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NEWBERRY, S. C., TUESDAY, JULY 8, 1913.

TWICE A WEEK, \$1.50 A YEAR.

E. H. AULL REVIEWS SCHOOLS FOR PAST YEAR

MAKES BRIEF STATEMENT OF WORK UNDERTAKEN.

Efforts Were to Establish Rural Graded Schools.—Creating Rural Community Centres.

My term of office as county superintendent of education closed on July 1, 1913. I assumed the duties of the office on January 6, 1912, by appointment of the State board of education. It was in the middle of the school term. I took the balance of that school year in studying the problems of the schools and familiarizing myself with the duties of the office. I soon became very much interested in the work, because there were possibilities for doing things and you could see results. I endeavored to perform the duties of the office faithfully and conscientiously and tried to pursue a constructive policy. I have no regrets, but feel rather that I am to be congratulated upon having turned over the office to my successor. The business has increased so during the past year that it really took all my time, and out of the meagre salary I had to pay the services of a stenographer, which left not a decent living for a man who can live on much less than I can. And I am too poor to give my time to the public service without reasonable compensation. I feel, therefore, that the people of Newberry county have really conferred a favor upon me, without intending to do so.

I will be frank to say, however, that the work was fascinating to me, and for the work's sake. I leave it with a degree of regret. I took great interest in the work and did what I could to improve the schools and arouse an interest on the part of the people. With what success the record must speak. With no criticism of any one, I have reached the conclusion that those who have held the office and the people have not regarded it with that importance with which it deserves to rank. Put in this statement I only purpose briefly to review the work which I had undertaken and planned to carry out. If you want to accomplish results in any undertaking you must not only be on the job yourself all the time, but you must let the people know that you are on the job. In the beginning I desire to give due credit to the very efficient services rendered during the five months of this year by Miss Elizabeth Hawkins, who was employed by me as field agent, or rural school supervisor, if you so desire to designate her. Without her aid some of the work done could not have been accomplished. She was tactful, diplomatic and exercised a good share of common sense, and had the ability to adapt herself to conditions and surroundings and was a general favorite with the people wherever she went.

If the enthusiasm and interest and school spirit are not encouraged and kept going much of the work undertaken will come to naught. It takes constant effort and a lot of patience to make the people see what is for their best interest. It is strange, but it is true. Human nature is so selfish that when a man suggests something for the general good, there are people who will not be convinced that the man who suggests it does not have a selfish motive somewhere for doing so. And there are people who would work against a proposition for the betterment of the school in their own community, and suffer the delusion that in some mysterious, indefinite, inscrutable way they were doing injury to the man who made the suggestion. Therefore, I say it requires patience, energy and constant effort to accomplish results. The people will do the right if you can once make them see it, but sometimes it is an awful effort to remove the scales from their eyes, and you have got to bear with them in patience.

As I see the rural school problem you have first got to help the people to discover the school house. Make the "school a real human performance that touches life, that rests on the earth, that has to do with present things and that will affect the lives of the children." I was criticized, not maliciously, I am willing to say, but rather through lack of knowledge, and I am always willing to be charitable, because when I went to visit a school I advertised the fact and asked the

patrons to meet me there to talk over conditions. I realized that no reforms could be brought about until the people were aroused, and you could not arouse them unless you could reach their ears, and you could not do that unless you got in talking distance.

At first my idea was to consolidate as many rural schools as possible, and in place of the fifty-nine districts to reduce them to not more than thirty, but after studying the problem more thoroughly, I became convinced that the best solution for the rural districts was to establish as many rural community centres as possible, with the school house as the centre of that community, and in view of the State aid offered to any school with two teachers and an enrolment of fifty children, I undertook to establish rural graded schools wherever the conditions warranted. In carrying out this policy a four mill tax has been voted in the following districts, having an enrolment of fifty children, and if the proper equipment is provided, each district will get two hundred dollars State aid: Jolly Street, Trinity, Zion, Jalapa, Pomaria, Silverstreet. Each of these goes from a one-teacher to a two-teacher school.

A two-mills tax was voted in St. Paul and McCullough, and each district has already received one hundred dollars from the State under the term extension act. Under this same act State aid was received during the school year for Dominick, Trilby, Zion and Silverstreet, these district already having voted a two-mills tax.

Four thousand dollars in bonds were voted in Silverstreet and three thousand and five hundred dollars in Pomaria for buildings and nice and modern brick buildings have already been completed.

