

Prizes to Be Given for School Improvement

To the patrons and trustees of the rural schools of Chesterfield county:

Through the support of the State Department of Education the South Carolina School Improvement Association is able to offer \$1250.00 in prizes to be awarded in 1914. This amount has been divided into 40 prizes and will be given to the schools in the State showing the greatest improvement during the given length of time. There will be ten first prizes of fifty dollars each and thirty second prizes of twenty-five dollars each. Regulations concerning the award of these prizes are as follows:

1. Improvements must be made between October 1st, 1913 and Dec. 1st, 1914.

2. Only rural schools can compete for these prizes. Districts barred by the State High School Act or the Rural Graded School Act are ineligible to enter the competition.

3. Prizes will be awarded by the State Executive Committee of the State School Improvement Association immediately after the entries close.

4. All applications must be sent through your county superintendent or rural school supervisor.

5. Prizes will be awarded in checks sent from the office of the State Superintendent of Education. The money will be deposited to the credit of the district in which the prize-winning school is located. This money must be used for the further improvement of the school.

6. All reports must be made on the printed blanks sent by the Association.

7. In making application for a prize, the Clean-Up Day Score Card, a brief description, a photograph, and any evidence of improvements should accompany the regular prize score card.

Now is the time for patrons and trustees to begin to interest themselves in competing for these cash prizes. Let us have a good number of applications from Chesterfield Co., and better still, let us claim some of the prizes. For any further information drop me a card and I will be glad to help you in any way I can.

Respectfully yours,
Alexina W. Evans
Cheraw, S. C.

Rural School Supervisor of Chesterfield Co.

Walt Mason On Flies

The early fly's the one to swat. It comes before the weather's hot, and sits around and files its legs, and lays at least ten million eggs, and every egg will bring a fly to drive us crazy by and by. Oh, every fly that skips our swatters will have five million sons and daughters, and countless first and second cousins, and aunts and uncles, scores of dozens and fifty-seven billion nieces; so knock the blamed thing all to pieces. And every niece and every aunt,—unless we swat them so they can't—will lay enough dodged eggs to fill up ten five gallon kegs, and all these eggs, ere summer hies, will bring forth twenty trillion flies. And thus it goes, an endless chain, so all our swatting is in vain, unless we do that swatting soon, in Maytime and in early June. So men and brothers, let us rise, gird up our loins and swat the flies! And sisters, leave your cozy bowers, where you have wasted golden hour; with ardor in your souls and eyes, roll up your sleeves and swat the flies.—Walt Mason.

Demented Woman Jumped in Well

Monroe Journal

Early this morning when some one went to the well at the county home they heard the sound of a human voice coming therefrom, and investigation quickly showed that a woman was in the well. It was Mrs. Jane Deese, who had been retained in the asylum at the home for about a month waiting for entrance to the State Hospital. Mr. Stewart, the keeper of the home, had come to town but was soon reached by telephone and told that some one was in the well. He ran to the Hardware store, got some ropes, and with Messrs. Frank Williams and J. V. Griffith, quickly got to the home. Cleve Hurt was let down into the well and fastened the ropes about the body of the woman and she was soon drawn out. She was cold and some of the hair had been knocked off the head, but there was no serious injury. How she got in the well or how long she had been there cannot be told. She has not been dangerous and on account of the intense heat had been given the privilege of the hall, and some time last night prized open a window and got out. The well was curbed up tightly with a hole only large enough for the bucket to pass through. How the woman succeeded in working herself thru this small hole into the well is a mystery. But she did, for the curb was not at all disturbed. Neither could it be guessed whether she went in head first or feet first. When found she was standing with her feet braced against the sides of the well thus saving herself from drowning.

Water With Meals

Tests on a poison squad have recently shown that the common belief that drinking much water at mealtimes tends to make one fat is apparently without foundation. Students were given carefully controlled diets for fixed periods, and every drop of water and ounce of food was carefully measured and recorded. After a preliminary period they were required to drink water copiously at every meal; and then followed another period during which they had little or nothing to drink with their meals.

The compared results showed that in some instances there was a very slight increase in the utilization of fat in the food during the water-drinking period; but this was about balanced by negative results in other cases, so that the final conclusion was that the amount of fat and carbohydrates utilized by the body from food eaten was apparently uninfluenced by the amount of water taken at mealtimes.

"Daughter" said the father, "your young man Rowlingi, stays until a very late hour. Has not your mother said something to you about this habit of his?" "Yes, Father," replied the daughter sweetly. "Mother says men haven't altered a bit."—Ex.

Tommy came out of a room in which his father was tacking down a carpet. He was crying lustily.

"Why, Tommy, what's the matter?" asked his mother.

"P-p-p-papa hit his finger with the hammer," sobbed Tommy.

"Well, you needn't cry at a thing like that" comforted the mother.

"Why didn't you laugh?"

"I did," sobbed Tommy, disconsolately.—Ex.

Dates For Campaign Meetings.

The itineraries of the state and senatorial candidates have been announced. The candidates for state offices will make their initial bow at Sumter June 17 and make their last pleas at Greenville August 20.

