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THE SCHOOL LAW.

The decision of Judge Frank B. Gary in the Due West school case, whether it shall finally be sustained by the courts or not, is in the interest of the public school system of the state. Any other construction of the law would have spelt disaster.

We say so for the reason that if patrons of the public schools, residing in one district, may without paying for the teaching of their children, send the latter to the schools of an adjoining district, the result will be that many such patrons will do this very thing. With automobiles and good roads it is easy to see that the schools in the towns and cities and in the larger communities would soon be overrun with children from outside the district. The people who live in the districts with good schools and who have levied taxes in order that their own children might have good schools to attend, would find that the places which their own children should have in the schools would be taken by children from the outside; or the result would be that there being so many pupils to each teacher, none, either those from within, or those from without, would be properly taught. As a result the people who are paying the taxes, and not receiving the benefits flowing from the payment of the taxes, would soon tire of the practice and vote the taxes off.

On the other hand the rural schools would suffer by such a construction of the law as would allow patrons in one district to send to the schools in another district. Those sending to schools without the district would have no interest in the schools of the home district. As a result they would vote and work against any special levy in the district in which they lived, just as was done in the case before Judge Gary. Those patrons residing in the rural districts unable to reach school without these districts would thus be unable to vote the special taxes levied in other districts, and would be compelled to send their children to schools with poor equipment, and maybe in many cases with poorer teachers.

In the end the final result would be that the special taxes in all school districts would be voted off, or never voted on, the property of the districts, and the public school system of the state would have a status alike to what it was twenty years ago.

Law should be a declaration of common sense, and such it is in this case as declared by the Judge of the eighth circuit.

We are all in favor of better schools, or we should be. Better schools will be built and better teachers will be employed in all districts when the patrons of the several districts are forced to send to the schools in their own districts. They will thus have an interest in seeing good schools at home, and will spend of their time and money to make them such.

THE WRONG CHOICE OF CURRENCY SYSTEMS

Governor Harding of the Federal Reserve Board has denied the request for aid in financing the marketing of the cotton crop. A few more blows like this and our people will begin to move for a new banking and currency law patterned after that of France. This country had the choice of two currency systems, one that of France and the other that of Germany, and it made the wrong choice.—The Waco-Times Herald.

THE LOAN SITUATION IS THE REASON FOR STAGNATION IN BUILDING

Getting down to the rock-bottom reason, the present stagnation in the construction field is not so much due to high material prices, the uncertainty of getting building materials, transportation difficulties, or to unsettled labor conditions, as it is to another cause. It is true that many people attribute the slump in construction activity to these causes, but a still larger number of persons ascribe another reason. As a matter of fact, these latter citizens have reason to know, for they themselves have had recent personal experiences that have stumped them.

This is illustrated by a case which happened in Chicago within the past fortnight, and shows a condition which is undoubtedly similar to that existing in most other cities. A business man who owned a lot free of incumbrance, in a very desirable location in the northwest section of the city, decided, after due consideration of the material and labor conditions, that he would build immediately a small residence. Upon investigation he learned that he could build his home at a cost of about \$8500 for labor and materials. Taking his plans and estimate in hand, he proceeded to visit various banks in an attempt to get a loan of \$4000. Fully two dozen and more banks, building and loan associations and mortgage companies were applied to, but in every case he was refused. In an effort to discourage him from building, and as an excuse for refusing him a loan, he was told all kinds of stories about the risk he was taking in building under present conditions because of the high cost of labor and materials.

Even some of his friends who were in charge of loan departments of banks and mortgage companies were unable to do anything for him. In one instance he was told that the mortgage company had on hand 3000 applications for building loans, but were unable to issue a single mortgage. This same concern had hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of mortgage papers in its vaults that it could not dispose of.

In another case a friend connected with a building and loan association told him that if he would secure investors who would buy building mortgages from his concern, a loan equivalent to the amount of mortgage paper purchased by the investor would be granted. However, no purchaser could be found who was satisfied with the security nor with the rate of interest of a building mortgage. As a result, this business man has been compelled to give up his idea of building a home at the present time. The above story gives the real key to the situation in the present building slump. Pointedly, it is due to the inability to secure building loans. Banks and building and loan associations have clamped down tight on building mortgages. This situation, in turn, is due to the action taken by the Federal Reserve Board, which has discouraged all building operations, with the result that banks, building and loan associations and mortgage companies have been unable to lend money on the construction of dwellings.—Brick and Clay Record.

FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD IS POUNDING THE LIFE OUT OF COTTON INDUSTRY

The Federal Reserve System is wrong in principle, and therefore is bound to be continuously irritating to lines of business. It was at the very point of collapse in Germany at the time we took it up and sought to make it subserve our interests. It is in violation of Gresham's law, and that's one possible explanation of why it has inaugurated its policy of deflation. We will have no peace until we adopt a proper banking and currency system. But even though we go on with this present system, wrong in principle, few ought at least to democratize it. Each zone should choose its own board of directors, and all the zones should choose the central board, if a central board is deemed necessary. "Banks," said the Democratic platform of 1912, "exist for the accommodation of the public, and not for the control of business." The Federal Reserve Board has turned that motto to the wall and is pounding the life out of the cotton industry.—Waco, Tex. Times-Herald.

The Old Testament was collected and arranged by Ezra, 450 B. C.

PROPER GANDER OUT.

The first number of Proper Gander the local High School publication, came from the press of the Press and Banner this morning and will be delivered to subscribers today. The teachers and pupils of the High School are getting out a first class school paper and the people of the city should encourage their efforts by subscribing to the paper. The business houses of the city are liberal advertisers.

GUILTY AS CHARGE

Mary Wade and Emma Jeter were before Magistrate Hollingsworth Thursday morning charged with assault and battery. The statements of the witnesses showed that the two women went to the cotton field where Tom Cannon and his wife were picking cotton and that Mary Wade jumped on the Cannon woman and beat her with a small club. The Jeter woman stood by with a knife.

Although the case might have been sent to the higher court, Judge Hollingsworth advised the accused that if they would plead guilty to simple assault and battery, he would accept that plea, this being satisfactory to the prosecutor. They accordingly entered this plea and were fined \$25.00 each.

Tom Cannon was the star witness. He commenced telling, Judge Hollingsworth about the fight two or three days ago, and hasn't finished yet, but the Judge disposed of the case as stated, telling Tom to keep on telling it.

PHILLIPS PLAYS GREAT FOOTBALL

Erskine Back One of Game's Greatest Performers.—A. R. P. College May Lose Now and Then But Its Players Never Give Quit.

(By Brian Bell.)

Without reflecting on the other members of the Erskine eleven a review of the football prospects of the Due West college must be written in one word, "Phillips." The Chester boy who has developed into one of the best football players South Carolina has produced in years and a choice of an all state team for all time would involve serious consideration of this hard driving lad who is not only a player able to gain ground but is one of the most remarkable defensive players in the game in this section of the country.

Phillips is playing his fourth year of college football and his star has grown brighter as his college sessions pass. He runs with the ball, throws passes, kicks, backs up the line and breaks up forward passes. Aside from these feeble activities his afternoons spent on the football field are more or less uneventful. Every once and a while there is a play reeled off in which he is not involved. However, these are so few that they are distinctly noticeable.

Erskine is being coached this season by D. W. Parrish, former V. P. I., and Georgia Tech player. He is a member of a family football group for a brother played at V. P. I. before he went to the Blacksburg institution and he has another brother now playing end for the Virginia Tech.

Dr. "Buck" Pressly is also an important cog in the Erskine scheme of

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things football. Dr. Pressly was a star baseball player in South Carolina and then won a name for himself at the professional end of the game making teams in the Virginia league with great success before he left the game to devote his entire time to his profession.

In addition to Phillips four players from last year's eleven are playing this season. There are Agnew, who takes care of center, Young at half W. Hood, a guard and Blakely, tackle. New men are Patrick and Thompson, ends, these wing men being subs last year; Brice at tackle and C. Hood at guard, Harkness, halfback and W. Kennedy, quarter, Henry, quarter, who played some last year, Scoggins, a lineman who also got in the game late last year.

