

**Our Schools And Teachers**

By James C. Elliott

When one becomes "One of our oldest citizens" he wants to give advice to the younger people but, five under 50 years of age care to hear him, so he has to hunt up the few retired "has-beens" for an attentive audience. Harrison Eskridge, Capt. Devaney Parker and Jeff Spurling, cripples, that can't get away; Dock Suttle, Anderson Nolan, Rufus Gardner, Jim Y. Herd, Tom Holland, Min Gold, Sidney Hamrick, Tome Goode, Millinson Sarant, Tom E. Elliott, Mr. Jarvis, Collis Jones, etc., these are the court square contingent when the sun shines and all is lovely, we look down in sympathy on the younger and less experienced ones. Clyde Hoey, Max Gardner, Sheriff Logan and the crop of younger lawyers. We recognize Charley Blanton and the Judges Webb as bright boys striving to reach our position of mature wisdom. When brother Irvin is with us he is a good listener while we discourse on the errors of the younger set. This explains our standpoint on schools. I taught first school 1868, fifteen four to 5 months terms to 1898. One teacher schools in one room houses. Have had 76 in attendance. Of course, like all other teachers I taught for the money in it. I got from \$20 to \$30 per month. That beat rabbit and bird hunting during the winter months and I prospered and did well by working on the farm seven or eight months. Teaching school was always a lay-man's job and rail splitters envied his easy money. Teachers sat in chairs to hear classes and when they wanted to whip a boy they threw the hickory at him and told him to bring it to them and never got up to whip him unless he was a large boy that might fight back. I never ordered a pupil to do anything that refused to obey. I never had need to strike a girl and if I should teach again I would never whip other people's children. If parents can not train their children to act decently at school such children should be put in a reformatory. It is too much to impose badly spoiled children on teachers. They should be sent back to parents for correction. Parents and teachers must work together for best results. Teachers are taught how to teach and parents need to be taught how to cooperate with the teacher. Teaching like all professions is filled with incompetents "many are called but few are chosen." Real good teachers are scarce, but if they are honest and earnest will do fairly well, none are perfect. Our old curriculum covered the three R's, Webster's blue-back speller and reader, costing 10 cents and Fowlers arithmetic costing

20 cents, would carry pupils to the 8th grade on a solid foundation, with some grammar and geography thrown in.

Now ten year old children are loaded down so heavily with 5 or 6 dollars worth of books, that they must be hauled to school and must have a teacher for every grade or two. It takes three or four teachers now to do the work one used to do. An 8 year old child could spell through Webster's and read the coarse print to 'Eolony' in a term of five months and that is as far as they get now in 20 months, then. Now every new school board requires a new line of text books. There is some improvement in primary grammar and geography text books. We hear of unruly large boys in some schools that should be in reformatories and not allowed to annoy the schools, but we hear of no such trouble in our township. Children must be taught to love books at home to make much progress in school. The idle careless ones make most trouble at school.

**Woodmen Start Big Drive For Members**

The recent camp, Modern Woodmen of America has opened up a membership drive for 100 new members. The camp was organized back in 1916 and while it has not grown in size it has grown more solid each day as the members appreciate more fully the great benefits that it is giving them. The World War and influenza gave the camp a set back in its activities and with no field representative to give them assistance the camp has remained the same in number.

The society is all-American in every particular. It is a very progressive society having more than a million members. It has led the fight against tuberculosis since 1907 and has furnished the nation with a living example of the possibilities of eradicating "the white plague." It has reduced the death in its own ranks from 1-3 to 1-10 since it started the fight. During these 41 years it has proven to be a great fraternity and has saved many homes, helped to educate thousands of children by the large sum of over \$308,000,000 paid to widows and orphans.

The degree work is all-American, practical, educational and full of activity. While it is quite serious at times it turns out to be very entertaining to both the members as well as the candidates. The lessons taught live with the members, helping them in business and bringing them closer to their fellows. It is practical in every particular and no man can pass through the great forest of modern Woodcraft without being benefited. During the next few days the society will show several reels of moving

pictures at the court house. These reels give the story of modern Woodcraft, giving the citizens of the city and county a movie visit to the world's greatest tuberculosis sanatorium at Woodmen, Colo. Several pictures will be run, the names of which will be advertised later.

One of the state lecturers will visit here during the next few days and lecture to the public on the society. Hon Charles U. Harris, of Raleigh, or Hon. M. L. Tremain, of Winston-Salem, will come and possibly both. The public will be urged to come out. Remember the lectures and pictures will be free to all and we want you to see them.

