

The True Democrat.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT ON THE SCHOOLS OF WEST FELICIANA FOR FIRST THREE MONTHS

NAME OF SCHOOL	Month	No. on Roll	Av. Att.	Per Cent	Gen. Av.
Cat Island.....	1	12	11	92	
" ".....	2	12	12	100	
" ".....	3	12	10	83	92%
Grange Hall.....	1	34	23.2	68	
" ".....	2	44	30.9	70	
" ".....	3	48	36.2	75	71%
New Hope.....	1	16	13.3	83	
" ".....	2	16	12.9	81	
" ".....	3	16	9.3	58	74%
Star Hill.....	1	22	19.2	87	
" ".....	2	23	22.3	97	
" ".....	3	23	20.3	90	91%
Wakefield.....	1	40	37.5	94	
" ".....	2	43	41.5	97	
" ".....	3	43	39	91	94%
J. Freyhan.....	1	193	184.6	96	
" ".....	2	195	184.1	94	
" ".....	3	197	181.4	93	94.3%
Poplar Spring.....	1	23	19.5	85	
" ".....	2	23	19.8	86	
" ".....	3	23	16.5	72	81%
Freeland.....	1	9	8	90	
" ".....	2	10	9.3	93	
" ".....	3	10	9.2	92	92%
Wilhelm.....	1	25	17.4	70	
" ".....	2	25	16.8	67	
" ".....	3	25	17.8	71	69%
Ninth Ward.....	1	10	9.1	91	
" ".....	2	11	10.3	94	
" ".....	3	11	10.6	97	94%
Beech Grove.....	1	11	11	99	
" ".....	2	11	10	91	
" ".....	3	11	10	91	94%

not supplied with horses and some have to walk a long way. Moreover, nine large window panes are out at Wilhelm and the cold weather probably deterred many. The window panes have arrived and will be put in immediately and it is hoped that Wilhelm will make a better attendance record for the next three months.

The average attendance for all the schools for the entire three months is 86% of the enrollment. If any school falls below 86%, the teachers and pupils may know that their school is helping to pull down the general average for the parish. If your school shows a rating above 86% you may know that your school is helping to pull up the general average for the parish. We want you to pull up and not drag down.

In order to help the teachers bring up the attendance average which in some instances is entirely too low I am authorizing the principals of the various schools to give to each student who is neither absent nor tardy for one month a Perfect Attendance Certificate. Four of these monthly Perfect Attendance Certificates will entitle the holder to a larger and more attractive certificate. Eight monthly certificates will entitle the holder to a large Diploma of Award. For the students who attend the full nine months without missing a day when school keeps and without being tardy, a beautiful diploma will be given.

The following improvements have been made: Cat Island, none; Grange Hall, floor and cistern repaired, brooms and water buckets added; New Hope, none; Star Hill, new stove, blackboard, erasers, maps, window flowers, window panes put in, and school garden; Wakefield, new desks and basketball; Julius Freyhan, new desks, \$20 worth of new tools, basketball, window panes, kitchen-sink, etc.; Poplar Spring, none; Freeland, new fence, steps repaired; Wilhelm, two desks repaired, five new desks added, hole in floor repaired, blackboard added, also maps and globe; Ninth Ward, none, but new cistern will be put in soon; Beech Grove, erasers.

All the schools of the parish are now running smoothly with a minimum of friction and showing satisfactory progress.

R. E. CRUMP,
Parish Superintendent.

NOVEL SIGHTS ON JACKSON DAY.

The very battle drum, whose rattling staccato notes called Andrew Jackson's sleeping handful of Tennesseans, Kentuckians and Creoles to the low-lying mud earthworks just before daybreak, Jan. 8, 1815, to repel the attack of the invading British hosts under Gen. Pakenham, is to be used in the realistic reproduction of that great American triumph of arms that is to be given exactly one hundred years after on the very battleground by the Louisiana Historical Society.

Descendants of the old pirate band who swore fealty to the cause of Jean Lafitte, pirate leader and hero of Byron's "Corsair," are to impersonate their ancestors in the coming "Battle of New Orleans" reproduction. Hundreds from the Baratarian section of the lowlands of Louisiana are to stand shoulder to shoulder with those who will impersonate the brave Creoles, the Kentucky and Tennessee riflemen, free men of color, convicts and others.

