SOUTH AYDEN SCHOOL

HISTORY AND MEMORIES

CHARLES L. BECTON

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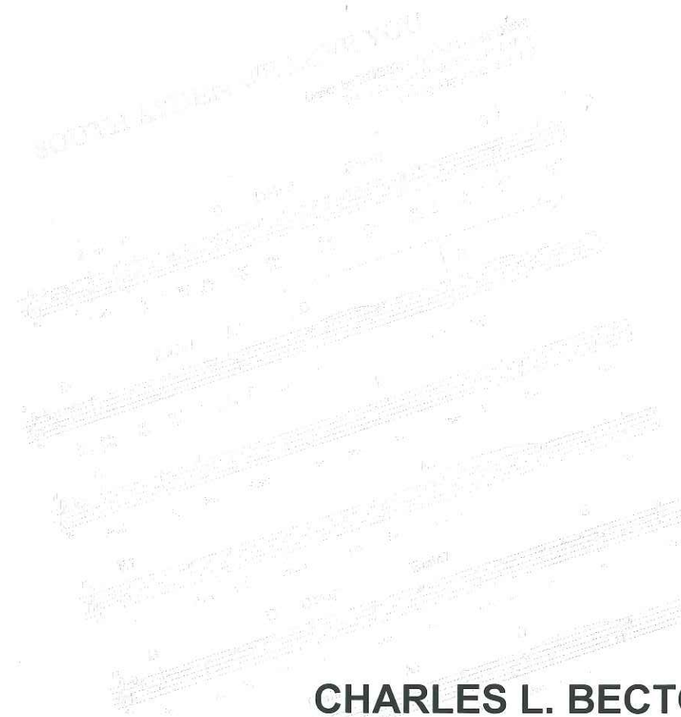

CHARLES L. BECTON
Class of 1962

Mitchell Oakley,
Thanks for your friendship.
May love, peace, and happiness
always follow you, dear friend.
Charles Becton

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Special thanks go to Brenda Becton who devoted a full month to this South Ayden Project. Joan Long and Bertha Johnson, who like Brenda Becton, had no connection to South Ayden School are thanked for their significant contributions. Thanks also go to former South Ayden teachers Ann Brown, J. J. Brown, Myra Braxton, and Huey Lawrence, and to the following South Ayden alumni who refreshed my recollection about South Ayden School activities or provided photographs: Jimmy Brown, Henry Davis, Kermit Dixon, Marsha Edwards, Luby Gardner, Barbara Garris, Peggy Gaskins, Hubert King, James (Butch) Lowry, Connie Woods Nicholson, Juanita Cannon Nobles, Nelda Ormand, Lena Outlaw, Caroline James Reaves, Robert Reaves, and Jessie Wallace.

PREFACE

A total of 1,256 students graduated from South Ayden School between 1937 and 1971. Many others attended the school but did not graduate. All who walked the halls at South Ayden are better because they did. And many who have not had "newsworthy" recognition have, nevertheless, made noteworthy contributions to their communities.

South Ayden boasts stellar college graduates from all classes. Its graduates include graduate, collegiate, and secondary teachers; college administrators; CEO's; members of all professions, including doctors, dentists, lawyers, judges, architects, engineers, and accountants; members of every craft, including contractors, electricians, plumbers, bricklayers; farmers; law enforcement officers; high ranking military officials, including an Army general; professional musicians and recording artists, including an opera singer; ministers, including a television evangelist; professional athletes, including a ranked heavyweight boxing contender; a Harlem Globetrotter try-out finalist; collegiate athletes; models; television news anchors; bookstore owners and other business leaders.

Many brilliant and gifted students were unable to attend college or to otherwise develop their talents; however, that did not prevent them from making lasting contributions to humankind. Like all South Ayden Eagles, they are indebted to their teachers.

For nearly 50 years South Ayden School stood as a symbol of pride for

blacks in southern Pitt County. The Pitt County Board of Education closed the school in 1971 and demolished every structure, including the 1958 built gymtorium, ten years later. Now, only a solitary marker at the front of the old school site serves notice of the school's existence. Moreover, neither history nor any public records of the school have been kept by the Pitt County Board of Education, although the Board does have on file photographs of three of South Ayden School's eight buildings. Although the South Ayden School buildings were torn down in 1981, no one can erase the school's rich history and memories. South Ayden graduates, inspired and motivated by loving, caring, dedicated educators, have become productive citizens and leaders.

With love and appreciation, South Ayden School: History and Memory is in honor of and dedicated to our teachers.

Charles L. Becton
Class of 1962

SOUTH AYDEN SCHOOL HISTORY AND MEMORIES

I. A HAUNTING LEGACY

The history of South Ayden School can best be explained and understood in the context of Post-Reconstruction efforts to "keep the Negro in ignorance"[1] coupled with a general lack of interest in educating the public. In the early 1900's, Governor Charles Aycock underscored the lack of public support for education in North Carolina:

> The average salary paid to . . . public school teachers [was] $91.20 for the term . . . Practically no interest was manifested in the buildings or equipment of schoolhouses. The children of more than 950 public school districts were altogether without schoolhouses, while those in 1,132 districts sat on rough pine boards in log houses chinked with clay . . . Schools were kept open only 73 days in the year and less than one-third of the children of school age attended them.
>
> . . . .
>
> The civilization of the state was based on an ultra-individualism, and thousands of citizens, conscientious, intelligent, patriotic, honestly could not understand why they should pay taxes to educate other people's children. Other thousands were willing to support schools for white children, but stood steadfastly and doggedly against the education of the Negro . . . these people appear to have been willing to deny education to white children in order that they might keep the Negro in ignorance.[2]

Roughly 20 years after Governor Aycock's haunting lament, a survey[3] of schools serving black school age children revealed that:

[1] The Life and Speeches of Charles B. Aycock, Connor & Poe, pages 116, 117.

[2] Id.

[3] See G. H. Ferguson, Some Facts About the Education of Negroes in North Carolina, 1921-60.

> --Less than one-half of the children who should have been attending public schools were enrolled.
>
> --The average daily attendance was less than 50% of the enrollment and was particularly poor during the opening and closing months.
>
> --More than half of the children, especially in the rural schools, were enrolled in the first grade–ranging in age from 5 years to 15 years or more.
>
> --Only seven high schools were accredited, and four of those were attached to the four Negro State Colleges operating at the time.
>
> --More than 50% of schools were of the one teacher type.
>
> --"A large number of the rural schools had negligible furnishings and the buildings were in deplorable conditions. As was said of one of these schools you could study animal science through the cracks in the floor, plant life through openings in the walls, and astronomy through the holes in the roof."[4]

In 1921, the State Legislature created the Division of Negro Education[5] to promote the building of better schoolhouses, to provide better training for teachers, and to develop a statewide system of Negro high schools. Schoolhouse building was aided by the Julius Rosenwald Fund, and teacher training was supplemented by the Jeanes Foundation.

By the 1922-23 school year, 12 accredited and 19 non-accredited high schools for blacks existed with a total enrollment of 3,041 students and 310 graduates.[6] Not only were few blacks enrolled in high schools in the 1920's, but

[4] Id. at 5.

[5] Public Laws of 1921, Chapter 146, Section 17.

[6] Negro Education in North Carolina, Data Sheets, Statistics, Surveys 1898-1950, North Carolina State Archives, Department of Public Instruction (Box 4, NE88).

also the school year for blacks was typically shorter than for whites, presumably because of farming needs. By way of example, in 1925, the Pitt County Board of Education resolved unanimously that "schools be opened as follows:

> Schools having a term of nine months, September 8th. Schools having a term of eight months, Sept. 15th. The following schools to open approximately Oct. 1st. Belvoir 1, Greenville 11, . . . Pactolus 3, Ayden 7, Chicod 14, Swift Creek 7 . . . . All of the white schools to be opened Oct. 20th. All Negro schools to be opened Nov. 3rd.[7]

Black student enrollment increased slightly during the 1920's. By the 1929-30 school year, 13.1% of high school age blacks were enrolled in school compared to 41.7% of white school age children. And by 1931, North Carolina had 100 accredited high schools for blacks.[8]

II. SOUTH AYDEN SCHOOL

A. An Historical Overview[9]

South Ayden School, a 28 classroom union school, housed grades 1-12. It evolved from a single frame building with one teacher.[10] The 1971 structures consisted of the 1920's Rosenwald-designed ten-classroom brick building, the 1951 and 1958 classroom additions, a Vocational Agriculture building, a Home Economics building, a Gymnasium, a Lunchroom, and a Band room.

[7]Pitt County Board of Education minutes dated August 24, 1924.

[8]Negro Education in North Carolina, Data Sheets, Statistics, Surveys 1898-1950, North Carolina State Archives, Department of Public Instruction (Special Subject File, Box 4).

[9]This overview is based in large part upon excellent research in the 1980's by members of the DC/MD South Ayden Alumni Chapter.

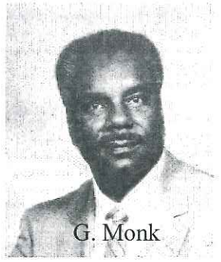
[10]It is unknown whether this single frame building was the old Ayden Institute schoolhouse built for blacks by Baptists following the Civil War and referred to in History of the Education of Negroes in North Carolina by Hugh Victor Brown in 1961.

During its formative years, the school progressed under the leadership of Alonzo Cherry, John Brown, Harry Logan, and Solomon Moore. In 1923, Lewis N. Neal, Principal, contacted the Julius Rosenwald Foundation, which provided funds for the construction of a ten-room brick building. Following Neal's administration, Charles M. Suggs became principal in 1925. The school continued to grow under his leadership for the next six years.

In 1931, J. W. Ormond became principal. The school started its high school department (grades 8-10) in the fall of 1933. An eleventh grade class was added in 1936, and a twelfth grade was added to the high school department in the 1943-44 school year. During J. W. Ormond's principalship, numerous classrooms were added, student enrollment surged, and the faculty grew from 5 to 36, including a full-time guidance counselor.

In 1966, Gaston Monk became principal of South Ayden School. The faculty continued to grow until 1971. At that time, Ayden and Grifton schools were consolidated. South Ayden was then closed as an educational institution. The school buildings were torn down in 1981.


J.W. Ormand


G. Monk

B. <u>The Beginning–"A Decent Schoolhouse"</u>

Exhibit B to the May 1924 School Board minutes establishes the need:

[Following Principal Lewis Neal's request for building funds, W. F. Credle, Supervisor of the Rosenwald Fund] went with Superintendent Fitzgerald of Pitt County to meet with the local school committee of the Ayden City Schools. The purpose of our conference was to discuss ways and means for getting a decent schoolhouse for the Negroes in Ayden.

The district is short of funds and the tax rate for all purposes is exceedingly high. A large bond issue for lights and paved streets is responsible for this. However, that does not prevent strong objection to an increase in taxes. The Board is especially reluctant to ask for any increase for the express purpose of building a colored school. The economic condition just related and the condition of the white school building are both responsible. I suggested that a loan be obtained from the Literary Fund in the amount of $10,000.00 and that the people contribute privately $2500.00 which, together with the $1500.00 appropriated from the Rosenwald Fund, will give us $14,000.00.
An eight or ten room building is needed, and we could possibly get a building for approximately the above amount.

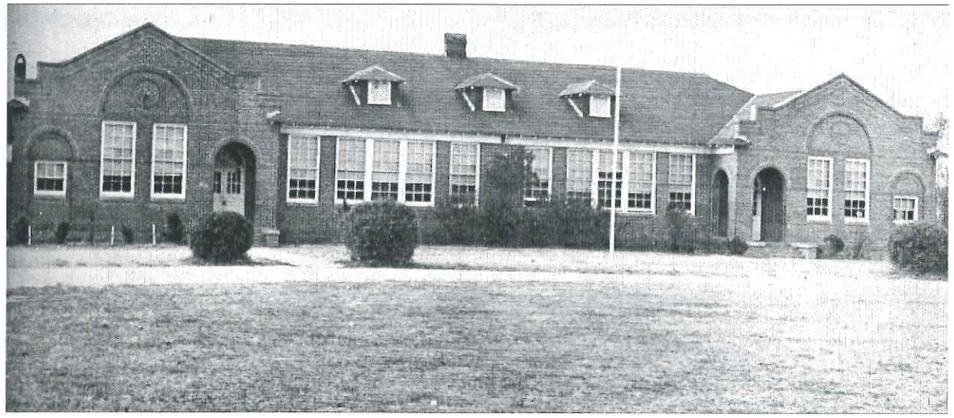
To spark interest and to help raise private contributions, the School Board appointed four colored "District Committeemen" (John L. Quinerly, Ernest Moye, Robert Cannon, and Peter Rountree) for the "Ayden Special Colored School" on July 5, 1926.[11]

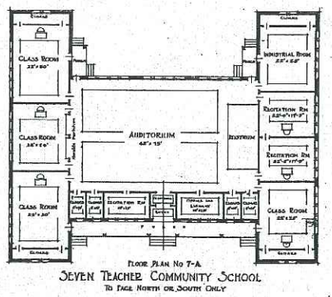
At its October 4, 1926 meeting the Pitt County Board of Education passed a resolution authorizing the procurement of a loan of $17,000.00 from the NC State Literary Fund to maintain "a six month school term in . . . Ayden Township . . . [and for] certain improvements . . . [including a] new building for Negro race in the town of Ayden."

The Julius Rosenwald Fund, established by Chicago philanthropist Julius Rosenwald, president of Sears, Roebuck and Co., provided architectural plans and

[11] Pitt County Board of Education Minutes, July 5, 1926.

matching grants that helped build more than 5,300 schools in the rural South between 1915 and 1932. The Ayden Colored School building was one of hundreds of Rosenwald Schools in North Carolina. The generic architectural plan reproduced on the following page matches, in many respects, the floor plan of the brick high school building. The brick building was larger than originally envisioned and cost $27,250, $23,650 of which came from public funding. Blacks contributed $1,500; Whites $0; and the Rosenwald Fund $2,100.[12]





[12] Rosenwald Schools in Towns and Large District, North Carolina State Archives, Department of Public Instruction, Division of Negro Education, Rosenwald Fund, August 1927.

Rosenwald Schools were typically located on two to ten acre sites, and "[t]hey took the place of dilapidated schools often located on the edge of thickets or other undesirable places . . . ."[13] That explains why the Ayden Colored School site had more acreage than the Ayden white school.

Following Rosenwald's lead, the Pitt County Board of Education in the 1920's began showing more interest in the education of black youth. An April 20, 1928 entry in the Board's minutes expressing the Board's opposition to a "pool room for Negroes in the vicinity of the Negro School of Ayden" helps prove the point.

Even with the Rosenwald building, not all teachers had their own classroom. The earliest private reference to classrooms was found among Madie Murphy's papers at her death. Madie Murphy, a first grade teacher, had the longest tenure among teachers–37 years. Her diary contained a detached entry by Ora Briley, showing that Briley too was a first grade teacher in 1930, and the following October 1930 entries by Madie Murphy:

> Oct. 13, taught my first time in my own classroom . . . .
> Oct. 24, Supt. visited my classroom. Oh, what a day.
> Oct. 31, Miss Moore from Wilson with her quartet was down . . . .

Thirty Plus Years Teachers

[13]Hugh Victor Brown, A History of the Education of Negroes in North Carolina, p. 58 (1961).

C. A Decent Education

Yearly principal reports filed with the North Carolina Board of Education outline the growth and development of South Ayden School. Although the reports were originally designed to provide information on teaching staff, student enrollment, buildings, equipment, and on graduates, the forms were revised several times. High school teachers were not listed on some of the iterations in the mid-1950's and mid-1960's. Indeed, the revised principal report forms of the mid-60's focused more on course offerings, library acquisitions, expenditures, and extra curricular activities. The only teachers listed on the revised forms were high school teachers hired during a particular school year.

A review of the course offerings reveals a gallant effort by teachers to provide a decent education for black youth in Ayden, especially considering how inadequately South Ayden School was funded.

1. The 1930's

The 1935-36 principal's report–the first maintained by the NC State Archives–values Ayden Colored School science lab apparatus at $27.00. That report also indicates that the school had 200 books and 2 magazines (Harpers and Pathfinders) in an 11 X 19 room. Six elementary school teachers for grades 1-7 were noted. J.W. Ormond, Thelma S. Lang and E. A. Elliot were the three junior high school teachers for the 70 students in grades 8-10. J. W. Ormond taught history, civics and math and made $652.80 that year. Ms. Lang taught English and French and served as the girls' advisor; Mr. Elliott taught math and science and served as the boys' advisor. Their salaries were $460.80.

When an 11th grade was added to the high school department in 1936, Boys' and Girls' basketball, 4-H Club, Boy Scouts, Dramatic Club, Choral Club, and softball were noted as extra curricular activities. The six graduates in 1937 were: Verna Coward, Gladys Cox, Johnnie B. Dawson, James Jones, Simon Reeves, and Bruce Thrower.