In Chappells six thousand dollars were voted in bonds and a building similar to the Little Mountain building is about completed.

In Whitmire five thousand dollars in bonds were voted for the enlargement of the school building. The contract has been let and work commenced on the building. The bonds in all the districts have been sold, the money not yet being in hand for Chappells and Whitmire. The Whitmire district has made more progress than any other district in the county, and probably more than any district in the State. I found a debt of eighteen hundred dollars and a school with three teachers and no high school, though an enrolment of one hundred and thirty or more. The debt was paid, the building overhauled, a high school established, six teachers employed, all at higher salaries, a domestic science department installed, money provided for enlarging the building to double its capacity, and three hundred dollars carried to the credit of the next school year, and all without any increase in the tax levy, except, of course, for the enlargement of the building. The Whitmire school is one of the best in the State.

The total expenditure of the schools for the year just closing amounted to \$62,954.79 as against \$46,066.81 for the previous year. This shows an increase of more than fifty per cent, including the eleven thousand dollars for buildings at Chappells and Whitmire which rightly belong to the school year just closed, though the money was not in hand before the closing of the books.

There is probably less money to the credit of the school fund at the close of the school year than there has been for several years, but I do not conceive that the people vote on themselves special taxes nor pay the regular taxes for the purpose of accumulating a fund to lie idle in the hands of the county treasurer, but rather for the purpose of having schools. Of course, it should not be wasted.

If proper equipment is not provided at Trinity, Jalapa, Jolly Street, and Zion, in the way of buildings, these districts will not be able to get State aid nor have a rural graded school. I think in these purely rural districts that the money to be realized from the half mill tax should be used in providing for equipment. This tax takes the place of State aid for building fund, and where a rural district has the children and is willing to vote the four mills tax, it should be aided in putting up the building. That proposition, however, is up to the new administration.

Newberry last year had one of the best boys' corn clubs in the State, and

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SUMMERLAND'S PRESIDENT.

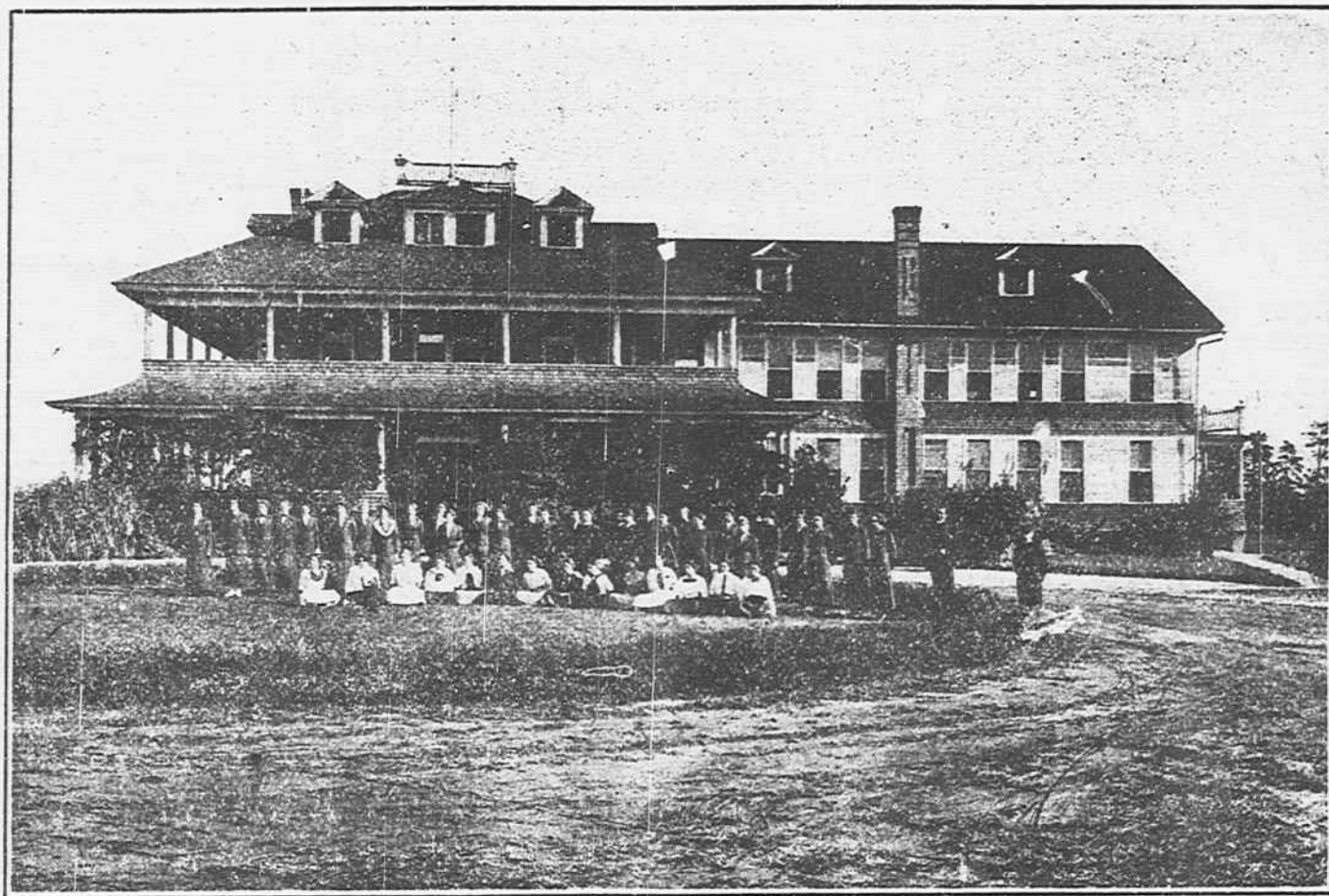
Rev. P. E. Monroe, of Johnston, Elected to Presidency of Lutheran College.

