

The Lenoir News.

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A STORY OF MODERN SISYPHUS

Timely and Interesting Article on Child Labor by Mr. W. H. Swift.

In the Survey of October 11, 1913, page 48, there is a picture drawn by Herbert Johnson, copyrighted by The Life Publishing Company, which I wish that every person in our State could see. It is the old story of Sisyphus, roll up the hill a great stone. In this picture the stone is an enormous bag of money, and across the face of it is written dividends. Sisyphus is a small boy with spindling legs, and across his back is marked Child Labor.

As I looked at this picture and then looked at it again until it began to grow upon me, it came to me that we had in our modern life, almost an exact repetition of this ancient legend. In our own State it is little boys and girls with not half the strength of either men or women who day by day set their shoulders and strain their muscles, in order to roll up the hill this great bag of dividends. I think that it would be improper to have these children thus exert their strength against the stone on the incline, even if they should get their share of the dividends at the top, but they do not. Strain the arms, legs and back however much they may, all that they can expect for it is bare clothes and little food, and for ever that it must take the strain of the back and weakening of the muscles and the destruction of that which is best and most lovely in childhood.

The way is long, some how, as I looked at the boy straining himself to roll his load, I wanted to see him jump aside and let the great stone go rolling down the hill. One of the joys of a boy, is to roll rocks down hills. It is the business of men and women to push the load up the hill, and in no case should children be set to strain their young muscles against the load which men and women should carry. I cannot believe that that is a good state in which the young children must thus strain themselves, nor can I believe that that is the best business in which young children are thus called upon to contribute so much in rolling the stone.

Let us suppose that a farmer should set his children from the age of 12 and in some cases younger, pushing a heavily-loaded wagon up a steep hill, that he should get them at the job at 6 o'clock in the morning, that he should keep them pushing until 12 o'clock, that he should let them have an hour to get dinner, that he should strain them again at 1 o'clock, that he should keep them pushing, boys and girls, until 6 o'clock, that he should keep them through the spring summer, fall and winter, and year after year. What kind of standing do you think that that farmer would have in his own community, and what esteem would he be held by his own neighbors? Not high, I think.

And yet men and women of North Carolina, this is exactly what is being done in certain classes of business in our State. Childhood at work. Children as wage-earners and young boys and girls as tollers, and yet we say that our State is moving along well.

It is not moving along well. No farmer, who would do what

GOOD ROADS DAYS PROGRAM.

Interesting Letter Outlining Program for Good Roads Days, Nov. 5-6.

Dr. Joseph Hyde Pratt, North Carolina Geological Survey,

Chapel Hill, N. C.

My dear Dr. Pratt:

In response to the proclamation of Governor Craig that November 5th and 6th be observed throughout North Carolina as Good Roads Days, the University has outlined the following programme which I submit for criticism and suggestion:

1. Lectures.—Chapel talks. November 4th, the significance of the good roads days, Dr. Joseph Hyde Pratt. November 5th, road work in North Carolina, Prof. M. H. Stacy. November 5th, illustrated lecture, (night), road building, government expert.

2. Supervision.—Professors Stacy and Hickerson of the department of civil engineering will give their services and the services of five competent men from the higher classes in road engineering to take charge of groups of workers in Orange County under your plan of organization.

3. Publicity. The county clubs of the University will distribute such literature as you can furnish and will write articles for their home county papers on the subject of good roads, and the importance of this present effort.

4. Actual Road Work. Volunteers from the University community will be available in large numbers to work any given piece of road, if the survey find practical a plan for using them on the afternoons of November 5th and 6th.

We will appreciate any suggestions you may make supplementary to this programme.

The value of these two days will come not so much in the actual road constructed, though that will be great; but in driving home the fundamental idea, so difficult to hold steadily in mind, that our government is primarily a cooperative enterprise in constructive achievement. Every blow struck on our highways makes emphatic and personal this great idea.

The road is not merely an avenue of trade and community intercourse; it is a symbol of community strength and a test of our grasp of the meaning of Democracy.

Sincerely yours,
EDWARD K. GRAHAM,
Acting President.

A religious journal says that an African chief remained drunk for 15 years on liquor brought over by the same ships that brought the missionaries. This is what you can truly call a "soaking reign."

A condemned murderer in a Western jail was reading the Bible when the sheriff told him that his execution was postponed. He laid down the Bible and lit a cigar.

I have suggested above, would be considered as doing well, or as being a high type of man. The same rule should apply in the manufacturing industries of our country, as common sense appeals to our farmers. There is no need to work these children in North Carolina, and it ought to be stopped.

W. H. SWIFT.

WITH THE CORRESPONDENTS.

Items From Our Regular Correspondents and Neighboring County Papers.

DRACO NEWS.

The school at Bludoor commenced Monday with Mr. F. D. Laxton as principal.

