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ZBOO

8 Pages This Week

CHARTER DAY CELEBRATED AT MARS HILL COLLEGE

Mars Hill, February 17.—Today Mars Hill College celebrated for the first time Charter Day, commemorating the day the college assumed its present name with the granting of the first charter, February 15, 1859.

The services, which were held in the college auditorium at eleven o'clock, were directed by W. H. Higgs, attorney of Asheville and president of the Buncombe County Alumni Association. The speakers of the occasion were President R. L. Moore, who spoke briefly at the beginning of the exercises; Mr. W. H. Higgs; Mr. Gilbert Morris, president of the W. H. Bank and Trust Company of Asheville; Dr. J. H. Calfee, president of Asheville Normal and Associated Schools; and Mr. J. E. Westall, Mr. Westall speaking briefly in response to an introduction. Mr. Higgs lauded Mars Hill as a college of distinctive character and a college of ideals, and paid high tribute to Dr. Moore, who has served the college as president for more than thirty years, as one of the outstanding educators of the day, a man whose lofty standards no power can shake. Mr. Morris, after paying respects to the college, urged the students to realize the opportunity which was theirs and to later show their gratitude to the college by their loyal support. Dr. Calfee recounted the progress of the college since it began in 1856 as the French Broad Institute with two buildings, one of which was destroyed during the Civil War, to the present with its ten buildings, 85-acre campus and strong faculty. He likewise urged the students to become faithful alumni of the college.

Special tribute was paid to the Higgs family, the only known family of which every member is a graduate of Mars Hill. Three members of the family were present: W. H. Higgs, attorney of Asheville; Dr. A. T. Higgs, physician of Asheville, and member of the Aston Park Hospital staff; and their mother, widow of the late Rev. R. H. Higgs. The only member of the family not present was Dr. J. B. Higgs, professor and dean of the theological school of Shanghai Baptist College, Shanghai, China.

The first charter of Mars Hill College was ratified February 1859, granting the college the "power of conferring all such degrees and marks of literary distinction as are usually conferred in colleges and seminaries of learning". The college has never exercised its power to confer degrees, as the work rarely went above that of secondary school grade until it became a junior college. The charter was amended six times since 1859.

In 1931 the college will celebrate its seventy-fifth anniversary, having been founded in 1856. Plans to increase the permanent endowment of the college \$250,000 in 1931 have been announced. Mr. Higgs expressed the intention of the alumni to further increase the permanent assets of the college. Charter Day will be celebrated annually, President Moore said today; and he expressed the hope that the day could be given over mainly to the alumni.

Listen to the Radio

Now one of the major broadcasting concerns announces that there will be a regular weekly broadcast instruction in reading, writing, and arithmetic over the radio, with a hook-up that will take in most of the United States. The little red schoolhouse will shiver on its timbers at this new innovation by which one teacher will be able to handle a class of 5,000,000 pupils.

TO THE TAXPAYERS OF MADISON COUNTY

The tax payers of Madison County are requested to meet at the Court House in Marshall, Saturday, March 1, 1930 to adopt certain resolutions and select delegates to meet in Raleigh to seek some tax relief.

This is a matter that should interest every tax payer in the county and you are urged to be present at this meeting.

Madison County Republican
Executive Committee

E. J. Rhodes Passes

E. J. Rhodes, resident of Henderson county, and a leader in Baptist church work, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. E. T. Brown, at Druid Hills, Friday at 6:25 p. m., after a decline of two years, which followed an operation. Funeral services were held at the First Baptist church at Hendersonville Sunday at 2 p. m., with the Rev. Dr. Arthur Jackson officiating. He was assisted by Dr. E. E. Romar, the Rev. W. A. Morris and Dr. R. V. Miller. Interment followed in Greenhill cemetery in West Asheville. The Masons were in charge of that portion of the ceremony.

Mr. Rhodes was born at Flag Pond, Tenn., and when he was in his second year his family moved to Madison county. From there the family moved to Asheville when he was at an early age, and his young manhood was spent in Asheville, where he married. Mr. Rhodes was a deacon from his boyhood in the Baptist church, Asheville, and he continued this relation to the church when he moved to Balfour 15 years ago. There he helped to organize the Sunday school and to build the Baptist church.

