesday Evening

With the address delivered by Dr. R. T. Vann Tuesday evening, the church school of Missions formally closed.

All of the sessions were well attended, there being an average of something like 180 during the six weeks. In this week's issue of the Literary Digest gives much space to the book which was featured in this school, "The Christ of the Indian Road", which tends to make the people feel that they made no mistake in choosing this splendid book.

So gratifying have been the results of this school, that it is hoped that another may be held in Williamston in the future.

Dr. Vann, former pastor here, was greeted by a large audience Tuesday evening, and delivered an address on "The Motive of Missions." Dr. Vann is loved and revered by great hosts of people, and is living an example of what one can do in spite of one's handicaps.

Society Conducts Chapel Exercises

The high school chapel program was conducted this morning by the Emerson Literary society. The program was as follows:

Quotations from Emerson—Josephine Harrison; Jokes—Paul Simpson; debate, resolved, "That Student Government is Advisable for High Schools."

In the debate several good points were brought out on the affirmative side represented by John Wadsworth and Hazel Edmondson. Some of these points were, teaches students self-control, respect for self-government, development of character. The negative side, which was represented by Martha Louise Rogerson and Edwin Peel, offered these arguments to combat that of the affirmative, student government creates ill-feeling or part of students to those who are in authority, students not mature enough to understand freedom, lessens the authority of the faculty. The judges rendered their decision in favor of the affirmative.

Services Will Continue Through Sunday Evening

Rev. E. W. Halleck took for his text last night at the Episcopal church, "What God hath Joined Together, Let no Man Put Asunder," which text, according to the preacher means far more than the mere relation of man and woman in the bonds of marriage. If its meaning was restricted to the marriage only, the language would have been "Who God hath Joined," and not "What God hath Joined," which the preacher described as all things in nature where they may be found, that nature pays justly, that it is without love or mercy, that it never pardons mistakes or forgives errors as does Christianity. All must reap what they sow according to the perfect law of nature. While the spirit of man may be changed from sinner to saint, the nature of the trees can never be changed to produce wheat. Nature can never be cheated, nor the flow of the onward tide be arrested, yet nature, with all its wondrous powers and with all its perfections, it is not Christianity and can in no wise be called a substitute. Whatever we weave in youth, we are forced to wear in age. Yet, God hath joined us so closely to the things of nature that it becomes a duty to so order ourselves that we harmonize with the things of nature. We are to take our proper place, such a place as we can best fill. If we cannot display ten talents on the mountain tops and send forth their glittering gold to bless the world, then we may use our one talent as a single grain of sand to combine with others to hold the great river firmly in its beat that it may serve as a useful stream rather than a muddy marsh.

Mr. Halleck said that there are many people whose hearts are too weak, too prone to temptations to stand the ozone of the mountain tops. It is only those who are able to stand the tribulations of wealth, prominence and power than can safely tread the ladder to its greatest elevation.

Again he said we have many children in our midst who need to be mothered and many fellows who need to be brothered, the work being the duty of the Church whether they be rich or poor, great or small. They are fully within the program and duty of the Church.

The joining together of God's people and his Church must not be put asunder. God hath joined them together in His great and perfect plan, and man cannot give his best to the world outside of the Church nor can he get the best blessings outside of the Church. The man who thinks he can send his dollar to church and get his sermon over the radio or read it from shipping and soon he will, his spirit torn asunder from the true service of God.

Rev. Mr. Halleck will continue his service here through Sunday, preaching both Sunday morning and evening.

Pictures of North Carolina at Strand

At the Strand theatre Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 and 7:45 at night, you can have first hand information about many wonders of America and see pictures of them taken by eyewitnesses. Here are some of the wonders about which you will be told by Mr. Charles E. Buck who made the pictures, when he visited these places: "The Cliff Dwellers," "The Great Ocean of American Desert Sand," "Niagara Falls," and dozens of other beautiful places. Besides pictures of the great industrial centers, Mr. Buck will show scenes from N. C. fisheries, cotton fields and the Blude Ridge. Two score of the most beautiful places in all the United States will be shown on the screen and talked about.

