

ROPER STREETS SAVES NURSES SAYS RESIDENT BUSCH STREET

Much has been said recently and nothing done about the streets Roper. The town authorities have been severely criticized for the inaction of the City Fathers with reference to Busch Street, the worst in town, on which I live.

A good many residents of Busch Street, including myself, are engaged in a patriotic enterprise, that of rearing children. Having the interest of these youngsters uppermost in my mind, I asked permission of our August Mayor to attend the next meeting of the town councilmen and plead a cause which was very near my heart. The permission was granted.

At this meeting I plead with all critical equipment for a continuation of present policies towards improvement. I stated to them that the men on the street did most of the nursing, under compulsion, of course, during the Summer months, calling their attention to the fact also that the men had to work the gardens. It so happens on this street that the street where the children play, is in front of the house and the gardens on the back. If the men were performing both duties at once and the street was good and smooth, the lives of the children would be endangered by fast and reckless traffic because the men would not be able to leave the garden and clear the street of children after hearing the approach of an automobile. But, with the street in its present condition, one has ample time to make the proper adjustments, provided, he hears the car twenty feet from the place where the tots are parked—one may figure on a two-mile per hour rate.

The men were much moved by my eloquence, and this, combined with their interest in the welfare of the youth of the town, caused them to fall in line with the plan very readily and promise a continuation of present street conditions on Busch Street. They reasoned that the price of a few automobile springs was nothing compared to the lives of the children who use the street for their playground.

A Resident of Busch Street.
(Editors note: The honorable city board of Roper does not seem to have been in favor with the writers view as they had Mr. Basnight and his force at work on this street Wednesday. One thing the Roper City Fathers does seem to be in favor with and that is the enforcement of the old state blue laws. Barton Swain was fined Wednesday for having sold a few cocoa colas on Sunday. "These same blue laws were instrumental in causing certain business to build on the edge of the town," said one of Roper's prominent citizens recently.)

SERVICES AT BAPTIST CHURCH SUNDAY

Editor Beacon & News:
We will appreciate it if you will announce in your paper this week that Dr. A. O. Boda of the First Baptist Church at New Bern will preach at the local Baptist Church morning and night, Sunday, September 1st.

J. B. EDMONDSON

LADIES' AID MET WITH MRS. J. E. SWAIN MONDAY

The Ladies' Aid Society of the Plymouth Baptist Church met at the home of Mrs. J. E. Swain Monday night with 15 present. After the business was disposed of, refreshments were served by the hostess.

TAR HEELS AT HOME AFTER HAVING GOOD VACATION

By Leslie B. Spruill

On Monday morning, August 12, at 8:15, fifteen young farmers including Professor B. G. O'Brian, left Roper to enjoy a weeks outing at the State camp, White Lake.

We arrived at the camp by 3 o'clock in the afternoon, much earlier than we expected. After helping Mr. O'Brian check the food carried each boy went to the beach to enjoy a cool swim.

On Monday night Mr. O'Brian collected the camp fee from each boy. The cost per boy was \$4. After supper "Bob" Evans, the athletic director gave the schedule for the week.

At 6:45 A. M., "Bob" blew the whistle for each boy to put on his bath suit and go down to the athletic field for setting up exercises. From 7 to 7:20 we took a swim in the lake. From 7:30 to 8:15 is breakfast. From 8:15 to 9 we cleaned up our cottage. The hour between 9 and 10 was spent doing work around the cottage. From 10 until 11 we played volley ball or playground baseball, then until 12:30 we were allowed to pitch horse shoes, go swimming, boat riding or take part in any kind of recreation we wished. 12:30 to 1:30 was dinner hour and from 1:30 to 2:30 was rest hour. Two baseball games were played every afternoon beginning at 2:30. Everyone was required to attend. From 7 to 7:45 was supper, after which we were under the care of our respective teacher and could go any place we wished providing everything was quiet by 11 o'clock.

Each school was in competition with every other school during the week in sports and conduct. The finals were played Friday to determine the winning school for the week. The schedule closed Friday night.

We were governed by a student council made up of a member of each school.

We left camp Saturday morning at 8 o'clock and arrived in Roper at 2:30.

REVIVAL SERVICES AT GUM NECK CLOSED

By J. J. Armstrong
Gum Neck—The revival meeting here closed Friday night. Rev. W. E. Norris, pastor of the Plymouth Christian Church conducted the services, which will be long remembered by the people of Gum Neck.

We all enjoyed having the Rev. Mr. Norris in our homes as well as enjoying the good, strong gospel sermons delivered by him. There were five added to the church.