Leesville, June 29.—The Rev. Pleasant E. Monroe, the popular pastor of the Lutheran church at Johnston, is the new president of Summerland college. At a board meeting last Friday, he was unanimously elected to this position, he and a parishioner-member of the board being excused from

Carolina.

Mrs. Monroe was Miss Julia Houseal Hentz, of Pomaria, S. C. She has had five years successful experience as teacher of Latin and German in Mont Amoena Seminary, Mount Pleasant, N. C. She will be associated with her husband in the work of the college.

Mr. Monroe takes charge of the work of the college at once, however, not moving his family until August 1. He will begin an active canvass for students. In this he will have asso-



DORMITOR—SUMMERLAND COLLEGE.

voting. Friday he sent his letter of acceptance. This is decidedly good news. Mr. Monroe has been identified with the movement from the first, and knows the details of the work, as well as the field.

Summerland college was established a year ago by the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, of South Carolina. It already owns a magnificent plant, midway between Leesville and Batesburg, at Summerland Springs, valued at from \$50,000 to \$60,000. It is in one of the finest sections of the State. There are 40 acres of land belonging to the institution, on which vegetables,

ciated with him the Rev. S. C. Ballentine, pastor of the Lutheran church at Leesville. The friends of the college are sanguine over the prospects.

WHY PEEPLES REFUSED JONES.

