

# Abbeville City Schools Close Most Interesting and Successful Year in History

The 23rd commencement of the Abbeville City Schools was held in the Opera House Tuesday evening. The graduation class numbered 22—the largest in the history of the school. The following program was carried out:

### Graduates.

Gertrude Calvert, Katie Cox, Maude Hawthorne, Margie Gillebeau, Ruth Howie, Myrtle McLeskey, Clotilde Clary, Eugenia Coleman, Mary Haigier, Kate Haskell, Annie Belle Little, Prude Mann, Marion Daniels.

Hubert Cox, James Mars, Arthur Mundy, Thomas Mundy, Maxwell Smith, Kempton Billings, Lewis Clinkscapes, Floyd Graves, James Hill. First Honor—James Hill. Second Honor—Kate Haskell.

**Declamation Medals.** Ruth Howie, and Floyd Graves. Names of pupils who were neither tardy nor absent during the nine months.

First Grade—Ruby Brown, Sara Cowan, Roy Nance, Ada Perrin, Alma Gaston.

Second Grade—Ruby Hughes, Danner Cann, James McComb, Marion Poliakoff, Lavinia McCuen.

Third Grade—James Cox, Ollie Culbreath, Myrtle Edwards, Lillian Langley, Robert Mundy, Angela Roche, Evelyn McAllister, Jack Thomson, Jennie White, Tom Bradley, Estelle Gaston, Ralph Bauknight.

Fourth Grade—Alice Cheatham, Mary Shaw Gilliam, Mary Jones, Deborah Owens, Willie Bowie, Earle Turman, Donald Harris.

Fifth Grade—Elizabeth Thomson, Mary Louise Dargan, Gladys Edwards, Willie Eakin, Ada Faulkner, Hilda Syfan, William Cox, Joseph Gaston, Fred Minshall, Clifton Wilson.

Sixth Grade—Janie Vance Bowie, Willie Harrison, Lena Belle Johnson, Eleanor Schroeder, Mary White, Jack Bradley, Paul Graves, Thomas Maxwell, Carnell Mundy, Louis Seal, Cornelia Clinkscapes.

Seventh Grade—Margie Brown, Catherine Faulkner, Mary Nickles, Alton Batts, Theophilo Bradley, J. C. Cheatham.

Eighth Grade—Nina Bauknight, Ophelia Clinkscapes, Mary Jones, Ruby Mann, George Nance, Herman Wisby.

Ninth Grade—George Cann, Malon Cann, Sam Hill, Mary Graydon, Fannie DuPre.

Tenth Grade—Clotilde Clary, Maude Hawthorne.

Names of pupils who did not make below ninety-five on any subject.

First Grade—Thelma Bauknight, Sara Cowan, Annie Cheatham, Mary Hill Ferguson, Margaret Harrison, Ada Perrin, Louise Uldrick, Elizabeth Wilson.

Second Grade—Ida Calhoun, Rachel Minshall, Mark Hawthorne, Tom Howie, Robert Link.

Third Grade—Sara Edwards, Frances Gilliam, Judith Hill, Kathleen Lomax, Jennie White.

Fourth Grade—Caroline Chalmers, Grace Milford, Annie Mabry, Donald Harris, Charlie Wilson.

Fifth Grade—Maria Neuffer, Ada Faulkner, Elizabeth Thomson, Billy Long.

Sixth Grade—Janie Vance Bowie, Margaret Dawson, Elizabeth Gambrell, Helen Milford, Florence Neuffer, Mary White.

Seventh Grade—Helen Eakin, Mary Greene, Ralph Lyon.

Eighth Grade—None.

Ninth Grade—Elizabeth Faulkner, Mary Graydon, Mattie Eakin, Fannie DuPre, Frank Gary, Samuel Hill.

Tenth Grade—Kate Haskell, James Hill.

Names are not given in order of class standing.

**Superintendent's Annual Report for the Year 1915-16.**

Mr. Chairman, Board of Trustees, Ladies and Gentlemen: Your careful attention is invited to the reading of the report of the City Schools, for the four years under the present administration.