The "Ayden Colored High School" was accredited in April 1938, and Mr. Ormond's report for the 1937-38 school year is, by far, the most extensive report maintained by the North Carolina State Archives.[14] For example, a November 22, 1937 attachment to the 1937-38 principal's report notes the school's needs: two classrooms (a library and a vocational shop); library books, chairs, and tables; and science supplies. That attachment also lists six elementary teachers: Della M. Bennett, Madie B. Murphy, Louise E. Payton, Alverta Purnell, Ralph A. Ricks, and Annie M. Wilson. Those six teachers taught 299 elementary school students. Five "interested Negro citizens" are also listed: Reverend Shepard Wilson, Reverend J.W. Jackson, Reverend J. H. Thrower, Mr. J. L. Williams, and Mr. Simon Dixon.

In a separate "Progress Report of The Ayden Colored School," Mr. Ormond details the efforts of "the P.T.A. of the Ayden High School" in raising $1,961.99, $1,019.00 of which was used to purchase the school's first bus–a 1938 Chevrolet bus which transported students from Grifton, Haddocks, Pleasant Plain, Rogers, and Shiloh.[15] This was no small undertaking for poor rural black parents, and it

[14]North Carolina Archive records also note that a few high school courses were offered at the Grifton School for blacks in 1937.

[15]The Board of Education's refusal to provide transportation for blacks in Ayden and Winterville is memorialized in its October 4, 1937 minutes: "A delegation of negroes, patrons from

evinces a community ownership, pride, and interest that exceeded the commitment of the Pitt County Board of Education. Interestingly, Mr. Ormond notes, with thanks, that the Pitt County Board of Education gave the school "$150 worth of books" to supplement the amount raised by the P.T.A. In May 1938, the school had 360 books, including two French and Latin books.

By the beginning of the 1939-40 school year, John H. Malloy (math and science) and A. Beulah Williams (English and French) replaced Ms. Lang and Mr. Elliot and joined Mr. Ormond and Golden Roland (agriculture) to teach the 115 high school students. The school had eleven classrooms and eleven teachers, including the seven elementary school teachers in grades 1-7.

2. <u>The 1940's</u>

In the 1940-41 school year, home economics, agriculture, and civics were added to the curriculum, and the library holdings increased to 481 books, housed, by that time, in a 12 X 13 storeroom and a connecting 21 X 32 classroom. J. D. Lennon replaced Mr. Roland as the agriculture teacher. M. L. Williams joined the faculty to teach home economics and civics, and Ralph Ricks taught one 11th grade English course.

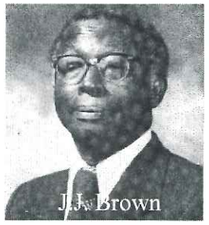
the Ayden and Winterville Districts, came before the Board to get information as to what steps should be taken to get school buses in the Ayden and Winterville Districts. The Board advised these delegations that it had no funds budgeted this year for the purchasing of additional school trucks. The Board was of the opinion that the best steps for the negro schools to take in order to get transportation would be for each district to buy its own bus and this would be only for the transportation of high school children. Should a community raise sufficient funds with which to buy a bus, it would have to be entirely new, both body and chassis, equipped according to rules and regulations as set forth by the State School Commission. The Board would not assume any liability for the operation of the bus but would supervise only its routing and maintenance should the State School Commission see fit to pay all the costs thereof."

During the 1941-42 school year, Paul Leacraft replaced Mr. Malloy as the math and science teacher, and I. R. Snipes replaced Ms. Williams as the home economics teacher. Eighteen females and 4 males graduated that year.

(Curiously, and parenthetically, a lunchroom was noted on the 1941-42 principal report. The same notation appears on reports for 1942, 1943 and 1945; however, no one recalls a lunchroom or cooking equipment. The school got its first cafeteria in 1960.)

Margaret Lassiter (English, French, and music), and Thomasina Duncan (math and science) joined the high school faculty in 1942, and Stella Dixon, listed as an 8th grade math teacher, may have taught a high school math class. Only 10 students graduated in 1943.

A twelfth grade was added to the high school department for the 1943-44 school year. During that year, Thomasina Duncan taught English and French in addition to math and physics, and Bessie Joyner joined the faculty as an English, civics, and music teacher.



Mary Kelly (English and music) and J. J. Brown (agriculture) joined the faculty in the 1944-45 school year. Mr. Ormond taught history and physical education, Edna Isley taught home economics and health, and Ms. Duncan taught science that year. Nineteen of the twenty-one 12th graders graduated that year. Although there were 32 students in the 9th grade and 33 in the 10th grade, there were no students in the 11th grade. This may very well have been due to the United States' participation in World War II which probably also explains

the peculiar anomaly that there were no graduates in 1946.

Beulah Whitfield (Mebane) joined the high school faculty in 1945, replacing Ms. Isley as the home economics and health teacher. Although the school had no official "Guidance Counselor," Mary Kelly was "in charge of guidance."

By the 1946-47 school year, high school student enrollment, which had peaked to 139 during the 1941-42 school year but dipped sharply during World War II, increased to 80. Lindsey Dillard (Payton) became the math and science teacher midway through the 1946-47 school year. Six of the 15 graduates were male.

Although high school student enrollment surged to 129 during the 1947-48 school year, the number of high school teachers (including Principal Ormond) and the number of high school classrooms remained the same: five teachers; three classrooms.

High school enrollment had increased to 181 students by the 1948-49 school year, still only three of the 15 classrooms were used by high school students. The high school faculty did not change that year, except Betty Vines taught home economics and health for Ms. Mebane, and J. R. Lowry taught two classes (science and physical education/health) in high school.

By the 1949-50 school year, chemistry had been added to the curriculum, and

J. R. Payton (science) and Huey L. Lawrence (social studies, music) had joined the high school faculty to help teach the 169 students in four of the 18 classrooms. Roberta Brown, Beulah Mebane, and J. J. Brown provided one hour per week counseling services, though none were trained counselors.

3. The 1950's

By the 1950-51 school year, the school had expanded to 21 classrooms, five of which were used for high school students. The school also got its first motion picture machine and radio that year. J. H. Malloy returned to teach math and physical education.

Thirty-six students graduated from the school in 1952, and 44 per cent of them attended a four year college. This represents the highest percentage of graduating seniors attending college in the school's storied history. The school got its first tape recorder in the 1952-53 school year. The only other noted change on the principal's report was former elementary school teacher L. P. Ormond being named head of library services.

In the 1953-54 school year, the school's name was finally changed to "South Ayden School." The school had been variously referred to since the 1930's, in Pitt County School Board minutes and in principal's reports, as Ayden Graded School, Ayden Colored School, Ayden Colored High School, Ayden Special Colored School, and Ayden Negro School.

The 1954-55 principal's report notes the 22 X 53 foot library, the 450 seat auditorium, and the following fees: Books $3.60; Science $2.00; NFA $1.50; and home economics $1.00. Two changes to the high school faculty were noted: M.V. Jones replaced Ms. Kelly as the English and French teacher; J.H. Malloy returned to teach geometry.

North Carolina changed its principal report form in the 1950's, and no

teachers are listed on the changed principals' reports from 1955-61. Mr. Ormond's principal's reports do, however, document the school's continued growth in size and educational offerings. By the beginning of the 1955-56 school year, high school student enrollment increased to 238. Eight high school teachers were pictured in the school's first Yearbook. Mr. Ormond's report notes the "four brick columns erected at both entrances to campus [and the] purchase of "4 acres of land for playground."

The number of students and teachers remained relatively constant during the 1956-57 and 1957-58 school years. The 228 high school students in 1956-57 and the 226 students in 1957-58 were taught by a high school faculty that still consisted of M. C. Armistead, J. J. Brown, M. V. Jones, H. L. Lawrence, B. W. Mebane, L. P. Ormond, J. R. Payton and L. D. Payton.

High school student enrollment increased by 40 to 266 during the 1958-59 school year. The high school faculty, however, remained at eight, with Connie Elliot replacing Ms. Armistead as music teacher. The elementary school faculty increased, and ten classrooms and a gymtorium were added in the fall of 1958.

By the 1959-60 school year, Helen Barnes (English and history) and Ann Brown (business education and physical education) had been added to the faculty. Although there were 276 students in high school, the senior class was relatively small with only 37 graduates.

4. The 1960's

Nine high school teachers taught 291 students in grades 9-12 during the 1960-61 school year. The principal's report does not list any teachers that year, but does

note that 39 students graduated and that an "Honor Society" had been established during the school year.

The 1961-62 principal's report notes the addition of two classrooms and a total of 320 high school students, including 60 graduates. The following were listed as high school teachers: Helen A. Barnes (English; social studies); Ann Brown (business education); M. V. Jones (English and French); H. L. Lawrence (social studies and music); L. P. Ormond (library services and history); J. R. Payton (science); L. D. Payton (math and science); Retha Hemby (home economics and science); B. R. Haselrig (history and physical education); Bettie Jeanne Franks (music); and J. J. Brown (agriculture).

By the 1962-63 school year, the library housed 1,791 books, 39 film scripts, and 21 magazines. J. R. Carney and S. C. Joyner joined the high school faculty as drivers education and general science teachers, respectively, increasing the faculty to 14. The 1962-63 principal's report included, for the first time, statistics on the preceding graduating class. That report noted that of the 60 graduates in the class of 1962, 16 attended a four year college, eight attended a two year college, seven matriculated at business schools, two entered nursing programs, and eight joined the military.

Similar statistics were reported for following classes. For example, in both the 1964 class and the 1965 class, 15 out of the 59 graduates attended a four year college, as did 13 out of the 60 graduates in the 1966 class. Significantly, and perhaps due primarily to the Vietnam war, 14 of the 21 male graduates in the class of 1966 went into the military.

During the 1963-64 school year, the high school student to teacher ratio was 36-1. The elementary school student to teacher ratio may have been better since nine new elementary school teachers were added that school year.

During the 1964-65 school year, the teacher to student ratio was 22:1 with 15 high school teachers (including a guidance counselor and drivers education teacher) teaching 329 students. The library housed 2,134 books, 22 magazines, and 52 discs or tapes. Basketball was still the only school sport.[16]

The 1965-66 school year was J. W. Ormond's last as principal. Trigonometry was added to the curriculum, and the total number of books in the library and in the classrooms increased to 3,117. The school also had 25 magazines, 80 film strips, and 60 recordings.

Gaston Monk succeeded Mr. Ormond as principal in 1966. New faculty members, Myrtle Darden and Lucy Stewart--South Ayden alums who taught English and French--joined J. E. Staton (biology), L. Hardy (math and science), and W. L. Morris (instrumental music) to teach the 368 high school students. Football was added as a school sport, and Bernard Haselrig and Huey Lawrence were named Head Coach and Assistant Coach, respectively.

Of the 329 high school students in the 1967-68 school year, 78 graduated. John Henry Lister, Jr. joined the faculty on March 1, 1968, shortly before school closed, to teach sociology and economics. Significantly, and presumably because of "Freedom of Choice," or the influx of specifically earmarked federal money,

[16]By comparison, the all-white Ayden High School had 14 teachers for 252 students–a 17:1 ratio. The library housed 3,080 books, 36 magazines and 143 discs or tapes, and the school fielded basketball, football, baseball, track, and golf teams. See Section II. D infra for a more detailed comparison of funding, facilities, and services.

South Ayden's library expenditures ($2,705.03) exceeded the library expenditures at Ayden High School ($1,840.95) for the first time.

Seventy-seven students graduated in 1969, but ninth grade students were not included with the other 238 high school students that school year. The only noted faculty addition is Maie Lyndal Smith who started teaching French and English on January 27, 1969. Future Business Leaders was noted as an extra curricular activity for the first time, and the Dramatics Club and Debating Team had 30 and 19 members, respectively. Notably, membership in the Future Farmers of America (no longer the all-black New Farmers of America) decreased from 109 in 1967-68 to 48 in 1968-69 while membership in the Future Homemakers of America (no longer New Homemakers of America) increased from 30 in 1967-68 to 50 in 1968-69.

Two hundred thirty-three students were enrolled in grades 10-12 during the 1969-70 school year. The number of books in the school library increased to 2,988. The library also housed 215 filmstrips, 105 recordings, discs or tapes, and subscribed to 20 magazines. Johnnie Davis was listed as both the head basketball and head football coach.

5. 1970-71

Gaston Monk's final high school principal's report in 1971 lists 133 students in grades 11 and 12, 58 of whom graduated. Thirty-one students were members of the Honor Society, but because ninth and tenth graders were not included in the high school census, the number of students in organizations declined--e.g., only 25 students were Future Farmers of America, only 18 students were Future Homemakers of America, and only 13 students were in the Dramatics Club. Football

was dropped, leaving basketball again as the only school sport. Black History was added to the curriculum but apparently no students took the course that year. Ominously, that only foreshadowed a still hard to swallow indignity--the 1971 closing of South Ayden School as an educational institution for blacks.

The principal reports (1935-71) show the growth in faculty, students and physical plant. Except for the 1945-46 school year when there were no graduates, the smallest number of graduates was six in 1937; the largest was 78 in 1967. The smallest number of reported books in the library was 200 (1935-36); the largest number was 2,988 (1969-70).

D. An Unequal Education

Separate and unequal funding for black public schools in Pitt County was the norm from the opening of the first black school to the closing of the last black school. And in Ayden, the all-white Ayden School always had more funding and better facilities, course offerings, programs, and other educational opportunities than South Ayden School.

From the 1920's to 1971, student enrollment increased at both Ayden School and South Ayden School. Ayden School had more classrooms and teachers, however, than South Ayden even though South Ayden, except for the earlier years when few blacks attended public schools, had a larger student enrollment. When Ayden Colored School was accredited in 1938, the all-white Ayden School had far superior offerings--a lunchroom, a gymnasium, and a separate library housing 1,284 books and 20 magazines; laboratory equipment valued at $6,125; and a football,

baseball, softball, and tennis team in addition to its basketball team. The Ayden Colored School had no teacher restrooms, no lunchroom, no gymnasium, and no separate library. The school had 445 books and 8 magazines. Its total laboratory equipment was valued at $300.57. Basketball was the school's only sport.

By the 1948-49 school year the Ayden School for whites had nine high school teachers and twelve high school classrooms for 144 students, whereas the Ayden Colored School had fewer high school teachers and three high school classrooms for 181 students. By way of further example, South Ayden, as it was then called, had 330 students in high school in the 1965-66 school year when Ayden High had only 244 students in high school. Finally, the disparate treatment of blacks at South Ayden, more than 30 years after it became accredited, is starkly shown by comparing the 1968-69 principal's reports of South Ayden and Ayden. Seventy-two students graduated from South Ayden that year compared to Ayden's 49 graduates. Yet, Ayden High had 3,973 library books, 138 magazines, 395 filmstrips, 193 discs or tapes, and library expenditures of $1,541.58 while South Ayden had 2,846 library books, 21 magazines, 221 film strips, 103 discs or tapes, and library expenditures of $695.62.

Not surprisingly, the Pitt County Board of Education's Consolidated Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1955 shows Ayden with total receipts of $43,681.77 and disbursements of $34,374.10 whereas South Ayden had total receipts of $11,708.91 and disbursements of $11,417.48 (Exhibit A to Board Minutes). Sadly, this Statement of Receipts and Disbursements reflects the norm, not the aberrant year, and it illustrates the

handicappingly unequal education system for blacks.

III. MEMORIES

A. Musings From the 1930's and 1940's

Anecdotal musings of five students who attended the school in 1930's provide the backdrop for a prosaic, poetic, and pictorial trip down memory lane.

Jessie Payton Brooks, one of the ten graduates in the second graduation class in 1938, relates that she and classmates Cicero Dawson and Caldonia Holton finished college and became teachers. During the school week, Jessie lived in Ayden but returned to Grimesland on weekends to live with her parents. It was not unusual, she recalls, for newly hired teachers to room with veteran teachers[17] or for students to room with teachers.

Carrie Belle Payton Nino (Belle), who graduated in the Class of 1940, has a vivid recollection of her school days. She, her sister Hilda Payton, and Olivia Anderson roomed together with first grade teacher Madie Murphy. They share the room that Cicero Dawson, an orphan, stayed in before he graduated in 1938.[18]


Jessie & Belle Payton circa 1940

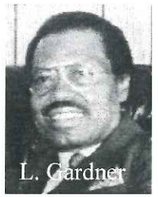
[17]When Louise Payton started teaching, she lived with Madie Murphy. When Louise Payton married Mr. Ormond, they both lived with Madie Murphy for one year. Later, Ruby Peacock, Rosa Foreman and Shirley Cherrie roomed with Ms. Murphy while teaching at the school. Other instances in which newly hired teachers roomed with other teachers or home-owning parents include the following: Della Bennett and Lindsay Dillard lived with Josephine Reaves; Mary Clemmons lived Mr. and Mrs. Ormond; Mary Kelly lived with Nina Phillips; Westry Warren lived with Travis and Leigh Dixon; Annie Brown lived with Bishop Jackson; Connie Elliot lived with Annie Wilson; Bettye Franks lived with Jasper and Mary Albritton; and James Ebron lived with Arthur Sparkman.

[18]Four other students--William Becton, George Collins, Charles Becton, and David Perry also lived with Mrs. Murphy while students at the school. Louis Artis and Yetta Hardy lived with Mr. and Mrs. Ormond; other orphaned, out-of-town, or needy students lived with other teachers.

