

Lenoir Graded Schools.

(By Prof. J. L. Harris, Supt.)

The progress made by the Lenoir school during this session has been very gratifying to all its patrons and friends. The growth of the school has not been made by leaps and bounds, but has been rather a steady, healthy, normal growth. Notwithstanding the school census showed a decrease in population, the enrollment of the present term has increased 12 1/2 per cent over last year's enrollment. The present enrollment is 581—302 boys and 279 girls—80 per cent of the entire school population. This is a number of which many never dreamed when the building was being erected. The building is no longer adequate for the accommodation of the pupils; and for the lack of room, the lower section of the first and second grades recite in the forenoon; the advanced sections in the afternoon. Already there is talk of enlarging the building so as to accommodate the increased attendance.

FREE TEXT BOOKS AND HOW WE MANAGE THEM.

The adoption of free text books for all pupils who reside within the graded school district should be a matter of more than passing interest to the whole State. This is the first school in North Carolina to adopt the free text book system, and the result will be of far reaching importance. So far the system has met with success. Undoubtedly this year's large enrollment and excellent attendance is due to a great extent to the fact that the books are furnished free. The books are purchased by the Board directly from the publishers and are the property of the school. Patented covers are furnished for every book. These covers have been donated by local dealers for the advertising space on the backs. The teachers have entire control and supervision of all books, and needless to say, the books suffer less abuse at the hands of the scholars. Every book is charged to the pupil, and parents or guardians are responsible for any damage to books beyond the wear and tear. At the end of each term all books are collected and the covers are torn off and burned. Then the books are fumigated, new covers are put on and they are again ready for use. The cost of the books in the future will not exceed one-third of the cost for this year.

SCHOOL DEBATES WITH NEIGHBORING TOWNS.

One of the best features of our work is that of the Literary Societies. The boys have organized the Gaston Literary Society and the girls, the Calvin H. Wiley Literary Society. All pupils above the sixth grade are eligible for membership. Each grade below the seventh has a society of its own which meets every Friday afternoon for short exercises. The Societies of the graded schools of Lenoir and Morgantown have arranged for a series of three annual public debates.

Another significant feature of the school is the establishment of a reading room in which are placed the best papers and magazines. This is open every day at noon, and one hour after school has been dismissed. The papers and magazines are gifts from the teachers and friends of the school. By this means a love for reading is stimulated and the reading material is under the direction of the teachers.

IMPROVEMENT OF BUILDING AND EQUIPMENTS.

Improvements are continually being made in the building and grounds. The house has just been painted throughout and the floors oiled with a disinfectant floor dressing.

JULY 3rd. — JULY 3rd.

LENOIR'S BIG CELEBRATION!

THERE WILL NOT BE A DULL MINUTE IN THE DAY

Grand Parade of 25 Floats

BALLOON ASCENSION

BY

PROF. SWARTZ, The Noted Aerist

THREE BRASS BANDS WILL FURNISH MUSIC

Ball Game, Tournament, all kinds of Races, Moving Picture Show all day, Fire Drill and Water-Works Demonstration.

DINNER FOR THE OLD SOLDIERS

Everybody bring a well-filled basket. Convenient Schedules and Reduced Rates on all Railroads. Something doing all the time.

A Speaker of State-Wide Reputation

Come! Come! and see Lenoir Hump!

sing. We pay special attention to sanitary conditions in the school. When other schools were closing on account of scarlet fever, our physicians said that the graded school was the safest place in the town for children. A physics laboratory has been installed and the pupils are required to perform some practical experiments. It has been decided to spend fifty or sixty dollars each year for apparatus for the Science Department. New maps and globes have been purchased for the entire school. Every grade above the third is provided with a set of the latest maps. Each set consists of eight maps on spring rollers in an oak cabinet. Thus, little by little, the Board is adding to the equipment of the school, thereby multiplying the facilities for better work.

HOW THE ROOMS AND GROUNDS ARE BEAUTIFIED.

The pupils take special pride in keeping neat rooms and clean grounds. Concrete walks have been laid in front of the building. At present there is much good natured rivalry over the adornment of the special rooms. Portraits of eminent North Carolinians are the latest purchase and the pupils take delight in studying the lives of these men. Some good pictures have been secured through the Horace K. Turner Art Exhibit. The Vance Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy has donated to the school portraits of Robert E. Lee and Jefferson Davis, and has also offered a prize for the best essays on the life of Davis by any pupil in the High School.

FINE PROFESSIONAL SPIRIT.

The faculty keeps in close touch

with the general progress of the school by meeting regularly in teachers' meetings. They meet once per month in sections, at which meetings the progress and standing of the pupils individually are discussed; complex problems are presented for discussion and solution and new plans are outlined. They meet three times a month for study. The text used for study this year is "Jame's Talks to Teachers on Psychology and to Students on some of Life's Ideals." The meetings last one hour.

The teachers are enthusiastic and heartily cooperate in promoting the best interest of the school. They are untiring in energy, faithful in their devotion to duty and realize that no teacher who is not a student is worthy the name. Many of them attended summer schools last year at Knoxville and Charlottesville in order to better equip themselves for work and were greatly benefitted.

PARADE AND FIRE DRILL.

At the request of the business men, a parade was recently given by the school. The children were arranged two abreast according to size, the smaller grades in front and all marching to the beat of the drum. On the return of the children to the building, a fire drill was given, showing how easily, quickly and safely the school can make its escape when the fire alarm is sounded. The parade and fire drill were witnessed by many spectators, and were not only a success but won friends for the school.

THE MINISTERS AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES INTERESTED.

But by far the best feature in

this school is the stand it has taken for Christian manhood and womanhood. The ministers of the various churches are in the closest sympathy with the school, and act as chaplains in the opening exercises. The teachers are all active Christians, working as those who must give account for the souls in their charge.

The school owes its growth and success in a large measure to its efficient Board of Trustees. The Board is composed of some of our best and most substantial citizens who are alive to the needs of a modern school and willingly give their time, thought and energy to the best interest of the school. These men believe in educating the masses and spare no means in trying to reach and help all alike.

Propose a Big Negro Colony in Missouri.

St. Louis Dispatch. A \$1,500,000 corporation, with the colonization of 200,000 negroes in southeast Missouri as its object, has been organized in St. Louis after 10 years of effort by E. B. Hale, a negro of St. Louis county.

It is Hale's plan to build homes for the negroes on 37,000 acres of land in Carter and Butler counties, on which his company has an option. The company will be conducted on the co-operative basis. All supplies for the community will be handled by the company and all produce will be sold through it. A part of the land will be examined, with the view of sinking iron and lead mines. No white man will be permitted to live on the property.



A Splendid Selection of Base Ball Supplies for the Grand 3rd Celebration.

In fact you will find here everything necessary to the full enjoyment of the game.

Base ball bats, catchers gloves, masks, shoes, protectors and suits. The goods are of all grades—we have them for every need and priced to meet every ones requirements. Let us supply your needs in this line. We can do so most satisfactorily and economically.

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" 4L " " "	3 00
" DR Catcher's " "	3 00
" 30 " " "	4 00
" 40 " " "	7 00
" 5F Fielder's " "	2 50
" 03 " " Gloves	2 50
" 01 " " "	3 00
" Balls and Bats, any price.	

Official Guides, each..... 10



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you have got to have a good foundation if you want the house to stand. The same way with harness.

We figure leather is the foundation—and we use the best we can make.

We also figure that workmanship is the first story, trimmings the second story and style the third story.

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HAND-MADE

Grain Cradles

ARE THE RIGHT KIND TO BUY.

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