

MRS. BORDERS, AGE 94, TELLS OF LIFE AND LIVING YEARS AGO

Mrs. Jane Whisnant Borders, although a native of York county, S. C., has a number of relatives in Cleveland county. This venerable lady, now living in Waxahachie, Texas has given her newspaper there an interview which is interesting because it bears on the early life and customs of the people of this section years ago.

Often we read in the Daily Light something about our newest citizen, but these paragraphs are reminiscences of a woman who has lived nearly a century and noted many changes in modes of living, industry, transportation, and inventions of many kinds. Waxahachie's oldest citizen, who recently reached her 94th birthday says she can hardly believe that as many changes can occur in the next century, as have been made in the past hundred years.

Tells of Civil War
Mrs. Jane Whisnant Borders was born in Yorkville, South Carolina, April 17, 1832. Her early life was that of the average girl of her time and lived on a large plantation, and her father was master of many slaves. In 1854 she married Henderson Borders and was given two negro girls as a wedding gift from her father. One of these slaves was trained for a cook and servant, while the other was trained to work in the fields. These slaves were then valued at from \$1,500 to \$2,000 apiece. At the outbreak of the Civil War her husband entered the army along with all the men of the neighborhood, leaving Mrs. Borders with two small children and the slaves to take care of and run the plantation. Almost overnight their life was changed from one of leisure into one of drudgery. The white women worked in the fields beside slaves in daytime and at night picked the seed from the cotton in order to spin and weave cloth for themselves and loved ones.

Clothes Scarce
During the war not a yard of calico could be bought and in order to have colored dresses, they bought indigo and turkey red and hunted green bark of the tree in the woods, and got a copper color or brown from sumac. They would use these colors to dye the thread and then place the different colors in the shuttle to make the striped material. Candles were used for sewing but to spin and weave they had to use pine torches. These torches were not like the torches used by the railroads but were rich pieces of pine which were thrown in the fire place and would illuminate the room with a very bright light.

Was a "Spinner"
The task of each girl was to weave a yard a day. These misses of olden days had to weave four widths of cloth for each petticoat, and several of these were worn. Mrs. Borders don't think the modern young woman would have such a task to weave her own clothes as only one width is required for a dress and petticoats are apparently out of the question these days. During the Civil War period and Reconstruction days food became very scarce at times. For months rye and wheat were boiled as a substitute for coffee. When soda could not be had, the ashes of burnt cobs were used. So we find that cobs are useful for something beside making pipes. For several months the only salt available was the salt procured by digging up the dirt under the smoke houses where meat had been salted down, and boiling it until enough salt was on hand to season the food. The supply of bread depended upon the grain of course and one time during the war Mrs. Borders could not get her grain cut when it was ripe. Unable to cut it herself Mrs. Borders had reconciled herself to losing her meagre crop of grain. A negro man who chanced to pass, offered to cut it if she would let him harvest it on Sunday. Mrs. Borders was of the opinion that the Lord would not consider it breaking the Sabbath day as it meant bread for her family. Mrs. Borders said that was the only time she ever hired labor done on the Sabbath. Her husband was captured and remained in a Northern prison camp for six months, escaped and was wounded, returning home for a short time, but soon went back into the service the last year of the war. Mrs. Borders knew every anxiety a woman can know during these trying days.

Move To Texas
After the war was over—everything gone—Mrs. Borders and her husband moved to Arkansas. In 1878 they came to Texas, settling in Ellis county. Mrs. Borders still owns her farm near Boyce. The happiest years of her life was spent in rearing her children and she isn't a believer in the divorce court either. For when her husband Mr. Borders died Oct. 15, 1923, at the age of 90, he and Mrs. Borders had been married 63 years and three days—or almost three score and ten years that are allotted to each of us. On speaking of her husband, Mrs. Borders said he was a good husband, good father, a good citizen and a Christian gentleman. She is the mother of seven children, three of whom are living. She has thirteen grandchildren and seventeen great grandchildren—all of whom were present to celebrate her birthday

last April, except one grand child and two great grandchildren. There have been two other memorable days in Mrs. Borders' calendar this year. One was in May when she received a beautiful bouquet of white roses to the oldest person in attendance at the "Old Peoples' Service." The other was in June when her grandson, Tom Borders received his bachelor's degree from Trinity university and she attended the exercises.

Is Church Member
Mrs. Borders has been a member of the Presbyterian church for more than 80 years and recalls the time when there was a partition dividing the negroes from the white people. At the present time she is a member of the Central Presbyterian church of Waxahachie, and is still able to attend services quite frequently.