Erskine fights. Followers of the game at Due West since the A. R. P. college took up the gale boast that there has never been a quitter under its colors and it is not hard to believe the statement for after a decisive defeat by Furman at Greenville Saturday, "Buck" Pressly in bidding good-bye to Coach Laval of the winning team declared, "We'll be back next year and we'll beat you then." That is Erskine football in a few brave words.

The Seceders' next game is with Bailey at Greenwood Saturday.

SANTUC

Misses Annie and Louise Kay, Messrs. Clarence Kay and George Morrison attended Miss Bessie Ervin's birthday party Saturday evening. She received many pretty and useful presents. Every one reported a pleasant time.

Mr. and Mrs. James Haddon and children, Mrs. Ermie Haddon and Miss Lila Morrison spent Sunday afternoon in Abbeville with Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Haddon.

Mr. E. J. Botts spent the week-end at Darraughts.

Mr. Eakin Nickles spent Sunday afternoon with Mr. George Morrison.

Mr. Mason Wright spent Saturday night in Greenwood with relatives.

Miss Ruby Richardson spent Sunday afternoon with Misses Annie and Louise Kay.

Mr. Tom Hunter of Abbeville spent Sunday with Mr. Joe Able.

Several from this community attended Rally Day at Long Cane Sunday.

Rev. Mr. Weathers of Hodges will preach at Central school house Sunday afternoon October 10 at 4 o'clock.

Several from this section attended the circus at Abbeville Wednesday.

Clarence and Roy Kay spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Wright.

A RATTLESNAKE

Mr. W. P. Edwards, of Calhoun Falls, was in town yesterday. On his way to town, while passing through Cabell woods, he ran over a rattlesnake and killed it. He brought it to town and exhibited it at the office of the Press and Banner. The snake had four rattles and a button. Mr. Edwards stated that when he first ran on it, the snake coiled and got in fighting position. He struck it with a rock and it set up a terrible noise with its rattle.

Mrs. Edwards, Mrs. Lizzie Grant, and Miss Cooley of Calhoun Falls were in the car with Mr. Edwards and when they saw that was a genuine rattler they took to the highway, leaving the car, and got out of the way.

DOWN FROM DUE WEST.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Pressly, Mrs. Mary Pressly, Prof. and Mrs. Paul Grier and Dr. E. B. Kennedy were guests at tea Thursday night of Mrs. W. W. Bradley, afterwards attending services at the Associate Reformed church and heard Rev. Paul Pressly preach.

Mrs. J. F. Barnwell left Friday at midday for Pell City, Ala., where she will spend some time with her parents and where she will see the new nephew, Frank Austin Harmon.

BUCKING THE CHIEF

Rosenberg has sold out two big shipments of wild cat whistles and all the little boys in town are making big noises these days. Some bad boy began the report that Chief Johnson would allow no whistles on the square but "chief" subsided in a hurry when Sol Rosenberg said he would "show him about that."

DOING NICELY

Miss Lydia Owen, who came home last week from Winthrop with an attack of appendicitis, was operated on Thursday morning at the County hospital and at last reports was getting on nicely. Her many friends wish for her a speedy recovery.

A "SLOW" PROHIBITIONIST

El Paso, Tex., Oct. 6.—While I am a prohibitionist and am earnestly desirous of suppressing the liquor traffic in my country I believe the reform should come gradually in Mexico and not in a drastic manner. This will be the policy of my administration," declared President-Elect Alvero Obregon at Juarez yesterday. General Obregon came to Juarez to attend the international exposition and military carnival, now in progress in El Paso. General Obregon expressed himself as extremely grateful for the invitation, which he said, marks the beginning of an era of good feeling between the American people and those of Mexico.

Tomorrow General Obregon will be the guest of Brig. Gen. R. L. Howse, and the officers of the garrison at Fort Bliss, where a review will be held in his honor.

General Obregon will be inaugurated as president of Mexico on December 1. Roberto V. Pesqueria, fiscal agent of the Mexican government in the United States, it is privately announced, will be named ambassador to Washington. Mr. Pesqueria accompanied the president-elect from Mexico City here.

Thirty-two languages not including English, are spoken in New York City.