A careful study of the above table will reveal the fact that the Cat Island school is the only school which succeeded in scoring an average attendance for one month of 100%. While Beech Grove apparently should be credited with a 100% attendance for the first month, an examination of the teacher's report shows that a few days were missed by certain pupils.

Julius Freyhan, Wakefield and Ninth Ward were close contestants for first place in the general average on attendance. Julius Freyhan won by one-third of one per cent. Wakefield and Ninth Ward then tied for second place with Beech Grove a close third.

Grange Hall shows the greatest increase in attendance, jumping from 34 the first month to 48 the third month, making an increase in the enrollment of 41%. This, of course, was due to the abnormal conditions existing in this school at the opening of the school term. All the other schools show only a slight increase or a stationary enrollment. This indicates that practically all who intended entering school the first term entered the first month--which is highly desirable.

Ranking the schools according to their standing in the matter of attendance, they come as follows:

1. Julius Freyhan.....94 1.3%
2. Wakefield.....94%
3. Ninth Ward.....94%
4. Beech Grove.....94%
5. Cat Island.....92%
6. Freeland.....92%
7. Star Hill.....91%
8. Poplar Spring.....81%
9. New Hope.....74%
10. Grange Hall.....71%
11. Wilhelm.....69%

It thus appears that Julius Freyhan gets the first prize (if one had been offered, which was not the case) and that Wilhelm gets the booby prize. The teacher at Wilhelm doubtless will contend that it is not quite fair to compare a small one-room country school with a big, first-class, state approved high school like Julius Freyhan. And there are some extenuating circumstances. The children at Wilhelm are

THE NAZARETH SHOP.

[The following striking poem was written by Bishop McIntyre, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, who in early life was a brickmason, and never lost his sympathy for the laboring man. At the time of his death he was the resident Bishop of his Church in Oklahoma City.]

I wish I had been His apprentice, to see Him each morning at seven,
As He tossed His gray tunic far from Him, the Master of earth and of heaven;
When He lifted the lid of His work chest, and opened His carpenter's kit,
And looked at his chisels and augers, and took the bright tools out of it;
While He gazed at the rising sun, tinting the dew on the opening flowers,
And smiled as He thought of His Father, whose love floods this planet of ours;
When He fastened His apron about Him, and put on his workman's cap,
And grasped the smooth haft of His hammer, to give the bent woodwork a tap,
Saying, "Lad, let us finish this ox yoke. The farmer must put in his crop."
Oh, I wish I had been His apprentice, and worked in the Nazareth shop!

Some wish they had been on Mount Tabor, to hearken unto His high speech,
When the quick and the dead were beside Him, He holding communion with each;
Some wish they had heard the soft accents that stilled the wee children's alarms,
When He won the sweet babes from their mothers, and folded them fast in His arms.
Some wish they had stood by Jordan, when Holy John greeted Him there,
And had seen the white dove of the Spirit fly down o'er the path of His prayer.
Some wish they had seen the Redeemer, when into the basin He poured
The water, and, girt with a towel, the servant of all was the Lord.
But for me, if I had the choosing, oh, this would them all overtop:
To work all day steady beside Him of old in the Nazareth shop.

These heavenly wonders would fright me; I cannot approach to them yet;
But, oh, to have seen Him when tolling, His forehead all jeweled with sweat;
To hear Him say softly, "My helper, now bring me the level and rule;"
To have Him bend over and teach me the use of each artisan's tool.
To hear Him say, "This is a sheep gate to keep in the wandering flock;"
Or, "This is a stout oaken house sill. I hope it will rest on a rock."
And sometimes His mother might bring us our meal in the midsummer heat,
Outspread it so simply before us, and bid us sit down and eat.
Then, with both of us silent before Him, the blessed Messiah would stop
To say grace, and a tremulous glory would fill all the Nazareth shop.

PERMANENT PASTURE GRASSES

The best permanent grazing grass that we can get is Bermuda. Bermuda may be combined with white clover and lespedeza so as to make as near a permanent pasture as you will be able to secure. There is no grass that you can plant that will perpetuate itself on the soil without attention under severe grazing and at the same time be readily destroyed when you want to cultivate the land. I think you can handle Bermuda grass with moderate satisfaction, in spite of the bad reputation that it has for the cotton fields and other fields where clean cultivation is desired.

Red Top does fairly well if planted in the fall, and will thrive best in soils that are decidedly wet, but it will give you neither the grazing nor the hay that Bermuda grass will.

