

GROWTH OF STATE'S PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

A Splendid Accomplishment by Democrats Overshadowing All Else—A Record to Be Proud of.

(Special to the Hustler).
Raleigh, Oct. 4.—There's more interest in politics than anything else developing around the State Capital this week. With the election only five weeks ahead it is natural that this should be so.

If what Governor Bickett and Superintendent of Public Instruction Joyner have done within the last few days to Candidate Linney's absurd noise, about the alleged "extravagant" conduct of the public school system by the Democrats of North Carolina is not enough to close that sly politician's mouth on the subject, then he is dead to light, and has not sought to fairly and honestly enlighten the people.

If Republican spellbinders of smaller calibre who have echoed Candidate Linney's utterances on this matter do not now shut up shop and close the shutters of their political gossip manufactory, then it will be because they have decided to continue to ignore the truth in the continued hope of fooling some of the voters and keeping them fooled till after election day in November.

Here is just one overshadowing fact that is enough to settle any doubt these

spellbinders may have raised in the mind of any voter rational enough to formulate an idea and receive a thoughtful suggestion: Today, after sixteen years of continuous hard work on the proposition, the State of North Carolina, under Democratic administration of affairs, is educating properly 288,000 school children for 184 days in the year at a cost of only 2 1-2 cents more than the Republicans spent to "educate" in an inferior manner less than half that number for only 73 days of each year.

Under the Republican regime the children attended school in the poorest school houses known wherever people wear clothes (with apologies to Mr. Bickett), and were "taught" by the poorest paid "teachers" under the sun (eclipses not excepted), and the chance to get much of an "oddicashun" under those conditions was dim enough to supply everything else needed to complete the deadly parallel of the contrast between then and now. Is there a well informed father or mother in North Carolina who would vote for, or desire the election of the Republican ticket in this State this year, because of any possible advantage that might accrue to their children? I don't believe anybody else believes it.

If there is any one thing, of the many splendid accomplishments of the Democrats in North Carolina during the last sixteen years, that towers over all the others (important and valuable as they are), it is the growth of the public school system, viewed from all angles, and as was emphasized in these letters last week, it is being done in a more economical manner, so far as spending money goes, than in any other State in the American Union—save and except one.

It is a record of which the Democrats of North Carolina are proud, a record of which all the people should be proud, when they come to know the truth and disabuse their minds of the impressions made by the sly tricks of the Republican speakers—made at the expense of the truth in the desperate game they are playing to "fool the voters." For they are not going to "stay fooled."

School Funds.

Superintendent Joyner says this about Candidate Linney's absurd suggestion that the sparsely settled counties like Ashe, Alleghany and Watauga should have as long school term as the populous counties with large cities, like Durham and Forsyth, for instance (which annually contribute over \$15,000 each through their five cent State tax on the \$100 valuation of property, to the State equalizing fund for the benefit of Alleghany, Sampson and other counties having less than five months school in any school district). Dr. Joyner says, and what he says is the "last word," as far as one qualified to speak on the subject in this latitude is concerned:

"From a moment's reflection it will be seen that unequal distribution of population must be taken into consideration as well as unequal distribution of wealth in the equalization of educational opportunity. In the equalization of advantages there must be taken into consideration term, house, equipment, attendance, number and qualification of teachers. No exclusively per capita distribution of State and county school funds can take all of these into consideration, and consequently such a method cannot equalize educational opportunity. Under the present plan of distributing school funds in North Carolina, all of these things are taken into consideration. The county and State school fund is so distributed as to give equal length of term to all districts in each county according to the number of teachers required in each district irrespective of sparsity or density of population, and the State equalizing fund further taking all of these things into consideration is used to correct any inequality in length of term and educational opportunity that may be found to exist in the various counties after the distribution of the general State and county fund in each county."

Fair Ground Improvements.

Former visitors to the North Carolina State Fair grounds will find this year a greatly improved property in every way. The old agricultural hall has been practically rebuilt, all the main and annex buildings have been given fresh coats of paint inside and outside, and a few of the smaller affairs from a past regime have been taken down altogether. The roadways connecting buildings will no longer prove obstructive, but have been raised at least two feet in all lower places, given a good crown, and by the time the big fair opens October 16th each of the walks and roadways will be covered with a screen of stone. The main exhibit and agricultural hall has been connected by a spacious covered archway, and many other substantial improvements made in the property.

The reduced rate ticket to the State Fair this year over all the railroads will be good for a longer period than heretofore, namely ten days—from October 14 to 23rd, inclusive.

REV. PATTISHALL JOINS MINISTERS WHO ENDORSE IT

Another North Carolina Pastor Expresses Thanks for Gains on Tanlac.

"I am gaining in strength, weight and health right along and am pleased of this chance to offer my hearty endorsement to the wonderful reconstructive powers of Tanlac," says the Rev. E. B. Pattishall, pastor of a leading Elm City, N. C. Church.

