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Coffins and Caskets.

Kingstree Hardware Co.
EVENTUALLY--WHY NOT NOW?

We Lead--Others Follow.

THE SCHOOLS OF WILLIAMSBURG.

SPLENDID PROGRESS REPORTED BY SUPERINTENDENT SPEIGNER AND MISS McLEES.

The following reports, by County Superintendent of Education R N Speigner and Supervising Teacher Miss Mamie McLees, as published in the annual report of the State Superintendent of Education, will doubtless be of interest to the readers of The Record. These reports are as follows:

At your request I herewith outline the progress and advancement of the public schools in Williamsburg county since July 1, 1913.

The year 1913-14 was most auspicious for this county, there being only a few districts which did not share in the general improvement and growth. New buildings, special levies, and consolidations explain this forward movement.

On assuming the duties of this office I prepared a map of the county, showing roads, streams, township and school district lines. The County Board of Education has found this very helpful, and has been able to alter lines of old districts and more intelligently to erect new districts. This map alone has created a demand for accurate surveys and has caused more than half of the county to be carefully surveyed.

Six new districts have been erected, and in each instance special levies have been voted. Since July, 1913, three old districts have voted levies while petitions are now being circulated in two others, thus leaving only seven districts without a special tax. I hope to be able to convince these seven why they should follow the example of their neighbors.

Six libraries have been established and two additions made. It is our purpose to put a library in each school this year.

In three districts wagons are used this year with gratifying results, the most noteworthy instance being in district No 3, where the three small schools of last year are now consolidated at the Bennett school. This school has a modern building, the enrollment has increased from eight to thirty, and two teachers are now employed.

Consolidations have been brought about in eight districts—three schools in No 3; two schools in No 5; two schools in No 8; three schools in 11; four schools in No 12; two schools in No 13; two schools in No 15; two schools in No 59. Also three districts—Nos 43, 53, and 56—have consolidated, and will issue bonds for the erection of a four-room building with auditorium.

The Cades district has voted bonds to the amount of \$8,500.00, and will soon have a handsome brick structure.

Johnsonville and Hemingway are planning to sell bonds, and will erect brick buildings, each to cost about \$10,000.00. These two communities deserve great credit for the progress they have made, and I believe they will build up schools sec-

ond to none in Williamsburg. At Hemingway a new cottage is being used for a school building, and upon the completion of the brick building will be converted into a teachers' home.

Modern one-room buildings have been erected at Heinemann, Oak Ridge, Bloomingvale, Wittee, and Singletary. Additions to buildings have been made at Salters, Lanes, Muddy Creek and Indiantown. In addition to these, new buildings will be constructed next spring at Spring Bank, Indian and Mt Vernon.

In one year Williamsburg has reduced her one-teacher schools from 55 to 36; has increased her two-teacher schools from 10 to 13; has increased her three-teacher schools from 2 to 3 and has increased her schools employing more than three teachers from 6 to 8. The average length of term for the county was increased 14 days.

Since July, 1913, twenty-eight Rural School Improvement associations have been organized, most of which remain active. Homemakers' clubs have been placed in several schools, and we hope that these organizations will be the means of making the schools the social centers of the several communities.

We have begun this year's work with live associations among both teachers and trustees and everything points to a successful school year.

Our school fair and field day last March was very creditable and almost every school in the county participated in the day's programme.

Of inestimable value to this office, to the schools, and to the teachers, has been the work of our Supervising Teacher, Miss Mamie McLees. Miss McLees is an energetic and conscientious worker, enters heartily into all of our plans, and is doing a splendid work in Williamsburg. While this office is new in this county, yet teachers and people are receiving her kindly and much good is being accomplished through her endeavors. I note that those teachers who came in contact with our supervising teacher last year are doing much better work this year. Every county should add this office to its department of education.

In February, 1914, the girls' canning club work was inaugurated in the county under the capable direction of Miss Amanda Edwards. The recent exhibit at the State Fair, and later at the county courthouse, was a revelation to our people. This work will be continued next year, and we hope to realize even greater results.