At times, it may be necessary to refer to other years of the schools work. When this is done only official reports of school officers will be used.

It is a pleasure to note the very large increase in enrollment for the present over last year. At the close of the year June 1915, the enrollment

was 532; at the close of the year June 1916, the enrollment is 632, an increase of 95 pupils.

This may be accounted for in three or more ways. First: This city very wisely voted compulsory education last June and this has brought many children into the school. Second: a larger number of children from other districts are attending our schools this year, 35, whereas, last year only nine from other districts came into this district. This certainly is a compliment to the efficiency of your school. Third, we have made special effort to hold the boys in the high school. This is shown tonight by so many boys who occupy places with the graduating class. Just here your attention is called to the fact that the school this year turns out the largest graduating class in its history.

This increase in pupils justifies the Board in electing an additional teacher for next session. This they have decided to do.

**Improvements.** During the past four years the following improvements have been made in the schools by the efforts of the teachers, children and Superintendent.

Twenty large and beautiful pictures have been placed in the different rooms at a cost of Sixty dollars.

Through the kindness of the city council and the Civic League, the walks in front of and leading to the Graded school, have been cemented at a cost of more than \$100.00.

The city council wired the lower floor of the graded school, which has made it useful for school gatherings. Several large benches were placed on the grounds at the high school building, five sets of reference works averaging six volumes to the set have been contributed to the high school library by pupils, a set of the New International Encyclopedia and one Webster International Dictionary, both at a cost of more than \$100, have been purchased, \$75 was raised by the boys for a gymnasium, two drinking fountains have been placed in the graded school, there should be one in each room of the buildings, \$100 dollars was raised during the year for a laboratory and this has been supplemented by the Board with another \$100.

Many other things are needed but we mention these to show that a fine spirit of co-operation exists between teacher and pupil and that they are interested in the improving of conditions.

**Discipline.** During the past year, discipline has been a minor factor in the school's management. It has been necessary to administer correction and punishment. Whenever it was thought necessary we have not hesitated to act as our better judgment would dictate.

While discussing this subject, I feel that your attention should be called to military training that we have used to a degree this year, I know of no other form of training that is as helpful to the high school boy as that of military training and hope that it may be made a part of the school work here. It is a success in Sumter and one or two other places in this state where it has been tried. It inculcates a fine sense of honor, it teaches system, manliness and respect for authority that no other method does.

During the camping trip of the high school boys, strict military discipline was enforced. I did not hear during the four days, an oath uttered, a profane word spoken, nor a rough word, nor did I notice any tobacco. I commend this feature as strongly as I can.

**Promotion.** This is the time of the year when this subject is uppermost in the minds of some of the patrons. As long as we have pupils in graded schools there will be promotions and non-promotions.

Some pupils cannot do the work of the school in ten years; some do not do it; some could do it if the parent would co-operate more closely with the teacher and some fail because of the weakness of teacher. These things happen, however. The percentage of non-promotion in this school is no greater than in other schools of the same standing and

when it is the fact is considered that the standard of this school is a unit and a half higher than the standard ten years ago. Then we can safely say that the per cent of non-promotions are much less than that in most schools. I have taken considerable trouble to compare the promotions of this school with other good schools and find that we send up as large per cent of students each year as the other does.

We would impress as forcibly as we can this thought: we expect to make pupils thorough before we give out promotion cards. We are trying to teach children, not make grades.

**Safety First.** Under this heading we call your attention to the fire drills of the schools. The auditorium at the high school has been emptied of all pupils in one and a half minutes and the recitation rooms at the primary school has been emptied in one and three-fourths minutes. The children rise and without waiting to get books or anything else move out promptly and orderly when any unusual noise is made.

To prevent the spreading of germs, the floors are oiled and swept each day after school hours. Occasionally the children of some room will ask permission to do some extra cleaning up in their room and permission is always cheerfully given. I can't see why a child should not be encouraged to make his room or work excel the others.

