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TO BE ENTERED IN HEALTHIEST GIRL CONTEST

**FOLK COUNTY MAIDEN WILL
REPRESENT W. N. C. IN COM-
PETITION.**

Having won the title of healthiest girl in western North Carolina Friday, Miss Celia Whitesides, a member of the Sunview Four-H club, of Polk county, will represent the western district in the state wide contest to select the "Queen of Health" for 1929. The contest will be held on Thursday evening, August 1, in Raleigh, during the week of the short course for Four-H club girls.

Miss Whitesides won first honors for the western district over several other contestants including: Miss Amelia Stroupe, of the Tweed club, representing Buncombe county; Miss Sarah Wells, of the Edneyville club, representing Henderson county, and Miss Josephine Ramsey, of the Walnut club, representing Madison county. The decision was given Miss Whitesides by members of the Buncombe county health department assisted by Dr. I. M. Ingersoll. She will compete with representatives from the Piedmont, Central, North-eastern and Southern sections of the state.

She is 14 years of age and lives at Mills Creek, Polk county, and is a first year club girl. Miss Whitesides is taking a course in "Nutrition and Preparation of Foods" under the direction of Miss Florence Cox, Polk county home demonstration agent.

That four "H's" in the creed of the Four-H club stands for health, head and hand, with health as the key. State authorities are co-operating with county demonstration officials in making promotion of health among club girls a success.

—Asheville Times.

BOOK READING IN THE STATE

More than 1,200,000 library books were read by the children in the standard elementary schools of the State during 1928-29, according to records just compiled by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, from the reports for these schools.

In the standard elementary schools of the State alone, there are now more than 279,000 volumes with more than 113,000 of these in the rural schools. And these carefully selected, interesting books have been widely read, for the records from the schools show more than 70,000 rural children reading library books and 600,000 volumes loaned during the year.

In the standard elementary schools in the cities of the State there are today more than 165,000 library books being read by 60,000 children. The circulation record of 1,200,000 volumes read by rural and city children is for the standard elementary schools only.

In many other elementary schools throughout the State, libraries are being built up, and the children are eagerly taking advantage of the opportunities offered them for acquaintance with good books.

Five years ago, except in some of the cities, very few elementary schools had even small libraries, and only here and there in the rural schools were books found suitable for the children below the high school. At that time, in the larger rural schools, there was a total of less than 8,000 books for the more than 100,000 children enrolled.

These figures very clearly indicate that the schools are bringing up a generation of readers.

Railroads Pleased With Themselves

Statements issued by the railroad associations at the close of the half year period ending with June, relate that the railroads are carrying so much profitable freight that they don't miss the revenue from the passenger business, which they admit has fallen off very heavily. Railroad securities are considered among the best kind of investments.

Rural women of Johnston County are seeking to retain the services of a home demonstration agent by donating one hen each for sale to raise the county's part of the agent's salary.

ONLY SEVEN MILES OF NO. 20 YET TO BE COMPLETED

With the completion of the tar and gravel surface on Highway No. 20 from Laurel river bridge, seven miles east of Hot Springs, to Marshall, there will remain only seven miles of sand clay surface from the Tennessee state line to the Atlantic coast.

The Tennessee State Highway commission has just recently completed the laying of concrete to the North Carolina line, and is rapidly building the new highway down the French Broad river below Del Rio which will make one of the finest roads in east Tennessee and will greatly shorten the distance from Asheville to east Tennessee points.

Practically a new highway is being built from Newport, Tennessee to Knoxville on an air line course. All of these roads will be hard surfaced as soon as possible, it is understood.

HIGHWAY MUST USE PRISON LABOR

**GOVERNOR GARDNER RENEWS
ULTIMATUM TO THIS EFFECT**

Raleigh, July 13.—Governor O. Max Gardner Saturday renewed his ultimatum to the state highway commission that it use more prison labor in highway construction.

Governor Gardner made this same request of the commission some four or five months ago and declared that he intended to see the matter through. Friday Governor Gardner and the state prison board took 200 convicts out of the coal mine at Sanford and announced that these and other idle prisoners would be put to work building roads, despite the fact that within the past four months the highway commission has had the matter "under consideration" without developing any definite plan for increased utilization of prison labor.

