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BETTER SCHOOLS IN COAL REGION

Former Mountaineer Now Superintendent of Schools in Backward West Virginia.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Oct. 22.—Good roads, better schools and a higher culture for the entire community has become the slogan of the extreme southwestern part of West Virginia—the coal countries of Logan, McDowell, Boone, Wyoming and Mingo. Here it was in bygone years that moonshiners flourished in the fastnesses of the mountains, feudists fought their battles with out serious interference from the law, and the wayfarer knew no better highway than the rough timber trail. But times are changing and education is exerting its uplifting influence.

Captain George M. Ford, born a mountaineer and educated in one of the foremost universities of the country, has recently become State Superintendent of Free Schools, and in that capacity has been giving much of his time to the needs of the southwest.

"Schools in the mountain counties," said Captain Ford, "may not have made the progress shown in some of the other states," because of our many natural barriers, but they rank high and the teaching staff is good. Most of the teachers have had normal school training, while 30 per cent of the white teachers and 70 per cent of the negro teachers this year attended some summer school. The pay of teachers is still low, but the need of education has made it appear to all our people that more money must be set aside for that purpose. The state now gives aid to certain counties which lack sufficient funds for the maintenance of their schools at the required level.

"Wyoming county is one of the remote sections of the state. It is largely agricultural and poorly served by railroads. School officials have had much difficulty in locating schools and providing the necessary teaching staff because the compulsory education law does not require pupils to walk more than two miles to school and the funds available have made it impossible to sprinkle the territory with enough school buildings.

"The poor roads in Wyoming also have had their influence on education. But when one has mentioned Wyoming, one has disposed of the worst. Conditions are much better in the four other counties, although Mingo's roads are still poor and there is room for improvement in Logan. Each, however, has under way an ambitious road improvement program. As for schools, both Mingo and Logan are well equipped.

"Most of the school buildings in these counties are of the one-room type, but they are rapidly giving way to the modern consolidated school. There are now such schools in every county, and they are increasing as the road program is being completed and bus lines are being established to transport pupils to and from their homes.

"To get away from the stereotyped form of buildings, we have employed an architect to design modern, light and commodious structures."

McDowell county is among the best developed counties in the state. It was a pioneer in the movement for better highways and its free schools have attracted wide attention. In the county seat,

Like a Real One



An improved artificial arm which enables the wearer to write as soon as he is accustomed to it, was one of the most interesting exhibits at the recent London medical exhibit.

Wow! Ow! Oh, What a Jaw!



No monkeyshines about this picture of unhappy little Sambo, of the London zoo. Even peanuts fail to tempt him. Yep—toothache.

Welch, school buildings are of the most modern design, while there is a hospital for miners which is classed by physicians as one of the best hospitals in the state. The McDowell county post of the American Legion recently completed a fine home, the only Legion post in West Virginia to own its own quarters.

The movement for law and order in the county was shown when two companies of the new West Virginia National Guard were accepted for federal service. During the recent labor disturbances, 1,229 men, many of them leaders in the public and industrial life of the county, volunteered for service in Logan county.

The coal deposits of McDowell are particularly valuable, and a large number of new coal mining companies have recently commenced operation. This, according to Houston G. Young, secretary of state, "indicates complete development of the territory within the next few years."

The new railroads have also been projected into Logan, one to connect with the Norfolk and Western railroad in Mingo county, and the other to connect with the Virginian railroad. A branch line of the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad now enters the county from Huntington.

Another item which is attracting general attention is the erection in the near future, of a hospital at Logan. The project is headed by Dr. Henry D. Hatfield, former governor.

Walter S. Hallahan, state tax commissioner, has just completed a tabulation showing the assessed valuation of all property in the state. One of its outstanding features is the increase recorded by every one of the counties in the southwest.

Boone county leads the state with

an increase in property value of \$8,189,119, notwithstanding that it is one of the smallest. The total valuation of Boone was fixed at \$25,465,122.

"These increases reflect the remarkable strides in development and growth industrially and in every way of this southwestern part of West Virginia," said Commissioner Hallahan.

ELEPHANT HUNT HAS THRILLS

LONDON, Oct. 22.—A good elephant yarn is told by J. Morewood Dowsett, a well-known big game hunter, who has just returned from a hunting trip in South Africa.

He was hunting elephants in Uganda when information was brought him of the whereabouts of a large herd. With a native chief and a house boy, he started to find them.

The party came upon the herd in the forest. Mr. Dowsett got several photographs within 20 yards of the beast when the chief warned him that they had been "scented" and that the animals were coming for them. Snatching up his rifle, Mr. Dowsett shot and killed the leader, a big bull.