Orchard grass is only moderately satisfactory. If planted in the fall it makes very good winter and spring growth, but languishes in the summer, and much of it dies out during August. I think it is nothing like as desirable as Bermuda grass.

There are some cultivated grasses that do well during the period of growth, but they mature the seed and die out in the early summer; these include Rescue grass, Italian rye grass and others of this class. They could be planted in the fall and would furnish grazing during the winter, and if not pastured too closely will re-seed the land in May. Then you will have to have some other grass to provide summer growth.

Carpet grass is one of the native grasses that makes good pasture, but it doesn't combine well with anything else; it soon crowds out anything else that is put with it. It is fairly easy to get rid of under cultivation. Practically all of the other cultivated grasses become short period crops here.—W. R. Dodson, Director of Experiment Stations, Louisiana State University.

Farmers in the same neighborhood ought, just as far as possible, to grow the same varieties of crops. This is especially true of cotton. There are, for example, many places where a good grade of long staple cotton can be grown, but it will not pay for two or three farmers alone to attempt its culture. Enough must grow it to get a good market for it and to insure its being properly graded. Moreover, if all the farmers in a neighborhood grow the same variety of cotton or corn, they can soon make that neighborhood noted as a place for getting seed of that variety—just as in some parts of the West now, one county is known as the place to buy Jersey cows, another county as the Holstein county, and so on. In almost every phase of farm work you will find places where men will be rewarded for working together, or correspondingly punished if they are too indolent or selfish to co-operate.—The Progressive Farmer.

Complete knowledge is the key to efficiency.

VARIETY OF SUBJECTS ON PROGRAM

At the sixth annual short course of the Louisiana State University College of Agriculture, which begins January 19 and runs through January 29, the lectures and demonstrations will be of a practical nature and will embrace all phases of agricultural activity, and livestock raising. The lectures will include the following subjects: Feeding Farm Animals, Forage Crops for Hogs, The Marketing Problem, Hog Cholera, Lessening the Production Cost, Markets for Hay, Poultry on the Farm, Egg Production and Marketing, Legumes, Oats and Lespedeza, Beef Cattle, Control of Cattle Diseases, Pecans, Vegetable Gardens for the Farm, Increasing Corn Yields, Commercial Grades of Corn, Agricultural Possibilities of Cut-over Pine Lands of the South, The New Orleans Corn Market, Fertilizers for Corn, Livestock Problems of the South, Modern Marketing, Adult Extension Work, The Agricultural College and the Farm, How Demonstration Agents Can Assist the Farmers, The Work of the Rice Experiment Station, Forestry, Louisiana Soil Types and Development, Systems of Crop Rotations, Farm Machinery, and Horses and Mules.

Demonstrations will be made in Silo Construction, Breed Types of Hogs, Farm Butter-making, Practice in Judging Hogs, Commercial Grading of Corn and Oats, Breeds of Poultry, Tuberculosis, Hay-making Machinery, Dairy Cattle, Classes of Hay, Caponizing, Corn Judging, Farm Machinery, and Judging Beef Cattle.

The lectures and demonstrations will be given by the faculty of the College of Agriculture, the scientists of the Experiment stations and Extension departments, representatives from the United States Department of Agriculture and other state institutions, and prominent farmers of Louisiana.

A bulletin, containing full announcements, is being printed and will be ready for distribution within a few days.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF PARISH SUPERINTENDENTS

The annual conference of parish superintendents of public education will be held in Alumni Hall, Louisiana State University, January 25 and 26, 1915. Addresses will be delivered by Dr. J. L. McBrien, Rural School Specialist in the National Department of Education, and by members of the faculty of the University Winter Short Course, which will be in session at that time.

The following are among the topics that will be discussed at this conference: A Campaign for Better Country Conditions, Agriculture and Domestic Science in the Public Schools, and Industrial Work in the Schools.

Automobile trips will be taken to the Harelson and Seventh Ward schools, East Baton Rouge parish. Those schools have good facilities, and splendid equipment and work in domestic science.

PLANT FRUITS.

(Uncle Ed in Crowley Signal.)

How about some fruit trees this year? The season is at hand to plant oranges, pears, figs, peaches, pecans, mulberries, grapes, and plums. If the farmer will plant a few trees every year he will soon have all the fruit he wants without buying any at the stands. Our great fault is that we always put off till next year, which never comes.

Let us therefore commence the new year right, not only with good resolutions but actual work.