"We have several hundred idle prisoners on our hands, the prison population is steadily increasing, and the highways are the place for these prisoners to be utilized," said Governor Gardner Saturday in discussing the situation, "and the highways is where they are going to be utilized and the highway commission must find a way to use them."

It has been the policy of this state to build roads on a contract basis, and to permit the contractors to get their labor anywhere they could, it was pointed out. And so far the highway commission has been urging its contractors to use prison labor whenever possible, but from what Governor Gardner said Saturday in discussing the situation, the state may be forced to undertake its own highway construction with convict labor if he private contractors prove too slow in deciding they can use prison labor.

Several new camps have been sent out recently by the prison to do clearing and grading as well as highway maintenance, and the work of these camps is proving entirely satisfactory, according to Governor Gardner.

PLAGUE-STRICKEN

Kinston, July 15.—A plague of frogs beset the family of Abner Knowlton, near here, yesterday when Willie, 12-year-old son of the family, got careless with a pail of leaping poultry.

Willie went bullfroging night before last. He returned with 23 in a bucket. He placed the pail beside his bed and laid a washboard over it. During the night the washboard fell off. Willie awoke to find the last frog gone. He said nothing for several hours, leaving his parents and brothers and a sister to wonder where the hoppers came from.

After the feminine portion of the family had scrambled onto chairs and tables a dozen times and Knowlton senior had slain a dozen or more frogs, Willie confessed and informed the family that when 23 greenbacks had been accounted for there would be nothing more to fear. At the last report 20 had been retrieved from beneath beds, closets, the pantry and other parts of the house and the womenfolk were half-hysterical from fear that the remaining three would leap at them from dark corners.

—News & Observer.

MARK BROWN DEAD

Mr. Mark Brown, prominent lawyer of Asheville, died at his home in Asheville Thursday A. M. at 12:30 o'clock. He was well known in Marshall where he has appeared in many cases. He had been in poor health since a break-down in health about a year ago.

Sent in the news from your community to The News-Record.

Songs of Plain Folks

By James Lewis Hays

The Janitor

I'm glad that school has started,
Kids all back an' teachers, too.
Guess I'd be broken-hearted
'Thout this janitin' to do.

I've unlocked doors and cleaned and fired
Till they say it's all I know;
I'm gettin' old and bent and tired—
'Tain't the workin' I love so.

But hear those rascals holler,
"Hi there! Good mornin', Bob!"
Lord, they couldn't do without me
Sure, that's why I love my job!



WORK ON MADISON ROADS TO START SOON

In reply to a letter written recently by Mr. John A. Hendricks of Marshall, in which he held out that work on the two projects in Madison County may soon start. The projects as we understand it, are the road from Mars Hill up California Creek and the road from Marshall by Sandy Mush to Doggett's Gap. The letter reads as follows:

July 20, 1929.

Mr. John A. Hendricks,
Marshall, N. C.
Dear Mr. Hendricks:

I am in receipt of your letter of the 18th, and I beg to thank you for your letter of appreciation.

Like you, I am avertant to the fact that the Piedmont section is getting more roads than we are due to their heavy population.

I hope the work will be able to start in a very short time.

Sincerely yours,
J. G. STIKELEATHER.

PURCHASE OF SCHOOL TRUCKS

**FACTS ABOUT THE PURCHASE
OF SCHOOL TRUCKS BY THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

In regard to a certain misleading article that appeared in last week's issue of the News-Record, we wish to make the following explanation. We appreciate the fact the writer of said article was going to the taxpayers as their representative to save tax money. The article was misleading and confusing to the minds of the public.

We believe that every member of the Board of Education should express his objections to any action of the Board in open meeting or abide by the action of the Board unless he favors a minority rule.

It seems unfair to the Board of Education for one member to be silent on any question that comes before the Board, then openly criticize four-fifths of the Board through the press. It leaves the impression with the people that some crooked work is going on that the minority member is unable to control in open session.

In selecting the school trucks the Board or at least majority of the Board used their best judgment in selecting the kind of trucks that they thought would give the County the most service for the money invested. It was on this basis that we made the selection and not a personal matter. The writer of the article in last week's issue of the News-Record possibly thought we should have bought Chevrolet trucks from Spruce Pine because the initial cost was a few dollars less per truck; possibly he thought we should have bought some other kind of a truck, but in our opinion he should have cast his vote in open session for his choice.

eliminated the Spruce Pine bid. A great number of bids were presented the Board of Education, all of which we appreciated, but a majority of the Board having owned, controlled, operated and used various kinds of trucks and cars made our decision as to buying six Chevrolets and three Grahams on our past experiences and we have no apologies to make to the public for our action; at the same time we have nothing to say against our friends or their trucks or cars that handle different kinds.