He had not been in active business life for the past two years, owing to ill health. But on first coming to Balfour had been manager of the Balfour quarry, and later was interested in the Home Ice and Coal company.

Mr. Rhodes was 62 years old July 13 last. His widow was before her marriage Miss Katherine Rieben, of Switzerland. His eldest son, Paul J. Rhodes, died a year ago. He leaves two daughters, Mrs. E. T. Brown of Druid Hills, and Mrs. W. T. Bolick of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. One son, Gavin L. Rhodes of Asheville, survives. Twelve grandchildren also survive.

Mr. Rhodes was a member of the I. O. O. F., a Woodman, a Mason and a Shriner.

Airplane Affairs

Figures regarding airplane accidents during the first half of 1929 showed that more than 59 per cent of all aircraft accidents in the period were recorded by those flying machines; nearly 19 per cent were due to engine failures; nearly 9 per cent to airplane structure, failures, and more than 13 per cent was charged against weather, darkness, and undetermined causes.

The airplanes have been bumping off plenty of victims of late and this may account for some of the lull in winter flying.

A rumor has it that the Colonel and Mrs. Lindbergh will have a new little passenger for their car when the flowers bloom in the Spring.

And Byrd and his flock of explorers are about ready to return from their excursion to the South Pole. Washington will have a wov of a celebration in their honor when they reach the Capital of their own country.

If You Were Czar, WHAT?

Recently The News and Observer, Raleigh, taking note of Governor Gardner's remark that if he were czar of North Carolina he would issue a proclamation making it a crime for anyone in his domain to feed a baby milk out of a can, wrote to a number of citizens in the State asking: "If you were Czar of North Carolina what would you do?"

Many of the replies were given in last Sunday's paper, and as an index to the subject uppermost on the minds of the leaders of thought in the State it is interesting to note that the majority of the answers were in regard to taxation. Samples of some of the replies along this line are:

Walter Murphy, Salisbury: "I would equalize and reduce taxes."

W. A. Hunt, Henderson: "I would have all property, real and personal, listed for taxation and foreign stocks, exemption repealed."

A. D. McLean, Washington: "If I were Czar of Tarheeldom I would enforce the constitutional principle of equality both of education and taxation."

Csars have no jurisdiction of thought or purpose. I would swap imperial power for as much persuasive influence as it would buy, and use that to abolish crasses of inflation and panics of pessimism. It is in the alternate swings of these extremes the average man is most hurt. We need peace of judgment that takes toll of one and refuses to surrender to the other. Talk giving with a very small tread don't grow the size."

THE PUBLISHER'S COLUMN ABOUT VARIOUS MATTERS

HIGH TAXES AND HOW TO PAY THEM

THERE is considerable unrest in the State of North Carolina due to the burden of paying high taxes. This unrest is evidenced by the meetings being held and the clamor for a special session of the legislature to reduce taxes on property. The proper distribution of tax burdens is a matter that never has been satisfactorily adjusted and perhaps never will be to the satisfaction of all. We dare say that a special session, even though it were to continue beyond the legal limit of 20 days and devote all its time and thought to that one matter alone, a satisfactory solution would not be reached. If the solons could work out some scheme whereby the other fellow would pay for the improvements we enjoy and the other fellow be satisfied to do so, there would be no trouble—the matter would be settled. But of course such a solution is impossible. We believe that some change should be made as to property tax. That seems to be agreed upon by all parties and factions. A condition that causes the farms of our state to be sold for taxes should not be tolerated if the owners of those farms are honestly working and doing all in their power to live honestly, support their families, and retain the titles to said farms. But we wonder if there are not instances in which some of the farms that are being sold for taxes could not have been retained with proper management and energy and thrift. We have all sympathy for the man or woman who tries honestly and sincerely to make a living when misfortunes, crop failures, sickness, and other unavoidable causes prevent him or her from succeeding in his undertaking. But the man who idles his time away, little caring what happens to his family, if he has one, is not deserving of sympathy when his home and farm are sold for taxes. Possibly a sales tax will to a certain extent relieve the situation. Placing the burden on those most able to bear it seems right, at first thought. But to relieve the fellow who is not able because he was too lazy to become able is an injustice to the fellow who is trying to amount to something in life. When the state is powerless to collect from a fellow because he has nothing and has not made any effort to have anything, there should be some way to tax his time, and he should be made to work somewhere at some price and pay such wages to the state or county. In other words, all our people who enjoy the benefits of taxes should help to pay them.