After each lecture, Mr. and Mrs. Buck will give an informal party just outside the theatre for the benefit of those who see the show. At this party they will display many things of interest that they have gathered on their various journeys. This alone will be well worth while.

Methodist Church Program for Week

Preaching services, Sunday 11 a. m. Because of the special meeting of the Bishops' Crusade there will be no service at night. We hope our people will hear Rev. Mr. Halleck, at 7:45 p. m. Services at Vernon at 3:00 p. m. We shall put on a study course at Holly Springs beginning Monday at 7:45 p. m. and each night throughout the week at the same hour.

Oregon McNARY - HAUGEN Iowa Famous Farm Relief Pair in National Spotlight



Sen. Charles L. McNary, Oregon and Rep. Gilbert N. Haugen, Iowa, have been joint authors of four different bills since post-war deflation, all of which have aimed at relief of agriculture. Their present bill is the most important legislation of this session, having been jockeyed from defeat last year to passage by House and Senate—and now up to the President. McNary and Haugen have been stars on the legislative stage for five years and still going strong, Washington admits.

Require Lights On All Vehicles To Establish a National Park in the Great Smoky Mountains

Among the State-wide measures recently passed by the legislature is one requiring all vehicles traveling on the highways of the State to carry lights while driving at night. This law does not go into effect until July 1. The penalty is \$50 fine or 30 days on the roads, which places its enforcement within the jurisdiction of a justice of the peace. The light must be so displayed that it may be seen from both the front and rear. The same light will suffice if placed in a position where it may be seen from both ways. While this law will be the source of great trouble to the driver of horse-drawn vehicles, it will make it some safer for them and will give the automobile driver more freedom and less danger.

Judge Francis D. Winston, of Bertie, introduced a bill in the house Wednesday authorizing a committee to redraft the constitution of the State. This is similar to proposals which have come before every session of the legislature for ten years or more. It seems to be the opinion in the legislative halls that the old sections of the constitution are better and more workable than the new ones and for that reason legislators have been loath to suggest changes.

Now we are to have a national park in the Great Smoky Mountains. Our State is to pay \$2,000.00 as its share of the purchase price. Well, it doesn't matter what it costs, it is worth it. The legislature, by its act Wednesday, expressed great confidence in the future price of cotton. It passed a bill requiring every bale of cotton to be numbered as it is turned out of the gin, in order that it may be identified in case it is stolen. It will be a great day in the South when cotton gets worth stealing.

The senate passed a bill to pull the clothes off of all Ku Kluckers Wednesday. They are about the only folks that are wearing any clothes now; and if they are forced to strip, what a naked nation! The legislature has announced its intention to defer the evolution bill for two more years. This bill raises Bible questions, things the legislature knows so little about that it is ashamed to discuss them. This attitude fulfills Davey Crockett's philosophy, "Be sure you are right, then go ahead"; and, as he might have added, "if not sure, stand and grin."

Now we are to have a national park in the Great Smoky Mountains. Our State is to pay \$2,000.00 as its share of the purchase price. Well, it doesn't matter what it costs, it is worth it.

The legislature, by its act Wednesday, expressed great confidence in the future price of cotton. It passed a bill requiring every bale of cotton to be numbered as it is turned out of the gin, in order that it may be identified in case it is stolen. It will be a great day in the South when cotton gets worth stealing.

The senate passed a bill to pull the clothes off of all Ku Kluckers Wednesday. They are about the only folks that are wearing any clothes now; and if they are forced to strip, what a naked nation!

The legislature has announced its intention to defer the evolution bill for two more years. This bill raises Bible questions, things the legislature knows so little about that it is ashamed to discuss them. This attitude fulfills Davey Crockett's philosophy, "Be sure you are right, then go ahead"; and, as he might have added, "if not sure, stand and grin."