Belle describes how students were warmed by the potbellied stoves that were in each classroom. In describing the basketball court, she said you had to go uphill to one basket and downhill to the other basket. With laughter, tinged with disdain, but not enmity, she recalls that Coach Annie Wilson put her in only one game in four years, and then only when the team was up by about 50 points. Belle relates that many parents did not want their daughters to play basketball and that, therefore, two boys from the elementary school played on the girls' team for the first two years she was on the team. At that time, the girls played by the boys' rules--5 on 5. Only later did the girls play 3 players on offense and 3 players on defense with the offensive and defensive players staying on their side of the court.

Belle remembers the school bus being purchased and its daily trip to Haddocks Crossroads to pick up one family. But as much as anything, she gleefully recalls the wonderful voices in the school chorus.

James Williams also attended the school in the 30's. His teachers included Mrs. Murphy, Mr. Ormond, Mrs. Peacock, Mrs. Ormond, Mr. Elliot, and Mrs. Duncan. He recalled that Mrs. Duncan coached the men's basketball team while Mr. Elliot coached the girl's basketball team. This, however, is not reflected in the principal's reports. Williams recalls that the first basketball team was a very good team. Its members included Simon Reeves, Lewis Samuel Williams, Fred Cannon, and Cicero Dawson. These players also played on a sandlot baseball team that was very good.



Luby Gardner recalls when students got their first band lessons. In 1947, Mr. Byrd would come from H.B. Suggs in Farmville, a couple

of times per week, to teach students to play different instruments. Huey Lawrence joined the South Ayden faculty in 1949 and became the school's first band instructor.[19] The band did not get uniforms until 1951, and these uniforms were made by Mrs. Esther Stewart and Mrs. Irene Blount.

Luby was a paid assistant to janitor Arthur Kitrell while in high school. Luby's job was to start the fire and stoke the coals in the potbelly stoves each morning before school began. He would then go home for breakfast before returning to school. Mr. Kitrell, Luby, as well as other students would place auditorium chairs on the sidelines and on the stage before each basketball games.

Basketball stars during the late 1940's included William Jones, J. B. Parker, Robert Gaskin, Luby Gardner, and Bert Whitehurst. Bert Whitehurst became a professional fighter who defeated Hurricane Jackson in 1953 and, later, fought Archie Moore and Sonny Liston.

Myra Burney Braxton graduated from South Ayden in 1951 and taught there in the 1960's. Her recollections of school activities parallel those of Jessie and Belle Payton and Luby Gardner. Her fond memories of her elementary school years at Pleasant Plain are interesting and instructive.

Pleasant Plan was the closest of South Ayden's feeder schools, and, at times, it housed grades 1 through 8. As Myra explains, not only did instructors teach to combined classes in one classroom, but also students were assigned to grade level work commensurate with their abilities. For example, a sixth grade teacher could allow a sixth grade student to participate in eighth grade studies in another

[19]Fittingly, and consistent with the mantra of black teachers during the "separate but equal" era, Mr. Lawrence tutored A. T. Mills, a Pitt County Training School student from Grimesland, NC, in the 1960's and allowed Mills to perform with the South Ayden Band.

teacher's combined seventh and eighth grade class.

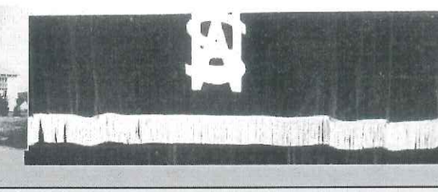
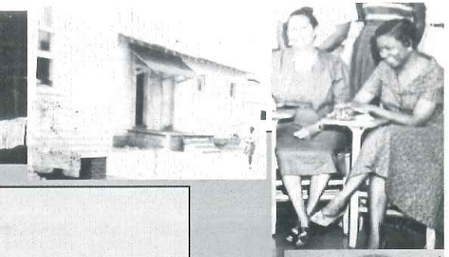
During the early 1940's, Pleasant Plain was a two-story structure[20] with a lunchroom on the second floor. Ms. Penny Green and other cooks served state or county-supplied breakfast snacks which Myra's mother, and then principal, M. T. Burney, picked up on Saturday mornings at the Winterville School for blacks. At lunch, the students were often treated to a sumptuous meal from food gathered by the PTA from parents.

Myra also recalled how she looked forward to the "end-of-the-year field day competition at Guy Smith Stadium in Greenville." Finally, she noted, with ironic joy, "We didn't realize that we didn't have much."

To the musings and anecdotal recollections of some of the older alumni, the following poem take us further down memory lane as it seeks thematically to capture diverse recollections ranging from our heritage tutelage to our moms' prom qualms.

[20]From the late 1940's to its closing in the 1950's Pleasant Plain was a one story structure.



B. A Poetic Trip Down Memory Lane

WE REMEMBER

"With joy we shall lift up
Our banners in the sky
We love you,
Our Dear South Ayden High"

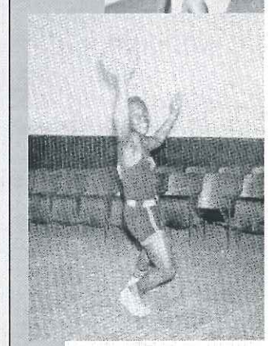
And we remember

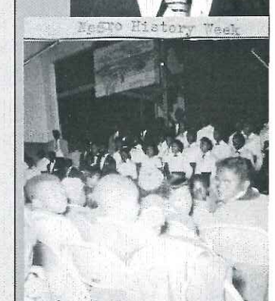
We remember
Trudging 'cross campus in total darkness
'Cause all streets south of Barwick were lampless
When the school lay outside city limit
And blacken'd clouds did not moonlight admit.

How darker clouds--separate but UNEQUAL–
Took their toll long past Brown and its sequel
And how, despite all, we overcame.
Thank you South Ayden, your name we proclaim.

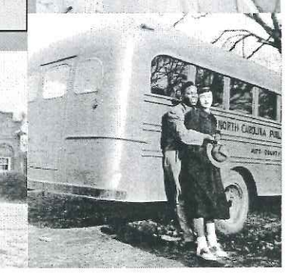
We remember
That famed Harvest Festival in the fall
When homemade quilts and art adorned the wall
When dime hotdogs under canvas tents
Paled to barbecue for 25 cents.

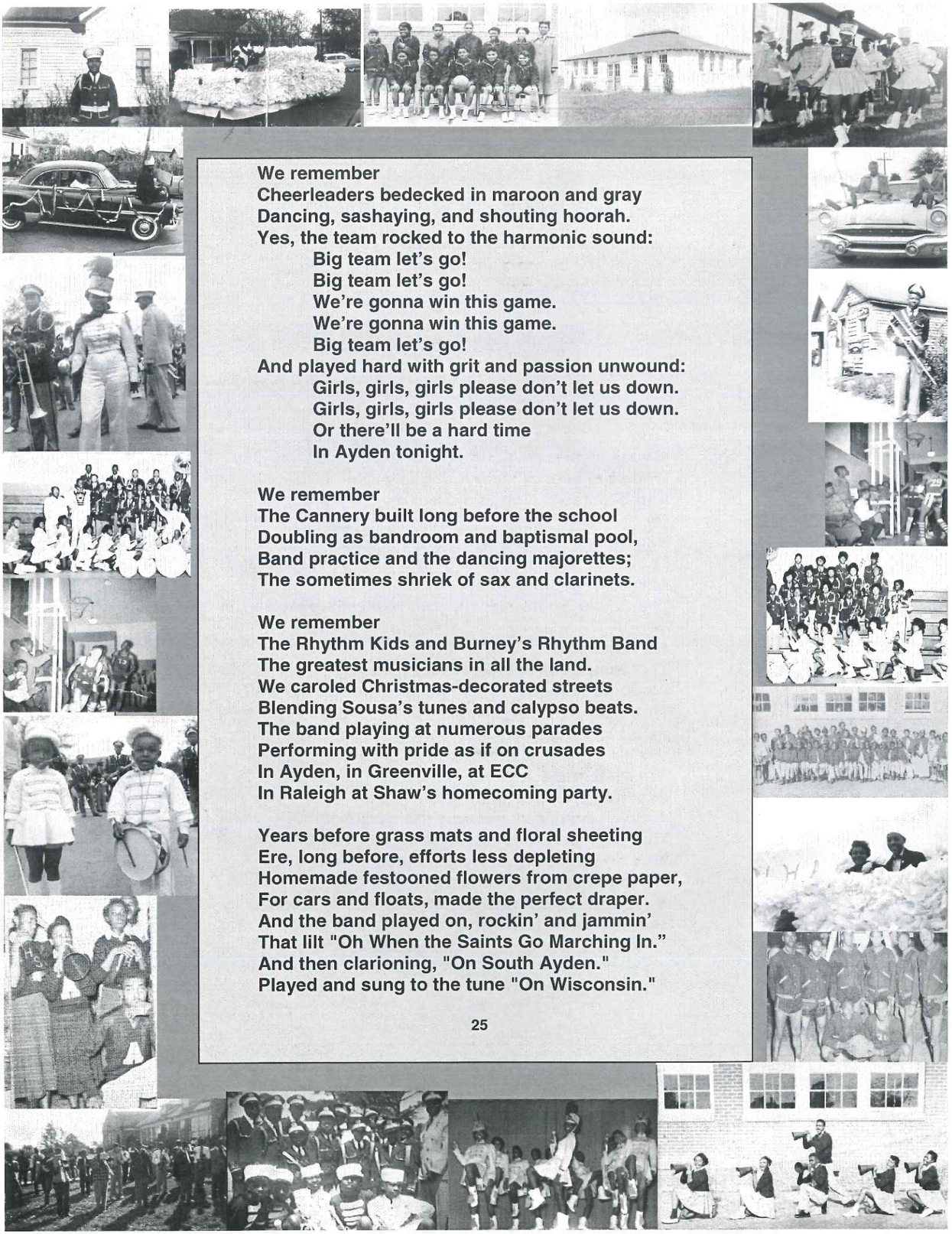
We remember
Assemblies in the auditorium
Which, unchaired, became the gymtorium.
That pint-size, unleveled basketball court
Was home for South Ayden's sole formal sport.
We remember set shots through the rafters
'Midst the screams of joy and shouts of laughter
Then downhill to defend the stage end floor
Then dribbling uphill to the south to score.









We remember
Cheerleaders bedecked in maroon and gray
Dancing, sashaying, and shouting hoorah.
Yes, the team rocked to the harmonic sound:
Big team let's go!
Big team let's go!
We're gonna win this game.
We're gonna win this game.
Big team let's go!
And played hard with grit and passion unwound:
Girls, girls, girls please don't let us down.
Girls, girls, girls please don't let us down.
Or there'll be a hard time
In Ayden tonight.

We remember
The Cannery built long before the school
Doubling as bandroom and baptismal pool,
Band practice and the dancing majorettes;
The sometimes shriek of sax and clarinets.

We remember
The Rhythm Kids and Burney's Rhythm Band
The greatest musicians in all the land.
We caroled Christmas-decorated streets
Blending Sousa's tunes and calypso beats.
The band playing at numerous parades
Performing with pride as if on crusades
In Ayden, in Greenville, at ECC
In Raleigh at Shaw's homecoming party.

Years before grass mats and floral sheeting
Ere, long before, efforts less depleting
Homemade festooned flowers from crepe paper,
For cars and floats, made the perfect draper.
And the band played on, rockin' and jammin'
That lilt "Oh When the Saints Go Marching In."
And then clarioning, "On South Ayden."
Played and sung to the tune "On Wisconsin."

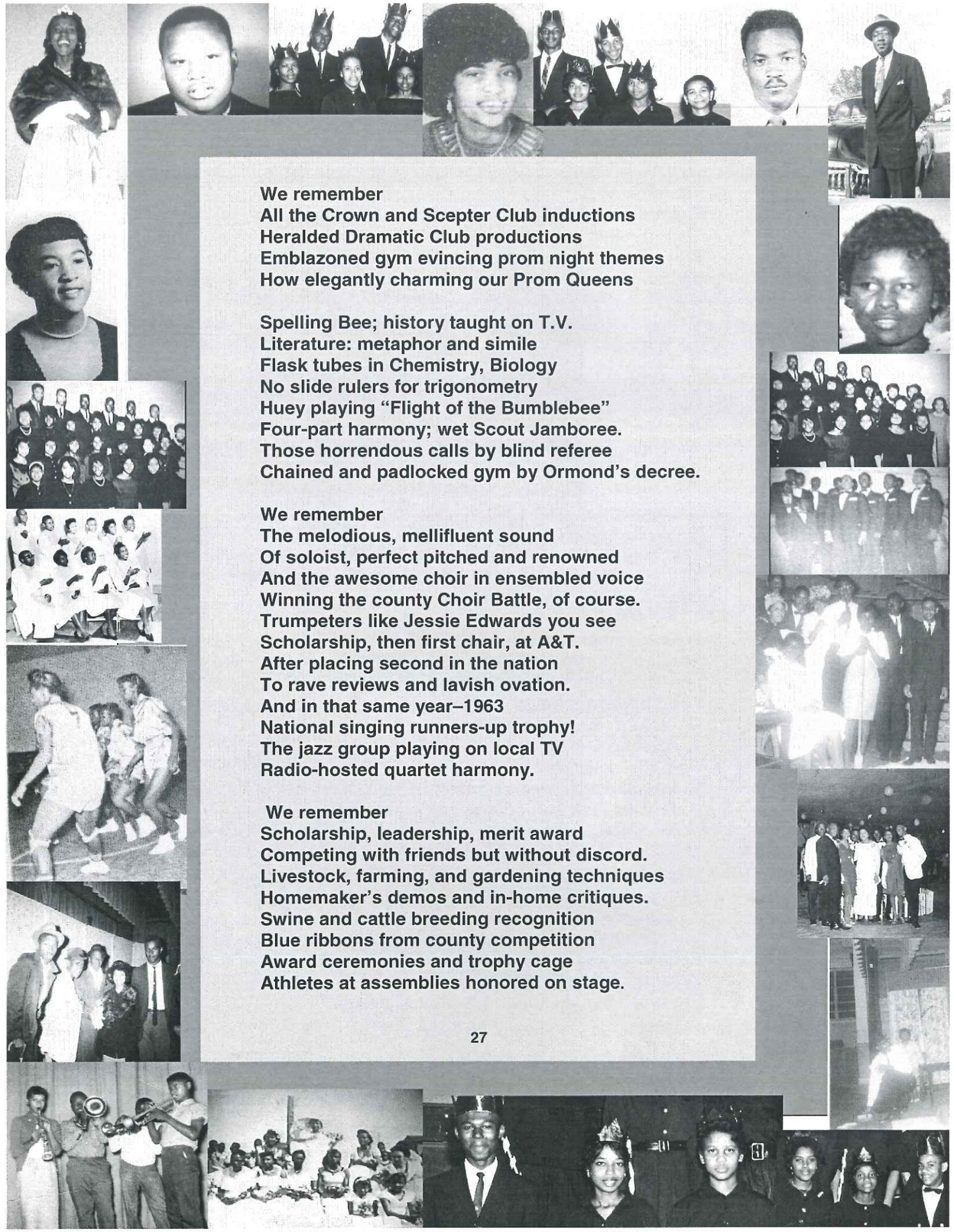
We remember
The solemnity of flag-raising rite
Then pledging allegiance with all our might
When even debates about "under God"
To guileless minds seemed heretically odd.

Devotion with prayer to start the ritual
Then the staid sounds of Negro Spiritual
Were just part of each morning's talent show
When with melodic voices we did blow
Our anthem "Lift Every Voice and Sing."
And the gospel quartet sounds we made swing.
We euphonized patriotic songs too,
And sang military tunes we all knew.

We remember
Teens ordering pop at the Soda Shop;
Teachers getting milkshakes, cherry'd on top;
Youngsters jumping ditch 'cross from Murphy's Store,
Opting for shortcakes and Commodore.

We remember
Sardines, crackers, that banana sandwich
That caused the squeamish to quiver and twitch.
Though peanut butter and jelly was their fare
Of loom'd irony they were unaware.
4¢ cartons of milk and ice cream cup
Sold whenever that freezer wasn't locked up.
Ginger snap cookies, two for a penny
But nickel-less we could not buy many.

Quick dances to the Soda Shop's jukebox
While awaiting snacks for teachers, the jocks
At recess "put another nickel in"
To practice the James Brown step, twirl and spin.
Lunch pails and those greasy brown bag brunches
Eclipsed by cafeteria lunches.
Leaving campus with / without permission
For lunch snacks (but no further admission).

