

THE FORT MILL TIMES.

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SCHOOL NEARING CLOSE.

First of Public Exercises to Be Given Friday Evening.

Friday evening at 8 o'clock the final program of the primary and grammar grades of the Fort Mill graded school will be held in the school auditorium. All the grades from the first to the seventh, inclusive, will contribute one or more numbers to the program. A creditable entertainment is promised. Songs and recitations will be given by the first and second grades. The third, fourth and fifth grades will present the choosing and crowning of the May queen, with songs and dances. The sixth and seventh grades will give songs and features.

This program is the first of the commencement features of the school and the patrons as well as the public are cordially invited by the school authorities to be present.

Sunday morning at 11 o'clock the Rev. Mr. Mason, pastor of the Methodist church of Lancaster, will preach the sermon to the graduating class of the high school in the school auditorium. Special music will be furnished by the glee club composed of high school girls. An invitation also is extended to the patrons and friends of the school to attend the service.

There are six members of the graduating class of the high school this year: Misses Marian Parks and Hallie Gregg and Lads, Douglas Jeter, Harmon Harkey and Arthur Young. The graduating exercises of the class will be held Friday evening, May 27.

Tax Levy Fixed.

The State tax levy to be collected next fall and winter for 1921 was fixed by the comptroller general Saturday afternoon at 12 mills, 11-1-2 for general State purposes and 1-2 mill for the Citadel, the military college at Charleston. The appropriation bill passed by the General Assembly early in March provided for a total levy of 12-1-2 mills, but on account of additions to the taxable property of the State the comptroller general was able to reduce the levy 1-2 mill, making the levy for this year the same as the levy for last year with the exception of the 2 mills for the public roads to be expended under the direction of the State highway commission, which was omitted from the levy for the present year.

Gold Hill Honor Roll.

The honor roll of the Gold Hill school, Misses Ruth Shuler and Ida Lee Parler, teachers, for the month beginning April 18 and ending May 13, is as follows:

First Grade—Sammie Osborne.

Second Grade—Minnie Abernathy.

Fourth Grade—Joe Abernathy, Sammie Boyd, James Boyd, Edgar Crook, Charles Cunnup, Minnie Nivens, Agnes Osborne.

Fifth Grade—Eugene Gibson.

Sixth Grade—Van Blankenship, Mardie Coltharp, Lucy Crook.

Seventh Grade—Mae Boyd, Louise Warren.

Humored Textile Strike.

"No walkout of the cotton mill operatives of the South has been ordered and will not be, at least until I have visited several other North Carolina textile centers and have conferred with President John Golden, probably the latter part of the week." Saturday night said Frank T. McMahon, vice president of the International Textile Workers' union, to a reporter for the Charlotte Observer.

This was Mr. McMahon's reply to an inquiry based upon reports current Saturday that the threatened strike would be effective Monday.

Poag for Magistrate.

John R. Poag has been recommended to Governor Cooper by the York county delegation for appointment as magistrate of Ebenezer township to succeed the late Thos. B. Glenn. There were several other applicants for the position and at one time it was thought a primary would be held to select the new official.

ON PRINTING COMMITTEE.

Congressman Stevenson Gets Important House Assignment.

A. Eugene Hutchison of Rock Hill, secretary to Congressman W. F. Stevenson, was in Fort Mill for a few hours yesterday. Mr. Hutchison has been spending a few days at his home during the past week and took advantage of the opportunity to come to Fort Mill to shake hands with some of his many friends. He expects to return to Washington this evening.

A matter of interest to the people of the Fifth district, to which Mr. Hutchison referred incidentally, is the recent assignment of Mr. Stevenson to the house committee on printing, which carries with it ex-officio membership on the joint committee on printing, composed of three senators and three representatives. The joint committee has supervision of the government printing office, for which it annually awards contracts for paper, machinery, ink and other supplies amounting to millions of dollars. It is perhaps the most important joint committee of Congress.

The government printing office is by odds the largest printing establishment in the world. It occupies, besides various big annexes and branch offices, a building on North Capitol street, six stories high and covering the greater part of an entire block. In this building more than 5,000 people are employed and hundreds of thousands of tons of printed matter are sent out from it every year. George H. Carter of Iowa is public printer. He was recently appointed by President Harding. Mr. Carter was for many years chief clerk of the joint committee on printing. During 1911 and 1912 he and W. R. Bradford of Fort Mill were the secretaries of the printing investigating commission of Congress, of which the late Congressman D. E. Finley was a member.

Miss Byers Married.

