

Dorothy Lacy—High School Branches, Boydton
 Margaret Lewis—Grammar Grades, Blue Grass High School, Crabbottom
 Willie Lee Talley—Home Economics and Science, Reames Junior High School.
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 XIII

 NOTES AND NEWS OF THE
 ALUMNAE

LOUDOUN COUNTY SCHOOL FAIR

For the last eleven years the Loudoun County School Fair has been the biggest annual event in the history of the county. It is the one thing that has aroused local public sentiment in education more than any one other thing. It is here that the parents gather with their children and learn what the schools are doing in other parts of the country. It is here that parents are educated in progressive educational movements through the children. Can you imagine anything more interesting to a parent than to see his child in a contest and see him come out the proud victor? Can you think of anything which would arouse the patron's admiration for a teacher more than this?

The Fair is managed by the School Fair Executive Committee, which is composed of the county superintendent, the secretary-treasurer and the chairman of the committees in charge of the various departments. This usually makes a committee of ten or fifteen members. The superintendent is chairman of the executive committee and appoints the chairman of each sub-committee. Each chairman selects two assistants, and with them works up his department subject to the approval of the executive committee.

It usually takes about \$800 to finance the Fair. Formerly this money was raised through selling advertising space in our Fair catalogue, by private contributions, and admission fees to athletic events. This year the money was contributed by the Leesburg Chamber of Commerce and interested friends. The Leesburg Chamber of Commerce, by its contribu-

tion, made it possible, for the first time in the history of the Fair, to admit school children free of charge to all athletic events.

Our prizes are usually money, medals, banners, and a silver loving cup. It is our aim to award the large prizes, such as banners and the loving cup, to schools rather than to the individual. These prizes must be won for two consecutive years by a school before becoming its permanent property. We find this method increases school and community spirit, as well as saves the Fair much money.

Formerly we held our Fair in the fall; but we found that the cold weather and late opening of schools were quite a hindrance to its success. It was also much more difficult for the towns to entertain the Fair at this time of the year and the days were too short to get in all the events. But now that the Fair is held in the spring, we have practically the whole year to prepare for it and balmy days for our out-door activities. We held our Fair for two days in May before the one and two-room schools have closed, teachers receiving full pay for these days. It is the cap-stone of events, being followed in June by the Horse and Colt Show, in September by the Agriculture Fair. We are considering preserving the prize exhibits for an Educational Booth at our Agriculture Fair in September. In this way we hope to increase public sentiment for better rural schools.

I would like to mention here, that we have never permitted any side shows at our School Fair. And last year we had no side shows of any kind in connection with our Agriculture Fair. It was decidedly a success. This splendid movement is a result of the Friends' Public Welfare Work in the Purcellville and Lincoln communities.

The exhibits and various activities of the Fair are supposed to be a representation of the daily class room work. But they are not. Where is there a teacher who will not coach or drill the representatives of her school outside of the regular recitation period? She knows they are to compete against the pick of the county and must be trained to a high degree of skill if they are to win.

At our Fair the following departments are usually represented, although they vary from year to year: English, Nature, Domestic Science and Art, Reading, Arithmetic, Spell-

ing, Algebra, Latin, Booklet, Public Speaking, Agriculture, Hand Work, Public Health, Parade and Athletics.

Contesting classes are divided into three groups, as follows: class A includes grades 1, 2, 3, and 4; class B, grades 5, 6, and 7; class C, high school.

The English, Nature, Domestic Science and Art, Booklet, Hand Work, Agriculture, and Public Health departments furnish the exhibits for the Fair. The display of canned fruits, jellies, candies, spice cakes, golden butter, and brown bread makes one's mouth water and would be the pride of any housewife. The beautiful laces, dainty embroideries, and simple frocks, are the envy of every girl. The pens of chickens, the pigs, the samples of corn, are the pride of the boys. The Health Department always creates much interest and many practical health laws are demonstrated.

The exhibits for prizes are displayed in one building and are opened to the public, after being judged by a disinterested, but competent, person. If possible, we secure judges from outside of the county. In the same building each school district is allotted so many feet of space for a district booth. No prize is awarded the booth, but many interesting things are displayed here not shown elsewhere in the Fair.

This year we used standardized tests for the contests in reading, arithmetic, Latin, and algebra, with very satisfactory results. The schools following a systematic practice of using standard tests had a decided advantage over the other schools.

The events which create most interest are the debate, base ball, and basket ball. Our county is divided into two districts. The two winning teams from the two districts for each of the above events meet at the Fair and vie with each other for the championship in debate, base ball, and basket ball.

The parade of 3,000 school children, with flying banners and gay costumes, led last year by Governor Davis and the World War doughboys, was a sight not easily forgotten and one which people have driven for miles to see.