BOWEN FAMILY HAS REUNION WEDNESDAY

With 60 relatives present, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Bowen acted as hosts to the large family at a picnic at Rea's Beach Wednesday.

There were only five guests present, making a total of 65 who enjoyed the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Bowen.

After the dinner was served on the ground in picnic style, those present enjoyed swimming and boating.

LADIES AID SOCIETY MET WEDNESDAY

Pleasant Grove.—The Ladies Aid Society of Pleasant Grove Church was entertained at the home of Mrs. N. T. Everett Wednesday.

Mrs. J. C. Tarkenton presided and an interesting program was rendered.

The September meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. M. E. Tarkington.

Prof. E. N. Riddle And Consolidation

By E. N. RIDDLE

If we notice a recent issue of "State School Facts," we are impressed with the rapid disappearance of the one and two teacher schools in North Carolina. If there were not many advantages in consolidating schools, such sweeping and permanent changes would cease and the small school would stand her ground, but opposition to consolidation can be removed by presentation of facts that no progressive and fair minded person will deny. Let us note some of the advantages and so-called disadvantages of consolidation.

1. Increased enrollment in consolidated area. The larger and better equipped type of school offers curricular advantages that the smaller school does not afford, hence, older boys and girls remain in school longer.

2. Attendance is better. The larger and better equipped school arouses the pride and interest of the pupil which results in a greater effort on the part of the pupil to attend regularly. So far as I know, there are no figures on the two types of school available for Washington County, but any quantity of figures from other counties and other states uphold the above statement.

3. Helps to eliminate tardiness. Pupils who are transported can't be late unless the truck is late. Truck tardiness is practically unknown, since every truck has a schedule which is usually rigidly followed.

4. Pupils arrive at school dry and warm. This is not always the case if they walk to school. Therefore, there are fewer colds and other troubles due to exposure.

5. Better grading and classification of pupils is possible. Pupils can be placed where they can work to the best advantage. The greater the number of groups, the greater the homogeneity of each group.

6. The number of grades each teacher must handle is reduced. In a two teacher elementary school, one teacher must teach fifth, sixth and seventh grades; or, each grade gets one third of the teacher's time, let us say, two hours a day. In a seven teacher elementary school, each grade gets a teacher's full time, or, six hours a day - three times as much as in the two teacher school.

7. The pupils have the advantage of better school sites; better school house equipment in heating, lighting ventilation and sanitation better teaching apparatus, books, maps, etc. The cost of good and adequate equipment makes it prohibitive to small schools.

8. It leads to the employment and retention of better teachers and makes possible more and better supervision. The best teachers are not going to the small rural schools.

We could go on mentioning advantages, but, these seem sufficient to convince any one that the hope of the rural schools lies in consolidation.

The principal objections to consolidation have little basis in facts. Following are the most commonly given objections.

1. Depreciation of property; decreased valuation of property in districts where schools have been closed. There is nothing to this argument for, a poor elementary school on a farm does not enhance its value as much as a good school five or six miles away.

2. Have to send children too far from home. The child who walks one mile to school is farther from home than the one who rides five or six miles on a truck.

3. Bad conduct, obscene language and general misbehavior on trucks going to and from school. This objection is the only one that deserves much consideration. Such conditions are the fault of the truck driver directly and the school authorities indirectly. No such conditions will exist in Washington County the coming year if a report of them is made to the proper person. No truck driver will be retained who encourages or condones any misbehavior on his truck.

4. It removes the only semblance of a community center in the consolidated district. It only transfers the center making the people a part of a bigger and better center a mile or two farther from home.

5. It cost more to transport pupils than to teach them at home. This is sometimes true and sometime false. The cost of transportation depends on distance, condition of roads, the truck load, etc. The cost of maintaining the school at home depends on the quality of teachers employed, teacher load, etc. Taking the educational opportunity of the child as a basis for figuring costs, the consolidated school costs about one third as much.

6. Finally, the spirit of consolidation is so prevalent every where that not only the state department of education strives to encourage it in every possible way, but, the last General Assembly of North Carolina made it compulsory throughout the entire state by increasing the teacher load to such an extent that the small school could not maintain the average required by law.

PLYMOUTH HIGH OPENS MONDAY; 600 STUDENTS; 18 TEACHERS

The 1929-'30 school session at Plymouth High School will open Monday morning at nine o'clock with 18 teachers, including Superintendent Hubble. The annual teachers meeting will be held at this time. No students will be registered until one o'clock and Superintendent Hubble asks that the students do not report at the building until then.