Practically every county in the State has bought trucks from home dealers all of which we did approve and do approve. We believe the taxpayers of Madison County who pay the taxes on which we are running the schools should have a chance first to sell the County whatever it needs to buy as it is not fair and just to tax them to buy trucks and go elsewhere and buy trucks or anything else. In stating the above facts we are not seeking office, popularity, or applause from the galleries.

In conclusion we think it best for all members of the Board to stand for something at all times and cast their vote according to their convictions, and if any one member is unable to control or dictate to the Board thereafter hold his peace.

It is true we had some very good bids on furniture for the Spring Creek school. The Board decided to delay the matter until the next meeting. The bidders understood the situation and had an opportunity to withdraw their bids if they wished to do so. We feel like we can save money by waiting and getting more competition. We are going to do what we think best for the schools regardless of the few critics who want us to favor friends.

WILEY M. ROBERTS,
JASPER EBBS,
LEE RAMSEY.

NATIONAL REUNION

**A NATIONAL REUNION OF THE
SAMS FAMILY**

There will be a big reunion of all the Sams family on Saturday and Sunday, August 10 and 11, 1929, at Mars Hill, N. C. Everybody who has a drop of the Sams blood in him is especially urged to be present these two days. They are coming from all over the United States.

Some great men of the name are to speak; but best of all, come on and find out who your kinsmen are. Get any information from FRED SAMS, at Mars Hill, N. C., or DR. W. A. SAMS, Marshall, N. C.

CLINIC LIST NOT YET

The list of patients at the toniadenoid clinic in Marshall recently cannot yet be published. For some reason the State Board of Health has not let us have it.

Chicago is bound to have a world's fair in 1933 notwithstanding it hasn't recovered yet from the one it had in 1929.—The Pathfinder.

BLUFF-HOT SPRINGS ROAD NEARLY COMPLETE

No. 209, the highway leading from Hot Springs to Lake Junaluska, which has been under construction from Hot Springs to Bluff, N. C., is rapidly nearing completion, and the engineer reports that it will be completed within the next 30 or 60 days. This is a standard gauge highway and will open up one of the finest sections of Madison county, and the drive from Hot Springs to Junaluska is considered one of the most scenic in the western part of the state.

Jimmy Council of Boone, N. C., is the engineer in charge with Tony Amz as construction superintendent. These two men are considered among the best road builders in the state.

NEW OFFENSIVE A- GAINST HOME BREW

WASHINGTON, July 13.—A new offensive against the flowing bowl of home brew was initiated Saturday by Prohibition Commissioner James M. Doran, who announced an order raising the solid content of malt extract from 12 to 18 per cent.

Issuance of the order, Doran said, follows a conference with malt tonic manufacturers. He said the order will not lessen the value of the malt preparation for medicinal purposes, but will have the effect of making it more difficult to divert the product for illegal purposes.

"There was a tendency among producers to distribute malt tonic for beverage purposes," Doran explained. "Increase in the solid content will protect the legitimate manufacturer from the competition of those not so ethical."

Legal alcoholic content of malt remains unchanged at two percent but the addition of six percent more solid content will make the product difficult to consume in large quantities.

Doran telegraphed prohibition administrators in the 28 districts throughout the country to notify manufacturers concerned of the new order.

In attempting to prevent diversion of malt extract to beverage purposes, the government has met one of its most difficult prohibition enforcement problems. While the tonics are made with a low alcoholic content, they are readily transformed into real beer. Some manufacturers were found by the prohibition bureau to be producing an extract substantially the same as before prohibition, and that it was used extensively for beverage purposes in violation of the Volstead act.—Asheville Times.

CHECKS RECEIVED FROM MILK CONCERN BY FARMERS

The first checks the farmers of Madison county have received were delivered to them Tuesday for milk delivered to the Pet Milk company, Greeneville, Tenn. While in most cases the checks were small, the farmers were very well pleased with their showing, and several of them plan to increase their herds with higher grade cows and go into the milk production business on a larger scale. Considerable agitation along this line is being done all over the county by business men, farmers, bankers, and the county agent, Earle Brintnall.