Williamsburg needs (1) longer terms; (2) better teachers; (3) increased levies; (4) live trustees' association; (5) increase in average attendance; (6) sufficient salary to demand whole time as County Superintendent.

Williamsburg is on the upgrade. Her people are awakening to a real and active interest in her schools, and we hope our endeavors will be rewarded with permanent and effective results.

R N SPEIGNER,
County Supt. of Education.
Kingstree, December 1."

"My work as supervising teacher

of Williamsburg county began September, 1913. At that time there were seventy-three white schools in the county—fifty-five, one-teacher; ten, two-teacher; two, three-teacher, and six, over three teachers. It was very evident that as long as the one-teacher schools continued so numerous and so closely situated, that the county would remain at a standstill educationally. For this reason my efforts were turned toward consolidation, and in eleven instances consolidation resulted, school wagons being used in three. We now have sixty white schools in the county, thirty-six, one-teacher; thirteen, two-teacher; three, three-teacher, and eight, over three teachers.

The average length of school term has been increased and special levies have been placed in all of the forty-nine districts except nine. New buildings have been erected in several instances, and the equipment in the schools has been added to considerably. We have been zealous in regard to the libraries and hope in a short time to have a library in every school.

The methods of teaching in many cases are defective, but by teaching for the teacher I endeavor to point out the mistakes, and thus improve this feature of the work. Especially have I tried to help in the reading. Home-made charts, perception, sewing, and phonic cards for primary work have been introduced. Occupation work for the little ones is also suggested. Suggestions for helpful opening exercises are given and singing for these exercises is encouraged. All children like to sing and anything that adds to the attractiveness of the work is a step towards advancement. Story telling is used at this time also. The teachers are instructed where they may obtain bulletins helpful to themselves and also to the community.

Twenty-eight local improvement associations have been organized, and through them much benefit has been derived—not only in the improvement of grounds and buildings, but in making up the community socially. Homemakers' clubs have been organized also, and gave evidence of their work last field day in the exhibits that were sent.

We tried to use field day as an incentive toward better school work and for this reason sent out a suggestive programme for the school work—bringing in those things that we saw were neglected in the daily routine. It also contained suggestions of the articles that we wanted

on exhibit. This programme was sent out several months before field day. We are planning now another suggestive programme for our coming field day.

We gave perfect attendance buttons last term, hoping in this way to overcome the poor attendance. In most instances it had the desired effect.

During the summer I helped to place teachers in the schools and tried to procure those who would do conscientious work. I believe our teaching corps is an improvement on the one of last term.

Eight of the supervising teachers are sending out monthly plans for diversifying the work. These plans will be very helpful to the teachers, and in making the work more attractive will cause better attendance.

Teachers' and Trustees' associations have been organized, and I hope will prove of much benefit to the county.

I have been received with great kindness, throughout Williamsburg, and hope that this bespeaks not only a friendly attitude toward me personally but toward the work that I am doing.

MAMIE McLEES,
Supervising Teacher.

Kingstree, December 4.
Approved:
R N SPEIGNER,
County Supt. of Education.

PREACHER'S TRAGIC DEATH.

Drowns When Frightened Horse Carries Buggy Into River.

Sumter, January 22:—Rev Gandy J Davis, a colored Methodist preacher living on Manning avenue, this city, was drowned in the Carters Crossing of Lynch river, near Elliott, yesterday morning, when he went to cross the stream in a buggy with a small negro boy. The horse they were driving became frightened at an automobile, which was also crossing the bridge, and plunged over the rail into the river, carrying buggy and men with it. The boy managed to get out from the buggy and swim ashore. Davis, it seems, was unable to extricate himself from the buggy and was drowned. His body was brought here last night and will be buried next Tuesday.

Davis was well known here and respected by white and colored. At the time he was drowned he was on his way to one of his churches where he was to preach.

