ORE ABOUT etter

(Continued from Page 1) taken into consideration and given Oak In 1880 great weight by the Survey Committee. The "joker" in this apparend factual condition, however, is the fact that the student body at these two schools is in a great measure made up of children actually residing in other school districts whose parents send them to these two schools rather than to the schools near which they reside for the simple reason that the facilities at their local schools are so overcrowded, and so totally inadequate to take care of the children who should and would normally attend those local schools, that no thinking parent would insist on a child attending his local school except as a last resort. This situation has prevailed for quite a long time, with the result that the condition feeds upon itself, with the net result that the smaller schools in the county have gone and are going steadily down-hill leven though they remain hopelessly crowded by the children of parents who cannot arrange or affard to send them first year until 1920 when Zack to the bigger schools) while the Clark died. Waynesville Central especially, and also the Bethel School, have enjoyed greater and greater increases in their respective student bodies and in the facilities for the handling of these additional stu-

"This situation prevails for a South Carolina. very obvious reason, and that reason is the improper and actually in any way in setting up or entendance at the various schools, census. This fact was naturally



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Tobacco First Grown In White

By Mrs. George Boring Mountaineer Reporter

The first commercial Burley tobacco crop in White Oak was produced in 1880. The introduction of the leaf for

business purposes was made by

Spaight Clark and his brother

Dallas P. Clark, and Joseph and Mont Snelson. That was in the days before a market was established in Western

North Carolina. After harvesting the crop, the men bauled it on ox carts to Asheville, then shipped it by rail from there to the warehouses at Lynch-

It's fortunate that they weren't depending on this first crop for their entire source of income, how-

It took three months for the returns from the sale to reach them. The Clark farm produced a tobacco crop every year from that

After a five-year lapse, his brother. Grover, started growing tobac-

This section of Haywood, experienced as it was in tobacco growing. has produced some of the finest Burley ever grown in North and

unlawful attitude of the Haywood couraging the organization of Dis-County Board of Education which trict Administrative Units or comhas been repeatedly expressed by mittees as required by Statute. the Superintendent as being "Hay- Many of those whom I represent wood County is all one School Dis- state flatly that all efforts on the trict as far as we are concerned", part of interested citizens to have Not only does the County Board the County Board abide by and enrefuse to enforce the district at- force the districting regulations of the State Board have invariably in the County according to the dis- been met with either point-blank fricting plan of the State Board, refusals or such tactics of delay but it has refused to cooperate and evasion that it has been imthe Haywood County School situ- possible to even have a sensible ation. It is true that the Waynes- discussion with the Board relative Central and the Bethel to this. The end result is that Schools show a very high student some children ride 15 to 17 miles in the bad weather of winter to attend one of the two "favorite" schools of the Board (Bethel or Waynesville Central), and pass not only their own schoolhouses but as many as one or two more small local school buildings on their way to these schools. Obviously this condition gives rise to a totally misleading situation as to attendance, present and prospective, at these two "favorite" schools, and it is no wonder that the Survey Committee was completely fooled by the attendance figures at these two

> ed greatly enlarging both plants. The people for whom I speak well recognize the values inherent in intelligent school consolidation when warranted by the true facts. They do not, however, wish to allow a County Board, which has consistently and repeatedly refused to conduct its affairs according to law and the regulations of the Board, to allocate every cent of the initial \$250,000 school plant fund to two schools whose present facilities are very probably adequate to take care of the students who should attend these schools while the school plants in the peripheral communities are allowed to icteriorate disgracefully,

schools and that they recommend-

"The people for whom I speak well know that the State Board will never knowingly be a party to irregular or improper school administration, and they are grateful for the caution which your Board has already shown in considering the Haywood County situation before approving the proposed building plans. It is their purpose in having me write this letter only to get on the record some of their feelings and objections since they feel that they have been unable to make these feelings and objections known, or have them considered, through the normal channels, largely because of the complete failure of the Haywood Board to allow or provide for local administrative unit organizations. your Board approve no plans offered by the outgoing Haywood County School Board (no member of which has been re-nominated for election) without first having some committee or other representative of your Board meet with the various Parent-Teachers Associations

and other interested organizations of citizens in Haywood County. "I regret having had to write such a long communication, but I respectfully request that it be given the very serious consideration by your entire Board that the good citizens of Haywood County feel it

"With best wishes, I am, "Very truly yours,
"Herschel S. Harkins."

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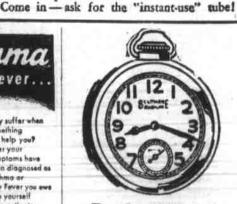
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