

Fines Creek School Is One Of Best In All Haywood County

Plant Is Valued At \$61,298.16, and Cares for Needs of 495 Students.

Patient struggling, thwarted hopes, relentless work and undaunted perseverance—all these characterize the spirit that has built a standard high school for the youth of the Fines Creek and White Oak townships—the most remote section of Haywood county containing a high school.

The school, established in 1926 when the brick building now used as the elementary school was erected by Jerry Liner, Junaluska Supply Co., has grown from a small institution with the elementary grade and high school housed in one building to the present situation in which the high school is housed in a separate modern stone construction. This building, erected in 1934 under the supervision of T. B. Davis, contains besides classrooms, a gymnasium, business education department, cafeteria, vocational agriculture shop, library, and home economics laboratory. Not only has the physical plant increased in size, but there has also been a broadening of the curriculum of the school.

Although the Fines Creek high school was established in 1926, it did not become a standard high school until 1938 when P. A. Roberts was principal. This year, the school had three high school teachers, six elementary teachers, and an average attendance in the high school of forty-nine which was the required number at that time. George A. Brown was the chairman of the school committee, and N. C. James, Grover C. Ferguson, Marion M. Kirkpatrick, and R. W. Teague served as committee members. That year, five students were graduated.

In 1929, the principalship of the school was taken over by Fred L. Safford, who has held the position since that time. Mr. Safford, an honor graduate of Trinity University, now Duke, in the class of 1915, came to Fines Creek from the grade school in Buncombe county, where he was superintendent. During Mr. Safford's first year as principal of the school two new rooms were added to the high school building. George A. Brown again served as chairman of the committee. The same committee members served with the exception of R. W. Teague, whose place was filled by Dee Clark. Ten students were graduated—twice as many as were graduated the previous year.

The next year, 1930, the need of more equipment was felt and a piano, a stage curtain, and \$350 dollars worth of library books were purchased. Besides this new equipment, the boiler room was made more convenient by concreting the floor and walls. The same committee served that year, and fourteen students made up the graduating class.

By 1931 the library of the high school contained 411 volumes. The enrollment of the high school department had increased to sixty. That year, a wire fence with locust posts sawed on Raymond McCracken's mill, was built around the school grounds. Mr. Farady Greene replaced George A. Brown as chairman of the school committee, and ten seniors were graduated.

The need for expansion, evidenced for a few years, was realized in 1934 when the new rock building now occupied by the high school was constructed. The high school moved into this building—thus the high school and elementary school two separate units. The same committee served and there were seven students in the graduation class.

The first broadening of the curriculum of the school took place in 1935 when W. L. Fitzgerald taught vocational agriculture, dividing his time between Fines Creek high school and Clyde high school. Twenty students were graduated that year. Carl Greene was chairman of the committee, and M. M. Kirkpatrick and Robert Arrington with him.

In 1936, there were ninety stu-

dents enrolled in the high school department, and this year two new full-time faculty members were added to the teaching staff. B. G. O'Brien became vocational agriculture teacher, and Flossie Whitley home economics teacher. It was this year that the school first had a school lunch-room, a W. P. A. project, under the direction of Miss Whitley. Mr. T. W. Rogers became chairman of the school committee. Fifteen students were graduated.

Miss Ruby Violet Lane took over the home economics department in 1937, remaining for three years. The same committee members served and twenty students were graduated.

The year 1939 marked the beginning of an extensive grading and improvement of the grounds through a W. P. A. project. The school purchased a sixteen millimeter film and sound projector, and a velvet curtain for the auditorium, and Mr. Safford completed ten progressive years as principal of the school. The same committee served as the year before, and the largest graduating class in the history of the school—twenty-four members—was graduated.

In 1940 a clean-up campaign was begun and the grounds were beautified. A motor mower was purchased for the lawns. For the first time, the elementary grades had a full-time music teacher. Miss Marguerite Clark became public school music teacher for the elementary school.

1941 marked further expansion of the curriculum when a commercial department was established with Dorothy Gahagan as teacher. New business equipment purchased for the department includes a mimeograph duplicator, ten Underwood typewriters, and a mimeoscope. This equipment makes possible the publication of a monthly

A varied athletic program is carried on during the school year at Fines Creek. Softball and baseball comprise the fall sports and basketball is the main winter sport. All students have an opportunity to get purposeful physical exercise. Some games with other schools add interest to the program. Mrs. Kathryn Kirkpatrick is coach of the girls' basketball team, and Mr. Fred L. Safford is boys' coach.

The library of the school now contains a total of 760 volumes, 284 of which are fiction. The books are marked by the Dewey decimal system and the card loan system is used. Mrs. Effie G. Francis, second grade teacher, is librarian, and has regular periods during which she is in the library.