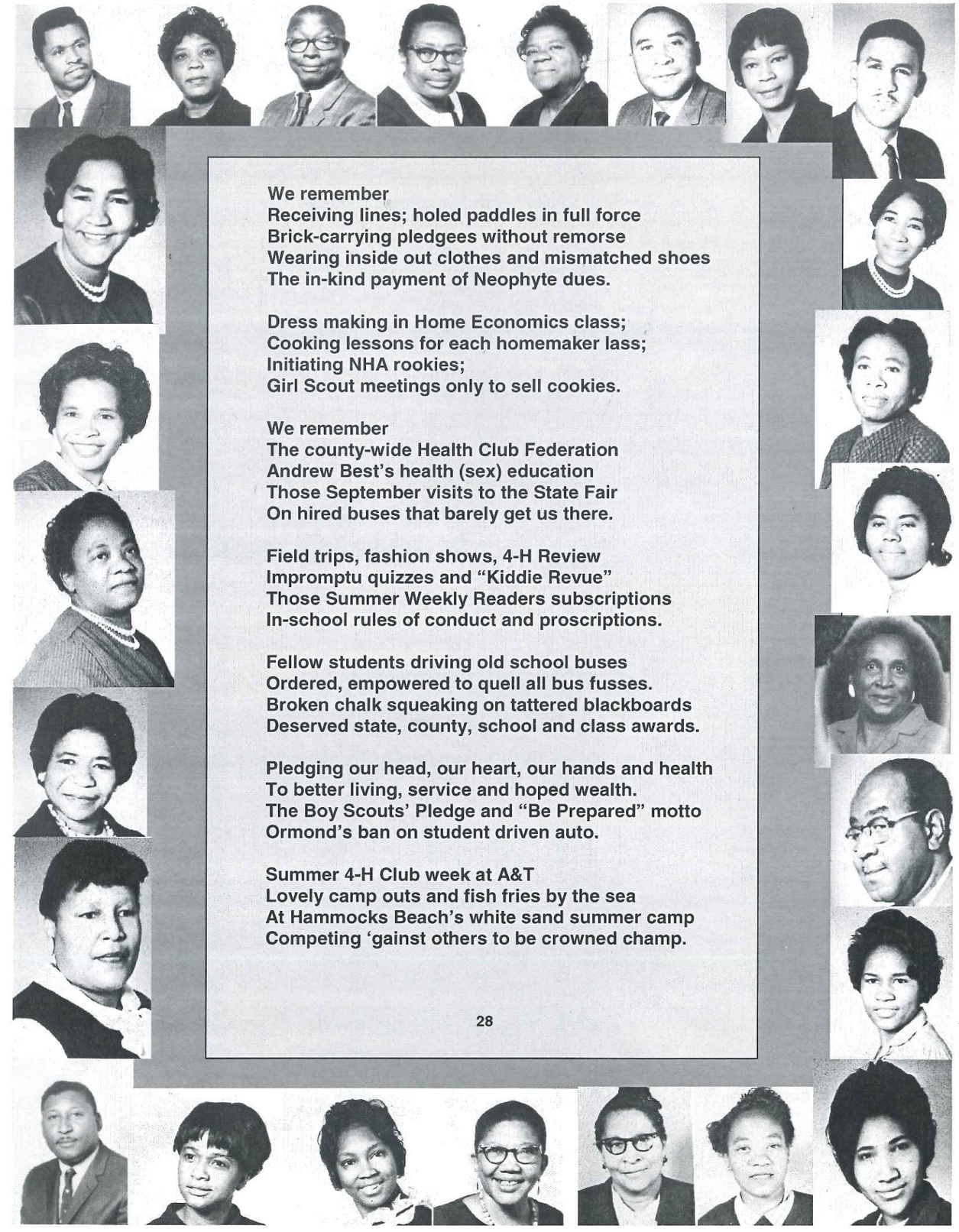


We remember
All the Crown and Scepter Club inductions
Heralded Dramatic Club productions
Emblazoned gym evincing prom night themes
How elegantly charming our Prom Queens

Spelling Bee; history taught on T.V.
Literature: metaphor and simile
Flask tubes in Chemistry, Biology
No slide rulers for trigonometry
Huey playing "Flight of the Bumblebee"
Four-part harmony; wet Scout Jamboree.
Those horrendous calls by blind referee
Chained and padlocked gym by Ormond's decree.

We remember
The melodious, mellifluent sound
Of soloist, perfect pitched and renowned
And the awesome choir in ensembled voice
Winning the county Choir Battle, of course.
Trumpeters like Jessie Edwards you see
Scholarship, then first chair, at A&T.
After placing second in the nation
To rave reviews and lavish ovation.
And in that same year–1963
National singing runners-up trophy!
The jazz group playing on local TV
Radio-hosted quartet harmony.

We remember
Scholarship, leadership, merit award
Competing with friends but without discord.
Livestock, farming, and gardening techniques
Homemaker's demos and in-home critiques.
Swine and cattle breeding recognition
Blue ribbons from county competition
Award ceremonies and trophy cage
Athletes at assemblies honored on stage.



We remember
Receiving lines; holed paddles in full force
Brick-carrying pledgees without remorse
Wearing inside out clothes and mismatched shoes
The in-kind payment of Neophyte dues.

Dress making in Home Economics class;
Cooking lessons for each homemaker lass;
Initiating NHA rookies;
Girl Scout meetings only to sell cookies.

We remember
The county-wide Health Club Federation
Andrew Best's health (sex) education
Those September visits to the State Fair
On hired buses that barely get us there.

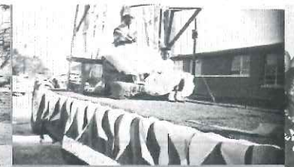
Field trips, fashion shows, 4-H Review
Impromptu quizzes and "Kiddie Revue"
Those Summer Weekly Readers subscriptions
In-school rules of conduct and proscriptions.

Fellow students driving old school buses
Ordered, empowered to quell all bus fusses.
Broken chalk squeaking on tattered blackboards
Deserved state, county, school and class awards.

Pledging our head, our heart, our hands and health
To better living, service and hoped wealth.
The Boy Scouts' Pledge and "Be Prepared" motto
Ormond's ban on student driven auto.

Summer 4-H Club week at A&T
Lovely camp outs and fish fries by the sea
At Hammocks Beach's white sand summer camp
Competing 'gainst others to be crowned champ.












Kneeling, Left to Right: Walter Lee Jones and Warren Wilson
Standing, Left to Right: John Reaves, George Collins and Elmer Cannon


We remember
County Extension Agents like Capehart
Goode, Barnes; Supervisors who played their part
As role models--Jordan, Blount and Bradley
From the '50's to 1970.
Jordan's "Young Ladies For the Future" speech
Preaching, beseeching, teaching, hoping each
Young girl would adopt admirable goals
And carve out for themselves leadership roles.

Graded essays on soil conservation
Lessons aimed at black farm preservation.
NFA jacket and stitched-on logo
Tools for carpentry as well as auto.

We remember
The great gold rush of 1962
When boys and girls basketball teams swept through
All the PCIA competition
And garnered MVP recognition.

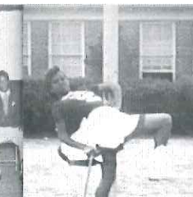
The Public Speaking and Debating Team
Forensic training at our academe.
Countywide oratorical contests
Judged by local, county, and statewide guests.

We remember
Those occasional Friday night dances
Igniting short and long-term romances
Cemented more by slow piccolo tune
At Stewart's, dancing bodies did commune.

Fancy gowns for class and homecoming queens
Feigning shock about what a curfew means.
Telling dates the risk of being tardy
Was trumped by fun at the after party.

Gossip columns with initials galore
About who's dating whom, and a lot more.
Touching lips–near kisses–in the cloakrooms
While searching for coats, hats, or sweeping brooms.

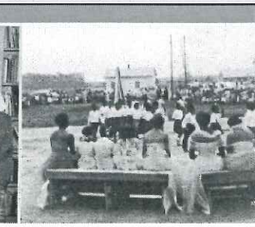








We remember
Class and student government elections
Rejections? Or popular selections?
Library, science, math, dramatic clubs
As some of the school's more popular hubs.

Three-leg races and mighty tugs-of-war
Forensic contest for school orator
Sitting in class windows, legs tucked inside
Using newspapers we cleaned them with pride.

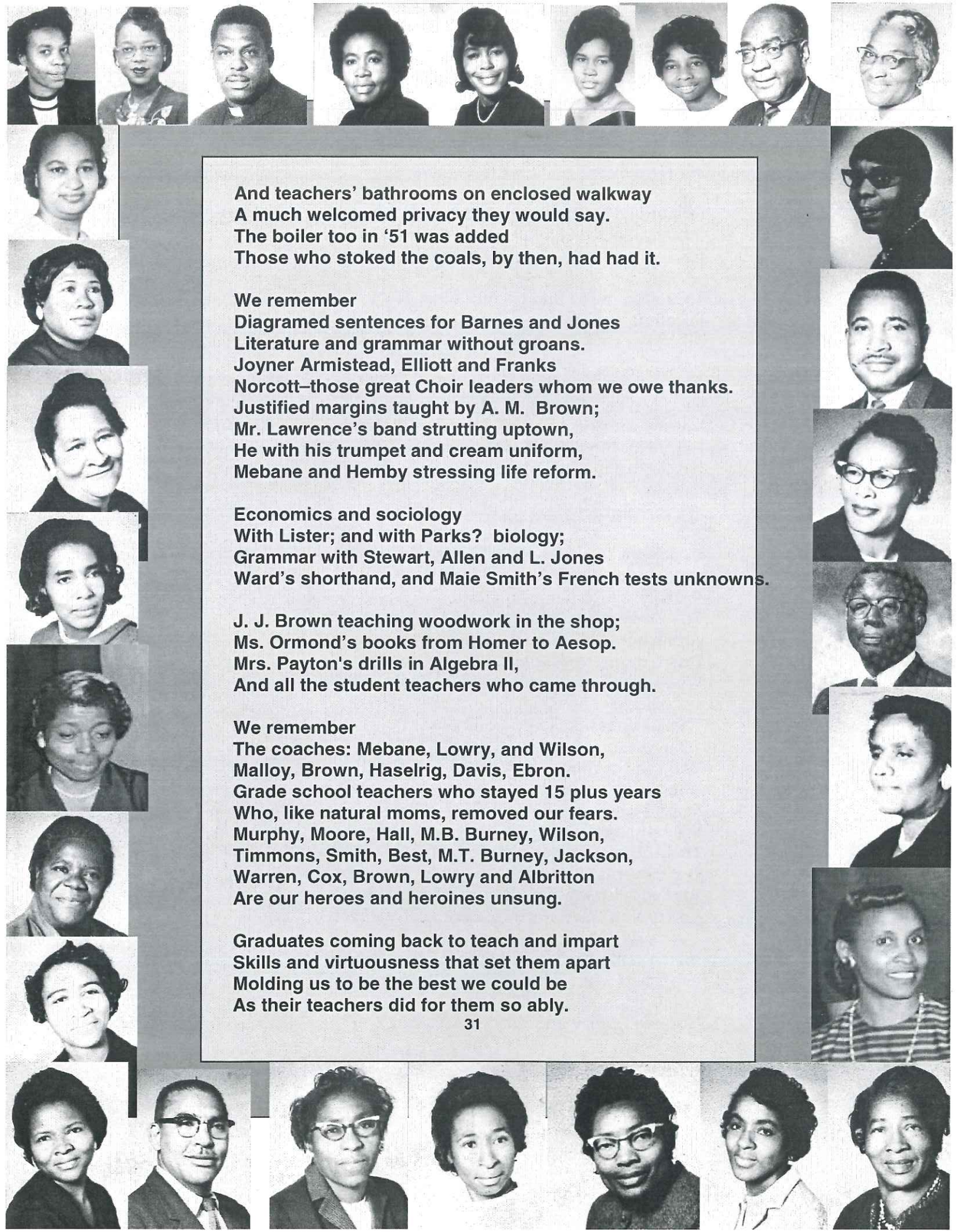
Heat waves, Hazel, and other hurricanes
Nature's fury with sometimes freezing rains
Early closings which we did not regret
'Til Saturday morning classes were set.

We remember
Summer Science classes at NCC
Exposure to advanced biology.
Home economic class on etiquette
Portraying Romeo and Juliet.
The class plays and orations from MacBeth,
And from Othello, that famed scene of death
Desdemona sleeping, and Othello
Weeping o'er her presumed love, Cassio.

The GI Vocation Training Program
100+ vets proved it was no sham.
Veteran teachers like Godette, Dan Brown
And Smith were experts of no small renown.

We remember
The auditorium partitioned off
But cast-off classes there caused none to scoff.
And with no lab equipment in that space
Lowry and Payton still taught science with grace.

Inside and attached bathroom for students
Graffitied walls with all our imprudence.
The brick addition in '51
Housed library and grades 4, 3, 2, 1,



And teachers' bathrooms on enclosed walkway
A much welcomed privacy they would say.
The boiler too in '51 was added
Those who stoked the coals, by then, had had it.

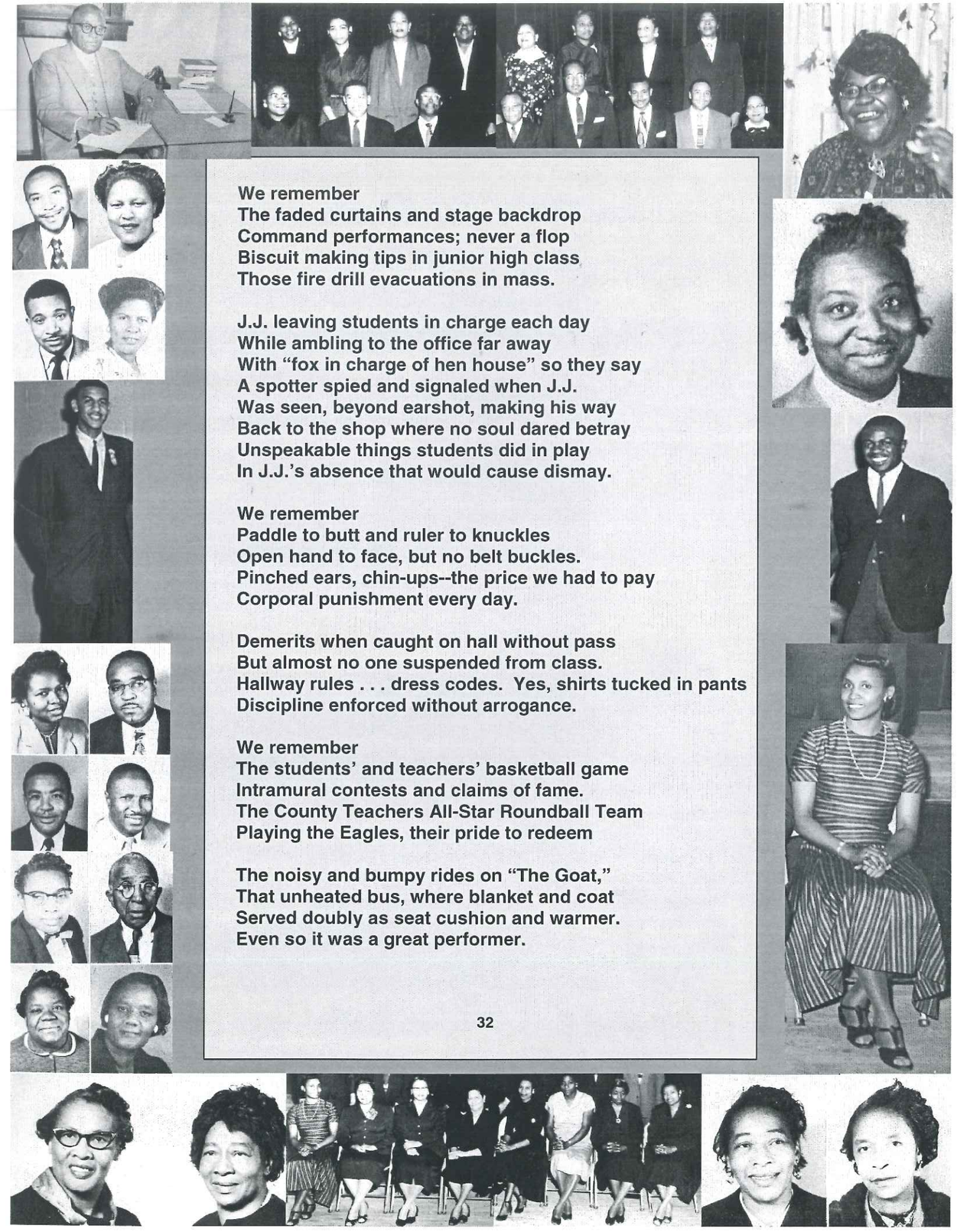
We remember
Diagramed sentences for Barnes and Jones
Literature and grammar without groans.
Joyner Armistead, Elliott and Franks
Norcott–those great Choir leaders whom we owe thanks.
Justified margins taught by A. M. Brown;
Mr. Lawrence's band strutting uptown,
He with his trumpet and cream uniform,
Mebane and Hemby stressing life reform.

Economics and sociology
With Lister; and with Parks? biology;
Grammar with Stewart, Allen and L. Jones
Ward's shorthand, and Maie Smith's French tests unknowns.

J. J. Brown teaching woodwork in the shop;
Ms. Ormond's books from Homer to Aesop.
Mrs. Payton's drills in Algebra II,
And all the student teachers who came through.

We remember
The coaches: Mebane, Lowry, and Wilson,
Malloy, Brown, Haselrig, Davis, Ebron.
Grade school teachers who stayed 15 plus years
Who, like natural moms, removed our fears.
Murphy, Moore, Hall, M.B. Burney, Wilson,
Timmons, Smith, Best, M.T. Burney, Jackson,
Warren, Cox, Brown, Lowry and Albritton
Are our heroes and heroines unsung.