The senatorial aspirants will speak to the voters at St. Matthews on June 17 and close their campaign at Sumter August 20.

The engagements arranged by the state Democratic executive committee follows:

- Sumter, Wednesday, June 17.
- Manning, Thursday, June 18.
- Monck's Corner, Friday June 19.
- Georgetown, Saturday, June 20.
- Kingstree, Tuesday, June 23.
- Florence, Wednesday, June 24.
- Marion, Thursday, June 25.
- Conway, Friday, June 26.
- Dillion, Saturday, June 27.
- Darlington, Monday, June 29.
- Bishopville, Tuesday, June 30.
- Bennettsville, Wednesday July 1.
- Chesterfield, Thursday, July 2.
- Camden, Friday, July 3.
- Columbia, Saturday, July 4.
- Lexington, Thursday, July 9.
- Saluda, Friday, July 10.
- Edgefield, Saturday, July 11.
- Aiken, Tuesday, July 14.
- Bamberg, Wednesday, July 15.
- Barnwell, Thursday, July 16.
- Hampton, Friday, July 17.
- Beaufort, Saturday, July 18.
- Ridgeland, Wednesday, July 22.
- Walterboro, Thursday, July 23.
- Charleston, Friday, July 24.
- St. George, Tuesday, July 28.
- Orangeburg, Wednesday, July 29.
- St. Matthews, Thursday July 30.
- Winnsboro, Monday, August 3.
- Chester, Tuesday, August 4.
- Lancaster, Wednesday, August 5.
- Yorkville, Thursday, August 6.
- Gaffney, Friday, August 7.
- Spartanburg, Saturday, August 8.
- Union, Tuesday, August 11.
- Newberry Wednesday August 12.
- Laurens, Thursday, August 13.
- Greenwood, Friday, August 14.
- Abbeville, Saturday, August 15.
- Anderson, Monday, August 17.
- Walhalla, Tuesday, August 18.
- Pickens, Wednesday, August 19.
- Greenville, Thursday, August 20.

Following is the itinerary for the senatorial campaign:

- St. Matthews Wednesday June 17
- Orangeburg, Thursday, June 18.
- St. George, Friday, June 19.
- Charleston, Saturday, June 20.
- Walterboro, Monday, June 22.
- Beaufort, Tuesday, June 23.
- Ridgeland, Wednesday, June 24.
- Hampton, Thursday, June 25.
- Barnwell, Friday, June 26.
- Bamberg, Saturday, June 27.
- Winnsboro, Monday, June 29.
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- Marion, Thursday, August 13.
- Conway, Friday, August 14.
- Kingstree, Saturday, August 15.
- Georgetown, Monday August 17.
- Moncks Corner Tuesday Aug. 18
- Manning, Wednesday, Aug. 19.
- Sumter, Thursday, August 20.

NEARLY 1,000 DROWNED

Huge Ship Sinks in St. Lawrence River—Many Lives are Lost

Rimousk, Quebec, May 29.—Of a total of 1,387 persons on board the Canadian Pacific liner Empress of Ireland when she sailed yesterday from Quebec for Liverpool, 954 were lost when the liner was rammed by the Danish collier Storstad and sank 15 minutes later off Father Point in the St. Lawrence river before daylight today, according to revised figures late tonight. Only 433 are known to have been saved.

Of the 87 first cabin passengers the late figures show 29 to have been saved. Of the 153 in the second cabin 20 were rescued; of the 715 third class passengers there were 101 survivors, while 237 of the crew of 432 were brought ashore.

These figures account for the 396 survivors landed here and taken by train to Quebec, where they arrived tonight. There remained here 37 rescued persons, unclassified, completing the total of 433 known survivors.

About 300 bodies of dead from the Empress of Ireland lie tonight in the shed at the wharf here. Some have been identified and claimed. One of the bodies is that of a woman, a child tightly clasped in her arms.

Looming up through the river mist, as the Empress of Ireland was lying to, waiting for the fog to lift or day to break, the Danish collier Storstad crashed down on into the side of the big Canadian liner, striking her about 100 feet of her length and 10 feet of her beam.

The crash occurred not far from the shore off Father Point, 10 miles from Quebec, which the Empress of Ireland left at 11:30 afternoon bound for Liverpool and ten miles from the point on the St. Lawrence. The collier, therefore, although the liner was heading for the sea, and the disaster was not one of the ocean but of the river. Unlike the Titanic's victims, the Empress of Ireland's lost their lives within sight of shore—in landlocked waters.

Immediately the ship's crew recovered from the shock of the collision and it was seen that the liner had received a vital blow a wireless "S. O. S." call was sounded.

The hurried appeal was picked up by the government mail tender Lady Evelyn here and the government pilot boat Eureka at Father point, and both sent out to the rescue. So deep was the hurt of the Empress, however, and so fast the inrush of waters, that long before either of the rescue boats could reach the scene the liner had gone down. Only floating wreckage and a few lifeboats and rafts from the steamer, buoying up less than a third of those who had set sail on her, were to be found. The rest had sunk with the liner, had been forced from exposure in the ice chilled waters to lose their hold on bits of wreckage and had drowned.

