

Asks Square Deal For Boys And Girls

Raleigh Playground Director Says We Are Neglecting Our Greatest Possible Asset

The best Community Service program yet was presented at the Alkrama theatre Saturday morning at eleven o'clock. Dr. Watson S Rankin of the State Board of Health, and the principal speaker of the morning was prevented from coming by the necessity of his continuing presence in Raleigh in the interest of the proposed measure regulating the sale of proprietary medicines but though there was no oratory and though the crowd by reason of the weather was rather small valuable suggestions were thrown out from the platform and sincere interest was manifested in the audience.

"We are spending our money for better stock and are devoting time and energy to the study of problems of better living conditions for hogs while we are neglecting our greatest possible asset—the boys and girls," said Mr. R. J. McDonald, Superintendent of Playgrounds in the city of Raleigh.

"These playgrounds," he went on "should be made accessible to the boys and girls not to make aerobats out of them but in order to give them red blooded healthy bodies and to prevent their entering upon life handicapped by defect, deformity or disease."

"A playground properly conducted in your town," he said, "would yield large returns—not immediately in dollars and cents, but in a more vigorous manhood and womanhood for your city in the next generation."

"There is in humanity a deep-seated inclination or instinct to gather into gangs. You have your clubs for your women and your clubs for your men; but what have you for your boys?"

"But though a playground well equipped and well conducted would mean a great thing for your town, better a playground without any equipment whatever unless you have a director in charge of it."

Some one in the audience then asked Mr. McDonald how playgrounds are provided for in the smaller cities and towns. He explained that the best results are obtained when the board of education and the town council cooperate in the playgrounds management.

Asked about equipment he said that for two hundred dollars the necessary apparatus could be made at home but he stressed the idea that grounds for athletic games such as tennis, baseball and so on must be provided for as well as apparatus. When he was given a statement about the size of the school lots in Elizabeth City, he thought that there was room in the school grounds to meet all necessary needs.

The question of securing a playground director naturally followed, and in response to the question as to whether teachers trained as playground directors were not available, replied in the affirmative. "By the way," he added, "I believe that Meredith is the only college in the South offering such a course of training for women."

"You can expect to hear from your neighbor town of Edneton along this line," Mr. McDonald told his hearers. "To this town came a wide awake school man who has himself already provided a playground equipment there and they are planning to provide for a playground director very soon."

"Does the country boy need the playground," asked somebody in the audience.

"Nobody needs it worse," was

RULES AGAINST PASQUOTANK RIVER

U. S. CHIEF ENGINEER REPORTS AGAINST IMPROVEMENT FROM TURNER'S CUT TO HEAD OF NAVIGATION

Washington, Jan. 20—The Secretary of War has transmitted to Congress a report of W. M. Black, the chief of engineers of the United States army, on a preliminary examination of upper Pasquotank river from Turner's Cut up to the head of navigation.

General Black concurs in the views of the district officer and the board of engineers for Rivers and Harbors, and reports that the improvement by the United States of upper Pasquotank river, from Turner's Cut up to the head of navigation at Lebanon Road, or as far as may be practicable, is not deemed advisable at the present time.

The report says in part: "The Pasquotank river has a length of about forty-five miles, and empties into the Northeastern end of Albemarle Sound. It is a non-tidal stream, narrow and tortuous in its upper portions, and wide and straight in its lower portions. The stream is under improvement by the United States up to and including, Turner's Cut as part of the waterway from Norfolk to the sounds of North Carolina, the project for which provides for a channel, 10 feet deep at mean low water. The improvement now apparently desired is a channel about six feet deep and forty feet wide from Turner's Cut up to the head of navigation, a distance of about 6 miles. The district officer states that to secure this depth and width considerable snagging, dredging and the cutting off of many sharp points would be necessary. Consideration of the existing physical and commercial conditions lead him to the conclusion that the improvement of this part of the river by the general government is not justified at the present time. The division engineer recommends a survey to determine the advisability of the improvement."