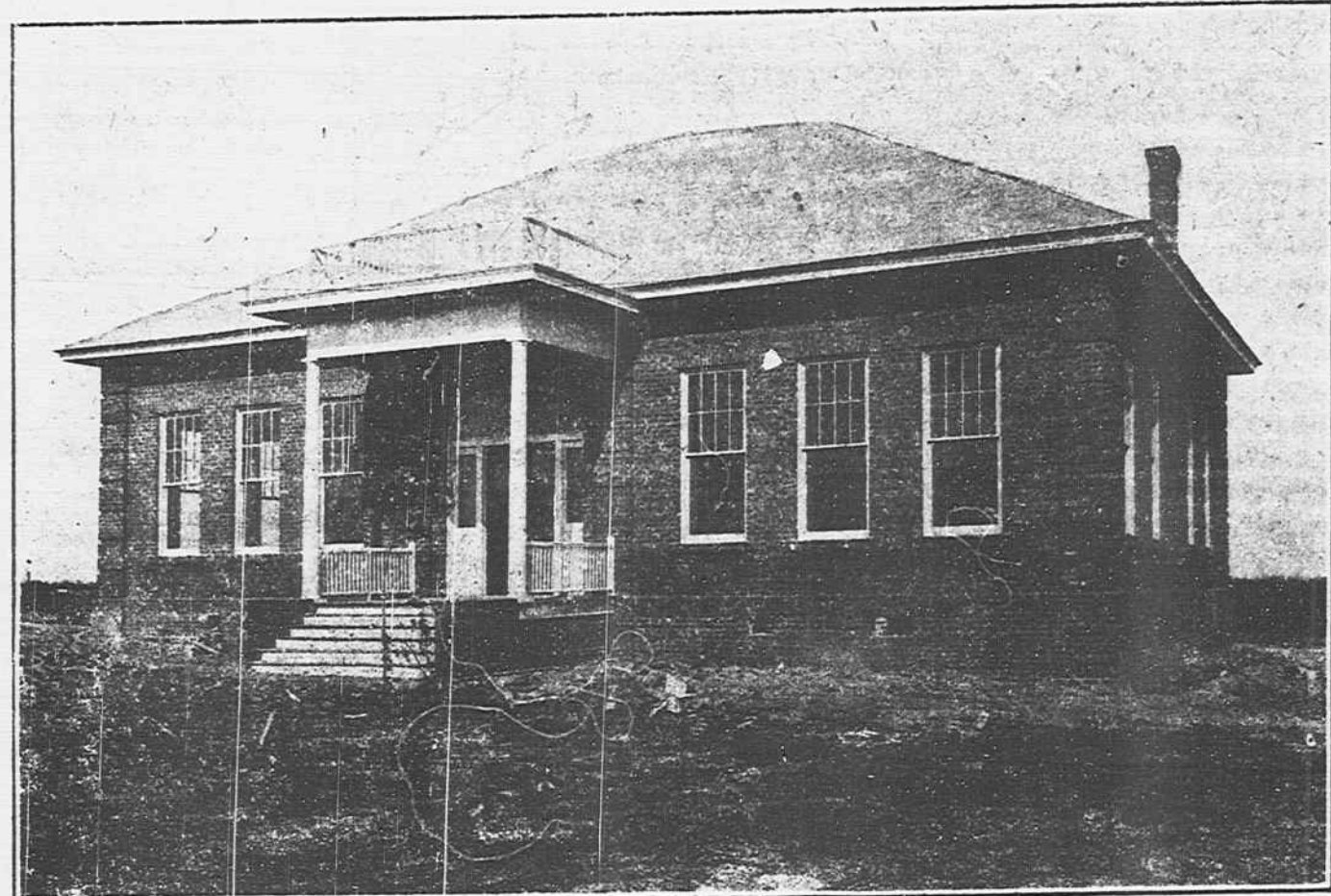
Comptroller General Had Asked Mr. Peeples to Represent Him in Dominick Case.

Columbus, July 3.—"I do not propose to represent a client who declines to follow my advice," wrote Attorney General Thos. H. Peeples today to Comptroller General A. W.

the State of South Carolina ex rel, W. W. Ray, petitioner, against C. L. Blease et al.

"Thos. H. Peeples, Attorney General"

"Mr. Fred. H. Dominick at the time of these transactions had no idea that he would ever be assistant attorney general of South Carolina so far as I know. He was employed and began his services as assistant attorney general of South Carolina on April 1, 1913. Most of the services in this case had been rendered—the putting in of the answer, attending references and the trip to the Northern States



CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC—SUMMERLAND COLLEGE.

milk, butter, chickens and eggs are produced. The new president is the secretary of the board of trustees, and vice president of the Synod, therefore, is in position to take hold of his new work intelligently.

Pleasant E. Monroe is a native of North Carolina, having been reared near Salisbury. He is now 37 years old. He graduated from North Carolina college in 1898, from which he holds the degrees of A. B. and A. M. He took his course in theology at the Lutheran Theological Seminary, of Chicago, graduating therefrom in 1901. His first pastorate was in Pulaski, Va., he remaining there one and a half years. He then accepted a call to become pastor of the Lutheran church at Ehrhardt, S. C., remaining in this field six years. From there he went to his present work at Johnston and is now serving his fifth year in this work. He is now chairman of the graded and high school board of education of Johnston, and president of the County Sunday School association and vice president of the Evangelical Lutheran synod of South

Jones, who asked the attorney general to represent him in a hearing to show cause why Fred. H. Dominick's claim of \$1,250 against the sinking fund commission should not be paid. The attorney general declined to represent Comptroller Jones or to name an attorney in his stead. His letter to Mr. Jones follows:

"July 3, 1913.