District Deputy T. I. Moore of Charlotte, is with us and will remain until the camp has been put in fine condition.

F. L. ELLIS, Camp Clerk.

**TOM DIXON VISITS CHARLOTTE AGAIN**

Tells of Trip From Shelby There in Wagon Years Ago. Talks of His "Blackhood."

Thomas W. Dixon, son, of North Carolina noted American playwright, author of "The Clansman," co-author of "The Birth of a Nation," and author of a new dramatized version of his own book "The Blackhood," believes he has performed his greatest public service as an American citizen and a loyal Southerner in writing "The Blackhood," says the Charlotte News.

He was in Charlotte Thursday on a business matter and visited his sister, Mrs. Della Dixon Carroll in Raleigh, Friday before going over to his lodge in Currituck county, where he spends at least a part of each year.

"The Blackhood," which has been the subject of lengthy reviews, will have a special appeal for Charlotteans because of the fact that most of its scenes are laid in Charlotte. "I, of course, still have a strong sentimental interest in Charlotte," Mr. Dixon said "as was shown by the fact that I staged the premier of my historical play, 'Robert E. Lee,' here and the fact that I have chosen this lovely city as the local for my latest play, 'The Blackhood.'"

To Charlotte in Wagon. "I will remember though it has been many years ago, my first vivid impressions of Charlotte when I came down from my home in Shelby with my father on a wagon. I had never seen a town larger than village of Shelby and I thought Charlotte was a magnificent and wonderful city. "Mr. Dixon's new play, 'The Black-

hood,' has been out in book form for some time and is attracting much attention, for one reason, because it is a preachment against the alleged menace of the Ku Klux Klan. The manuscript for the dramatized version was finished by Mr. Dixon only five days ago and is now in the hands of one of the leading theatrical producers in New York nearly ready for its presentation at a Broadway theater.

In explaining the attitude of his newest book as to the Ku Klux Klan, Mr. Dixon said that the volume was not inveighing against the original Klan, which was pictured in heroic role in "The Clansman" and "The Birth of a Nation," but was an arraignment of the present Klan as being opposed to the vital idea behind the American Constitution.

**Labor Situation.**

Raleigh.—Fair weather brought continued good results in the labor situation over the state during the week ended Saturday, October 11, and the federal-state employment service kept its placements for one week above the 700 mark for the fifth consecutive week, according to the compiled report of the branch offices made public by Commissioner of Labor and Printing M. L. Shipman, director of the service in North Carolina.

Up in Manoa valley we've listened in for Mars several nights, but from what we've heard we're inclined to think we got the Dog-Star.—Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

**COMMISSIONERS SALE.**

By virtue of a decree of the Superior court of Cleveland county made in Special Proceeding entitled, "Robert Newton et al., vs. Annie Newton, et al.," I, as commissioner, will sell at public auction to the highest bidder at the court house door in Shelby, N. C., on

Saturday, November, 1924, within legal hours the following described real estate situated in No. 11 township, Cleveland county, and being a part of the W. C. Newton land, adjoining the lands of Sallie Downs, James Self and others and bounded as follows:

Beginning on a stone in old road in James Self's line, thence with James Self's line south 85 1-2 east 70 poles to a stone in Sallie Downs' line, thence with her line north 33 West 168 1-4 poles to a stone, corner of G. W. Peeler and Ryburn & Hoey (now Newton), thence with Ryburn & Hoey (now Newton) line south 8 1-2 east 138 poles to the beginning, containing 93 1-4 acres. Bidding will begin at \$1,811.25.

Terms of sale: One-third cash on day of sale; balance on January 1st, 1925, possession given when last payment is made; rents for the year 1924 reserved. This October 23rd 1924. CLYDE R. HOEY, Commissioner.

**CONDENSED STATEMENT OF UNION TRUST COMPANY**

OF SHELBY

Including Branch Offices at Lattimore, Lawndale and Fallston at the close of business October 10, 1924.

RESOURCES OVER ONE MILLION DOLLARS

RESOURCES		LIABILITIES	
Loans and Discounts	\$ 821,652.94	Capital	\$ 100,000.00
Overdrafts	1,939.74	Surplus	25,000.00
Real Estate	5,500.00	Undivided Profits	8,031.93
Furniture and Fixtures	6,500.00	Reserved for Interest and Taxes	13,309.05
Stocks and Bonds	37,500.00	Notes and Bills Rediscounted	101,905.20
Cash on Hand and Due From Other Banks	150,716.45	Deposits	775,588.95
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,023,815.13</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,023,815.13</b>

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