Sunday Services at the Church of the Advent

Rev. C. O. Pardo, Rector
9:00 a. m., Holy Communion.
10:00 Church School.
11:00, Morning Prayer and Sermon by Rev. E. W. Halleck, Wilmington.
3:30, Holy Trinity Mission.
7:45, Evening Prayer and sermon by Rev. E. W. Halleck.

Misses Thelma Cox, Rena Jackson, and Lillie Mae Jackson, of Washington, were here for a short while yesterday afternoon.

Mrs. Hubert Morton and children are visiting relatives in Kinston.

Poultry Car To Be Here for 2 Days, 3rd - 4th

Home Agent Suggests Proper Feeding of "Boarding" Hens

By ANNA TRENTHAM Home Demonstration Agent

On March 3rd and 4th, a car for shipping poultry will be side tracked in Williamston. This will give an opportunity for one to dispose of the old hens which have been "boarded free of charge" during the winter.

It is not probable that the price will be any higher by waiting until later. In 1923 there were 112,000,000 pounds of dressed poultry in storage. Now, in 1927 there are 144,000,000 pounds in storage. At these figures, one need not expect a high price this spring.

The poultry should be fattened for the market. It is much better to feed on a mash before shipping than on corn and peas, as is often the case. The mash is more of a moist food and does not absorb the moisture from the flesh of the fowl as do the corn and peas, the dry foods; thereby, the fowls do not lose in weight so much when taken to the market.

It is a good plan to crate or coop the hens before selling on the market. A coal shed makes a good location. A trough hooked on the outside of the coops can be used for the feed. They should be fed three times a day, but give them only what they can clean up in thirty minutes.

Equal quantities of corn meal and pulverized oats make a good fattening ration. Then at each feeding, if buttermilk can be had, mix two pounds to each pound of mash. If buttermilk cannot be had, add 15 per cent meat meal and wet with water—meat scraps on the farm may be ground and substituted for the meat meal. Hens should gain fifteen to twenty per cent in two weeks.

The flocks should be culled carefully, to be sure the right ones are disposed of, for at this season one does not want to sell off the laying hens even if eggs are at a low price. An ample number should be kept for the eggs, as eggs are very essential in the daily diet.

If you have never culled your flocks, ask the Farm Agent to assist you. He will be only too glad to help you separate the laying hens from the ones which have boarded with you all during the winter.

Many Falling for Blind Man's Ties

Three years ago the knitted necktie went out of style. Its passing was little noticed at that time. In the past few days the same type of neck tie has made a quick and thorough reappearance. While no definite data can be had as to the number of ties sold in this section, it is estimated that approximately 3,000 have been sold through the local post office.

A blind man out in Missouri by the name of Tyler is the sender of all the ties, and his plan of selling has met with favor to a very large extent. So well was his plan worked out that approximately three-fourths of those receiving ties have kept and paid for them, while one-fourth or thereabouts returned the packages.

The salesman secured a mailing list carrying all the names of the patrons of the post office here. To each patron he sent a package containing four of the knitted ties. Inside the package was an able sales letter, stating various facts about the ties, their sales, and a few facts about the would-be purchaser. Many accepted the offer as a bargain, while a large number looked upon it as a chance to help a disabled person. But what appears to be the strongest selling appeal of all relates to the honesty of the recipient of the package.

Just what profit Mr. Tyler is making is unknown, but some fabulous sums have been mentioned. Several seem to think that since the ties were out of style they were bought at a very low price, and that a profit of about 20 cents on each tie is made. At that rate the blind tie salesman has made \$600 right here in this immediate section, for it is estimated 750 people have bought the ties.

The thoroughness of the canvass is not known, but even if it covers several states, and it is likely that it does, a handsome profit is being made by the Missouri man.

Volunteer Firemen Meet Monday Night

The volunteer firemen will hold their regular meeting next Monday night. The nature of the business to come before the meeting, it is understood, will be of much interest to the members of the company, and a well attended meeting is expected.