PAMELIA L. ISH

The Alumnae-Students Building, the cornerstone of which was laid with interest-

ing and memorable ceremonies at commencement, is taking shape on Blue-Stone Hill. And it is of the same native blue limestone that has given our whole group of buildings such a distinctive and enduring character. Near the spot where the old Maypole used to stand, slightly nearer the Smythe Orchard—the place of long forbidden but now permissible fruits—the massive walls are slowly but surely rising. To be sure, the foundation is as yet largely faith—much more money is badly needed; but faith is a good foundation for a house of love, such as this is; and faith in five thousand such people as the girls (and the boys) of Blue-Stone Hill are is a very firm substance of things hoped for.

Already we are hearing of plans for renewing the campaign for building funds with the taking up of school work next month. Indeed, many of our loyal band have never stopped in this business. Every few days a message comes in that gives evidence of unflagging interest and effort. Such spirit and such labors are certain of success. A long pull and a strong pull and a pull altogether has brought in many a ship. It is going to build the home-coming house on Blue-Stone Hill.

One of the features of the first term of the summer school was a plantation classic in the form of an old-fashioned minstrel show. It was staged and executed by students in behalf of the Alumnae-Students Building Fund, and netted a respectable sum for that enterprise. It was given under the trees in the outdoor auditorium, just back of Maury Hall; and it is needless to say that the moonlight, the weird shadows, and the sweet melodies combined to produce a pleasing ensemble.

The troupe was large and the star performers were numerous. It would be impossible to mention all who won distinction by wit, beauty, or histrionics; but Mattie Worster, Linda Carter, Kathleen Watson, and Mrs. Turner were a few of the chief promoters, managers, and entertainers. These same ladies and others have been very efficient also in selling ice cream and other confections to augment the building fund.

Miss Maisie L. Morgan, of the class of 1921, was married to Mr. Sheffey Lewis Devier, of Harrisonburg, at her home in Brunswick, Georgia, on July 26.

On July 30 Ruth Wallace became Mrs. Benjamin Rives Hooper. Word of this came to us from Atlantic City, New Jersey, where honeymoons are said to hang in every sky.

On August 4 Helen Hopkins married Mr. Ralph Miller Hoover. A large company of guests and friends was present—even some of the Normal folks were able to get away from the imperative bells long enough to glimpse the beauty and shining lights that adorned the handsome old lawn at Cave Hill, while music stirred all hearts, old and young, with perennial spring.

And Mary Abbott Cook is married too. Her husband is Rev. Edward E. Lane, D. D. The marriage took place on August 17 at Stuart, Va. Right easily can we picture Mary as a minister's helpmate.

And on September 1 Mary Early will become the wife of Mr. Bledsoe Buford Parrott, at Ruckersville, Va. If anybody has more friends and well-wishers than Mary, we have not heard who it is.

But all of our girls have plenty of friends, and well deserve them. They all have our best wishes in all the real interests of life and work.

Kate Clary, the efficient treasurer of the Richmond chapter of alumnae, wrote on August 12 from New York City. She said:

"I am sending you a check which I have just received from Mary Quigg for the Building Fund. . . . Today we completed our courses here and will leave for home tomorrow. I have enjoyed New York very much, but am very glad that it is all over. I have not seen the July VIRGINIA TEACHER, as it was not forwarded to me, but I shall enjoy it on my return."

Mary V. Yancey Canter sends a word of greeting from 1356 Madison Street, Washington, D. C. Her many friends reciprocate her good will.

Bess Willis, now Mrs. L. H. Shrader, writes from Amherst. She had a cheering message for Alma Mater and is evidently keeping up her interest and efficiency in the teaching profession.

A recent letter from the vicinity of Alexandria says: "We have been favored by a promised return of Miss Kiracofe, Miss Smith, Miss Wright, and Miss Hartman—

the latter having recently withdrawn her application."

These young ladies and their associates did fine work last session at Bailey's Cross Roads. We wish them continued success.

Jessie Falls, who is now a banker at Lovington, paid us a flying visit recently. She was passing through Harrisonburg by automobile, but could not pass the Normal without stopping to say a word to old friends.

INDUSTRIAL REHABILITATION IN VIRGINIA

Provision for the rehabilitation of persons disabled in industry is cared for by the federal act passed in June, 1920. All but seven states have accepted the act, but in only 23 have state appropriations been provided to match the appropriation granted by the federal government for this purpose. Virginia is one of five states that has accepted the act, but will not decide the question of ratification until 1922 when the legislature next meets.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

RUTH TOMKO is a graduate of this school, class of 1921, and comes from the people whom she so sympathetically describes.

KATHERINE M. ANTHONY is the supervisor of the training school. She writes for this issue of THE VIRGINIA TEACHER from the Mission Schools of Highland county, where she is spending her summer.

ESTELLE HUNT is an instructor in the College of Liberal Arts, University of Cincinnati.

PAULINE MILEY is a teacher in the Winchester school system and a member of the Summer School faculty of this school.

JOHN W. WAYLAND is head of the department of history and social science at this school.

MAY K. BRIGEL is an educational representative of the Columbia Graphophone Co.

JUANITA SHRUM is a member of the Junior Class of this school.

MARY V. YANCEY CANTER was a member of the training school faculty. She resigned this past session to be married.

PAMELIA L. ISH is a teacher in the Loudoun county schools. She is spending her summer in work at this school.