

LEE CRAWFORD TAKEN BY DEATH

North Carolina Now Holds Fortieth Place In Educational Rating

MORE THAN HALF U. S. RATES LOW

Big Stir Among Newspapers Over N. C.'s Educational Progress

7 STATES LEFT BEHIND

War Nor Poverty Not Cause Of Shortcomings, Says Ed. W. Knight

(By Dr. Caleb A. Ridley)
SERIES I

Just at this time, throughout North Carolina, there is no small stir among the newspapers over what is termed North Carolina's progress in educational matters.

A recent News Letter issued by the State University shows that in the past thirty years we, as a state, have moved up in the list of states from last place to fortieth—leaving seven states behind us and having thirty-nine ahead of us.

We have no desire to belittle matters as they now stand, but it is difficult for us to see wherein raising

years in the schools, colleges and universities of the country, and having had some opportunity to observe the trend of modern education, we presume to offer a few observations for what they are worth.

We are told by Safety Engineers that more than thirty per cent of all the traffic accidents throughout the United States are caused by WRONG signals or no signals at all on the part of those who drive. To indicate that one is going in a certain direction and then go directly opposite, is to endanger one's self and all those who follow. Not to signal at all when so great responsibility rests upon us is well nigh criminal.

By statistics for which the school world is wholly responsible we learn that more than one-half the geographical area of the United States makes a very poor showing educationally; not because of poverty, nor yet for any lack of opportunity; but because we do not work at our task and "because the standards of the teachers are so low."

Edward W. Knight of the University of North Carolina says:

"We rank low in education not because we were once devastated by war nor because we are too poor to support better schools. The war is sixty-odd years in the past and the South is now strong and prosperous in economic wealth. We cannot any (Continued on page 8, Col. 1)

We Have To 'Trust To Luck' When Electing Officers, Says Randolph

Col. Robt. Randolph, president of Chicago's Commerce association, says: "We will never get the gang situation in hand here until we have a decent city administration and a man in charge of the police department who has an absolutely free hand."

Mr. Randolph's association furnished the "Secret Six" to dig into the records of Gangland after the Lingle killing.

"Suppose," said Colonel Randolph, "that a police officer goes out and raids a gambling joint. Next day an alderman comes in to the officer's superiors and raises a row because the joint's owner was a friend of his. What happens? The officer gets sent 'to the woods,' and he isn't very eager to make any more raids after that. We've got to have a new deal.

"What it comes down to," added Colonel Randolph sadly, "is that we have to vote one gang of rascals out of office and trust to luck that the gang we replace them with will be more satisfactory."

JACKSON WILL ADDRESS VOTERS

Public Is Invited To Attend; Ladies Are Especially Invited

The Hon. Brownlow Jackson, Republican candidate for Congress in this the Tenth District, is scheduled to speak at the following places at the time herein given: The public is cordially invited to all these meetings. Ladies are especially invited: Millshoal township, Sept. 22, 10:30 a. m., Holly Springs school house. Ellijay township, Sept. 22, 1:30 p. m., Higdonville school house. Sugarfork township, September 22, 4:00 p. m., Pine Grove school house. Highlands township, Sept. 22, 8:00 p. m., Highlands school house. Flats township, Sept. 23, 10:00 a. m., Sealy school house. Smith's Bridge township, Sept. 23, 1:00 p. m., Otto. Cartoogechay township, Sept. 23, 4:00 p. m., Slagle school house. Nantahala township, Sept. 23, 8:00 p. m., Aquone school house. Nantahala township, Sept. 24, 9:00 a. m., Owensby school house.

B. M., Buntingtown school house. Cowee township, Sept. 24, 4:00 p. m., Cowee school house. Franklin township, Sept. 24, 8:00 p. m., court house. A. R. HIGDON, Chairman.

Roy Stiwinter, Mistaken For Ground-hog, Is Shot

Mr. G. W. Stiwinter of Gneiss, N. C., was in Franklin Saturday of last week and reported a serious accident which happened in his community last Friday afternoon.

Roy Stiwinter, grandson of G. W. Stiwinter went over to get Mr. Carl Moses, who teaches school at that place to bring him down to the circus at Franklin. On his way he stopped at some grape vines to pick a few grapes, and Mr. Moses thinking it was a ground hog disturbing the vineyard, as they had heretofore been in the habit, Mr. Moses secured a shot gun and proceeded to shoot in that direction, the result being that several shot penetrated Mr. Stiwinter's lungs. He was rushed to a hospital in Franklin for treatment.