Graduates coming back to teach and impart
Skills and virtuousness that set them apart
Molding us to be the best we could be
As their teachers did for them so ably.



We remember
The faded curtains and stage backdrop
Command performances; never a flop
Biscuit making tips in junior high class
Those fire drill evacuations in mass.

J.J. leaving students in charge each day
While ambling to the office far away
With "fox in charge of hen house" so they say
A spotter spied and signaled when J.J.
Was seen, beyond earshot, making his way
Back to the shop where no soul dared betray
Unspeakable things students did in play
In J.J.'s absence that would cause dismay.

We remember
Paddle to butt and ruler to knuckles
Open hand to face, but no belt buckles.
Pinched ears, chin-ups--the price we had to pay
Corporal punishment every day.

Demerits when caught on hall without pass
But almost no one suspended from class.
Hallway rules . . . dress codes. Yes, shirts tucked in pants
Discipline enforced without arrogance.

We remember
The students' and teachers' basketball game
Intramural contests and claims of fame.
The County Teachers All-Star Roundball Team
Playing the Eagles, their pride to redeem

The noisy and bumpy rides on "The Goat,"
That unheated bus, where blanket and coat
Served doubly as seat cushion and warmer.
Even so it was a great performer.






We remember
The graduate assistants explaining
Football techniques in pre-season training
Stressing conditioning was the approach
Before prospects ever worked with their coach.

The first kickoff return against Queen Street.
Twenty yards forward before full retreat
But for the first game in school history
Who could have expected a victory?

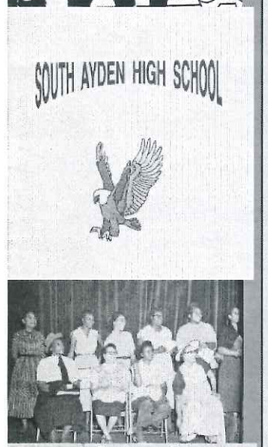
We remember
The school secretaries and teacher aides
And the hard working janitors and maids
The culinary skill of lunchroom staff
Who ably separated wheat from chaff.

Student preachers and religious fervor
The Barefoot Prophets' vows as preserver
To excise demons from each vile body
Evangel'cally, not by karate.

Faculty dramatic presentations
Plays, skits; sometimes, student imitations.
County King and Queen Health Coronation
When crown'd friends served as inspiration.

We remember
Marching in line, even during fire drills
Developing interpersonal skills.
Christmas pageants and nativity scenes
"Silent Night" was the favorite it seems.

The open field behind the Cannery
Where sport and team skills were honed masterly.
Sandlot baseball and, yes, football too
But Bud's broken wrist meant we were through.














Jackson's Cub Scouts; athletic field mudholes
Those potbellied stoves and hot furnace coals.
The woodworking and masonry studies
Hangin' out in the shop with our buddies.

White belted and badged Safety Patrol Force
Patrolling short halls and that long concourse
To the library and primary wings,
Strutting proudly as if crown'd Lord of Kings

Recess: primary kids shooting marbles
High schoolers, their raps reduced to garbles
Study Hall: where some did so much courting
That their homework was never comporting.
Robert's Rules of Order from NFA
Assemblies then sporting games on Field Day
The Smart and Thrifty Club and PTA
Parents coming to school to have their say.

Lucy Stewart advising the G.O. girls
About tempting Providence and its perils,
Or Skeleton Key Club numbering four
Like the Magnificent Seven before.

That long trip to Norlina by the Choir
Where we "turned the joint out." We were on fire!
As it was when we had the privilege
To help raise funds for Oxford Orphanage.

Classes in partitioned spaces,
Norcott's, and the Holy Church of all places.
The circular entrance to the campus
Scattered sycamore trees deciduous.

How Mrs. Brown's classroom was much too small
Yet it outsized Smith's class space in the hall.
Mr. Ormand's office was half-sized too,
But the words he penned there in that venue
And printed in the '52 Newspost
Inspire now as when we were first engrossed.









Reading his "Rules for a Successful Life"
Can, even today, help reduce life's strife.

We remember
Extra-curricular activities
Class songs, class poems, class wills and prophecies.
The school and class tabloids, and newsletters
Published by pacesetters and go-getters.

Thanksgiving raffle for the prized turkey
And tickets sold even for things quirky.
"Oh Holy Night" sung at Christmas concerts
Seasonal bake sales with 10¢ desserts.

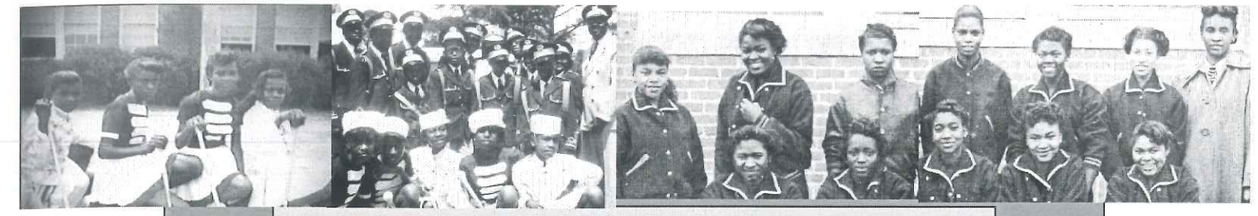
Scaling brick walls to play basketball
But scamperin' quickly down exit hall
Before heavily chained and padlocked doors
Flung open to show our weekend game scores.

Boys (for fun) breaking into school at night
Traversing high transoms not knowing that light
At dawn break would show the dusty earmark
Of silhouetted hands left in the dark.

Campus camp outs, leaking tents, and fish stews
Camping at Kerr Lake with its awesome views.
Mrs. Lassiter's tasty, scorching soup
A treat and a warmer for Boy Scout troop.

We remember
Recess treks to outdoor water fountain
Gossip that turned mole hill to mountain.
May Day activities, May Poles, May Queen
Were part of our end of school year routine.

Junior and Senior Proms and Senior Week
The cliques and group bondings that were unique.
The graduation, Baccalaureate
Class rings, diplomas, we commemorate.



Room-and-board teachers whose only concern
Was what they could impart--what we could learn.
With less regard for comfort and things nice
In cramped quarters they made the sacrifice.

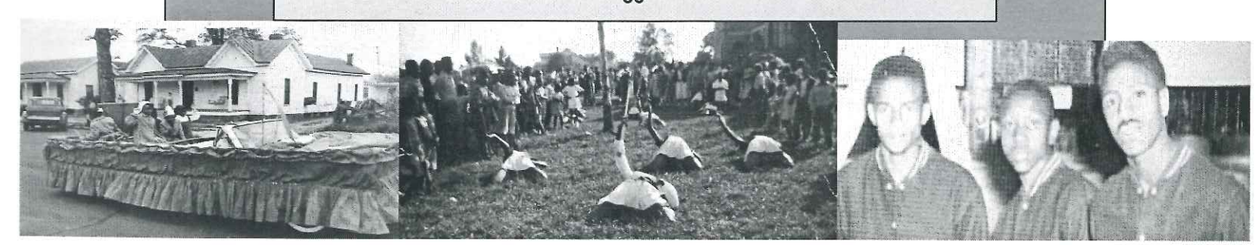
The few white teachers bold enough to come
To help us be all that we have become.
'Course we taught them too--A "Win-Win" for all
Lane, King, Wilson, Stancil, Hughes, LaRoque, Ball.

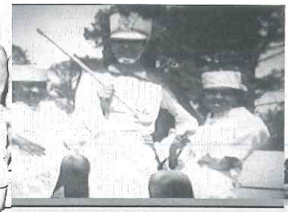
The fiat that caused each seventh grade class
To be moved to white Ayden School en masse
When no whites were assigned to our school
'Twas a failed one-way integration tool.

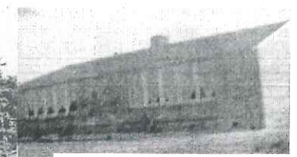
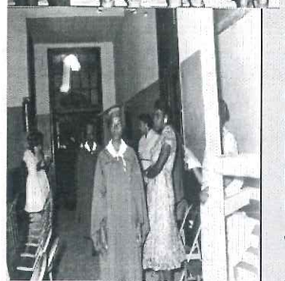
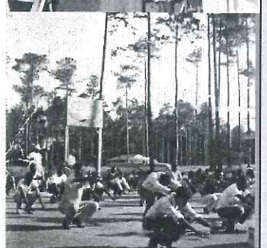
Black/white students meeting in '69
At the Holiday Inn, with hope, they dined
To discuss the consolidated school,
Its mascot, colors. . .coexistence rule.

We remember
Pleasant Plain, Shiloh, Grifton: Feeder schools;
North Aydeners walking 'cause no car pools
Friends from Haddocks, Venters, and Cox Crossroads
From Roundtree and Little Creek? half busloads;
From Gardnerville, Hanrahan, Jump and Run.
Schoolmates and life-long friends, second to none.
Some of us were classmates in all twelve grades
And as the roll of buddies now cascades,

We remember
Affectionate names and appellations
Monikers, namesakes, denominations
Given by relatives in coteries
Nicknames based on looks, personalities



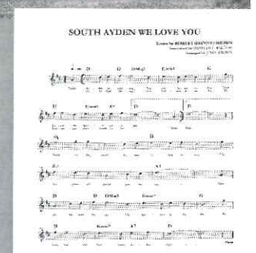

Set forth below are handles we recall
Buster, Native, Smoke, Ham, Bubba, Snowball
Ought, Candyman, Dickie Dye, Knot, Slick, Wink
Scab, Butch, Crook, Hub, Stag, Rip Hawk, Cool Breeze, Dink
Peaches, Angel, Sugar, Kitten, Pie, and Sweet
Meach, Slim, Sook, Bud, Sis, Jue, Jue-Jue, Glope, Skeet
Franco, Reno, Sambo, Pac, Doc, Yack, Zach
Jack Frost, Frosty Morn, Toot, Flute, Slack

Bobcat, Rabbit, Bear, Rooster, Termite, Snake
Goat, Hawk, Pig Jig, Duck, Buck, Chuck, Red, Tank, Jake
Capp, Jap, Nick, Tick, Dunk, Punk, Dee Dee, Pee Wee
Chilly, Honey, Dusty, Fuzzy, Ree, Dee
Coffee, Do-chie, Ducey, Nonnie, and Tee
Bossie, Micey, Casey, Guinea, Flutie
Hop Sing, Big Will, Deac, Sneak, Stank, Boot-ning
Delna, Dull, Motor, Junior, Bo Lightning.

We remember
We remember sadly and reverently
Classmates plagued with serious injury,
The '51 fatal crash near Black Jack
And those dead from disease and heart attack.

We remember
Freedom of Choice, not full integration–
Not at South Ayden where education
Was too late seen, by the county brass
And the empower'd mass, as second class.

We remember
The long-time principals, Ormond and Monk
Who faced segregation with cunning spunk.
They turned "hand-me-downs" into solid gold.
And with our teachers made the perfect mold
Then sculpted assumed mediocrity
Into coveted virtuosity.

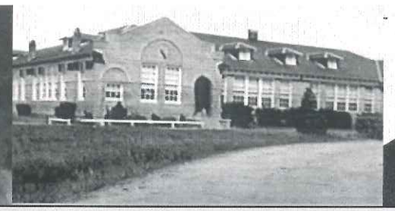







Shiloh, built c. 1875











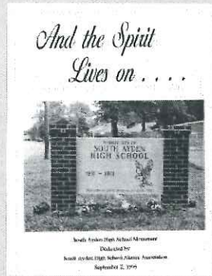
We remember
All the fun, festive, merrymaking time
The comradery–those ties that bind.
Proud, supporting teachers who truly cared
And, in life skills, made sure we were prepared.

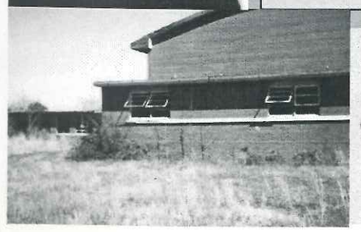
How swings, seesaws and Jungle Jim sets,
Outdoor dirt courts with rims, minus nets
All gave way to primary class construction
Which 23 years later succumbed to needless destruction.

Yes, we remember, and will never forget
They tore down all wood and brick structures, yet
They could not destroy our head, soul, or heart
South Ayden from thee we will never part.

You see, we remember
How sinister clouds--separate, UNEQUAL
Took their toll long past Brown and its sequel
And how, despite all, we overcame
South Ayden, with love, we praise your famed name.

South Ayden, we love you
For what we are today
Your honor we never can repair
With joy we shall lift up
Our banners in the sky
We love you
Our dear South Ayden High
. . . .







EPILOGUE

We remember. We remember our love for each other. We remember how we laughed and joked and worked and competed. We will never forget the "school spirit" and how close we felt to each other. But more than anything, we remember our mentors. They came from near and far not simply to teach, but also to educate and motivate. They led us past the deprivations of state-imposed "separate [and un]equal" educational funding and services. And, with dedication to principle and commitment to human purpose, they inspired us–rural eastern North Carolina black youth–to be all we could be.

They taught us that an opportunity for excellence lies in doing ordinary things extraordinarily well; that we should never give less than our best; that we should be thermostats, not thermometers; that we should thunder and rage for justice; that every kick is a boost and every obstacle is a stepping stone to success; that we could spread our wings like eagles. They made us believe we could fly. And, thanks to them, we have soared.

APPENDIX A
Entries from Pitt County Board Minutes

"Exhibit B"

[May 1924]

1. On May 1 I went with Superintendent Fitzgerald of Pitt County to meet with the local school committee of the Ayden City Schools. The purpose of our conference was to discuss ways and means for getting a decent schoolhouse for the Negroes in Ayden.

The district is short of funds and the tax rate for all purposes is exceedingly high. A large bond issue for lights and paved streets is responsible for this. However, that does not prevent strong objection to an increase in taxes. The Board is especially reluctant to ask for any increase for the express purpose of building a colored school. The economic condition just related and the condition of the white school building are both responsible. I suggested that a loan be obtained from the Literary Fund in the amount of $10,000.00 and that the people contribute privately $2500.00 which, together with the $1500.00 appropriated from the Rosenwald Fund, will give us $14,000.00.

An eight or ten room building is needed, and we could possibly get a building for approximately the above amount. The members of the Board were very much interested in this proposition, and I promised them that Doctor Davis would go to Ayden and speak to the people in the interest of a private contribution. I had hoped that this would be done before the close of school but it was not.

At a meeting of the County Board of Education of Pitt County held at Greenville on the 4th day of October 1926, the following members were present, the same being a quorum of said board:

Messrs. G. T. Gardner, M. O. Blount, John T. Thorne, L. C. Arthur.

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Arthur and seconded by Mr. Blount. "Resolved by the County Board of Education of Pitt County:
(1) That for properly maintaining a six months' school term in District # 5, Ayden Township, Pitt County as required by Article IX, Section 3, of the constitution of the State of North Carolina, it is necessary that certain improvements be made therein of the following character:

(Here set out character of improvements as specified in application)

Erect new building for Negro race in the town of Ayden.

(2) That in order to provide said improvements it is necessary that the sum of $17,000.00 be obtained by borrowing the same, to be used by the County Board of Education of Pitt County for said purpose;

April 2d, 1928

The Pitt County Board of Education met in regular session at 10:30 A. M. with all members present.

The question of appointing additional district committeemen in the Falkland School, white, was deferred until additional information as to the decision of the community could be secured. The Board wished to record itself as being strongly opposed to the granting of a license by the Board of County Commissioners for the operation of pool room for Negroes in the vicinity of the Negro School at Ayden. This action was taken at the request of the Board of County Commissioners.

APPENDIX B
Madie Murphy's Diary and Class Register Entries

Oct 1938

Week	Month	Month	Month
	M T W T F	M T W T F	M T W T F
1st	Oct 13, Taught my first time in		
2d	my own classroom.		
3d			
4th			
1st	Oct 17		
2d	Oct. 24 Supt. Visited my		
3d	classroom Oh, what a day		
4th	Oct. 31 This morning from Nelson		
1st			
2d	with my quartet was happy		
3d			

First Grade

Ayden Kendall Colored Building

Mad O. Brilly Teacher

THE NORTH CAROLINA
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REGISTER
Registers are furnished to teachers by the Superintendent of Schools

SCHOOL YEAR 1939-19 40

Ayden SCHOOL
Ayden N.C. POST OFFICE
Pitt COUNTY
SCHOOL BEGAN Sept 4th CLOSED May 3, 1940 DAYS ACTUALLY TAUGHT 160
4th GRADE Colored RACE
M. O. Murphy TEACHER

ISSUED BY THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION RALEIGH, N. C.