PASSING THE BUCK, OR DODGING ONE'S DUTY

THE old saying that the shortest way to a man's heart is through his stomach is only partially true. When you touch his pocketbook, you are dangerously near his heart. That is why so many people are squalling and squirming now. We are having in one way or another to pay for the improvements that have been made on a credit. It's nice to have these things and we all enjoy them, but the disagreeable part of it is paying for them. We have been living ahead of our means, our income, we have been living on the future, and when settling day comes, it does not always find us prepared to meet our obligations. We all rejoice at long term schools and well paid teachers and modern school buildings and equipment; we all like good roads and nice clothes and fine automobiles; we all like fine homes well furnished and all that goes with them. But if all these things are coming to us on a credit, as many of them are, when settling time comes, much of the joy of possessing them is destroyed if the payments cannot be met. There is one good feature about taxes and that is that some people are compelled to part with some of their money, who would never do so voluntarily. Take our churches and other benevolent causes, such as orphanages, and charity organizations, and there are some people who never contribute a cent to their support. They will admit that these causes are worthy and should be supported and all that, but they are perfectly willing to pass the buck to the other fellow. A large per cent, even of church members let the others support the church, when in reality the churches of a community ought to be supported not only by all its members, but even citizens who are not church members might contribute in consideration of the ennobling influence these organizations exert on community life. It should not be necessary for the few to sacrifice as they do to keep these causes going. Certainly no one should wait to be solicited. All should be willing to do his or her part and the burden would not be so heavy on any. People who are able and do not contribute voluntarily to such worthy causes should not be permitted to dodge their duty. Changes in tax laws should look especially after those fellows who never contribute except when forced to do so.

CONGRESSMAN PRITCHARD'S JETTY BILL

CONGRESSMAN Pritchard has prepared a bill to be introduced in congress relative to the removal of jetties in the French Broad river. The bill would authorize the work to be done and provide an appropriation for it. If we understand this correctly, it has reference to removing all obstructions to the progress of the flow of water. If it has reference to the removal of dams as well as natural obstructions such as projecting rocks and so forth, the bill will probably meet with opposition from power companies. Representatives from Henderson and Transylvania counties were called to Washington in reference to this matter, and as these counties are at the source of the river, we may not understand it at all. Some explanation from Congressman Pritchard would be appreciated, so that we may pass it on to our readers.

A barn of tobacco grown by T. H. Little Wifey—I bought a wonderful radio set this morning awfully cheap. Only \$2 a week! Baby—For how long? Wifey—Oh, I forgot to ask that. —The Publisher

LAST WARNING

THE LAST WARNING TO PEOPLE AGAINST WHOM SUITS HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO FORECLOSE TAX SALE CERTIFICATES.

Since the books containing certificates for the sale of land in Madison County for delinquent taxes has been put in my hands for collection, I have sent repeated notices through the mails to persons whose land was sold for delinquent taxes, giving full details as to the amount of the original tax, cost and interest. Some people replied and paid off such delinquent taxes, but a great many did not. Under the instructions of the County Commissioners, and under the law which compels suit to be brought, I have proceeded to bring suit to foreclose the Tax Sale Certificates which have not been paid, not including the taxes for 1928. Since suit has been brought, a great many persons have come in and paid up the tax, interest and cost, and wherever persons have had a good defense to the suits, such defenses have been considered, and if the suit was not properly brought or the defense was valid, non-suit has been taken in such cases. A large number of cases are still pending, and many of the defendants appear to treat the whole matter with silence, and are apparently making no effort whatever to make settlement. Where defendants are making an effort to pay, I shall hold off taking judgment just as long as I am permitted under the law, but where the parties are making no effort to pay off the taxes, interest and accumulated cost, I shall proceed to take judgment, which will cause to be added considerable amount of cost to what has already accumulated. There will be the cost of taking the judgment, the cost of at least two advertisements, the fees of the commissioner who is appointed to sell the land, and still followed up by other costs. I have done my best to accommodate everybody who has been defendant in these cases, but the time has now arrived when I must act. I am now engaged in making abstracts of the title to the property involved in the different suits, which adds more cost, and as soon as I have finished making the abstracts, I shall then proceed to take judgments and follow the judgments up in the manner prescribed by law for the sale of the land. If you want to save money you had better come in and settle up now or make some definite arrangement.