The farmers of this and surrounding sections realize that they must look to this kind of work for ready money, and are making their plans accordingly. D. G. Church, one of Madison county's most progressive business men, is largely responsible for the interest in the milk production, he having been the first person to inaugurate a milk route to the Tennessee market.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

There is a Daily Vacation Bible School being conducted at Kalamazoo now, and on Friday evening, July 26, there was ice cream and cake on sale to defray expense of the school.

The teachers are:—Rev. James L. Hyde, general director, with Misses Anna Hyde, Ruth Guthrie, Marian Morrow and Florence Hyde of Walnut as teachers of graded classes and Misses Louella Mozele of Baltimore and Mary Norris of Kalamazoo in charge of the hand work.

Panama Canal Booms

A recent report of tolls collected on the Panama Canal shows that this great channel that connects the Pacific and the Atlantic oceans has just completed its largest year of business.

Why didn't Uncle Sam, while he was about it, make that new money out of rubber, so it would stretch like a rubber band?

PRAISES MADISON COUNTY

**FORMER CITIZEN MAKES SOME
TIMELY SUGGESTIONS**

Editor News-Record:
In your issue of June 7th I made a suggestion that someone write a story and describe the beautiful sceneries in Madison County in order to advertise the county and towns to draw interest and home seekers. Not a line has been written to my knowledge of the beautiful sceneries of dear old Madison.

When I was a boy on Little Pine, oftentimes before retiring at night, I would have to look out upon the shadows cast by the trees that surrounded our home. When the moonlight crept through the thick foliage and shadows, reaching in all directions, I sure enjoyed watching the shadows dance upon the sleeping grass. The air was usually filled with fireflies and the star-set heavens gave added beauty to this scene of night. The shadows grew more fascinating the more you looked at them on a still night, hardly a sound could be heard beyond the faint rustle of the leaves of the trees responding to the passing, gentle winds.

I believe if the merchants and business men of Marshall, Walnut, Hot Springs and Mars Hill would put up a purse for the best story written and the stories could be sold to magazine publishers and that way the writer would be paid twice for the same story and it would be a wonderful advertisement for the old home county and would more than pay the donors in dollars and cents for the purse they put up.

Another suggestion, I noticed Prof. R. L. Moore's statement of the public school indebtedness of Madison County, and in your editorial column you ask for suggestions to better conditions. Not a line from anyone has appeared in your paper. That school board and all county officials need the co-operation of the people of Madison and by the cooperation of the people with your county officials you can make dear old Madison one of the best counties in the State to live in, and sections of the county would not want to leave the county and join some other county. The county is exactly what the people of the county make it, if good the people make it so, if bad and in debt, the people have made it so.

Again, I notice that not a word has been said through your paper by any of the writers in regard to your editorial column except by Miss Reva Hedges and myself. For myself, I think that editorial column is wonderfully good. Not that I will agree with you in all that you may say but it gives me some good ideas and I believe well worth the space and your time to your readers. When it comes to the Office Kat Kolum I see that often called on to "Come on Office Kat" by different writers, and may be numerous but as a matter of fact it's no good at all. I don't mean to knock the Office Kat, to the contrary if that column was ten times worse than what it is, I will venture to say in a year's time it will increase the circulation of your paper ten times what it is now, and I don't believe that statement is exaggerated at all.

I am not making these suggestions for any favors, or for any honors, or notoriety, all I want is "the people to cooperate and work together and make dear old Madison County the best county in the state of North Carolina." It's immaterial with me as to how or who gets the honors of making Madison County the best county, just so it is done, for some day—I hope soon—I will be back on Little Pine, the place of my birth and boyhood days to remain the balance of my days, I am

Yours for the best,
J. HENRY ROBERTS,
747 Morrell St., Detroit, Mich.

FRUITFUL EVENT

Chicago, July 3.—Orange Apple faw'd down and crashed yesterday and wound up in the hospital.

Orange is only seven. They asked him his name; he said "Orange," so the obliging nurse brought him one. They asked him again and he said "Apple," and the nurse got suspicious. She peeked into a phone booth and found Orange Apple listed. She called him up, and sure enough he was little Orange's daddy.

They asked Orange, Jr., how he happened to fall down. He said he slipped on a banana peel. Altogether, everything considered, it was a fruitful event.