"Hon. A. W. Jones, Comptroller General, Columbia, S. C.—Dear Sir: In reply to your letter of July 2, 1913, I beg to say:

"First, you state: 'The reason I wish counsel to represent me as comptroller general is that the question should be made in the interest of the taxpayers in these proceedings whether or not it is illegal for the sinking fund commission to pay the assistant attorney general in your office a fee in addition to his salary for representing a member of the board of sinking fund commissioners in a specific piece of litigation, arising out of the official conduct of the commission.' 'The suit of the State ex rel, W. W. Ray vs. Cole, L. Blease et al, was be-

for the purpose of securing testimony—in fact, all of the work in connection with the case save the actual arguing of the same before the court had been completed before Mr. Dominick became connected with this office at all. Therefore your statement in that respect is without foundation in fact.

"Mr. Dominick is not receiving one dollar other than his salary as assistant attorney general for services which he has performed for the State of South Carolina or for any official business performed for the State of South Carolina since the day that he began his service as assistant attorney general, and I am very much surprised, with the records before you and at hand, that you would have made such a statement, either by resolution offered before the sinking fund commission, in an interview to the newspapers, or in a communication to myself, or any one else.

"Who employed Messrs. Weston & Aycock? A private individual, W. W. Ray, or by request of the attorney

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DOMINICK ANSWERS JONES.

Declares Only Expense Charged to State Since Taking Office Was to Charleston.

In a dictated interview given out Saturday, Fred. H. Dominick, assistant attorney general of the State, answered the return of Comptroller General Jones to the supreme court. Thursday Associate Justice Watts issued an order, at chambers, at Laurens, requiring the honoring of a warrant for \$1,250 in connection with the case of the bond refunding act.

Mr. Dominick's interview follows:

"When Comptroller General Jones read his return before Associate Justice Watts in Laurens on Thursday, I stated to Mr. Justice Watts that I had not heretofore seen the return and had not theretofore known anything as to what it contained, but that I desired to traverse it, and was ready to be sworn if either Jones or Mr. Justice Watts so desired. There was no request for me to be sworn, but I am willing at any time to put what I stated and what I am here repeating, in the shape of an affidavit.

"I stated to Associate Justice Watts that the matters raised in Jones' return which were not consistent with the petition filed by me were traversed by me, as all the facts were truly and correctly set out in my petition. I desired, however, to call special attention to the paragraph in the return relating to my having charged for my time and compensation for services rendered in this case since I have been assistant attorney general. I defied Jones to produce the records to that effect, and stated that he well knew the records of his own office would show that I had not so charged, and that the only expense charged up since I had been assistant attorney general were my actual traveling expenses in going to Charleston with Mr. J. Fraser Lyon to take the testimony of Col. Henry Schachte.

"As to the reasonableness of my fee and as to its correctness, I prefer to take the judgment of Senator P. L. Hardin, president pro tem, and chairman of the finance committee of the senate, and member of the sinking fund commission, and Dr. George W. Dick, chairman of the ways and means committee of the house of representatives, who are my personal friends, but, so far as I know, have not agreed with me politically, and to Associate Justice R. C. Watts, of the supreme court, who is known to everybody in the State.

"I stated before Associate Justice Watts, in traversing Jones' return, that the charge that my trip to northern cities in the bond case was a junketing trip was too contemptible to be noticed by any man laying any claim to decency.

"My petition and Comptroller General Jones' return, together with the order of Associate Justice Watts, were sent to the clerk of the supreme court, and I have no doubt he has them on file.

"Associate Justice Watts promptly signed the order sustaining my petition, and, further than to cite this fact and what I stated before Justice Watts, as outlined above, in reply to Jones' return, I have nothing further to say, as I do not care to put myself in the position of entering into a controversy with the comptroller general, preferring to leave it to the courts, wherever he has carried it.

"I am leaving this afternoon for Rochester, N. Y., where I will attend the grand lodge of Elks as district deputy from this State. I will be absent some days, and this fact will explain my silence until my return to the State, if it should be necessary for me to say anything further in the matter."

Had Heard About it.

The visitor was being shown about the great city.

"I want you to see the Woolworth building, the greatest in the world," said the airy New Yorker. "Then I'll show you the finest railway station ever built, and the most marvelous of bridges."

The visitor hesitated. "If you don't mind," he said, "there's something else I'd like to see first of all. It—it seems more wonderful."

"What's that?"

"One of your horsecar lines."

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Mrs. J. A. Meldau has returned from her visit to her mother and sisters at Reidsville and Charlotte, N. C.