Tells of Invention
"Grandma" as Mrs. Borders is affectionately known by her family and friends, is enjoying good health, sleeps upstairs and enjoys visiting her children and grandchildren. When asked what she considered the most marvelous inventions during her lifetime, she said that she considered the telephone, electricity and the radio the most wonderful. Mrs. Borders is able to keep up with the times as she is still able to read the newspapers.

Votes At Ninety
Mrs. Borders exercised the right of franchise (given to the women by the Nineteenth Amendment) for the first time after she was more than 90 years of age. She recalls the time when all the cooking was done over an open fireplace and she was married before she ever cooked on a stove, and this was an oil stove. She now enjoys the use of gas, though she has never cooked with electricity she said.

Mode Of Travel
Means of travel have changed several times in 94 years, Mrs. Borders said. First there was horseback and the ox-cart, then the stage coach, then came the steam engine and train and later the electric interurban, automobile and airplane. One of the red letter days in Mrs. Borders' courtship was when she rode thirty miles on horseback in company with her sweetheart to see the first train. She enjoys riding in an automobile but says she never cared to try the airplane, as she doesn't want to leave the ground so far behind.

Early Life on Farm
Most of Mrs. Borders' life has been spent either on the plantation or farm, and that is where she can remember so many changes which have occurred. When but a small girl she picked seed from the cotton and spun and wove cloth to clothe the entire family and slaves. She has seen many improvements made in the method of ginning cotton. First the machinery was small and run by a single man. Then two horses were required to operate the cotton gin and a few weeks ago Mrs. Borders had her first bale of cotton of the 1926 season ginned by modern machinery.

The grain was first cut by a hand cradle and threshed by pounding it. Then came binders and threshers. Mrs. Borders' father owned one of the first threshers manufactured and it was drawn by a team of horses and the grain was threshed by the horses turning the machinery in a circle. It was a great pleasure for Mrs. Borders when but a wisp of a girl twelve years of age to go with her father as he allowed her to sit and drive the horses.

Has Seen Four Wars
Mrs. Borders has lived through a period of time in which her country was engaged in war four times—the Mexican war of 1848; the Civil War of 1861-65; the Spanish-American war of 1898; and the Great World War of 1917-1918.

The best way to cooperate in the beautification of Shelby is to see how much you can improve the appearance of your own yard. The average sweet young thing understands what the average young man means when the average young man doesn't say a thing.

TRUSTEE'S SALE.
By virtue of the power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust by B. F. Curtis and wife to me as trustee on December 20th, 1923, payment of the same having been assumed by V. C. Peeler and the said V. C. Peeler having defaulted in the payment and requesting the execution of this trust, I, as trustee, will sell for cash to the highest bidder at the court house door in the town of Shelby, N. C., at public auction on

Saturday, February 26th, 1927, within legal hours the following described real estate:
Situated in Cleveland county, N. C., and known as Lot No. 17, as shown on the plat of the B. F. Curtis property, made by A. M. Lovelace, Surveyor, in June 1923, and filed in Book One of Plats, page 57, of the Register's office of Cleveland county, N. C., to which reference is made for full identification and description of said lot, said lot being on the west side of Parkview street and fronting 50 feet on said street, said lot situated in the southeastern part of the town of Shelby, N. C.
This January 24th, 1927.
CLYDE R. HOEY, Trustee.

- AT THE MOVIES -

"Wings of the Storm," introducing "Thunder" the new dog star is the feature offering today at the Princess. In this picture the dog is said to give the most remarkable canine performance ever seen on the screen. He takes the feature role, it is the story of a dog's life, set against the sunbeams and awe inspiring background of the Mt. Rainier country.

Tomorrow (Tuesday) brings Bessie Love in the Big John Golden hit—"Going Crooked." This feature is under the auspices of the Shelby Fire department. Show your appreciation of the Shelby fire fighters by turning out to see this film. The splendid screen personality of Bessie Love will repay you for your loyalty to the firemen.

"One Increasing Purpose" is due Thursday. This is a dramatization of the Hutchinson novel of the same name. The film made from the former novel by this Englishman developed one of the very best pictures ever seen on the screen—"If Winter Comes." "One Increasing Purpose" is being heavily advertised as the equal of the former story.

Another big one is on at the Webb theatre today—Corinne Griffith in "The Lady in Ermine." This is a big spectacular film—fine clothes, fine settings, a story that gives this celebrated star "room" for the sway of her personality.