As we go to press we have been informed that Mr. Stiwinter is improving and chances are good for his recovery.

William Robert Young Buried at Watauga

Dr. Ridley assisted Dr. Wm. E. Abernathy at the funeral of William Robert Young, who was buried at the Watauga graveyard. Mr. Young was part owner of the Young plantation just across the river from Franklin, and a brother of John T. Young. He was 74 years, 8 months and 17 days old. He died in a sanitarium down state.

A Hold Up

Chief of Police Henry was "held up" one day last week in broad day light. Not only was he held up but he was robbed. From his person was taken the only thing of value he had on him at the time—a copy of The Franklin Press 26 years old.

Said Press carried the likenesses of Theodore Roosevelt, Robt. B. Glenn, Jim Gudger, Dr. W. A. Rogers, D. W. Blaine and Davis Dean, all of who had just been elected to office.

The Teague family held a reunion at the old Teague home in Haywood county last Sunday, Sept. 14. Those present were: Rev. J. L. Teague, Mrs. A. T. Rogers and C. W. Teague, of Macon county; T. H. Teague, of Nashville, Tenn., and C. T. Wells, of Canton. Wives and husbands of the Teague family were also present.

JUNIORS ENJOY SOCIAL MEETING

Councils Of Millshoal, Higdonville and Cowee Represented

EXEMPLIFY DEGREES

Big Crowd Is Expected At Meeting On Thursday, Oct. 9

Cullasaja Council, No. 158, Jr. O. U. A. M., held an open meeting for all members of the Order at their lodge room in Franklin last Thursday night.

In addition to many members of the local lodge, representatives from the Councils at Mill Shoal Higdonville and Cowee were present.

Several good talks were made by prominent Macon County Juniors, light refreshments were served and two impressive side degrees were exemplified.

Cullasaja Council will have another of these open meetings on Thursday night, October 9, and all members of the Order in this section are invited to attend. It is thought that the

necessary to hold the meeting in other quarters, probably the court house.

J. M. Raby's Barn Destroyed By Fire

J. M. Raby, one of Macon county's good farmers and a most congenial fellow in every way, suffered a \$2300 loss by fire on Monday night of this week.

Jim had, what folks say, the best barn in the county, which, after igniting from causes unknown in the hay loft, burned to the ground.

The livestock were saved in the nick of time.

Bryson City Football 11 To Play Franklin High Friday, Sept. 26

(By J. H. Carelock)

Bryson City will play the Franklin high school football team at Franklin, in what promises to be a real live game, on Friday, Sept. 26.

Mr. W. B. Kesler, coach of the local boys, says that there are about 40 boys turning out for practice and he expects to develop a real peppy team.

There are not but two or three of the old boys in the game this season, but the beginners are working in earnest and it is hoped that all Franklin football fans will give their team loyal support throughout the season.

DAYBREAK IN THE MOUNTAINS

C. A. R.

There is a quiet, expectant hush That awaits the Wild Bird's call Upon the silent, pregnant morning Before the Eastern lancets fall In shimmering glory through the trees. The night-sounds are strangely still

As the silvery ripples of light Feel their way through shadows And slowly reveal the craggy castles

Of the wondrous misty mountains Grottesque and grand on every side, Pointing their silent granite fingers

Toward the blue and limpid sky. A million wings seem loosed in air And fetch a music played—

The World grows vocal everywhere With words no mortal ever made.

MANY ATTEND HIGDON DINNER

House Still Stands That Major Higdon Built 70 Years Ago

(By Caleb A. Ridley)

The birthday anniversary of Major William Higdon, for fifty years a leading citizen of Macon county, was celebrated at the old home on last Sunday by more than 300 blood relatives of the deceased. It was a home-coming of the children and their children.

Begin with the Roman letter "A" and follow the paths of our philology from their rudiments until they culminate in verbal accuracy and mature strength in English metaphysics and the sweetest word you will find on any page is the word "home."