NOTE—I. Davis will be recalled as pastor of the Mount Zion church in Kingstree, of which he had charge

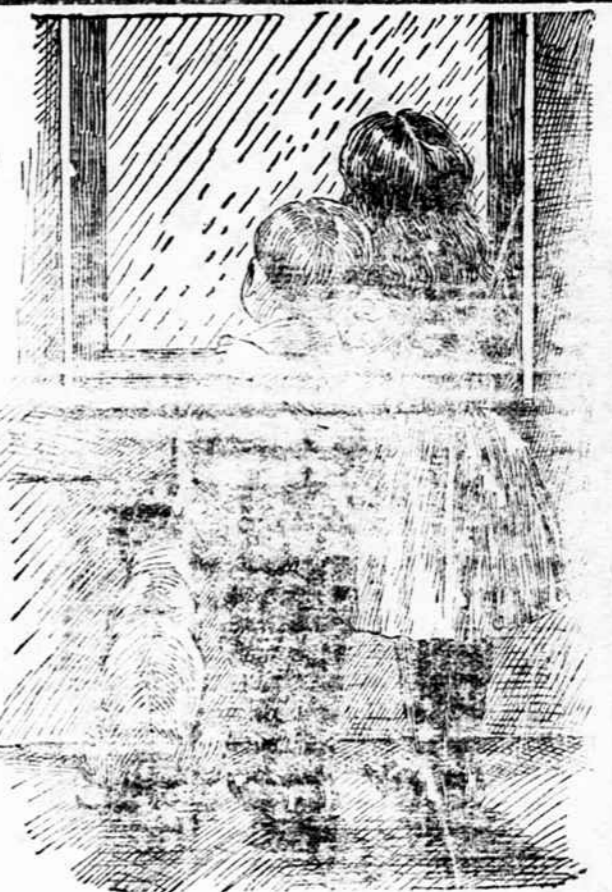
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WHAT WOULD BECOME OF YOUR CHILDREN IF YOU DIED TODAY?



WHO GETS THE MONEY YOU EARN?

There's a question for you to answer for yourself. If you are putting money in the bank you know they will be PROVIDED FOR. If you are spending and wasting every dollar you get, you don't know what will become of them. Who gets the money you earn? If you put into our bank what you spend or lend foolishly it will protect those children dependent on you.

Make OUR bank YOUR bank.
We pay 4 per cent. interest on savings accounts.
Farmers & Merchants National Bank,
"ABSOLUTELY SAFE" LAKE CITY, S. C.
Branches at Johnsonville, Cowards and Pamplico.

D. A. R. Chapter Organized Here.

Thursday afternoon of last week the Daughters of the American Revolution met and organized the Margaret Gregg Gordon chapter in Kingstree, with the following officers: Mrs D C Scott, regent; Mrs J F McFadden, vice regent; Miss Lula Brockinton, secretary; Mrs R J McCabe, treasurer; Miss Ada Brockington, registrar; Miss Maud Logan, historian. The board of management is composed of Miss Mamie McLees, Mrs W G Gamble and Mrs W E Brockinton.

The chapter is named for Margaret Gregg Gordon, whose deeds in our Revolution in behalf of the patriots have been handed down in history. Five of the members of the chapter are descendants of this illustrious woman.

The chapter will meet the second Thursday afternoon of each month and plans pre to have interesting as well as instructive programmes.

until a few months ago, when he was removed by Conference.

Cades Chronicles.

Cades, January 26:—The inclement and disagreeable weather we experienced Sunday was much like that of several preceding Sundays.

W H Whitehead, Esq. of Lake City was in our "burg" Tuesday on professional business.

Mr R C Carsten is having a very commodious residence erected on his property here, on or near the site formerly occupied by Mr E H Carsten as a mercantile location. Mr Carsten is a popular and progressive farmer, residing about two miles from town, and we welcome him and family into our midst.

Mr J L Gowdy of Hebron visited here Tuesday on business.

Mr S B Mishoe, representing the L C Peoples Clothing Co, Charleston, was here in the interest of his firm Tuesday. He reports that business has improved very satisfactorily within the past few weeks.

Mr W M Cooper of Cooper was noted here Tuesday. B W M.

The County Record \$1 a year.