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DISOLVED PARTNERSHIP

I have sold my interest in the Fire Insurance firm of Scott and Cohoon to Shelton G. Scott and our partnership has been dissolved, having taken effect December 1, 1916. Mr. J. P. Overman and I are now located in the offices occupied by Culpepper-Griffin, Old and Grace in the Robinson building on Poindexter street.

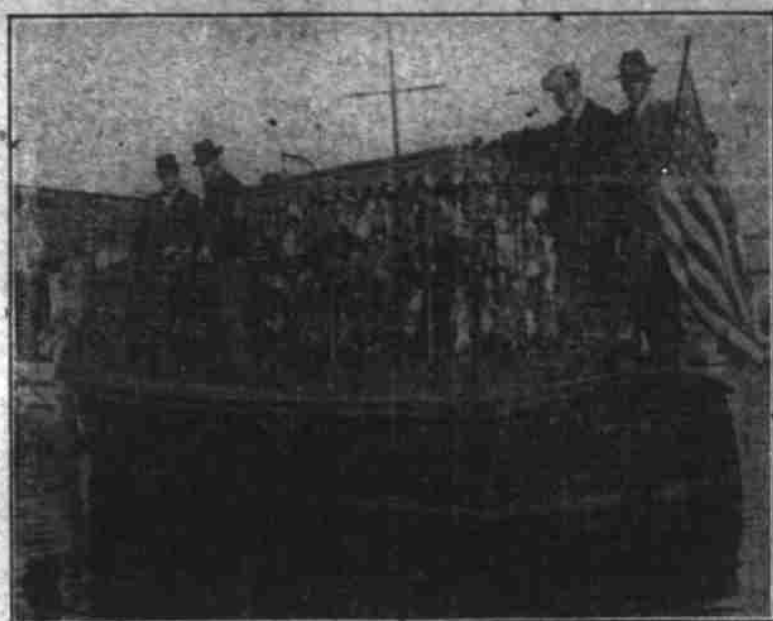
We are prepared to handle all kinds of insurance.

January 19, 1917.
P. C. COHOON.

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the reply. "The country boy is strong but he lacks co-ordination even more than the boy from the city. Besides the country boy needs the playground as a matter of recreation. Lack of pleasure and recreation and the long hours of drudgery on the farm are the forces that are driving the boys to the city in an unceasing stream."

The exercises opened with singing of the Old North State. Prayer was offered by Rev. C. B. Culbreth. The speaker was introduced by Secretary W. C. Crosby



A 1916 photograph of the "Teal" at the end of a ducking trip, though with not altogether the same party of sportsmen, gives some idea of this week's sport in Currituck.

Return From Ducking Trip

Dr. L. S. Blades, Mr. W. J. Foreman, Mr. O. F. Gilbert, of this city, and Mr. Baumgarten of Washington who left here last Monday morning on Mr. Hayman's boat, the Teal, for ducking in Currituck, arrived Saturday morning at about eleven o'clock with their game.

The party made the modest claim of bringing back 230 ducks and geese, though the number was estimated at five hundred or more by those who watched the pretty picture which the Teal made as she landed at the foot of Main street with her sportsman's cargo.

"We had fine weather for gooseing," said a member of the party to a reporter for this newspaper, who wondered how the weather of the past week could be fine for anything.

No accidents were reported, but a general good time in camp and on hunt. Dr. Blades won the distinction of being the champion cook of the party when he stayed in camp one stormy afternoon while the rest of the party were out and delighted them upon their return with roast duck that deserved the label of "edition de luxe," according to the testimony of the feasters.

Happenings At Moyock

Moyock, Jan. 19—Mr. Ed Schiller of Chillicothe, Ohio, was in town Thursday.

Dr. W. E. Stinson of New York spent Thursday here.

Mrs. W. W. Hester entertained the Wesley Bible Class Thursday night. Many interesting contests were enjoyed and appropriate prizes were awarded the most fortunate ones.

Delightful refreshments were served. The guests left at a late hour very much elated.