Only a few persons were picked up by the Storstad, which was badly crippled herself, and these were brought here by the Collier together with those saved by the Eureka and Lady Evelyn. Twenty-two of the rescued died from injuries or exposure. The others, most of whom had jumped into the boats or plunged into the water from the sinking liner scantily clad, were given such clothing as the town could supply, and later those that could travel were placed on board a train and started for Quebec, where they arrived tonight.

Accounts agree that in the brief space of time—not more than 14 minutes—between the shock of the collision and the sinking of the liner, there was little chance for systematic marshalling of the passengers. Everything indicates that hundreds probably never reached the decks. Few women were among the saved, not more than a dozen the lists make it appear.

"The stewards did not have time to rouse the people from their berths," one survivor told Capt. Bollinger of the rescue ship Eureka. Those who heard the frenzied calls of the officers for passengers to hurry on deck and rushed up piled into the boats, which were rapidly lowered and rowed away. Many who waited to dress were drowned.

The horror of the interval during the time the Empress was rapidly filling and the frightened throngs on board her were hurrying every effort to escape before she sank was added to by an explosion which quickly followed the collision. According to one of the rescued, the explosion, probably caused by the water reaching the boilers, bulged the liner's sides and catapulted persons from her decks out into the sea.

The ship's heavy list as water poured in made the work of launching boats increasingly difficult and when she sank scores still left on her decks were carried down, only a few being able to clear her sides and find support on wreckage.

From all accounts Capt. H. G. Kendall of the Empress of Ireland bore himself like a true sailor. He retained such command of the situation, it appears, while the Storstad's stem hung in the gash it had made in the Empress' side, Capt. Kendall begged the master of the collier to keep his propellers going so that the hole might remain plugged. The Storstad, however, dropped back and the Empress filled and foundered.

Capt. Kendall stood on his bridge as the ship went down. A boat picked him up and he directed its work of saving others until the craft was loaded. The captain was injured but his hurts are not dangerous.

A Neglected Evil

Despite the efforts of press and pulpit the cigarette evil is growing. This fact is manifest in the last report of the American Tobacco Company. This report shows that the sales of cigarettes last year increased to the extent of 374,000,000. Do not mistake. The figures do not represent the consumption of cigarettes made by this company in a year. They stand for the increase in number sold to the trade. The fact is that during 12 months past cigarette smoking in this country increased 20 per cent. Instead of the evil abating it is becoming more of a menace and more than ever a problem in the social life. It has fattened and grown strong under cover of diverted attention. The reformers have been paying too much attention to whiskey and too little to the cigarette. And further, the dope habit has been keeping pace with the cigarette.—Charlotte Observer.

"Mary, you told me that the man I found in the kitchen with you last night is your twin brother, and now you says he is your step brother." "Yes, mum; you see we are step-twins, mum."—Ex.

Generally Fair Weather This Week

Washington, May 31.—General fair skies, with temperatures near or above normal were forecast by the Weather Bureau tonight for the entire country this week.

"Rainfall during the week will be generally light and local," said the bulletin. "The next disturbance of importance will appear in the Far West Tuesday or Wednesday, reach the Great Central Valleys Thursday or Friday and the Eastern States near the end of the week.

This disturbance will be attended by showers and thunderstorms and be followed by a change to cooler weather over the Northern States East of the Rocky Mountains.

Labor unions are strong in the West and especially strong in a city where, on Halloween, the boys pulled a lot of pickets off the fence belonging to a house in which a union barber lived and made a bonfire of them.

The barber bought some new pickets and nailed them on his fence himself. Whereupon he was promptly fined fifty dollars by the council for doing carpenter work which should have been done by a union carpenter.

The barber thought over this for some time. Then he presented the Carpenters' Union with a bill for thirteen hundred and seventy-five dollars.

"What's this for?" asked the chief of the Carpenters' union.

"Why," the barber replied, "that's what's due the barbers because the carpenters shave themselves."

His fine was remitted.

Divorce Teamwork

A Kansas woman, weighing two hundred pounds and as strong as a female White Hope, came before a Kansas lawyer with her puny, one-hundred-and-thirty-pound husband and said they desired to get a divorce.

"On what grounds?" asked the lawyer.

"Extream cruelty," said the woman.

"But," said the lawyer, "that is absurd. Here you are, big and brawny, and you say this little, weak man has been tyrannical and cruel to you. You must do better than that. You could turn him over your knee and spank him and not half try!"

"That's all right, Mister Lawyer," broke in the husband. "I agreed to let her have an extra thousand dollars in alimony if she would put that in. You see, I want to send the petition back to my folks in Ohio. When they read it they'll think I have spunked up to beat the band since I came West."

"Speaking about prosperity," said Fred B. Lynch, Democratic National Committeeman from Minnesota, "I have the prize story.

"A merchant who runs a general store in a town in the middle of my state came in to see me one day.

"How are things, Bill?" I asked him. "Fine," he replied. "I've just closed up the season's business and I've made twenty-two thousand dollars. I had some extra expense this year too."

"What extra expense?" I asked.

"Why," the merchant replied, "I had to hire a footman to stand outside the store to open the doors of the automobiles in which the farmers' wives brought their produce."