JOHN A. HENDRICKS,
County Attorney.

GARDNER NEUTRAL

Governor Gardner is to be recommended for a neutral position in the Bailey-Simmons fight. If the Governor were a private citizen it would be entirely permissible for him to follow the course taken by ex-Governors Morrison and McLean. His determination to remain out of a party contest while he is the chief executive of the State is a sensible and dignified course. Governor Gardner is the governor of all the people of North Carolina, Democrats and Republicans, and of all kinds of Democrats. There is absolutely no reason for him to engage in a factional war in his own party.

—The Hendersonville Times-News.

A SUSTAINING PHILOSOPHY

So many of us think of the days ahead when this or that possession or this or that condition will give us the happiness we think we do not have at present. After all, happiness is a state of mind and that person who does not cultivate the habit of happiness and is not happy under present circumstances will probably never be happy. Nine people out of ten spend all their lives getting ready to live, and instead of enjoying life in the present, look forward to the time when everything will be just right for the real enjoyment of life—usually the chief objectives are plenty of money, and plenty of time. And in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred the time never comes. Certainly it comes only to those who have been happy all along—found happiness in the simple, every-day joys of life.

The thoughts we have uppermost in mind is expressed in this quotation from a letter we read the other day:

"Her philosophy is not to spend the greater part of life expecting to have all our heart's desires after awhile, but to enjoy to the fullest every joy that each day brings us—the beauty of a sunset, a baby's sweet ways, the joy of doing things, and the great joy of loving and being loved."

—Mrs. J. B. Smith

GENERAL NEWS IN PARAGRAPHS

Just after our paper was printed last week, the news was flashed across the continent that Charles Evans Hughes had been confirmed by the Senate as Chief Justice by a vote of 52 to 26. The opposition to the confirmation came as a surprise to the country and grew to considerable strength before the vote was taken, following four days intense debate. He will assume his duties immediately.

News from Asheville last Friday was to the effect that 200 business men subscribed \$20,000 stock in a tobacco warehouse for Asheville. That was an average of only \$100 per subscriber, which is not so much to boast about. Marshall's average was much better per subscriber than that but the trouble about Marshall is that there are not enough subscribers.

36 schools in South Carolina closed last week because of a lack of funds with which to run the schools. This represented approximately 2800 children. The education of the masses comes high and our country will do well if it continues to find the necessary funds. Our young people should appreciate the sacrifice our tax payers are making to give them schooling.

The city of Chicago has had to borrow money from the funds of other cities with which to pay its own employees. What will it do about other expenses and improvements? There is such a thing as "going head over heels in debt" and that seems to be the case in Chicago.

A meeting of the editors of Western North Carolina was held in Asheville last Saturday, opening about 11 o'clock in the morning and continuing practically throughout the day, except for about an hour for lunch. If the dreams of some of those present materialize, it will mean much not only for the publishers of our section of the state, but also for the development of all lines of endeavor.

41 degrees below zero was reported from North Atlantic states the first of the week, resulting in quite a number of deaths.

Part of Yancey County is seeking to become a part of Buncombe County. Pensacola township, which includes the famous Mount Mitchell, and is said to comprise about one-fourth of Yancey County, is the territory seeking annexation to Buncombe. Dissatisfaction resulting from the failure of the commissioners to build a road through this district was given as the chief cause of the movement.

A meeting of some 500 citizens was held in Asheville Monday night to discuss relief from tax burdens. The body selected March 31 as the date when five representatives from every county in North Carolina are to meet in Raleigh to discuss property tax reduction and to renew the request that Governor Gardner call a special session of the legislature to pass relief measures. The meeting favored transferring the school system to the state, at least letting the state assume the financial burden while the schools continue under local government or control. A tax on Gross Sales rather than on property was the general idea to be worked out on an equitable basis.

NOTICE

To all who have not paid your 1929 tax, remember that two per cent penalty will be added on the second day of March. Remember that your land will be advertised after the first Monday in May.

Respectfully,
B. E. GUTHRIE,
Tax Collector