Mr. H. C. Hoeler of Washington Court House Ohio, was here Thursday. He is now in Norfolk but expects to return Monday with Mrs. Hoeler.

Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Sanderlin went to Norfolk Wednesday.

The Farmers Institute here Wednesday was thoroughly enjoyed. The people are learning the value of these meetings and attending them in spite of the bad roads.

The Sanitary Improvement League of the school was entertained Thursday afternoon by the teachers in honor of the newly elected officers. Many songs and recitations were rendered which the children enjoyed very much, after which refreshments were served.

JANUARY DANCE THURSDAY

The Elizabeth City Cotillon Club will hold their regular January dance Thursday evening the 25th. Dancing class will be held Monday and Wednesday evenings in the Robinson Building.

INCREASE NUMBER OF LAND OWNERS

FARM LOAN ACT WILL CONVERT TENANT CLASS INTO LANDOWNERS AND BUILD UP COMMUNITY SPIRIT

By FRANK R. WILSON
(Written for the United Press)

Washington, Jan. 20.—Since the farmer of the United States is the food producer for a good share of the world, the granting of cheaper credit to the farmer for the purpose of enlarging his opportunities and cheapening his cost of production is likely to have an important part in the solution of the great cost of living problem.

The records of the United States Census office show a constantly increasing trend toward the cities. Each year shows that there are more persons to be fed whereas the acreage that has been producing food and the number of hands to cultivate these acres have not increased in the same proportion.

It is patent therefore that to meet this increasing demand for food more farms must be established to provide homes for more producers and the land now under cultivation must be framed more carefully and with more and better equipment.

Provision of cheap capital or land purchase and farm development will mean at least a partial realization of these ideals.

If the Farm Loan Act will reduce the percentage of tenantry in the United States it will have accomplished a great deal toward putting American agriculture on a more substantial basis.

More than half the farms of the United States are now in the hands of tenants. The tenant is a transient farmer and the temporary nature of his operations prevents him from operating at maximum capacity. Short leases make it out of the question for the tenants to be large meat producers. The tenant is usually a grain farmer, and in many sections of the country a single cropper. He is engaged in hauling the fertility of his landlord's soil to market.

The farm owner conserves the fertility of his soil by marketing his crop through his live stock and returning the fertility to the land. A nation of land owners means a nation with constantly increasing capacity to produce food for its people.

A reduction of farm tenantry and a substitution of a class of land owners means improved social conditions in the country and a more permanent form of country life.

Since the Farm Loan Act provides how the borrowed money shall be spent and limits its use to purposes that will make farms more productive, it is bound to have an elevating influence on the standard of agriculture in the United States.

Every borrower under the Farm Loan Act makes it apart of his contract that he will use the money either to reduce existing indebtedness or in some way that will contribute to greater production on the same number of acres.

Since the formation of these small groups of farmers is the foundation upon which the Farm Loan

Danger Nearer Say Officials

(By United Press)

Washington, Jan. 20—The danger of complications with Germany over the submarine problem seems to authorities nearer than for months past. Her capture of neutrals and making them prisoners of war in sinking the Yarrowdale made the situation more ominous, though of course the situation so far is only one of speculation as this government does not know that Americans were among the prisoners.

ORDERED HOME IMMEDIATELY

The Swiss minister Ritter acting on instructions from his government today issued orders through the Swiss consuls in America for all reservists on conditional leave for home immediately as three additional army corps would be mobilized on January 24th.

RAIDER CARRIED SUBMARINES

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Buenos Aires, Jan. 20—Pigmy submarines 70 or 80 feet long were carried by the German raider says Captain of the British steamer, Netherby Hall, among the survivors landed at Pernambuco from the Hudson Maru. The submarines were capable of operating in a small radius and the raider was well equipped with torpedoes, dynamite and ammunition.

FIRST REPORTS OF LOCATION

Rio De Janeiro, Jan 20—The first reports indicating the general location of the raider were received here today.