Mr. C. O. Roberts of Ashe County, has returned home after a short visit with friends and relatives around Draco. He expects to move his family here before long and reside with us.

Mr. F. W. White and family of Downsville, spent Saturday and Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Roberts.

The extreme bad weather for the past few days has put the farmers behind with their work of sowing wheat and gathering corn. Very little wheat has been sown yet.

Monday was a very cold day, the wind blew snow and rain and some hail. It indicates that we are going to have some cold weather now soon and winter is approaching.

Lumber hauling around Draco is still on the boom, and it seems like times are getting better and the panic will soon be over.

Rev. S. M. Duncan will preach at Draco next Sunday at 11:00 o'clock.

Miss Rosa Keller and sister Miss Floy, returned home Monday from a short visit to friends and relatives on Kings Creek.

Hurray! for The News.

WESLEY.

GRANITE FALLS NEWS.

Mr. Hoke Lutz who has been so low with typhoid fever, died Sunday night and was buried in the cemetery here. The services being conducted by Rev. Price of the Lutheran church.

Mrs. Elizabeth McElroth an aged lady of this place, has been right sick.

Dick Cline the daddy of the good roads movement here, says he thinks the bonds will carry at the election December 2nd.

The meeting at the M. E. church seems to grow in interest.

Mr. Pink Kirby who was hurt by being run over by a wagon loaded with corn, is still not able to be out.

The piers for the steel bridge at Petra are being made.

Old Scratch.

Thompson-Griffin.

Mr. Fred Thompson and Miss Lucinda Griffin were married at the home of the bride's father, Mr. D. A. Griffin in Lenoir, Wednesday morning at 8 o'clock the interesting ceremony being performed by Rev. C. T. Squires pastor of the Presbyterian church, and was witnessed by a few friends and relatives.

Mr. Thompson is book-keeper for the Wilson Lumber & Milling Co., at Lenoir and has a host of friends here. The bride is one of Lenoir's most charming young ladies. The News joins their many friends in wishing them hearty congratulations.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson left immediately after the ceremony for the depot where they boarded the 6:45 train for Charlotte where they spent the day, leaving Wednesday night for the groom's home at Norwood, N. C. where they will spend their honeymoon.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL NEWS.

Items of Interest to The People of Lenoir and Caldwell County.

Court convenes in Lenoir on Monday, November 10th, for the disposition of the civil docket only.

Boost the movement for the working of the roads on November 5-6th in Lenoir and Caldwell County.

Mr. Chas. Williams of the Lenoir Topic left Wednesday for Raleigh where he will attend the state fair.

Bear in mind the sale at the Lenoir Drug Co., store this afternoon by the ladies of the Reformed church.

Lenoir is one of the best towns in Western North Carolina and as a business and trading point there is nothing that can hold a candle to it.

Tuesday was the coldest day we have had this fall and a slight snow fell that morning early. The weather all day was cold and chilly.

We call our readers attention of the announcement of the Autumn Coupon Sale Shuford & Abernethy are advertising in this issue of The News.

Mr. C. C. Powell who has been at Wilson for the past month or more arrived Tuesday to spend a few days with his relatives in and about Lenoir.

The Knights of Pythias Lodge of Lenoir will hold their first meeting in their new hall over Lenoir Feed Store, Tuesday night, Oct. 28th. Work in the 3rd degree and refreshments.

Lenoir merchants are enjoying their full share of the trade of this part of the country and they are deserving of it, for in no place of its size will be found such a large variety and as extensive lines of general high class merchandise as is carried by Lenoir merchants.

The News wishes to again thank those who have been sending and handing in news items. This is right, and we wish all our readers who are interested in seeing a live newspaper here to follow this example and send in everything in the way of news that will be of interest to any one.

Now is the time to begin the fall, winter and Christmas campaign of advertising. Our merchants should not delay this matter too long but put their goods before the people through the columns of The News, which reaches the buying public of Caldwell County fresh with news twice a week.

A subscriber writes and asks "How many hours does it take to make a week's work in a cotton mill." The writer is no lawyer but we have friends who are and they tell us that 60 hours constitute a week's work according to the laws of North Carolina. Making the average day's work of ten hours length.

There now seems to be the right kind of movement on foot to get the people together on the proposition to work the roads on the two days named by Governor Craig, Nov. 5-6th. We are glad to note that our leading men are taking the right view of this important subject and are going to give it their hearty support and encouragement in every respect.

PRIZES FOR FLOWER SHOW.

List of Prizes to be Awarded Best Display of Flowers and Other Articles

The Flower Show will be held in the Graded School Auditorium Saturday from 10:30 a. m. till 9:00 p. m. Flowers for exhibition received Friday afternoon. Those who donate bread, cakes, etc., are requested to bring them in early Saturday morning. It is hoped that everybody will come and help make it a success.