Speak of home and there rises before our visions a picture more beautiful than ever Milton dreamed or Raphael penciled; it is a picture of our childhood home. It may have been poor but it was home—the central gem in life's cluster and around which hang the associated memories

seventy years ago a strong mountain man with iron in his blood and determination in his soul laid the foundation stones for a home just out and up a few miles from Franklin, in this county. For fifty years this rugged man was known in Western North Carolina as "Major Higdon."

Taps have been sounded for the Major and he lives and loves, and for aught we know still plans and performs beyond headlands over which we cannot look.

Through the courtesy of his blood now flowing in the veins of younger generations it was ours to mingle with the Major's kin in a reunion day at the old home on last Lord's day.

It was a glorious day; glorious in memories which hovered about us; glorious in the fellowship one could breathe in the soft air; glorious in the hopes leaning forth from eyes undimmed by a veil of years.

Major Higdon was twelve years old when he came to this section of the State. He was born in Burke county near Morganton and when he reached Jackson county accompanied by his father and mother he neither had hat nor shoes and his mother rode a small pony on which she carried all the earthly possessions of the family; the son and father were afoot.

When the Civil War broke out the Major had just gone in debt for 900 acres of land lying about the old home where the crowds surged on this reunion day. This 900 acres is still owned by the family. The land was bought from Capt. Thos. Angel, but not a dollar paid during the uneven struggle of a four years' war.

It was a long hard pull, even after the guns and war were stacked; but Major Higdon never knew defeat. With back to the wall he could do his best fighting, and after a long time victory came and the old home was held in fee simple.

The house still stands; the house where he lived; the house his own hands built; the house where the children were born; the house where (Continued on page 8, Col. 3)

Press Congratulates Local Power Company

The Press lacked sufficient power to run its machinery one day this week and so informed Mr. J. H. Bowles, manager of the N. C. Utilities. In fifteen minutes the courteous Mr. Bowles had increased our voltage and we were at work again. We congratulate ourselves on having in charge of the local power unit a gentleman who can be approached and who responds readily to every reasonable request.

DEATH OCCURS SUNDAY NIGHT

Found In Barn Unconscious And Remains So Until Death Comes

PROMINENT LEADER

Had Been Officer In Methodist Church For More Than 30 Years

In the midst of life we are in the midst of death. Lee Crawford was preparing to attend the Major Higdon anniversary when he fell in the midst of his plans.

Making ready for his trip he went, as was his custom, to look over things about the barn; when he did not return search was made and he was found unconscious where he had fallen.

He lingered from early morning until about six o'clock in the evening before the end came, but was never able to discuss, either his condition, or anything pertaining to his affairs.

For thirty years or more Lee Crawford had been identified with the best things of Franklin and Macon county.

For eleven years he was clerk of the superior court and his father before him was register of deeds for many years.

He had been an officer in the Methodist church for more than thirty years. He was born and reared and always lived in Macon county. He was one of our young men who never went away.

Since 1907 he had been connected with the Bank of Franklin and had been its president for six years.

His family, all of whom survive him are viz: His wife, Carrie Lee, and two daughters, Calleen and Timoxena, and one son, Gilmer Lee. His mother, Virginia Crawford, who is still active, made her home with him.

Three brothers survive him: Henry of Salem Oregon; James of Oakland, California, and Wade of Rock Ridge, N. C. One sister survives him. She is Mrs. Frank Smith of Franklin.

No man living could wish for himself a more beautiful funeral when he was dead. Flowers banked in profusion everywhere; the several pastors of the town vying with each other in words of praise for the dead and comfort for the living; the Elder of the District speaking eloquently on the "Beautiful Life" as lived by the dead.

The preacher's theme was that a good life never ends. It changes but continues down the long trail of the years.

Sylva and Dillsboro Installs Modern Electric Plant At Dillsboro

A modern electric power plant is being installed by the Dillsboro and Sylva Electric Light company at Dillsboro according to information obtained from officials of the company.

The new equipment, which it is believed will solve the power troubles for Sylva and the surrounding territory, consists of a new water wheel of the latest acGormmike, Willig of the latest German make, new and improved dynamos, control switches, to eliminate variation of the current, and other equipment.

The work preparatory to the installation of the new plant is being done, and the shipment of the new equipment is being made. It is the expectation of the officials of the company to have the new plant completely installed and running within sixty days. In addition to the water equipment, purchase has been made of an auxiliary, steam plant. The installation of this, however, will not be made for a few months.—Jackson County Journal.

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