The Brazilian packet steamer, Bahia, reported that she sighted the vessel off the coast of Rio Grande Di Norte on Thursday traveling north at a speed of about twenty knots. No consort was sighted with her.

RETURNED FROM GRAND LODGE

Dr. John Griggs, Mr. E. R. Spence and Rev. C. A. Ashby have returned from Raleigh where they attended the Grand Lodge of Masons.

System is built, it is apparent that this legislation will foster the spirit of cooperation among farmers. When farmers put their mortgages together for the sake of cheaper money it is reasonable to presume that they will form the habit of cooperation in other problems of common interest.

The present farm loan indebtedness of the United States is probably approximately four billion dollars and the average interest rate now charged is between 8 1/2 and 9 per cent. If the Farm Loan Act would reduce the interest rate by 4 per cent it would mean a financial saving to the farmers of between one hundred and fifty and two hundred million dollars per year, an estimate of saving takes no account of the fact that high interest rates have reduced the volume of farm loan indebtedness far below what it will be when a lower rate is established. High interest rates and unfavorable terms of farm mortgage have been a serious handicap to farm development. Curtailing farm production has taxed the consumer as well as the producer because the limited production of food gave an increased advantage to the food speculator.

The Farm Loan Act in a measure, revolutionary. It stands for equality of opportunity. It says that the aggressive farmer who goes out into new lands to enlarge the sphere of production is entitled to the same opportunities as the man who operates in a territory already developed. It puts the public interest above the interest of any individual. It takes individual profit out of the business of financing food production.

LAST TRIBUTE TO ADMIRAL DEWEY

PREIDENT, SECRETARY OF NAVY, OTHER OFFICIALS, SAILORS, SOLDIERS, AND CIVILIANS JOIN IN CEREMONIES

(By United Press)

Washington, Jan. 20—The last solemn tribute that man can pay to man was given Admiral Dewey today. President Wilson, Secretary of the Navy Daniels and other government officials, middlemen, jackeys, soldiers and civilians all joined in the impressive ceremonies which closed with taps at Arlington. At ten o'clock private service was held over his body at his residence. Then it was borne on flag draped caisson under escort of the Annapolis middlemen and other military units to the rotunda of the capitol so that the public might attend the service.

Chaplain Frazer of the Olympian Dewey's fighting parson at manila, pronounced a simple eulogy. At noon a salute of nineteen guns sounded over the city and battleships at distant points took up the same farewell.

From the capitol the funeral cortege moved along the historic peninsula to the city of the dead across the Potomac.

Ready For Withdrawal

(By United Press)

Washington, Jan. 20—The announcement that orders for General Pershing's withdrawal may be expected almost any time was made here today.

The preliminaries are already staged and Pershing is ready to move. The plans are completed for receiving his stores and the department is ready to start withdrawing the militia.

Navy Journal Makes Protest

Washington, Jan. 20—The army and navy journal, the official of the service, bitterly attacks the promotion of Lieutenant Commander Cary T. Grayson, the president's personal friend and physician, to the rank of rear admiral. In today's issue the Journal says that the appointment is the direct result of the substitution of the so-called merit system for the seniority system of appointments under the Wilson-Daniels regime.

SPEAKS AT WILSON

Farm Demonstrator G. W. Falls of this county leaves Monday for Wilson where he will speak to county agents on Community Fair work and how to organize Community Fairs.

CLARENCE ASHBY IMPROVING

Clarence Ashby who was painfully but not seriously burned Wednesday while experimenting in the high school laboratory is reported as making satisfactory progress toward recovery.

Young Ashby's face was badly burned but his eyes were protected by glasses.

AT THE ALKRAMA TONIGHT

Dorothy Gish in 'The Little Schoolmarm', and Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Drew in 'His First Tooth' are attractions at the Alkrama for tonight.

WANTED. Copies of The Semi-Weekly Advance of the following dates: April, 18, July 29, Aug 24, 1916; January 2, 1917.

THE WEATHER

Probably local rains tonight and Sunday. Moderate variable winds.