INDIVIDUAL PUPIL SHEET

Bell Hount jr. NAME (Surname) (Given Name) 1939-1940 Ayden Graded SCH
Age 12 (As of Sept. 1st except birthday) Date of Birth 1927 Length of Term 160 days Ayden TOWN
Birthplace Ayden N.C. Race Col Hount Bell Parent's N
Grade 1 Section A Days in Grade 160 Ayden Rt. Reside
Date Promoted May 3 To Grade 2nd Farming Occupa
Date Vaccinated Date had Smallpox Date Left Cause
Enrollment Col

No.	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	Days Attending	Days Present	Days Absent	Times Tardy	Excuses Cards
1	E																									20	20			Yes
2																										20	20			Yes
3																										20	20			Yes
4																										20	20			Yes
5																										20	20			Yes
6																										20	20			Yes
7																										20	20			Yes
8																										20	20			Yes
9																														
10																														
Total																										160	160			
Times Tardy																														

Ayden School Grade TEACHER'S MONTHLY GRADE REPORT Month April 19 39 19 40
One such record as this must be filed out for each grade. See Reverse Side for Grade Race Col Days this month 20

Day	Enrolled B	Enrolled C	Enrolled B	Enrolled C	Enrolled B	Enrolled C	Enrolled B	Enrolled C	Total Enrollment Boys	Girls	Total	Leavers B	C	T	Membership B	C	T	Pupils Present B	C	T	Pupils Absent B	C	T	Tardies B	C
1	21	14							21	14	35				21	14	35	21	14	35					
2	21	14							21	14	35				21	14	35	21	14	35					
3	21	14							21	14	35				21	14	35	21	14	35					
4	21	14							21	14	35				21	14	35	21	14	35					
5	21	14							21	14	35				21	14	35	21	14	35					
6	21	14							21	14	35				21	14	35	20	11	31	1	3	4		
7	21	14							21	14	35				21	14	35	21	12	33	1	2	4		
8	21	14							21	14	35				21	14	35	20	11	31	1	3	4		
9	21	14							21	14	35				21	14	35	21	12	33		2	2		
10	21	14							21	14	35				21	14	35	21	12	33		2	2		
11	21	14							21	14	35				21	14	35	21	12	33		2	2		
12	21	14							21	14	35				21	14	35	21	12	33		2	3		
13	21	14							21	14	35				21	14	35	21	12	33		2	3		
14	21	14							21	14	35				21	14	35	20	11	31	1	3	4		
15	21	14							21	14	35				21	14	35	19	11	30	2	3	5		
16	21	14							21	14	35				21	14	35	19	12	31	2	2	4		
17	21	14							21	14	35				21	14	35	19	14	33	2	0	2		
18	21	14							21	14	35				21	14	35	19	14	33	2	0	2		
19	21	14							21	14	35				21	14	35	19	14	33	2	0	2		
20	21	14							21	14	35				21	14	35	20	13	33	1	1	2		
Total	420	280							420	280	700				420	280	700	398	264	662	16	27	43		

Average Daily Membership Boys 21.0 Girls 14.0 Total 35.0 Average Daily Attendance Boys 20.85 Girls 13.65 Total 33.5 Per Cent of Attendance Boys 95.9 Girls 97.5 Total 96.7 M. O. Murphy Teacher

APPENDIX C
Principal's Report and Accreditation Entries

HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S ANNUAL REPORT
STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
YEAR 1937-1938 RACE Colored

COUNTY Pitt
SCHOOL Ayden
POST OFFICE Ayden

PRINCIPAL OR VICE-PRINCIPAL J. W. Ormond POSITION A. T. Reid
TEACHER M. M. Murphy SINCE WHEN THIS YEAR Sept 2, 1937 DATE April 28, 1938

I. LENGTH TERM AND NUMBER TEACHERS

ITEM	HIGH SCHOOL		ELEMENTARY
Length of term	160 days	22 (Weeks)	140 Days
No. teachers employed	1	1	4
No. teachers		Men 0 Women 1	Men 0 Women 4

II. ENROLLMENT BY GRADE, ATTENDANCE, ETC. FOR THIS YEAR

	Number Enrolled (See Caution)			Average Attendance (See Caution Under Item 1)			Number Promoted (Those who will pass to new subjects in next higher grade)		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
Kindergarten (See Caution)									
Primary Grades	27	42	66	14	25	39	8	19	28
Grammar Grades	6	22	28	5	15	20	4	17	21
Junior Grades	7	12	19	4	9	13	3	8	11
Seventh Grade	4	8	12	3	6	9	3	7	10
Eighth Grade (See Caution)									
Totals	40	85	125	26	55	81	18	51	70

Number of Teachers (Actual H. S.) Boys 3 Girls 7 Total 10
No. pupils taking 4 studies 85 No. taking 3 studies 54 Over 4 studies 2

III. GENERAL INFORMATION

Is building supplied from electricity? No
No. classrooms 9 No. used for H. S. 3
Is home ec. equipment? Yes Industrial school? Yes
Is there a school nurse? No Who contributes?
Textbooks rent price? Free Sale price? Free
Are pupils taxed personally? Free
Attendance guarantee? Yes

IV. LIBRARY

Is there a separate room? No Size of room?
Are books classified? Yes Card system? Yes
Do you have a collection of three books for pupils? Yes
How many books? 445 Reference? 8 Duty books? 7

The Annual Report Library report, enclosed herewith, should be filled out if H. S. or H. SH. exists for rating, because it affects the school. The School Librarian will consider the report and return it for our information.

Persons in certificate issue concerning items or made records of any special.

When a course of pupil has reached one year in the training course he should be the equivalent
Kindergarten Room 15 6/7 Kindergarten
Will Kindergarten 31 by 32. Will Amend
Report for the Library.

VII. LABORATORIES

Groups placed in regard to the furniture the for current session

	Total Value	Value of Equipment
Domestic Science	1797.31	82.56
Manual	150.00	132.00
Commercial	483.26	483.26
Chemistry		
Physics		
Agriculture		
Home Economics		
Commercial		
Manual Training		
Art school		
Totals	2430.57	1697.82
Is there a separate room for laboratories?	Yes	
Size of room		

VIII. EXTRA-CURRICULAR

Is there a system of Student Advisers? No Organization? No
Is Physical Education required of all pupils? No
Is it voluntary? No Intra-mural? No Inter-mural? No
No. pupils taking part?
Principal Athletic Teams: Boys Girls Street Ball
Minor sports
Name girls' council Mrs. Minnie Gillett
Name boys' council Clement Gillett
Name school newspaper? Yes Name
Name school paper in other
Name Club Club Club
Student Savings Bank Title
Name Boy Scout Troop Scouts now 22
Name Girl Scout Club 22
Enrollment 200 Number officers enrolled 200
Other school enrollment

IX. MEMORANDA

Are you using a system of pupil accounting?
Enrollment 8
No. volumes added in library 3
No. volumes removed in library 1
No. volumes lost 0

I hereby certify the foregoing report is correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.
Date May 4, 1938 Signed J. W. Ormond
Principal

X. HIGH SCHOOL GRADES

1. Physical Education	Kendall Graded	8
2. Public Speaking	Kendall	
3. Textbooks	Kendall Ms Kelly etc.	7
4. Electric Lights		
Janitors		
5. Janitors Salary	Janitor Porter	6
6. Physical Ed. Teacher	Manager Support	
Teacher	Manager Support Co.	16
7. Manual Training Teacher		
8. Size of Audio Auditorium		
9. Students in H. S.	Kendall Ms Kelly	8
Type of seats in auditorium	Steel Wood	Rubber Tired

XI. GRADUATES (Senior High School only)

Name names of participants, anticipated graduations, and anticipated to give national high school diploma or certificate

Boys	Girls
Bryant Lawrence	Chesterson Lillian
Dickerson Steve	Hastings Edna
Holloway Jacque	Holloway Dorothy
	Jackson Mildred
	Pleasant Juanita
	Taylor Beatrice
	Williams Virginia

April 27, 1938

Mrs. J. W. Ormond, Principal,
Ayden Colored School,
R. F. D. No 126,
Ayden, North Carolina.

Dear Mr. Ormond:

I am glad to report that the Ayden Colored High School Library meets the requirements for an accredited school library so far as the requirements by subject are concerned. You will notice on the attached summary sheet that an indication is made that you need one book in fine arts. I note in checking the N.C.L.A. Library Book Catalogue that this error was entirely our fault since only nine titles are starred there for purchase. Because of this error on our part, I am sending you a book in fine arts to take care of that one book. I am delighted that your school has met the subject requirements for accreditment.

I call attention to the fact that the classification number for each book must be written in white ink on the outside of the book in accordance with the directions given in the North Carolina School Library Manual, a copy of which I believe you have in your school. Classification numbers for all books in the N.C.L.A. Library Book Catalogue are given after the titles. I have indicated in red the classification numbers for those books on the typewritten sheet which you sent.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Carl Hancock Douglas
School Library Adviser

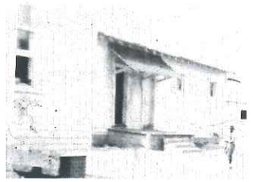
MDBRT

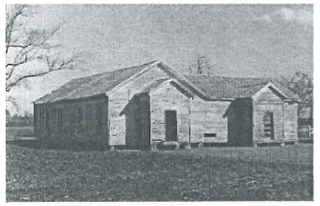
cc: Mr. H. L. Trigg

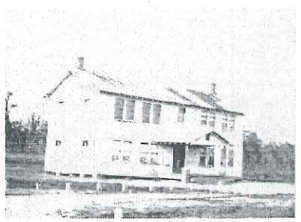
The date indicates the year of original accreditment. The schools are as follows: Private Schools 5; Public Schools 180. Total 185

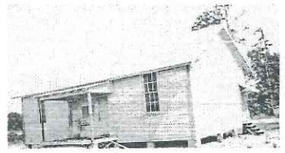
POST OFFICE	NAME OF SCHOOL	PRINCIPAL	ACC.	DATE	*ASA
	PRIVATE SCHOOLS				
Asheville	Allen High	Miss Julia Titus	Acc.	1924	ASA
Greensboro	Immanuel Lutheran	Rev. E. Hau	Acc.	1923	ASA
New Bern	St. Joseph High	Sister M. Hubert	Acc.	1945	
Sedalia	Palmer Memorial	Mrs. C. H. Brown	Acc.	1923	ASA
Washington	Mother of Mercy	Sister M. deChantal	Acc.	1937	
	PUBLIC SCHOOLS				
Acme	East Arcadia High	W. R. Davis	Acc.	1940	
Ahoskie	Robt. L. Vann High	H. D. Cooper	Acc.	1939	
Albemarle	Kingville High	E. E. Waddell	Acc.	1945	
Ansonville	Ansonville High	J. A. Blount	Acc.	1938	
Asheboro	County Training	J. N. Gill	Acc.	1930	
Asheville	Stephens-Lee High	F. A. Tolliver	Acc.	1925	ASA
Ayden	Ayden High School	J. W. Ormond	Acc.	1938	
Bahama	Little River High	C. B. Nixon	Acc.	1934	
Bayboro	County Training	T. F. Estes	Acc.	1936	

APPENDIX D
South Ayden Buildings and Feeder Schools









APPENDIX E
News Clippings

South Ayden Grad Wins Talent Honor

AYDEN — Jesse Edwards, graduate of South Ayden High School, won first place in the section talent contest of New Farmers of America held Monday in Orangeburg, S.C.

Edwards accompanied the South Ayden N.F.A. chapter quartet, which also won first place in competition with contestants from Maryland, Delaware, Virginia and South Carolina as well as North Carolina.

The contest was held at South Carolina State College in Orangeburg, S.C.

Edwards already had won on the Federation, District and state levels. He represented the North Carolina association in Orangeburg with a trumpet solo.

A 1963 graduate of South Ayden High School, he is the son of Elizabeth Cox of 111 Second St., Ayden.

He is the recipient of a scholarship award from A. & T. College in Greensboro, where he plans to major in music.

Both Edwards and the N.F.A. quartet, including Blount Nobles, Gary Phillips, William Little and Frankie Garris, will represent North Carolina in Atlanta, Ga. the first week in October.

JESSE EDWARDS

The youths were trained by Bettye J. Franks, music instructor, and Huey Lawrence, band master, at South Ayden School. J. J. Brown is chapter sponsor and advisor. J. W. Ormond is school principal.

S. Ayden Boys And Girls Win Tourney

PAMPLICO—The South Ayden Girls quintet from the Ayden high school won the championship in the final round of cage play in the Pitt County Interscholastic Athletic Association Tournament held the Eagles held a strong second quarter lead with the score 12-8 after trailing 8-6 early in the game. Four girls 10-0 and for the game, defeating S. O. Jones 34-23.

In the boys' game Jones rallied from a 10-2 deficit in the first quarter and by the end of the first half they held an eight point lead, 18-10, the score 30-21. The Eagles managed to outscore Jones 12-9 in the second half to win the game and the championship.

The high scorer for the winners was J. Brown with 8 points followed by C. Boston with 17 points and Mary Wooten with 12 points. For the losers Jones was led by T. Dupree with 13 points and Joe second team was E. Pitt with 10 points.

LEGAL HOLIDAY
We Will Be Closed
Thursday, February 22, 1962

Ayden Leads Competition At College

Participants from the South Ayden High School at Ayden last night dominated the state finals in three contests at the annual convention for the North Carolina Association of New Farmers of America being held this week at A&T College.

A singing group, composed of Blount Nobles, Gary Phillips, William Little and Frankie Garris, took first place in the quartet contest and a schoolmate, Jesse Edwards, walked off with top honors in the talent contest with a trumpet solo.

In the third contest last night, Henry Irvin of Belhaven won first place in public speaking.

Wednesday, August 27, 1958 THE DAILY R

State Champions Given Their Awards

CHARLES BECTON AND LEOMAN EDWARDS RECEIVE WATCHES . . . from Farm Agent James Goode.

Three Negro 4-H'ers yesterday were presented awards they received as state champions in 4-H projects.

Charles Becton and Leoman Edwards of the Ayden 4-H Club each received engraved wrist watches as winners in the state team demonstrations.

William Smith of the Bethel 4-H Club, who was garden champion for 1957, received a $50 savings bond and a certificate of recognition.

The awards were presented by Farm Agent James Goode and Assistant Agent W. G. Barnes.

Becton and Edwards won first place with their cotton demonstration, "Seven Steps to Efficient Cotton Production."

Last year the pair won a county, group and district team demonstration elimination but could not participate on the state level because one of the boys could not leave his job for that period of time.

Both of the Ayden 4-H'ers have been winners in a variety of 4-H activities in Pitt County during the past three years.

This year they are also running for state Champion in leadership and achievement respectively. Mrs. Nellie Phillips and Mrs. M. T. Burney are teacher leaders for the two 4-H'ers from the South Ayden High School and J. W. Ormond, ...

THE NEWS AND OBSERVER, RALEIGH, N. C
Wednesday Morning, June 21, 1961

Champs Announced By Negro 4-H Clubs

GREENSBORO — State champions [illegible] Cook, Pickens, and Henry Ford [illegible] were named Tuesday in [illegible] series of contests conducted at [illegible] the annual 4-H Club Week observance [illegible] here under way at A&T College.

The winners in order of placement included:

Vegetable production — Marion Christie Williamson and Ferrell Tyler and Lenora Jenkins, Hudson Rural; and tied for second were Sampson, Clinton and Annie Vaughn and Iona Pinkney, Mebane.

Dairy foods—Helen T. Clark, Henderson; Jessie B. Dukes, Walnut, and Cholinda Thomas, Hamlet.

Homemaking (4 to 6) — Geraldine Newsome and Thomasine Bonds, Mebane.

For a blended individual — Clara F. Johnson, Rankers.

Poultry—Percy Baker and Billy Feldman, Pace Hill, Ayden and Felicia Lawrence, Murfreesboro; and Wayne Adams and Sue Johnson, Beulaville.

Cotton — William Phelps and Cupid Mathenson, Gatesburg; Willie Chapel and Joyce Harrington, and Calvin Pipkins and Lucy Mobley, Mebane.

Tobacco—Donald Graham and Willie Johnson, Rose Hill; Billy Hilton and Hettie Jones Bryd, Greenville; and Annie and Estella Ross, Bethlehem.

Forage crops—Charlie Forster and George Waitz, Needmore; Robert King and William Stalker Gary—McPhatter, Fayetteville and Charlie Perrow and Ella Hyder, Henderson.

Swine—Jessie Smith, Magnolia; Claude Cooper and George K. Hart, Greenville, Roy Turner, Melvin Dollar, Williamston.

Beef cattle production — Ulysses and Sonie Bottle, Sunbury; Alan Lane and Charles Barnett, Pinetop; and Gerald Covington and Jesse Hoyt, Buckingham.

Apples—Cleth Hassan and Milton Tyson, Cherry Valley, Dickie Bettie and Bettie Arrington and Quent Williams, Vilas — Edward Wilson and Sam Hogan, Hertford; Paul ...

4-H Club Champions Named

GREENSBORO (AP) — State champions in a series of contests were decided Tuesday at the annual 4-H Club Week observance being conducted this week at A&T College.

Two boys from Guilford County, J. C. Robinson and Darlon Moore of the Mount Tabor Community, took top honors in the Farmers Cooperative contest.