The school lunch room serves hot meals to students and teacher at the cost of five cents a meal. Miss Maggie James is supervisor of the lunch room. Students may bring any kind of food from the farm and exchange it for meal tickets.

The present enrollment of the school is 496, of these 114 are high school students, and 381 elementary school students. There are nineteen rooms for classroom work, including the library. The value of the school plant, including the two buildings, and all equipment, is \$61,298.16.

The present faculty is composed of fifteen teachers, ten of which finished high school at Fines Creek during the last ten years, finished college, and came back to Fines Creek to teach. All these teachers have A certificates, with the exception of one. The present faculty members are: Elementary, Bonnie Duckett, Hilda Fisher, Effie Greene Francis, Lucile Walker, Frances James Stamey, Frank Kirkpatrick, Jarvis Teague, Edna McCracken Ensley, Marguerite Clark, and Pearl James; high school, Edna James, home economics and science, John Nesbitt, agriculture; Kathryn Greene Kirkpatrick, English and mathematics; Dorothy Gahagan, commerce and English; and Fred L. Safford, principal and social science. Mr. Carl Greene is chairman of the school committee at this time, and T. W. Rogers, Mark Ferguson, Robert Arrington, and Jim McElroy serve as members.

Crabtree-Iron Duff School Serves Large Section Of Haywood County

By Edith Tate.

The Crabtree-Iron Duff high school building which was erected and established in 1937 serves the following communities: Crabtree, Iron Duff, Rock Spring, Rush Fork, Riverside, Hyder Mountain, and Big Branch.

The value of the property when last appraised was \$34,792.10.

There are seventeen teachers and four hundred and sixty-five students in the school; one hundred and twenty-eight being high school students and three hundred and thirty-seven are elementary students. There are fifteen classrooms in addition to a library, a work shop, a cafeteria, a first aid room, an office, four rest rooms, a large auditorium and gymnasium with a seating capacity of seven hundred and fifty, and two large dressing rooms with showers.

The school makes it possible for all boys and girls to engage in some kind of sports. The students are given an hour three days a week, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, to play. The sports that are practiced most often are: softball, soccer, touch football, outdoor and indoor basketball, and horse shoe. Plans are being made to fix a tennis court soon so as to broaden the activities.

Basketball is one of the major sports; softball is second. In the fall both boys and girls are divided into teams with captains for each team and the teams play one another. Then the first and second teams are chosen which compete with other schools of the county.

Basketball season opens in November and many of the boys and girls go out for that sport. The girls practice at activity period and the boys practice before and after school. The boys that do not participate in basketball practice some exercises, play softball and horse shoe; the boys play touch football, soccer, outdoor basketball. The basketball teams compete with all other schools of the county and with some of the schools in nearby counties during the season. They also enter the Gold Medal Tournaments.

The school has a large library which consists of the following sets of encyclopedias: fifteen volumes of the New Compton's Pictured Encyclopedia, eighteen volumes of The World Book Encyclopedia, twelve volumes of Richard's Encyclopedia, nine volumes of Ridpath's World History, and a new large standard dictionary. For circulation there are four hundred and fifty books, consisting of history, science, poetry and fiction.

There is also a collection of magazines such as: State Life, McCall's, Home and Garden, Readers Digest, Newsweek, Times, Popular Mechanics. The Waynesville Mountaineer and the Asheville Citizen are the only newspapers subscribed for. The daily circulation is around twenty-five books, whereas it could easily be seventy-five or one hundred if there were more books. The library needs at least two hundred more fiction books, including some for the

Clyde Has Long Been A Community Interested In Better Education

Accurate records dealing with the early history of the Clyde school are not available. We do know, however, that a free school supplemented by private subscriptions, was maintained in the town of Clyde many years.

The Haywood Institute in many respects was the outgrowth of this subscription school. It happened this way. In 1893 a group of men composed of H. P. Haynes, J. L. Morgan, B. B. Jones, J. A. Collins, T. F. Osborne, J. Wiley Shock, and B. F. Hill organized a school and built a nice building across the street from the present site of the Clyde Baptist church. The purpose of this school was to secure more advanced educational advantages for the young people of the community. The teachers employed for this school were highly trained and thus were able to teach the students the more advanced parts of the different subjects.

A few years later the trustees of this school donated this property to the Haywood County Baptist Association, which enlarged the school and operated it under the name of Haywood Institute for a period of twenty-five years. A great many of the older generation in the Clyde community received their high school education in the Haywood Institute. The work of the institute was abandoned in 1926.