As for myself, I was like many of us, I waited too long. However two years ago I started to plant trees on my small place, which is situated in a small town in Acadia parish on six lots 120x100. On this small place I have a good house and barn for ornament, have two date palms, twelve rose bushes, one honeysuckle and many other smaller plants and bulbs. In the way of fruit trees I have 106 satsuma orange trees, 50 of which will bear next year; 23 fig trees, 15 grape vines, 14 pecan trees, 12 peach trees, and 5 plum trees, besides which I intend to plant some more in the near future.

If every farmer would do the same; plant a few trees every year and take care of them, they would yield good returns. All the attention they need is to keep all the stock out and keep the grass down.

When you plant a tree, never put any manure in the hole, as it makes the roots sour and will kill the tree. However, the second year after it has been planted, you may sprinkle manure around the tree and not too near the trunk and notice the good results.

Fond Mother (proudly)—"An' do ye no think 'e looks like 'is father?"

Sympathetic Neighbor (cheerfully)—"An' niver ye mind thot, Mrs. McCarty, so long as 'e's 'ealthy."—Harvard Lampon.

NOT ALL GLOOM IN THE SOUTH

(The Country Gentleman.)

South Carolina has at least one optimist who cannot see anything bearing the slightest resemblance to calamity in the present war crisis in cotton. His viewpoint is interesting and cheering:

"Cotton represents less than one-third of the South's agricultural products. The South's agricultural products are quite equalled by her manufacturing products and are equalled again by the products of her interest in lumbering, fisheries, transportation, mining, and so forth. Altogether the South's normal income exceeds nine billions of dollars a year. The reduction in the price of cotton involves a loss of about three hundred and seventy-five million dollars, or only about four per cent of her total income.

"Several states—Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky and Missouri—are absolutely unhurt, or practically unhurt, by the fall in the price of cotton, for the reason that they produce very little of the staple. Louisiana and Florida are immensely benefited by the war, which has increased the price of their cereals, sugar, fruits and livestock. The injury to cotton is more than offset by the benefits from other sources.

"The Cotton Belt is injured, and here the loss will run perhaps as high as ten per cent of the normal income from all sources. But what is loss to the farmer is gain to the manufacturer to a certain degree, because the South buys from herself three million bales of cotton a year, or one-fifth of the crop. Very likely this year the South will take from twenty-two to twenty-three per cent of her cotton crop.

"One other thing: The war has increased the prices of commodities raised in the Cotton Belt other than cotton, and to such a degree that the losses on cotton are quite largely reduced by the gains on other commodities.

"For the last ten years the South has been immensely paid for raising cotton and there has been a large accumulation of money, putting the farmers in excellent position, so that a large percentage of them can hold their crops through till next season if they desire to do so. There have been too many extravagant statements concerning the danger to the South."

This is a rather crisp summing up, logically presented. It may not bring much cheer to the man who is sorely pinched, but it should enable those who have been misled by hysterical statements to get a view of actual conditions in the South, taking all economic producing factors into consideration.

Prof. Humphrey put a powerful lesson before the farmers who visited the dairy show and looked over the Wisconsin exhibit. He showed the annual value of the dairy products of Wisconsin exceeded by \$16,000,000 the gold output of Alaska, Nevada, California, and Colorado. What was more to the point was that the gold crop is mined but once, whereas the dairy cow yields a crop each year and there is the cow left. Added to this is her fertilizing value to the farm.—Hoard's Dairyman.

Who takes one Stroke in turn at every Tree

Fells none, however sharp his Axe may be.

Turn on the backbiter, and say it to his face.

Best Line of Candy In Town

We now have one of the best assorted stocks of candy ever shown in this town. The variety is great enough to suit the taste of the most fastidious. Use candy as a peace-maker.

The Royal Pharmacy.

Jacobs Candies
Made Last Night.

WOODLAWN FARM

J. B. McGEHEE
1836-1913

The daffodils are now green on our senior's grave, but the WOODLAWN IDEA is still alive and active. "Hands that work, brains that think, hearts that love," are still making the face of Nature smile with abundant crops, while her hillsides are animated with kindly herds. Our labor is ample, satisfied, and efficient and our debts all paid. We have an abiding faith in our Creator and in our fellowman and in ourselves.

SUCCESS LIES IN MUTUAL SERVICE

And we earnestly desire to see every acre in West Feliciana made beautifully productive and every citizen happy and prosperous. It has been proven that all this is possible if we would only try.

Shall we try?

All serious enquirers welcome.