Other winners included: Peanuts—James Cooper and William Stephens of Winston; cotton — Leman Edwards and Charles Becton of Greenville; forage crop—Jefferson Hayes and Eugene Roscoe of Gatesville; tobacco—Johnnie Prodgen and Charles Newton of Burgaw; electricity—Jeanette and Alfred Sneed, a sister and brother team from Buckingham; poultry—Herman Bennett and Robert Johnson of Wadesboro; dairy foods—Mona Boston, Lillington; breadmaking team—Irma Chavis and Barbara Strickland of Louisburg; and breadmaking individual—Artha Mainor, Kinston.

perspiration, the latter he described as "plain, hard work." "Your future," he said, "is as great as is your imagination if it is coupled with continued hard work."

THE NEWS AND OBSERVER
Wednesday Morning, June

PCIA Champions

SOUTH AYDEN CHAMPIONS . . . Front row left to right: Carroll Dixon, Jimmie Brown, Wilbert Kirkpatrick, Charles Becton, Eddie McCrayer. Second row: R. Harding (Coach), Paul Blount, Jesse Edward, Wilbert Banks, Thomas Reeves, Harold Fulmen, Walter Jordan, J. Eleon (Asst. Coach).

APPENDIX F

School Newspaper Excerpts

The Newspost of Ayden Negro School

VOL. I, No. 2 AYDEN, N. C., MAY 6, 1952 PRICE: TEN CENTS

New Farmers of America News

The Ayden Chapter of New Farmers of America has scored in its effort to make contributions to the Oxford Orphanage. This year, through the efforts of all of the teachers and students, we were able to send a check for $120.00, making our total for the last seven years, nearly a thousand dollars. We are thankful to the teachers, parents, and students for their contributions to this worthy effort.

Six members of the chapter participated in the Junior Dairy Cattle Show and Jubilee, in our Federation Contest, many of our members participated in the various contests, such as Public speaking, N. F. A. Quiz, Quartett singing, Talent and Officers Ability. These contests along with our N. F. A. meetings allow members a chance to develop themselves for positions of leadership in public life. We feel that our participation in the Barbecue Public speaking contest was a success even though interest wasn't as high as it was last year.

THINGS TO COME

All of our senior N. F. A. members have written essays on some phase of soil conservation for more knowledge and know how on the subject, and for participation in a contest sponsored by Soil Conservation of the county.

Eight of the nine school months have passed but by no means is that an indication that we, the members of the N. F. A. Chapter, have a month and the summer to loaf and sleep. The remaining month and months of June, July and August, will be busy months for the 34 members of the local chapter. We will be busy preparing ourselves for the State Convention to be held at A. & T. College in Greensboro in June. We will be busy working on our farms and with our supervised Practice Program, we will plan for some recreational activities that will include a few days at summer camp.

"Howdy," said his mother, "you across the street and how old Mrs. Smith is."

So Jimmy ran across the street. After a few minutes conversation with the ailing Mrs. Smith he returned.

"Well, what is the news of your business here

J. W. ORMOND, Principal

The Principal Speaks

Each individual should strive to enjoy a successful happy life. You should begin early in your school life to decision 1. A proper basis for your happiness; 2. The best avenues for your happiness, and; 3. A worthy standard for judging happiness.

There are several fundamentals necessary for happiness. The first of these is a successful vocational life, not necessarily as measured in dollars and cents, but in the sense of something accomplished. It is difficult to enjoy life so long as you are confronted with the problem of a failing business or career. 2. It involves financial security. 3. It involves adequate personal relationships. 4. It involves general contentment. All of these conveniences are implicated. On the other hand, if your business or career is successful, if you are accomplishing something toward a definite goal, if you can find satisfaction in the work you are doing, your hours of leisure and relaxation will afford you genuine happiness.

You have only to observe the student about you to learn that it is usually those doing the hard work who are the most satisfied. Certainly those students who are doing the minimum work are not satisfied. This situation also prevails in life.

The great fundamental of happiness is

P. T. A. News

The P.T.A. has really been alive this school term so much so until a club was organized through the P.T.A. the name is The club is: The Smart and Thrifty Club.

Club Colors: Black and White. Club Motto "Training the Youth", since the Club has been organized a Play has been presented twice. Popping up the P.T.A. In Ayden High School and Waterloo Branch School.

It was enjoyed by everyone. We have a date for Greenville School and Snow Hill School very soon.

Mrs. J. H. Albritton, President.
Mrs. J. H. Albritton, President.
Mrs. C. L. Reid, Secretary.
Mrs. A. L. Jones, Treasurer.
Members of the Club are as follows:
Mrs. J. L. Albritton, Mrs. C. L. Reid, Mrs. A. L. Jones, Mrs. E. Stevenson, L. Williams, Mrs. I. Moore, Mrs. M. Knox, Mrs. A. M. Lassiter, Mrs. V. S. Sessoms, M. Hooks, Mrs. E. Beatty, Mrs. G. Garris, Mrs. M. P. Saunders and others.

N. H. A. News

By Anna James Wilson

The N.H.A.-M.F. prom was bigger and better this year. With a background of blues and the moon, We swung and swayed to the music of H. B. Sesge High Orchestra.

Last year we started having our fashion show before our May Queen. This year the dresses were prettier and the variety of color and style made it a wonderful scene to watch.

Our first speaker for the year was Miss H. Jordon, Supervisor of Pitt County Schools. She spoke to us very informally on "Young Ladies For The Future". Her words were food, for thought and all of us are trying to put it to our daily living.

The theme for our float in the parade this year was "The Family". This float won 1st prize of $25.

The girls, who organized the N.H.A. four years ago are graduating. We have invited thirty girls to join the club. We have when their initiation and a social

THE NEWSPOST STAFF

Walter Greene, Jr., Editor-in-Chief
William R. Chapman, Managing Editor
Melton Phillips, Feature Editor
Vivian Phillips, Sports Editor
Charlie Wiggins, Business Manager
Melton Brooks, Circulation Manager
George Collins, Advertising Manager

EDITORIAL

An Apology

The editorial staff of the Newspost wishes to apologize to the blind grade for the omission of some news and that of the Chatterbox from the columns of the last edition. We assure you that it was most regrettable, but space would not permit us to publish all the news at that time.

The End of Another School Year

We have almost completed another school year, which has been a very busy one for most of us. The week accomplishment has been, I believe, commendable. Of course, there have been the usual successes and the usual failures, but that's to be expected.

Personally, I wish to express my sincere gratitude for your support in helping to make the Newspost one of the best school papers in Pitt county. I regret that this will be my last opportunity to visit with you through the medium of this column. It is true that the task you gave me as Editor-in-Chief of the Newspost has been a hard one, but it has also been a duty I have enjoyed performing.

HOPES TO THE FUTURE—

"Where to from here?" That's one of the many questions being asked of high school and college graduates throughout the nation this spring. The answer to this and other questions will be as varied as the number of persons answering them. It all depends upon the individual. Success or failure is a personal matter. Since this is true, it is necessary that we, at some, set our goal and work tirelessly to attain them. If we are to realize a fuller, richer life.

A FOND FAREWELL—

Goodbye will be said and, perhaps, tears will be shed when May 16th comes around. It is always so with seniors on graduation day. So, in keeping with an old tradition, we say a fond—a very fond—farewell to the happy, carefree high school days.

Walter Greene, Jr.
Editor-in-Chief

Third Grade News

Our third grade news is getting costly to had, with a Bang! Here we are, all ready for school to close. We have almost come to the end of our journey. We have almost covered our work for the school year and we are thinking very seriously about our vacation days. We have finished with our commencement exercises which

Library News

It is encouraging to notice the interest that the little children are showing in the library and reading in general. It appears that they are on the correct path to develope good reading interest that perhaps will remain with them through life.

It is hoped that all children who have subscriptions to the magazine, "My Weekly Reader," will continue their subscriptions during the summer months in order that their reading interests may be kept at a high peak.

Since the library is the one of the school it is hoped that all use the library to the fullest extent. It is also desired that the people give the following terms their deepest consideration:

"Books are keys to wisdom's treasure,
Books are guides to lands of pleasure,
Books are paths that upward lead,
Books are friends. Come let us read."

L. P. Dransfield,
Teacher-Librarian

Choral Club News

By Bonni Greene and Frannie Whitehurst

The Ayden High School Choral Club had the honor of being host for the Pitt County Annual Musical Festival April 1, 1952. It was the Choral Club's greatest event.

All of the Pitt County high schools participating throw some songs each. Beside High School Choral Club sang, "The Green Cathedral" by Hehn, "Ave Maria", by Schubert and "Lost a Parade" by Arthur Benson.

The H. B. Sugge High School sang "Ave Maria", by Gounod, "In My Father's Mansion", and "The Prayer Perfect", by Spenker. Directress, Miss D. E. Webb.

Robinson High School sang "All Dwelling" by Cadman, "The Rosary", by Nevin and "Rock-a-me-Soul", a Negro Spiritual, by Howarth. Directress Mrs. L. J. McKinnon.

Pitt County Training School sang "Music", by Schubert, "Joshua Fit the Battle Of Jerico", and "Me and My Little Brain" by Arthur Jackson with a trio, "To A Wild Rose", by McDowell, "The Blind Ploughman", a solo by Clark, and "Going Home" by D'Verdi.

We are now anticipating on the commencement exercises, which will end another colorable year of Choral.

Party Given for Seniors

A very enjoyable party was given Easter Monday night at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Barney given in honor Miss Myra Lee Barney, Edward E. Smith and Seniors.

A delicious report of Chicken, Wieners, Potato salad, hot rolls, Cherry Cobbs, pickles, ice cream and cake was served. Plenty of good music.

The party was enjoyed by every one and made us the members of the senior class

SENIOR CLASS ROSTER

Brooks, Alonia
Brooks, Dolorin
Brooks, Opera
Bryant, James Earl
Cannon, Gladys Mae
Carroll, Robert Lee
Chapman, William R.
Cherry, Shirley Gray
Darden, Naomie Pearl
Dixon, Ethel Virginia
Pope, Ethel Belle
Gardner, Joe Matthew
Greene, Walter, Jr.
Grimsley, Helen Toell
James, Elena Dean
Jenkins, William
Jones, Lassie Marie
Jones, Walter Lee
King, Pearlie Jean
Mabry, Bernice
Members, Mattie C.
Mills, Thelmon
Moore, Douglas L.
Phillips, Vivian Dare
Quinerly, Pradie Mae
Raspberry, Catherine
Reaves, John Arthur
Reaves, Mamie Ruth
Reaves, Robert Lee
Brooks, Mary Louise
Sorrs, Dorothea
Whitehurst, Frannie Mae
Wilson, Anna James
Wilson, Warren
Wiggins, Charles
Williams, Mable Clara
Williams, Ruby Dale
Youmans, Bertha Mae

4-H Club News

By Catherine Raspberry and Colene Edwards

The Ayden High Negro 4-H Club will take an active part in the 4-H dress review which will be held in Greenville, N. C. April 28, 1952.

The following girls are taking a part: Earnestine Dixon, Ethel Pope, Catherine Raspberry, Inell Grimsely, Christeen Gardner, Pradie Quinerly, Anna Wilson, Frannie Whitehurst, Ruby Williams, Nessie Langley, Florence McLawhorn and Shirley Cherry.

March 1, 1952 Mrs. Wade and Mr. Pitchell took the girls mentioned above to Kinston, N. C. to purchase the material for their dresses. The following girls were cited as on our March broadcast: Frannie Whitehurst, Inell Grimsley, Anna Wilson and Mabe Smith and other members of the Winterville 4-H Club.

Inell Grimsley and James Bennett won twenty five dollar war bond each for true service to management.

The Health Carnation will be held May 13, 1952. The School band will participate along with other bands.

Many 4-H members have profited by an April demonstration given by Mrs. Wade

Senior Class News

By R. Inell Grimsley

It was only four short years ago that we face embedded on an entrance by entering its realmens year. It would take too great a space for me to tell all the fairy tales but new we're gained, but here is my tale. I will give some of the latest highlights of the senior class.

Frannie Mae Whitehurst, Anna James Wilson, Vivian Phillips, Shirley Cherry, and Walter Greene will be our commencement speakers on the 15th of May.

The class is very busy now preparing for the coming events. They are: The May Day Festival, Class program, Commencement baccalaureate, High School Dramas, and class senior projects.

There are enrolled in our class 38 pupils. From the end event this happened a short while ago caused one of our classmates to be absent from 3b. This pupil was Robert Carroll, who is in Pitt Memorial Hospital in Greenville. On March 1, 1952, the president of the Senior Class, Walter Green, Jr., presented his ring to him which was purchased by the class.

John Rooney, another member of our class, is now in the Air Force at San Antonio, Texas.

It is said that the senior class of 1952 is the largest class that has ever been at Ayden High School.

The seniors who have averaged 85 percent and above for the four years of high school are, Frannie Mae Whitehurst, Valedictorian; Anna James Wilson, Salutatorian; Vivian Dare Phillips, 3rd; Shirley Dare Cherry, 4th; Inell Grimsley, 5th; Catherine Raspberry, 6th; Mary Sandra, 7th; Ethel E. Pope, 8th; Mamie Ruth Reaves, 9th; and Ruby Williams, 10th.

(Continued from Page One)

a faith in the world about you. It is difficult to be a skeptic and be happy. People of this type doubt and criticize. This state of continuously being out of harmony with your surroundings leads to unhappiness. Face facts courageously and do not complain about unfortunate circumstances without, at the same time, trying to improve them.

School Honor Roll

Florette Willis, Lucy Barnard, Nancy A. Williams, Gloxy Williams, Evangeline Newborn, Richard E. Gay, Betty Pearl Moore, Edith D. Evans, Leslie G. Moore, Nelda Crawford, Barbara Ann Bell, Bunnie King, Pauline Knight, Charles L. Cannon, Cynthia Wilson, Mamie Gardner, Arlester Wilson, Myrtle Brown, Lizzie Dunn, Thelma Jackson, Charles L. Williams, Christopher Garris, Verne Nobles, Alice Fay Bullock, T. J. Brandford, Verzell Williams, Cora Dunne, Jimmy Brown, Shirley Cox, Beverlee Dixon, Annie Mae Powell, Mills, Ina Mae Gray, Dorothy Gibbs, Thomas Reaves, John Leggett, Charles Bowen, Barbara Garris, Willie Wilson, Louis Artis, Arthur Chavous, Robert Dawson, Tallmadge Hudson, Robert H. Smith, Robert E. Whitehurst, Marjorie Zelle, Cora Jean Dunn, Bonita Rooney, Melvin Phillips, Sarah Smith, Evelyn Wilson, Anorella Anderson, Patricia Albritton, Catherine Phillips, Pearlie Mae, Mary Swanson, Novella Strong, Mary Raspberry, Rosa Lester, Emerlene Allen, Mae West Williams, Lillian Newkirk, Geneva Carroll, Myrtle Bush Darden, William Chapman, Walter Greene, Robert Reaves, Gladys Cannon, Helen Pearl Grimsley, Alonia Brooks, Betty Chavous, Pearlie Lynn, Ruby Williams, Dorothy Cannon, Raspberry, Mamie Reaves, Dolorin Brooks, Joe Gardner, Frannie Whitehurst, Ethel Belle Pope, Vivian Phillips, William Jenkins, Charlie Wiggins, Evan James, Thelmon Mills, Doug Sorrs, Anna J. Wilson, Mary Sandra, Pradie Quinerly, Mattie C. Members, Steven Brooks, Bernice Mabery, Walter Harris, Kenneth Jones, William T. Reaves, Elbert Powell, Christine Bissett, Joyce Smith, Charlie Smith, Dolorin Nobles and Shirley Lagmon.

The third fundamental of happiness is friends. 1. You like to be with with friends. 2. You enjoy your leisure time with friends. 3. You exchange ideas with friends. 4. You do things for friends. 5. You work with friends. You can not conceive of living without association. If these associations are pleasing to you, you usually find fresh happiness in them. It is these intimate relationships that you will find some of the finest qualities of life lavished by kindness, self sacrifice, trust, love.

Your practical knowledge, enlist the student whom you think has the most friends and note how that student cultivates them. Observe other young people in school who have many friends. Note the satisfaction and value they derive from these friendships.

Veteran Farmer Training Program

Some of its achievements:

1. The class reached the peak last fall with an enrollment of 1 Veterans at one time.
2. A conservative estimate of 440 Veterans have enrolled in its classes.
3. The Department has undergone many changes:
   1. A new building.
   2. New equipment.
   3. New furniture (some).
   4. New Greenhouse (some).

The Veteran Farmer Training Program is one phase of the Government Rehabilitation Program designed to aid Ground veterans of World War II, who are interested in making farming a career.

They are given financial aid and guidance in order that they may become established in farming. With this in mind, the Agricultural Department of the Ayden High School is striving to advise and guide trainees by sound thinking, good planning, hard work and a determination to see the job well done, in order that the ultimate goal may be reached.

To teach them to use their resources to the best advantage and their home efficiently, in most cases, we recommend diversified farming programs. It has been our policy to advise them on these things that they know very little about and to teach improved practices and methods of doing these things in which improvements could be made.

Prediction that no two situations are identical. Classroom instruction is followed up by classwork On The Farm supervision.

First Grade "B" News

By Robert D. Boone

The members of the first grade section B have enjoyed this year's work. We are thinking our parents, superintendent, supervisor, principal and teachers for helping to make this year one of the most successful years.