The purpose of the Haywood Institute was to fill a gap in the educational system of the community by furnishing high school training. The elementary school training was taken care of, after a fashion, in the free schools. In 1908, a public high school was erected on the hill near the present residence of Hugh Haynes, but it was a high school only in name,

Bethel School Is Outstanding In Athletic Records

The program of athletics in the Bethel high school was organized some twelve years ago. It has aided in developing good sportsmanship, better citizenship, physical and mental alertness and school spirit.

Since the organization, Bethel athletes have given a good account of themselves in their outstanding records. Basketball is the chief sport, but football, softball, volleyball, horse shoe pitching and other games are played.

Both boys and girls of the elementary and high school grades take an active part in the athletic program, and the school has won out not only in county-wide events, but also received state recognition. They have won out in more tournaments than any other school in Western North Carolina.

They have won many trophies for their excellent sportsmanship.

smaller grade children and students of the seventh and eighth grades. The library is also equipped with six large tables and good chairs.

The lunch room is classified as a W. P. A. lunch room. A wide variety of meals are served. The number of paid lunches are less than the free one, but with the help of children bringing food from home, balanced meals are served. The government provides enough food to pay for the free lunches. There is a daily average of two hundred and thirty-seven meals served. Seventy-four are free; the rest are exchange lunches for food brought from home and paid lunches.

The service used is cafeteria style. There is no choice of food other than a well balanced plate. The menus are planned by W. P. A. supervisor and the home economics teacher. Statistics show improvement in grades and attendance since the W. P. A. lunch room has been started.

The school lunch room is operated by four W. P. A. women with the help of a county supervisor and the home economics teacher. The work in the summer to make a garden to supplement the food used in the lunch room. They can the surplus food from the garden in the summer and fall. A training period is held once a month for the purpose of learning how to prepare new dishes. Five or six N. Y. A. girls at the school help with the preparation of the lunches.

The lunch room needs some equipment, but plans are being made to obtain this equipment. A new electric stove, dishes, silver and cooking utensils are being purchased. Every student is proud of the lunch room and feels that he could not do without it.

For Duration



Mrs. Georgette Huberman and her son, Jean Pierre, arrive at New York aboard the *Serpa Pinta*. Wife of a French lawyer, she will remain in the United States for the duration of the war.

County Athletic Group Plays Part In School Life

The Haywood County Athletic Association was organized five years ago. The association is composed of all high school groups in Haywood county units and Canton. Each school has one vote in deciding issues that govern the association.

The purpose of the association is to give harmony in good sportsmanship, physical development, mental alertness, and good citizenship in athletics as well as a better understanding between the schools.

The association stresses good sportsmanship and makes all the rules and regulations as to eligibility of all players, deciding where and when annual county tournaments are to be held. The group also decides the price of admission and how the tournament will be conducted, as to officials and how the proceeds from the county are to be allocated. They have charge of the awarding of the trophies and other honors.

W. P. Whitesides of the Bethel school, is president of the group, and Carl Ratcliff of the Waynesville high school, is secretary and treasurer.

Brief History Of The Schools Of Bethel Community

The first public school building in the Bethel section of the county was erected on the present site of the school property about 1866 and served the community until 1886 when the Bethel Academy was built on the hill on the opposite side of the road.

The academy was burned a few years after it was built but was immediately rebuilt, serving the community until 1924, when a new brick building was constructed. Today this building serves as the quarters for the elementary grades, elementary library and lunch room.

In the lunch room there are from 450 to 500 children enjoying hot lunches served by the school under the supervision of the WPA lunch room workers.

This building was used until 1934 when a high school and gymnasium were erected. This arrangement served the community until the concrete building was finished in 1941.

Consolidation of schools started in 1926 and today there are eight

buses transporting from 1,000 to 1,100 children daily.

The school is headed up at present by the following committee members, with a faculty of 37 men and women.

Those comprising the board are: E. B. Rickman, chairman, J. F. Justice, Walter Brown, C. W. Moody (secretary) and Pless.

The faculty members are: W. Whitesides, principal, Mrs. Mae Cathey, Mrs. J. T. Chappell, Mrs. Mary Soesbee, Miss Margaret Moore, Mrs. Ruth Tucker, Mrs. J. Moore, I. A. McLain, Miss Agnes Reeves, Mrs. Eugene Pless.

Mrs. Christine Harrell, Moore, Mrs. Gussie Palmer, Harley Francis, Miss Bernice Elhannon, Mrs. Ruth Noland, J. B. Allen, Mrs. Pauline Good, Miss Loretta Bass, Miss Ada Boone, Miss Mary Ruby Day and Mrs. S. E. Connatser.

The present school property consists of three buildings and total enrollment is 753, with elementary, seven elementary and high school grades. There are librarians, one for the elementary groups and another for the high school students.

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