Here I quote from the report made by the State Health officer, Dr. James A. Hayne. This report was made in 1913, Feb. 7th.

He says: "There is little to condemn in the schools and much to commend. I do not find anything to cause sickness in the present condition. In conclusion, I respectfully submit that I find the sanitary condition of the school above the average of the schools examined by me in other parts of the State."

I know that the buildings are kept as well or better now, so I am safe in stating to you that the sanitary conditions are good.

Every child has been vaccinated and contagious diseases are carefully watched.

**Standard of Schools.** This is a matter that vitally concerns each and every one of you. The standard of this school is excellent by only one school in the State and that by only one-tenth of a unit. I mean of course, ten year schools.

Quoting from the report of the State high schools inspector, this school made in June 1912, ten and four-tenths units; in 1915 (June) thirteen and one-half units. Thus you can see for yourself what advance has been made.

In October, 1912 this school was placed on the accredited list of all the State colleges, the College of Charleston, and since then the certificates of full graduates have been accepted by Davidson College and Washington and Lee University. The last college has a fifteen unit admission.

Not a graduate from this school has returned home during the last four years because he failed to make good in college. At the County Field Day Exercises the pupils from this school won ten of fourteen class room first prizes, two of the four gold medals, and won many points on the athletic field. These facts are mentioned that they may put you to thinking about the place that your school occupies and that you might also seriously consider additional improvements and changes for the better.

Allow me to call your attention to some advance steps taken by the public in educational matters.

The school has been raised from ten and 4-10 units to 13 and 5-10; from a single course to a double course of study; to an increase in enrollment so large that in a year or so another building will be badly needed as every room in each building is now in use; a splendid Science laboratory is in process of purchase and will be installed this summer; all the grades at the mill school has been transferred to the city schools; a two-mill tax was levied in 1914, and best of all compulsory education was voted here

## Southern Textile Industry Shows Big Increase

Washington, D. C., May 27.—The statistics of cotton consumption issued by the United States Census office from month to month, show the continued growth of the cotton textile industry of the South," said President Harrison, of Southern Railway Company, today.

"The latest report issued shows that in the month of April, 1916, Southern cotton mills consumed 298,186 bales, an increase over last year of 21,268 bales, or 7.68 per cent, while mills in all other States consumed only 276,918 bales, a decrease of 3,561 bales, or 1.5 per cent, as compared with last year. For the nine months ended April 30, consumption in Southern mills increased 17.42 per cent over last year, while in all other States the increase was only 15.06 per cent."

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Here's my guarantee! Ask your druggist for a 50 cent bottle of Dodson's Liver Tone and take a spoonful tonight. If it doesn't start your liver and straighten you right up better than calomel and without griping or making you sick I want you to go back to the store and get your money.

Take calomel today and tomorrow you will feel weak and sick and nauseated. Don't lose a day's work. Take a spoonful of harmless, vegetable Dodson's Liver Tone tonight and wake up feeling great. It's perfectly harmless, so give it to your children any time. It can't salivate, so let them eat anything afterwards.—Adv.

last June. If this step were taken throughout the state, in a few years we would no longer have an illiterate citizenship and adults who cannot read the Holy Bible.

**Forward.** Now, what do we need? First, a greater interest shown by patrons in school affairs.

Second, more tax that the schools may be better equipped.

Third, a higher salary limit for teachers.

Fourth, more men teachers in the High School.

Fifth, a four-year High School to meet the requirements of the colleges in 1918.

Sixth, one of the five teacher training schools that the State is going to open this year. These are to be high schools.

Seventh, a continued co-operation among the patrons, teachers and trustees that have obtained during the past years.

Thanking you for the splendid support given the school, teachers, and Superintendent in the past, on behalf of the schools we wish for you all many years of usefulness and happiness.

**Equally Effective.** "My daughter cannot exist without at least three servants," said the proud mother to her future son-in-law.

"Leave that to me", answered the young man.

"But will you be able to provide them for her?"

"No, but I will be able to prove conclusively that she can exist with only one."

**FOR ECONOMY'S SAKE.**

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