"For over seven years I have been a victim of severe stomach troubles and indigestion. I was much run down and my appetite had failed me. Often I longed for meats and vegetables, but my digestion would not permit me to taste of them. I was nervous and my sleep was broken and unrefreshing. I tried almost everything I heard of but nothing seemed to fit my case. Then I found Tanlac.

"I have taken three bottles and it certainly proved itself in my case. Now, I can eat any food I like without suffering afterwards from pains or distress. Nervousness is gone and sleep is refreshing. Tanlac is sold in Hendersonville by Hunters Pharmacy.

PITTSBURGH ON EDGE OF ASIA

In Baku Persian and Tartar Millions Ride in Jeweled Cars.

I'm afraid that I shall have to tell my great-grandchildren that the Caspian is very little to look at, at least from Baku, writes H. G. Dwight in the Century. It has no color and it smells outrageously of kerosene.

Baku, however, is something to look at. (Baku is the Russian trans-Caucasian seaport on the Caspian sea.) It is a kind of Pittsburgh dipped in Asia, and it tickled me beyond measure. Not so long ago it was a wretched fishing village inhabited chiefly by Persians and Tartars, who were too stupid to sell their land to prowling oil prospectors. So those same Persians and Tartars now roll in gold. And they don't know what on earth to do with it. The consequence is that nobody but a millionaire can afford to live in Baku.

But what a fantastic hodgepodge of civilization and barbarism! What types! What costumes! What morals!

Above all, what motor cars—satin lined, emblazoned, gilded, jeweled, skittering there on the edge of Asia!

It's too good to be true, but I shan't tell you about it. What I want to tell you about is a park the Russians have made there on the shore of their Caspian. They always do those things well, you know. No green thing will grow for miles around Baku, but those Russians have coaxed a few trees to sprout in tubs in that tidy little park, and bands far better than I ever heard in Central park play you Tschalkowsky and Rimsky-Korsakof, not to say Wagner and Verdi and Bizet. And you should see the extraordinary crowds that listen—the Russians, the Persians, the Armenians, the Georgians, the Lezgians, the Tartars, the wild, the swarthy, the fiery, the rainbow colored! My son, when in doubt, go to Baku.

I sat there in the park one afternoon, sniffing their Caspian, tapping my foot in time to their "Glinka," when I suddenly made a discovery:

That coon song we used to sing when we were young, "Lou, Lou, I Love You," came out of "Life for the Czar."

War Prices in Paris.

One hears a great deal about the rising cost of living in Germany, resulting from the British blockade, but comparatively little about the privations of the allies. The following letter from an American engineer in Paris tells something of the hardships of the City of Light:

"Cold boiled ham costs ninety-five cents a pound and each thin slice comes to ten cents. Butter is unobtainable at less than sixty-four cents a pound, and everything is in proportion. Gasoline is twenty cents a quart. Alcohol is out of the question, as it is now forty-eight cents a quart as compared to fourteen before the war. Sugar is fourteen cents a pound. "I believe the war won't be over before next year, so we settle down to it as a fact to be borne. It hits everyone except a few. I am comfortable, have enough to eat and a good bed, but living in 'juste' (narrow); I just about come out even."—Wall Street Journal.

Pink for a Baby Girl.

Why pink for a baby girl and blue for the boy? The reason for the distinction is not very clear. We are told that in Russia and in America blue is used in the preparation of the outfit for a baby if the parents desire a boy and pink if the preference is for a girl, and then the old stork brings just whichever one he pleases regardless of the color scheme; so the wise mother uses both pink and blue in her layette. A Russian maiden not only wears pink in her girlhood, but adorns her wedding trousseau plentifully with this hue.

At a meeting in Raleigh of the joint committee of North Carolina Bar Association and the North Carolina Farmers' Union, a committee was appointed to draw a bill for presentation to the Legislature next winter providing for certain changes in the Torrens law.

BUSY BUSY DAYS AT COLUMBIA PARK.

(Contributed.)

Industry and thrift are emblems greeting the eyes of the observer as he passes through Columbia park.

The whirring of machinery, the whistle's shrill note screaming out at the stroke of the clock combined with the merry workers hurrying to their posts of duty makes one feel like yelling "Hurrah!" Hurrah! for surely "Somebody" in that community needs repeated encouraging. Somebody's fertile brain and untiring efforts have put new life and vitality into this little place, as it is very much alive.

A number of the homes have opened their doors to these folks with busy fingers—one generous hearted mother has ten of these workers as her guests for this winter, besides her own large sized family.

One resident remarked, "well you know there is the night and day crew, for they both work day and night." "Less evil abounds where there are busy minds and busy hands."

W. N. H. Smith, a prominent insurance man of Raleigh, was a Carolina Terrace guest Monday and Tuesday.

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