While some surrounded their dead leader, many of the beasts stampeded and, running the wrong way, Mr. Dowsett was cut off from the party. Re-loading his gun, the hunter dashed off for safety and ran into a big bull elephant which crashed through the bush six yards in front of him.

Trunk aloft, ears extended and tripping wildly, the beast rushed at Mr. Dowsett and swept him to the ground with his trunk and turned rapidly to

Churches

Christian Church—The Revival Meetings will continue till Thursday night, October 27th. Bible school meet at 9:45 and preaching and communion service at eleven o'clock. All the C. E. societies meet at six-thirty. There will be no Revival service Sunday evening as we are joining in the Union Service at the Methodist Church with "Three-Fingered Jack" Godwin as preacher. We urge every one to be there, and then to come back to our service Monday evening.—O. W. Jones, Minister.

Church of God—Harris Hall, corner of Fir and Monroe streets. Sunday school at 2:30 in the afternoon. Evening preaching service at 7:30. A cordial welcome to all.—Carlos A. Plummer, Pastor.

First Presbyterian Church—Bible school at 9:45 a. m. Public worship at 11 a. m. The Minister will speak on "Form Demonic to Missionary." Christian Endeavor at 6:30. Topics, "What We Know About God." No evening services in this church—all join in the Great Union Service in the Methodist Church. See notice elsewhere.—James Aikin Smith, Minister.

First Church of Christ Scientist—Corner First and Washington. Sunday morning service at 11:00. Subject "Probation After Death." Sunday school at 9:45 a. m. Wednesday evening meeting at 8:00. The reading room is open to the public every Monday Wednesday and Saturday from 2 to 4 p. m. All are welcome to attend our services.

First Methodist Episcopal Church—Sabbath school at 9:45. H. A. Hester, superintendent. Morning worship at 11:00. Sermon theme, "The Positive Note." Special music by Chorus Choir conducted by Mrs. Williams. Epworth League at 6:30. Subject "Two Things We Know About God." Conference Cleaver, president. Union meeting at 7:55 in this church. Many having expressed the wish to hear Mr. W. A. (Three-Fingered Jack) Godwin, the churches are coming together in a meeting to be addressed by him. It will be a great service. Rousing community singing of favorite hymns in which the congregation will be led by the combined choirs. Special musical numbers. This will be a Red Letter service. You must not miss it. Men of all churches and no church specially invited.—G. H. Quigley, Minister.

its own length ready to trample him. The hunter took a flying dive under the monster's belly, realizing that he would then be on the right side of the wind but the beast turned rapidly instead the animal rolled him over and over with its legs and the hunter saw above him the two great tusks as the beast tried to maneuver his body into position and pick him up. Mr. Dowsett managed to roll behind the animal and get to his feet and make a dash for cover.

To the hunter's relief and surprise the furious beast set off in the opposite direction and disappeared.

The Tiger Tamer



Many baby living near the Washington zoo will tell you that tigers are easy to train. If you want 'em to lie down, you just push 'em down. Of course, these playful pets won't be so gentle when they're older.

Jerome Minard, aged 25, an inmate of the Eastern Washington hospital for the insane at Medical Lake, was drowned in the waters of the lake when he attempted to escape from the institution.

A dividend of 10 per cent on all claims against the Central Bank and Trust company of Yakima, which was closed January 2, has just been declared. The total is about \$60,000.

ISLAND CITY LAD HONORED

EUGENE, Oct. 22—Seven men were initiated into To-Ko-Lo, honorary sophomore organization, Tuesday night, after which a dinner was held at the Varsity in honor of the new members. Those initiated were Lyle Palmer, Baker; Paul Sayre, Island City; Lee Weber, Eugene; George Neale, San Diego; Troy McGraw, Hoppner; Lawrence Cook, Portland; and "Tex" Knight, Eugene.

To-Ko-Lo is the only honorary sophomore organization existing on the University campus. Men are chosen for their qualities as "all-around students." Members are active only during their sophomore year.

Paul Sayre, is the son of Prof. and Mrs. E. A. Sayer, of the Island City school.

Safety First. Jud Tunkins says the most valuable sense of humor is the kind that enables a person to see instantly what it isn't safe to laugh at.—Washington Star.

Rosa Ponselle



FOR the past two years this supreme soprano has opened the New York Metropolitan Opera Company season. Her exclusive Columbia Records played on the Columbia Grafonola reproduce her singing perfectly. Come in and hear the marvelous voice that has thrilled so many New York audiences.



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