All first, second and third grade pupils are to report at Hampton's Academy, where Mrs. H. A. Liverman will be in charge as principal.

Between 550 and 600 students are expected to enroll this school year and it is thought that another teacher will have to be added. There will be only one strange face on the faculty in the grades, Miss Eunice Parker, who will be in charge of the seventh grade work. There will be three new faces among the high school faculty. These are Miss Ethel Spruill, a native Plymouth girl, who will be in charge of mathematics; Miss Pauline Lucas, also a native of Plymouth, and a former teacher in the school, will have English and history; H. C. Farrell of Elizabeth City will have history. Mr. Harrell will also be assistant director in athletics.

"I feel that I have one of the best faculties in North Carolina and am expecting very good results during the coming year," said Superintendent Hubble yesterday. "Our first chapel exercises will be held Tuesday morning at 8:45 and a very interesting program is being planned for the young folk and their parents," he continued.

POET AND PEASANT

"Did you see that article in the Beacon and News last week stating County Commissioner W. T. Phelps views on the county government?" asked the Peasant.

"Yes," replied the Poet, "but I can't help but feel that Mr. Phelps was merely trying to build political capitol."

"You're foolish," said the Peasant. "W. T. Phelps is one of the most conscientious men we have in Washington county."

"Granting that all of that is true," replied the Poet. "I am forced to hold Mr. Phelps' action at the meeting of the commissioners as being an expression of his real feelings. He said in that article that he was in sympathy with the attitude taken by the press in reference to the proposed site for the Negro school, but the odds were against him and he had to go over. Now Mr. Phelps seconded the motion to purchase the property, therefore it would seem that he was not forced to do this. If he is such a weak man that he can be forced to do something against his will he certainly is not capable of holding position that he has."

"Granting that what you say in reference to the absurdity of the excuse given by Mr. Phelps, don't you think that he has a much better spirit than any other member of the commissioners?" asked the Peasant.

"Probably he has," said the Poet, "but in a way he is just like the other members of the board. He is afraid that he will do something wrong so he won't do anything. Why did the commissioners cancel their signature to the first bond issue for this Negro school site if

ODD FELLOWS SINGING CLASS IN HIGH SCHOOL SEPTEMBER 11

The singing class from the Odd Fellows Orphanage at Goldsboro will give a program in Plymouth High School auditorium Wednesday night, September 11, according to information received by W. L. Whitley.

This is an annual occasion in Plymouth and has been for a number of years. Every year the attendance is better than the preceding year. These tours are not only profitable to the orphanage, but they are also educational to those children who have the opportunity to take them. No one child goes out two successive years. The officials try to arrange it so that each child who attends the orphanage take one of these trips while they are under their care.

There will be 15 numbers on the program. A number of these selections will be by the 10 piece orchestra, composed entirely of these young people. There will be musical readings, duets, solos, quartettes, dances, a comedy, in fact everything that goes to make an enjoyable evening.

There will be 13 of these young people, with their instructors, in Plymouth as the guests of the town and local lodge.

UNION DISTRICT SUNDAY SCHOOL HAS PICNIC

Skinner'sville.—The Union District Sunday School picnic was held at the Hartwell Jethro landing last Thursday. Dinner was served on the grassy lawn in front of the home. Only a small crowd was present. A lovely time was enjoyed by those attending from the various churches in the district.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Liverman and family returned Friday night from a trip to Washington City and Baltimore where Mr. Liverman purchased his tall merchandise.

MISS EVA WHITE'S VISIT TO THE BEACON AND NEWS OFFICE

While my niece and I, Little Miss Margie White were in Plymouth sometime ago, I made a call at the Beacon and News Office. It is quite interesting to visit this office and its different parts of machinery. Also the work and time that is spent finishing up the paper after coming off the press, of course I have seen a printing press before visiting this one. While attending the Jamestown Exposition with my father and brother Walter at James town Va. in 1907, I had the opportunity of seeing quite a large press. Mr. Harris has quite a number of subscribers for the Beacon and News, which is truly a nice county paper, giving all interesting news throughout our county. I do not know of any county paper that gives as interesting county news as the paper printed by Lee Roy Harris, Editor and Publisher of this progressive county paper of Plymouth.

ALMO THEATRE
TONIGHT
Buddy Rogers
IN
"Someone To Love"
COMEDY
Saturday Night
Eddie Quillan
IN
"Show Folks"
Ninth Episode
Tigers Shadow
COMEDY
DON'T MISS IT