A wedding of interest to many Fort Mill people took place in Bethesda township, a few miles south of Rock Hill, yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock when Miss Annie Hall Byers was married to Dr. E. P. Alford, dentist, of Dillon. The wedding took place at the Byers home and the ceremony was performed by the Rev. Mr. Greene, Presbyterian minister of Kershaw, brother-in-law of the bride. As Miss Byers, Mrs. Alford has been a frequent visitor at the home of Dr. and Mrs. John M. Hutchinson in Fort Mill in recent years and has many friends in this section whose good wishes go with her. Fort Mill people attending the wedding were: Dr. and Mrs. Hutchinson, Miss Ethel Loftis and Dr. R. S. Desportes.

"Country Store" in Rock Hill.

The York county home demonstration clubs are getting in line with other counties in establishing a market. The "Open-Air Country Store" was opened in Rock Hill with every kind of produce for sale. The county council has charge of the market and has appointed two of its members to act as manager and book-keeper. Practically everything was sold the day the store opened, Saturday, May 7, and the following Saturday the store opened again. The town women were on hand eager to make purchases long before the produce arrived from the country. The sales ran up to more than \$45 and more chickens and eggs were wanted after the supply was exhausted. Miss Juanita Neely, county agent, says the store has bright prospects.

Church Without Pastor.

The Presbyterian church of Pineville is without a pastor. About three years ago a call was extended to the Rev. George F. Robertson and he came from East Tennessee to take up the work, in which he continued up to a few weeks ago, without ever having officially accepted the call, however. Some time ago, Mr. Robertson received another call, this time from a church in Bristol, Va.-Tenn., which he accepted and left a few days ago with his family to make his home in that city.

NEWS OF YORK COUNTY.

Current Items of Interest Found in the Yorkville Enquirer.

It is announced from Washington that there will be no public building bill at the present session of Congress, and Yorkville, which has been waiting and waiting, will continue to wait for quite a while yet.

The postoffice department has supplied Postmaster E. E. Poag of Rock Hill with an army Colt revolver for the use of the postoffice messenger in Rock Hill and to remain in the postoffice at Rock Hill at other times ready for use.

County Superintendent of Education John E. Carroll said Monday that the close of the present week will mark the close of practically all of the rural schools of York county. There are, however, a few rural schools whose respective terms will not come to a close until the end of next week.

Dogs got into the sheep pasture of Mr. J. D. Land, on York No. 1, a few nights ago and killed three sheep before they were discovered. Mr. Land is very much disturbed over the situation because it is very well understood that when the dogs start on a flock of sheep they do not let up as long as there are any sheep left.

Considerable cotton was sold in Rock Hill last week. Various merchants asked about it said that their records of sales showed that some cotton was selling. Most of the cotton sold, however, was low grade. There seems to be little tendency on the part of farmers of the Rock Hill territory to sell their better grades in any considerable quantity.

Because of the unseasonable weather of the past several weeks fully 40 per cent of the farmers of the Rock Hill territory who had planted cotton will have to plant over, according to the estimate of well informed farmers. It is evident that at least a portion of the crop of every farmer was killed and consequently all of them are busy replanting, some on a more extensive scale than others, of course.

Eleven of the leading business houses of Clover have joined forces with a view to offering "Dollar day" bargains to the Clover trade next Saturday. It was announced yesterday that all of the stores and business establishments interested would make unusually attractive special offerings on account of "Dollar day," and it was expected that hundreds of people of the town and the community would take advantage of the special bargains offered for the occasion.

County Treasurer H. E. Neil and his assistants are about ready to begin the work of writing tax executions to be turned over to the sheriff for collection in all cases where persons have not paid their 1920 taxes within the time prescribed by law. It was stated Monday that the time for writing these executions may be gotten under way this week. While the officials could not say definitely, they were rather of the opinion that there would be a much larger number of tax executions issued for the year 1920 than there were for the previous year.

Otis Fewell, 16, negro, who figured in the courts several weeks ago after he and his grandmother, Violet Shaw, were arrested charged with fleecing Miss Margaret Thompson of Ebenezer out of \$3,500 by alleged hoodoo and hypnotic practices, is in bad again. Fewell is alleged to have struck a negro boy of Rock Hill over the head with a bat last Wednesday, seriously injuring the boy. He escaped following the alleged assault and police officers throughout the county have been advised to be on the lookout for him. The injured boy, it is said, may die.

New Church Planned.

Fort Mill friends of the Rev. Robert G. Lee, who recently accepted the pastorate of the First Baptist church of Chester, will be interested in the announcement that his congregation plans the erection at an early date of a magnificent church building. A Chester dispatch says that since Mr. Lee moved to that city about a month ago his congregation has grown wonderfully.

TRAINS ANNULLED.

Southern Announces Discontinuance of Nos. 28 and 35.