We have three outstanding members of our class. They are Mary Louise Fortune, Doniloniza Blount and Robert D. Boone.

Our first grader presents questioned will become presidents of the United States.

Right now we are studying a unit on "Pets". The children seems to be interested in. Varities is your, this being true, plans are being made for varation.

Billy Phillips will spend his vacation in Baltimore, Maryland. Barbara Mabery, Billie Vanessa Dunn, Jamelle Mae Cox, and Joyce Ann Chapman will visit friends and relatives in New York City.

For Teacher: May 6, J. Moore, plans to attend summer school at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Science Department News

J. R. Payton, Teacher

Objectives of the Science Department:

1. To foster appreciation of their environment.
2. To teach the underlying principles and basic of science.
3. To develop a scientific point and attitude in daily life.
4. To teach the deep secrets of nature, and what is man and what is not man.

INCHING ALONG

For the past three years, the Science Department has been inching along. We have worked up a source rate concerning 1949 Chemistry was added. At that time we had very little equipment to work with, however, by collecting small amounts from we have been able to build up the beginnings of Chemistry, Biology and Physics.

We hope to make some gradual progress. The Chemistry class has performed some very interesting experiments, such as preparing oxygen, Sulfur acid, Chlorine and other gases and acids.

It is interesting to note how the class has mastered in laboratory technique such as measurement, calculating and configuration in the laboratory. We hope the Government will be able to purchase labbes to aid school work so each student will be able to perform his own experiments.

The General Science Class working on some interesting units, namely, a unit on astronomy and a unit on Atmosphere. Since the study of the latter unit, we learned much about the Solar System and the various planets found in the Solar System. Then, our study of astronomy has leaded us to read both books and to consider the appeals of astronomy and NASA flight rocks. The department furnished equipment to carry out the electrical experiments.

The Biology Class made a collection of fish which was passed a lot of information from them. We studied the brown animal, which is the representative and other choices of animals. We learned that mammals is the highest class of animals.

Various experiments of plants under the microscope made home made. The microscope was able to furnish Biology laboratory equipment which is a necessity in any biological laboratory.

It is hoped by the department that we will be able to make additions every year until we have a fully equipped laboratory. Rome was small success but it is natural that it will take some time.

Student Council News

By Ethel Pope

To the faculty members and students it gives me great pleasure to say I have enjoyed working as your president in the student council. As you know the purpose of the student council is to help the students through leadership and to be better citizens.

The clubs have been working very hard and consider our self thanks to our excellent advisor, Mrs. L. L. Payton, many of us were her on instrumentate duet. We have played on projects some large of entertainment every Wednesday for your convenience, as well as to help you to be able to meet life obstacles.

The club will leave in the school notice board for next school term to check the notice in the hall, in which I hope that they will help make the school a better place, at the same time improve the club for another years.

I hope that every student may say honestly within themselves as Browning did in his poem, from which I quote:

Grow old along with me
The best is yet to be
The last of life, for which the first was made:
Our time is in his hand
Who sends, a whole I planned
Youth shows but half, trust God;
See all, nor be afraid!

Youth ended I shall try
Learn the few notes, what services lie
gold;
And I shall weigh the same
Give life its grade, or blame;
Young all lay in dispute, I shall know
being old.

Yes if we would share throwing thoughts along with our motto working together for student understanding, we will have a better school in which to come, better home, and a better world to live, work, and play.

"Memories Of You"

By Mary Sandra

Wherever I may go,
I remember Mamie, Robert and Joe.
When I'm we had with Moore and Greene,
How we enjoyed Phillips, Mattie and Ernie.

We started many library books,
Along with Blaine and Sigrets Brooks.
And remember John and Pradie Mae,
And a girl named Shirley Gray.

A large group was in my class,
But I have forgiven their names at last.
Inell, Gladys, Anna, Mae, Louise Marie,
Warren, Billy, Frannie and Walter Lee.

Quite a few others now to name,
Dorothy, Jenkins, Barnes and Erma James.
Bryant, Blount, Pope and Dixon as well,
Mills, Nobles, Catherine and Bunnie
I wish well.

Gardner, were Bertha and W. D.
But now we as quite as Mattie C.,
I'll remember my teachers and Carroll too,
For we are the Seniors, Class of '52.

"Out of the Dark"

By the Shadow

The Shadow knows than the K and C. are that may about each other (But doesn't everybody?)

Mr. H. and Miss B., the Shadow is watching you because things seem to be getting very, very serious. (Better watch it, Shiek).

The Shadow wonders what L. left L. what M. comes to town?? (It's good, I'll bet, it has to be.)

To the most handsome young man in the campus, a certain Mr. S. how do you play things so smooth between those two lovely young ladies? (I would really like to know, because the Shadow just can't dig what you are putting down, pal.)

Why don't F. and G. stop fussing to check the Shadow notes you are in love with each other.

No name, no shame, are the Shadow but I will tell things. Ha, Ha, Ha Ha, say Shadow knows.

Kneeling, Left to Right: Walter Lee Jones and Warren Wilson
Standing, Left to Right: John Reaves, George Collins and Elmer Cannon

Basketball Summary for 1951-52

By Vivian Phillips

Ayden's girls and boys teams played another busy year at basketball season. The girls compiled a record of 4 wins, 2 lost, and 2 losses, under the leadership of Mr. Lawrence.

The highest scorer was Vivian Phillips with 187 points, Frannie Whitehurst, the runner-up with 79, Anna Wilson with 34, Mollen Brooks with 12, and Mary Cannon 4.

The girls won second place in the Second Pitt County Basketball Tournament, receiving a trophy for their runner-up honor.

Mr. Payton said he thinks the season for the boys was rather slow. However much improvement should be made. Most of the players were inexperienced and that had much to do with them failing to reach victory.

The player scorers were: John Reaves, Warren G. Wilson, George E. Collins, David Ellis, Walter L. Jones, Elmer Cannon were given good ball handlers and along with a little training these ballhandlers will become good ballhandlers.

The boys played 17 games, won 7, lost 10.

Honor artists, Louis Phillips is admired for his patience. Nellie Gray is admired for her quickness and Pelico Rouse cause for the books. We are hoping James Charlie Hardy will take William Chapman's place in the band.

Sixth Grade "B" News

By Mamie Raspberry and Annie Brock

We have studied many interesting things and places during this section of the school year, namely The Continents of Africa its location, riches and customs.

At the beginning of the school year we almost hated Spelling. When our teacher mentioned the time for, but we made friends with the dictionary now Spelling is our pet subject. We played games with the words and enjoyed them very much. We used these words in English in writing original stories and poems.

Original poem, by Shirley Blount.

Easter

An Easter comes and passes by,
The bunny comes late at night
As when you look to see what it is
He jumps clear out of sight
As every Easter come and go
May new joy stay with you.
Your friends all wish the best for you
To last the whole year through.

A story taken from the following words: Catsup-apple tree-apple-pie-cake-dessert-punch-bowl-chair-table-lamp-lady-book-treasure hunt-telephone call-policeman.

One day I was walking down the street, I heard a terrible noise, and stepped to see what had happened. There was a wreck of two milk trucks. Mr! My! the milk was flowing down the street like water after a big rain. A cat and dog came rushing to drink the milk. The dog became angry with the cat and chased him up an apple tree. The cat won the battle by hitting the dog with some apples.

I was invited to my classmate birthday party. She served cake and ice cream. During the party her brother was roughing at her father gave punishment to him. When his punishment ended he suggested that the boys and girls play baseball. The boys lost the girls got a lucky break, and won the game. We left the party and went to a treasure hunt. When we reached home I had a telephone call from the policeman. My eyes grew big as moons. He said report to police station at once. He told me have charged against the girls. In the starting little brother was lost but he had found him. He laughed when he saw my mom again, but they are normal now.

By Annie Brock

Mary Brown served our class so long we call her Mother Johnny Phillips and Johnny

CHATTER BOX

By Anna J. Wilson and Frannie M. Whitehurst

"W. G. Jr. is a boy who's efficient and also

Who certainly has a enchanted mind."

"V. D. P. might to be a Girl Scout
Because she seems and wonders about."

"L. M. J. said by some to be quite naught
But to us she's just plain cheery."

"D. L. M. is a boy who's clean and neat
With a charming appearance from head to his feet."

"J. B. the reckless joker
Will probably end up as a well street broker."

"B. R. G., O. M. C., L. M. T., are girls who's shy and quiet in class
Are on the exhibit a noisy little lass."

"E. D. P. Just like an old setting hen
She runs all around to borrow a pen."

"W. B. C. should be sent to bed at nine
He he could get to school on time."

"A. P. is a very short little gentleman is often referred to as as "Mighty Bonney" Bearing Why?
When she and the basketball, he uses W. W. also."

"E. R. P. used to be a studious person;
But now, what a gay jitterbug. I wonder what happened."

"N. P. H., L. M. D., M. G. S. once thought Bearing was life;
But now their Motto is: Dance while you may, for tomorrow you may die."

"M. E. is quite a studious young lady.
She is an optimist who thinks the Prom all the chemistry then ok."

"P. J. K. is our computer man.
Whose resident notes are delightful to hear."

"When it comes to getting classes in back
M. S. and C. W. can certainly act."

"When the mill is called my pooler, A. H. will be late."
Wooing F. L. H. B. will be her mate."

"W. B. C. Jones his are to see Ayden lately.
To show you that painting is his hobby."

"E. M. is the school girl we know
Who is just a little bit too low."

"M. B. will live in peace and plenty all her life
But will never attempt to become a wife."

"C. M. C. is on the ball
But not accepting every date that calls."

"J. M. G. is a boy who argues Morning, Noon and Night
And wins not whether wrong or right."

"M. S. P., our banana Japanese bootle
Looks like a walking phonograph needle."

"Ann is cute, twice a child
W. B. seems to take like mild."

"A. J. W. and P. M. W. are girls who's
will C. M. S. forever mourn and warn."

"D. B., a girl of style
When she opens her mouth, the sound goes a mile."

"H. M. who's temperamental and funny
When she wants to, can be real charming."

"He who hopes quiet among fools, look who."

K. I. R. this is a shepherd you should prize,
"C. E. is a girl we call Babyface
Who has spent a lot of pulse and grace."

"One of the most amusing traits?
Is that of M. L. J.'s "Making Dates"

"P. C. A., a lover indeed
Depends on the pennies for his holiday feed."

"A hobo sandwich is her request
If E. G. T. doesn't see it, she'll not rest."

"M. F., who's always full of fun,
Is quite enhanced Number One."

"I. L. Jolly and Gale
Gals like her are very rare."

WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF:

1. B. M. were to get to school on time?
2. R. L. B. and N. B. were ever serious?
3. W. B. C. was sans without R. C.?
4. A. B. were in a hurry?
5. D. L. M. spoke French?
6. C. A. T. T., and E. C. would stop trying to feel Mr. J. A. B.?

1. W. L. J. and his broncoach?
2. The jungle music get smart?
3. K. R. P. found an hey belongings?
4. G. C. didn't repeat what had been previously stated?
5. H. R. were to lose his beautiful voice?
6. F. M. didn't ask for K. S.?
7. D. E. would stay in his office room?
8. T. C. would become the principal of Ayden High?

Sixth Grade "A" News

By Ethel Whitehurst

The sixth grade A has just finished a unit on "Business for better health". We have the three important needs of the body for food. They are as follows. (1) The production of energy and body heat. (2) The growth and repair of body cells and tissues. (3) The protection and regulation of health and growth.

Jamelia, Here is our written rules for Ethel Whitehurst:

The old lady who said

There was done so old body who said.
I wish every thing I had was dead
One day, sigh! thing that
And the old lady cried and cried.

N. F. A. Information

TIPS—QS AND WHAT'S AHEAD

Poultry—

1. If you can't buy good chicks, don't buy any. You can't afford not to buy good chicks. Cheap chicks may be the most expensive in the long run. Also keep in mind that cheap chicks are seldom cheap long. Your hatchery does not peddle place points. Hatcheries of North Carolina don't peddle chicks. Don't buy chicks from peddlers.
2. Stop cannibalism. Give chicks plenty of room and put them on green feed.
3. Check lice and mite.

Swine—

Raise those extra pseudo pigs. The average pig when farrowed represents 200 pounds of food. It usually takes five to six pigs to pay the cost of keeping the sow.

Cattle—

Make cattle adjustments can be expected within two years. If you are already producer cows, raise your heifers as well the older stock to keep your herd young. With the outlook as it is, it will be safer to raise into the cow business than to buy into it.

Crops—

1. Another big cotton crop will be produced in 1952 if the weather is favorable and insect damage is light. Price will increase since the size of the crop and the international situation. Supply prices will be around 34 cents per pound.
11. Home gardens should be planned. Irrigation and fertilizer will return more to the farm family through health and reduce cash more than any other place on the farm. Plan on growing more sweet potatoes.
12. Plant recommended varieties of seed. Use this year for food and feed.

For sal in the Texas dance was a little gas station with a sign across the front that read.

"Don't ask for information. If we know anything we wouldn't be here."

Soil Conservation Contest

By Frannie Whitehurst

A number of high school students participated in the Soil Conservation contest. The contest was sponsored by the Pitt County Division of Soil Conservation of which Mr. W. C. Eagle is chief Conservationist.

The school chairman was said Thursday, April 17, 1952. The contest was open to all high schools in Pitt County in order that a greater interest in the saving and conserving of the soil would be stimulation.

Seniors Take Scholarship Exam

By Vivian Phillips

Frannie Whitehurst and Shirley Cherry were selected by the committee to go to North Carolina College to take the Shepard Memorial Scholarship Examination on Saturday, April 19, 1952. The Scholarship committee of the James E. Shepard Memorial Foundation is sponsoring the examination. The Scholarship is being served on competitive basis and will be awarded to the student who is able to make the highest marks on the examination.

APPENDIX G
List of South Ayden Teachers*

Shirley E. Abbot
Mary Letha Albritton
Johnetta Mane Alexander
Ernestine Alkinin
Myrtle (Darden) Allen
Myriam Armistead
Rebecca Ball
Madie Bell (Becton) Murphy
Evelyn H. Bedden
Della Mizell Bennett
M. D. Bizzell
Stephen A. Bowe
Myra Lee Braxton
Ora Briley
Ann M. Brown
Daniel L. Brown
Julius J. Brown
Roberta L. Brown
Mae Bell (Dupree) Burney
Mazella Timmons Burney
Julius Carney
Shirley Cherrie
Mary Bell Clemmons
Nellie Mae Cox
Anna A. Cutler
Johnny L. Davis
Lindsay C. Dillard
Stella D. (Dixon) Best
Thomasina Ducan
James Ebron
Connie Elliot
Elmond A. Elliott
Rebecca Ruth Ellington
Joe Farrar
Claudia P. Faye
Bettie Franks Forbes
Hattie V. Forbes
Martha Perry Forbes
Pearl S. Gardner
Mrs. M. M. Garrett
Wienie Godette
Mamie Page Hall
Leroy Hardy, Jr.
Evelyn Harris
Martha Harris
Bernard Haselrig
Oteila B. Hayes
Retha (Ticker) Hemby
Ruth Hemby
Dicy W. Hill
Harriett B. Holly
Elizabeth Hughes
Edna Mae (Walker) Isley
Narcissus B. Jackson
Eliza Johnson
Lillian T. Jones
Mary V. Jones
Rosa Jones
Bessie Joyner
Mary Jane (Kelly) Joyner
F. M. Kennedy
Elaine King
William F. King
Clarence Knight
Wanda Lane
Thelma Lang
C. L. Langley (Asst. Principal)
Wray LaRogue
Mrs. L. E. Latham
Huey Lawrence
Thelma Lawrence
Paul Leacroff
John D. Lennon
Naomi Lewis
James R. Lowery
John H. Mallory
John Mallory
William Mangum (Asst. Principal)
Della M. Bryant Maye
Melba Catherine McKinney
Melvin McLawhorn
Gaston Monk (Principal)
William B. Moore (Asst. Principal)
Rosalie Moore
Willie Morris
Lewis N. Neal (Principal)
Ernestine Nixon
Delores Nobles
Rebecca S. Norcott
John Warren Ormond (Principal)
Fredrick Parks
Cora Patrick
Louise (Payton) Ormond
James R. Payton
Ruby E. Peacock
Nellie Mae Phillips
Alverta Purnell
Eva Reeves
Ralph A. Ricks
Golden Roland
Virginia Dare Rountree
Mrs. R. P. Smith
Ramyona Smith
Thelma Smith
I. R. Snipes
Diane Stancill
James Earl Stanton
Mrs. M. Staton
Lucy Stewart
Neppie Mae Stokes
Ada Suggs
Charles M. Suggs (Principal)
Essie Josephine Timmons
Zendora Turnage
Bertha Watts
Beulah (Whitfield) Mebane
Dorothy Whitted
James H. Wilkes
Reba (Williams) Wilkes
Annie Beulah Williams
Barbara Williams
Judy Williams
Josephine (Wilson) Reaves
Maggie M. Woodard

*No public record listing all South Ayden teachers could be found. This partial listing of teachers was compiled by the South Ayden Alumni Chapters of Ayden, Washington, D.C.-Maryland, and New York-New Jersey.

APPENDIX H
Photos of South Ayden Teachers