That is one of several big pictures coming to the Webb this week. Friday sees Con Errol stepping the light fantastic on the Webb screen—in "The Lunatic at Large." If you enjoy comedy, this is the best that is offered. Errol has been seen here several times, and has pleased big audiences. He was introduced on the Shelby screen in "Sally" with Cullen Moore. Then he came in "Clothes Make the Pirate" a screen of a comedy. Sometime during the week James Oliver Curwood's north woods story—"Prisoners of the Storm"—with House Peters is due. This is a delightful romance of the far North country, played by a star who fully understands the atmosphere of Curwood's narratives.

Architecture in Ideals

Just as the great cathedrals in Europe, unsurpassed in beauty, were erected by architects and workmen who believed in what churches stood for, who worked under the influence of the religious spirit, and who were not mercenary, so we, too, have leaders and workers who believe deeply enough in what education stands for, who are imbued with the true educational spirit, and who will not be mercenary.

Teaching is an art and not the least difficult or the least noble. If everybody trying to find a form for an idea is an artist, then the teachers is an artist. As such he must find the beauty of his art, for there is beauty in teaching art as there is in painting, sculpture and music.—Dr. Gustave Straubemiller, Assn. Supt., New York City.

Uncertainties of Education
No one can look at a young child and predict its future with the accuracy of the botanist who looks at the seed and forthwith tells the size, shape, color of the flower, and flavor of the fruit months hence. The zoologist examines an egg and outlines the life history of the animal it will produce. Psychologists and doctors have not yet learned to preview the future of the human infant with such precision; they are far from being able to tell a Lincoln, a Burbank, a Whitman, an Edison at birth.

The average pedestrian has dodged about 29 speeding cars so far in 1927.
Beauty specialists may worry about hobs but the sweet young thing loves her Bob.

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HOEY-WEBB CONTESTS SET FOR JANUARY 28TH - FEBRUARY 4TH

Rules And Regulations Governing County Wide Oratorical, Essay and Recitation Contests

High school principals of the county, at a meeting held some weeks ago in Shelby, set dates and arranged other important details relative to Hoey-Webb contests which have for many years been outstanding events in the county. The Hoey oratorical contest, according to announcement, will be held at the high school auditorium in Shelby on Friday night, January 28th. The Selma C. Webb essay and recitation contests will be held at the same place, one week later, February 4th.

For some years both the Hoey and Webb contests were held jointly in one evening. But the lengthy programs which resulted from many entries in all contests brought about the present arrangement whereby the contests are held on separate dates. Both contests are witnessed by overflowing crowds at the high school auditorium each year.

Hoey Contest
The Hoey contest instituted some fifteen or sixteen years ago by Attorney C. R. Hoey, of Shelby, has been a great incentive to oratorical endeavor on the part of high school students of the county. Some prominent citizens of the county have been winners of the medal. J. P. Mull, Judge of Recorders court won the medal in the first contest. Attorney Peyton McSwain also won the medal at a later contest. The medal was won last year by Charles D. Forney, Jr. of Piedmont high school.

Webb Recitation Contest
The Webb recitation contest, inaugurated a few years later than the Hoey oratorical contest has been to high school girls what the Hoey contest is to boys. The number of schools participating in this contest is annually on the increase. Miss Selma C. Webb, of the Shelby city schools, each year offers a gold medal to the winner. Miss Evelyn Huggins, of the Boiling Springs high school, won the medal last year.

The rules for this contest are as follows:
1. Length of recitation not to exceed ten minutes.
2. One contestant from each school.
3. Names of contestants to be forwarded to the county superintendent by Monday, January 31st.
4. Prize: A gold medal offered by Miss Selma C. Webb.
5. Date: Friday, February 4th, 1927, 8:00 p. m.

Webb Essay Contest
For years Miss Selma C. Webb in addition to sponsoring a recitation contest has also offered a medal to the winner in a county wide essay contest. While only boys are eligible to contest in the Hoey oratorical contest, and only girls to participate in the Webb recitation contest, both boys and girls may enter the essay contest. During recent years scores of boys and girls representing various high schools of the county have submitted essays for the contests. The winners are announced Friday night, February 4th at the conclusion of the recitation contest.