An important announcement to the people of this section is made by the Southern railway in the statement, issued yesterday, that effective next Sunday, May 23, passenger train No. 28, northbound, which leaves Columbia at 4:15 p. m. and reaches Fort Mill at 7:43 p. m., and passenger train No. 35, leaving Charlotte at 5:35 a. m. and reaching Fort Mill at 6:19 a. m., will be discontinued. The plan of the railway company is to have the work heretofore done by No. 28 taken over by No. 32 and that of 35 done by 31. Both the trains to be discontinued have carried mail for Fort Mill. The presumption is that 31 and 32 will care for the mail of this place in the future. Neither of these trains has handled mail for Fort Mill in recent years.

GETS FAMOUS FOXHOUND.

"Old Beauty" Shipped From Fort Mill to "Buck" Bryant.

Although he has been a resident of Washington city for many years, "Buck" Bryant, well known newspaper correspondent, still entertains the love he acquired as a youth on his father's farm in the Providence section of Mecklenburg county near Fort Mill for the fox chase and foxhounds. For several years Mr. Bryant had sought unsuccessfully to get possession of "Old Beauty," famous July-Birdsong foxhound, owned by T. R. Garrison of Fort Mill. Last Thursday Mr. Garrison decided to ship the dog to Mr. Bryant. A day or two afterward he received the following letter from Mr. Bryant telling of the arrival of "Old Beauty" in Washington:

"'Old Beauty' came ahead of your letter. She is well named. I wish she were two years old. To show you how much I think of her I went to bed at 11 last night, heard her howl at 3 this morning, got up, and took her 10 miles in the country. On the way I turned her loose after a rabbit to hear her tongue. She tongues very much like 'Queen.' She will have a good home. . . I am afraid to let her try a red with the trained pack here, but will see that she gets some exercise after reds at the home of Mr. Charles A. Claggett of Rockville, Md., who has her and 'Queen' and two others of mine."

Old Locomotives.

Few perhaps of the many people of this section who ride between Fort Mill and Rock Hill on the midday trains from the Kingsville branch of the Southern know that frequently the little locomotives pulling the trains on which they are passengers have been in service since the old 3C's road was built in the '80s, 30-odd years ago. Such, however, is the case. There are two or three of these little locomotives which still make more or less regularly the round trip between Columbia and Charlotte. They were first used on the 3C's between Rock Hill and Marion, N. C., according to the statement of A. B. Withers of Jacksonville, Fla., Fort Mill man who at the time was a machinist in the shops of the road at Blacksburg. The locomotives, having been kept in good repair and never having met with serious accident, are still in good condition and capable of pulling light trains on schedule time.

May Move to Jacksonville.

J. Lee Capps returned to Fort Mill Sunday, after spending ten days with his brothers, C. I. Capps and Harvey Capps, both former citizens of this section, in Jacksonville Fla. While in the Florida metropolis Mr. Capps was offered a position with The Times-Union to become assistant to his brother, Harvey Capps, chief linotype machinist on that paper, which has a battery of 17 machines. As yet Mr. Capps is undecided whether he will accept the offer of The Times-Union or become associated in business with his brother, C. I. Capps, in a brass foundry which the latter operates in Jacksonville, should he make up his mind to move to that city.

MAKES MEMBERS HOP.

Blanton of Texas Keeps Fellow-Congressman on the Jump.

There is a short, stocky, black-haired man in the house of representatives at Washington who is keeping his 434 colleagues in that body on the anxious seat. His name is Thomas W. Blanton. He represents a Texas district and has two hobbies, trying to keep down appropriations and lambasting Sam Gompers and federal employees.

When he ran for Congress Blanton said he would make the house of representatives get to work earlier if possible. The house still meets at noon, but he is making the other members "hop bells" with a vengeance. Frequently they no sooner get seated in the house office building near the capitol than he raises the point of no quorum.

Electric bells ring in the corridors of the office building, the congressmen grab their hats and hot-foot it for the hall of the house in hopes of getting there before the tally clerk reaches their name on the roll call. Then, when they dwindle back, he calls for a quorum and they are summoned again. The days of gentlemen's agreements are over, for Blanton is on the job every day to see that the representatives really represent.

Observed Sabbath Religiously.