LIST OF PRIZES.

For the largest and handsomest collection of Chrysanthemums of different varieties, \$2.00 cash.

2nd best collection of Chrysanthemums, \$1.00 cash.

Best individual Yellow Chrysanthemums, \$1.00 cash.

Best individual Pink Chrysanthemums, \$1.00 cash.

Best individual White Chrysanthemums, half dozen rose plants.

Best of color other than named, \$1.00 cash.

Best collection of Dahlias, half dozen Rose Plants.

2nd Best collection of Dahlias, Lenoir News 6 months.

Best col. of Seedling Dahlias, \$1.00 cash.

Best Specimen Dahlia, 1 pair Scissors.

Best col. of Begonias, \$2. cash.

2nd best col. of Begonias, \$1. cash.

Best Specimen of Begonia, Chair.

Best col. of cut Roses, Vase.

Best individual Rose, 1 hat pin.

Best col. of Geraniums, handsome Cup and Saucer.

Best flowering Geranium Plant, Dish.

Best col. of Ferns, \$2.00 cash.

2nd best col. Ferns, \$1. cash.

Best Ostrich Plume Fern, 1 Jardiniers.

Best Boston Fern, 1 Tabouret.

Best Asparagus Fern, 1 chair.

Best Sprengerie Fern, \$1.00 cash.

Best Palm, \$1.00 cash.

Best decorative Plant other than Palm or Fern, \$1.00 cash.

Best collection flowers grown by girl under 15, Book.

Best col. flowers grown by boy under 15, Sweater.

Best col. of flowers by boy or girl, \$1.00.

Best bed of flowers given by Civic Dept., \$1.00.

Best loaf of light-bread, one Dish.

Best loaf of bread made by a girl under 16, 1 pair kid gloves.

Best pan roll, one Dish.

Best chocolate cake, one bottle each of Pickles and Olives.

Best layer Cake other than chocolate, handsome Sugar and Creamer.

Best loaf cake, one handsome Salad bowl.

Best tea-cakes, cookies or jumbles, 1 can White Cherries.

Most artistic arrangement cut flowers, Book.

Admission Fee; 10 cents for adults, 5 cents for children.

In renewing his subscription to The News a few days ago one of our valued readers stated that he could not do without the semi-weekly visits of The News. There are many who are expressing themselves that way and it is appreciated by the management of this paper which is doing all in its power to issue the best newspaper ever published in Caldwell County.

The phonograph would have more friends if it didn't tell everything that is told to it.

NEWS ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Interesting Reading Matter of Local and National Affairs in Condensed Form.

Wm. Sulzer, New York's impeached Governor, will enter the race for the General Assembly from his district and if elected will be a candidate for Speaker. What will be the outcome of this race is the question that is absorbing the politicians of New York at this time.

Mr. Lon R. Laws lost his White Steamer by fire in a garage at Anderson, S. C., last Friday morning, together with a splendid set of machinist tools and a complete touring equipment. The loss to Mr. Laws is estimated at about \$1600. Three men were burned to death and thirteen automobiles and a motorcycle were destroyed by the fire which started by a man pouring gasoline in a hot radiator by mistake instead of water. Mr. Laws' car was on its way from Florida and had stopped at Anderson to have some repairs made.—North Wilkesboro Hustler.

Augusta, Ga., Oct. 21.—The trial here of Thos. E. Watson charged with sending obscene matter through the mails, ended abruptly at noon today when Federal Judge Rufus E. Foster sustained the motion of the defense quashing the indictment against the Georgia editor. Immediately upon the announcement of the court's ruling there was a demonstration by the audience which Judge Foster permitted to pass unrebuked. In directing that the indictment be quashed Judge Foster said: "It appears in this indictment that the publications alleged to have been sent through the mails in violation of the law are extracts from a complete article. It is my opinion that the Government is required to plead the entire article and is not entitled to pick out a few paragraphs here and there and make them the basis of an indictment. If the Government were allowed to pursue such a course it would be possible to indict a person for sending a copy of the Bible through the mails."

Much has been said in the papers about the mysterious light which can be seen from certain points in Burke county—a light which rises from nowhere, so far as the natural eye can discern, is visible for a time and then passes out. It has been observed for years by many Burke people and finally so much interest was aroused that the government was importuned to send an expert to pass on the mystery. The expert appeared in Burke a few days ago but his research was not satisfactory. The Morganton Messenger says the expert—Mr. Starrette—arrived in Morganton with his mind made up that the mysterious light was the head light of a locomotive and refused to take the matter seriously. The Burke people think the phenomenon was not treated with the consideration which its importance demands and they are, as a result, somewhat in the state of mind of the Alexander county boy who found himself in the penitentiary—they are not pleased at all.—Statesville Landmark.

When a woman gets a good girl who is a good cook, how she hates the man who comes around courting her.