Rules for the Essay Contest:
1. Essay to be original composition by contestant.
2. Length not to exceed 1,000 words.
3. Each school may not submit more than three essays.
4. Names of schools and names of contestants must not appear on essay but should be attached to the essay in a sealed envelope.
5. Essays should be submitted to the county superintendent not later than Friday, January 28th.
6. Prize: A gold medal offered by Miss Selma C. Webb.
Present indications are that the three contests will have a record number of entries this year. Schools not heretofore entering contests have indicated a desire to compete this year.

Going to church next Sunday will be an excellent way to spend the morning.
Even Moscow smiles at the story that their propaganda is so scary to Uncle Sam.
The average citizen will be surprised to know that large universities have natators.
Advertisers are urged to line up their February campaigns before all our space is sold.
Europe has an influenza plague again. Let's hope that we are not visited by this immigrant.
The Japanese Foreign Minister says he and his country are for peace. Well, we are ready to let them have it.

Oh God, Grant Us Understanding

The work of the world is to get things done. What the most capable individual alone can do is so little the cooperative effort is the only way to get the world's big jobs done. To work in proper cooperation is good citizenship. It is the best citizenship.

To make good citizens is the job of the schools. It is the most important job the county has to do. When this job is well done every other task will, in time, be successfully accomplished.

Now the most difficult achievement in the world is to hold a mass of people to a given idea long enough to get it materialized. Human nature always tends to gravitate to its lowest levels. It dissipates, uselessly, the most precious energy in the world. The task of big executives is to do to the human nature under them, what our conditions do to natural forces; that is, to hold the precious human nature under sufficient pressure long enough, to make it deliver enough force at the desired point, to accomplish a given work.

As the steam, gas, air, water or electricity that is conveyed in conduits will always escape from leaks with destructive waste, proportionate to its pressure, so it is with our human nature, the greatest force in the world.

Now understanding would be the greatest conservator of the most precious asset that we have. Ever since the first builders' strike, that followed the confuser of tongues at the Tower of Babel lack of understanding has destroyed almost as fast as we could create.

There has been a constant race between them, until our great country reached its present rate of production that often more was destroyed than we created in any given period.

War is result of lack of understanding. All other destruction comes from the same lack. So that understanding is the most precious gift that humanity could receive.

Love, without understanding, is more cruel and destructive than hate. Love, with understanding, raises human nature to its nearest approach to the Divine nature.

What is understood is always loved, if the understanding is perfect enough. Understanding would show us that disappointments are only preparations, if properly accepted.

It would show us that grief is life's tempering process, that does to our imperfect human nature, what our machine shop processes do to raw materials, when tools are made.

Now the heading of this article is a universal prayer that every human being can wholeheartedly offer, without reservations.

If we could open every class, every day, with this prayer, the concentrated attention of our future citizens, on the most valuable gift that could come to humanity, would in due time, make the gift materialize.

Therefore, it is proposed that every board of education:

1. Erect a bronze tablet carrying this prayer, over the chair of its president, where it will always be plain in sight, and that it open every session by reciting it aloud.
2. That similar bronze tablet be placed over the teacher's desk in every classroom in every school of our great country.

3. That at the opening of classes, at the same identical time, each day, the above prayer be recited aloud in union, so that as nearly as human arrangement will permit, the entire school organization of the country would recite it in union.

Words have dynamic power. Thought is the greatest dynamic force in the world, if it is sufficiently united and harmonious.

With our army of school children, getting into daily step, to the measured cadence of this prayer, it would be a very short time, as time goes, until we had the whole human race marching in step in its ceaseless journey from God, to God.

Oh God, grant us understanding.—J. M. ROBB, from School Board Journal.

It is a slow day that has no auto accidents.

Earl Carroll will probably bathe under the showers now.

Many politicians can tell you who put the "lit" in politics.

It begins to look like there are at least two senators too many. By the by, what the latest news from Fochow and Hankow?

Anybody can borrow money but it takes a man to lend it. Baseball has now introduced the Soandal League to the public. The sweet young things, in frank day and time, practice such frank revelations.

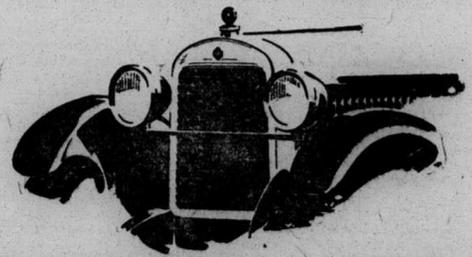


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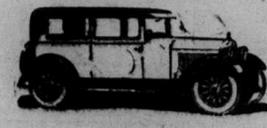
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