Among the visitors to Fort Mill Tuesday was A. P. Spratt of Osceola, Lancaster county. Although in his 85th year, Mr. Spratt is as well preserved and active as most men 20 years his junior. He is a Confederate veteran who served in the 49th infantry. Speaking of the late Col. James A. Dunn, distinguished citizen of Mecklenburg and Union counties, whose memory was recalled by the death in Pineville last week of his daughter, Mrs. Nancy Dunn Downs, mother of Mrs. C. W. Eason of Fort Mill, Mr. Spratt said Col. Dunn was one of the most pious men he ever knew. "In the fall when Col. Dunn hauled his cotton and flour to the Camden market he made it a rule to time his homeward trip so that he would get back on Saturday afternoon if possible. If anything happened to delay him on the way and he got within even a mile or two of his home when darkness overtook him on Saturday evening he would pitch camp and remain there until Monday morning. He did not like to travel at night and under no circumstances would he travel on Sunday. Few men ever observed the Sabbath more religiously than Col. Dunn."

Plenty of Hoboes.

The depression which struck the country some months ago has had the effect of increasing the number of hoboes to be seen beating rides on freight trains which pass through Fort Mill. On one northbound freight train which passed here a few days ago four white men and two negroes were seen riding the rods or standing between box cars. How many, if any, 'boes were inside empty box cars on the same train, no one could see. When times were flush a few months ago and jobs were easy to get, apparently there was a shortage of the usual number of hoboes, but conditions have changed since hard times came about last summer. Now rod-riders and other train-beats are so plentiful as to give the train crews considerable annoyance.

Death of Little Boy.

Joseph Caldwell Patterson, 16-months-old son of Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Patterson of the upper section of Lancaster county, died Monday evening, after a week's illness. The little body was interred in Harrison churchyard, following funeral services conducted by the Rev. Mr. Houck of Pineville.

Wednesday afternoon a petition was being circulated on Main street for signatures requesting the town council of Fort Mill to order a special election in which it is proposed to issue \$14,000 of town bonds, to pay off indebtedness of the town and to improve streets.

OLD YORKTOWN.

Isolated Virginia Village Where Cornwallis Quit.

The historic battlefield of Yorktown, Va., where the British general, Cornwallis, surrendered, and where for all practical purposes the American Revolution was brought to a victorious conclusion may soon be made into a shrine to share popularity with Bunker Hill, Valley Forge and Mount Vernon.

The little village and its surroundings form the subject of the following bulletin issued from the Washington headquarters of the National Geographic society:

"Though Yorktown was not a thriving community nor a place noted for its accessibility during Revolutionary days, it was relatively much more important and much less remote from the daily life of the country than it has been at any time since. Most other American towns were small in those days, ports were few, and railroads were unthought of. As cities have sprung up where there were only hamlets or patches of wilderness before, and railroads have brought even the two oceans relatively closer together, Yorktown, at a point where little commerce has been developed and without rail connections, has become in effect more and more remote, and its character as a sleepy village has become more emphasized.

"The Yorktown of today is a community of less than 250 inhabitants with a few fine old colonial homes and a number of less pretentious dwellings. The nearest railroad lies eight miles to the south. In the town is a monument erected in 1881 on the 100th anniversary of the surrender of the British. As a reminder of the early importance of Yorktown there still exists the first custom house in the United States. Near the village are remains of the forts and redoubts whose capture by the Revolutionary soldiers and their French allies marked the real birth of the United States. The scene of Cornwallis' surrender—which was by proxy through his General O'Hara—is believed to be in the open country just south of the village.

"Yorktown is on a narrow peninsula lying between the wide estuaries of the James and York rivers, and is where the latter meets Chesapeake bay. Cornwallis, after scouring Virginia, burning homes, killing and driving off stock and capturing large numbers of slaves, retired down the peninsula to Yorktown. Lafayette, with a handful of American soldiers, followed at a distance. It was when this situation was pointed out to Washington that he was persuaded to abandon his plan to attack New York and instead to take his own forces from West Point and Rochambeau's division from Providence, R. I., to stake all on a battle in the South. The arrival of De Grasse with a French fleet in the Chesapeake, blocking the entrance to that bay and preventing reinforcements reaching Cornwallis, made the defeat of the latter inevitable.

"It is not strange that Cornwallis considered Yorktown a good location for military headquarters in spite of the ease with which the peninsula might be blocked. It possesses a truly remarkable deep water harbor, and Cornwallis counted on the maintenance of communication by water with the British forces in New York.

"Yorktown's harbor was put to good use during the World war and so for the second time played an important part in the country's martial history. It the mouth of the York river opposite the famous village the greater part of the Atlantic fleet at times rode at anchor. There, behind the defenses at the entrance to the Chesapeake, and further protection by nets and patrols across the mouth of the York, dreadnaughts and lesser vessels were safe from molestation by enemy submarines. Thousands of men were intensively trained for naval duty at this anchorage while the whereabouts of the fleet was kept a profound secret. The Yorktown anchorage was alluded to in official communications throughout the war only as 'Base No. 2.'"