

ALLOCATION OF ROAD FUNDS

(Winston-Salem Journal.)

Where will the state highway commission spend the new fifteen million dollars? That is the question uppermost in the minds of many who favor this additional amount for road work. Discussing this subject the Charlotte Observer says: "The allocation should be made on a compensation system. By that the Observer means that the 15,000,000 should be apportioned so as to balance conditions in sections where the original fund did not extend far enough or was not applied to the ends sought. As an example, the most important trade artery opening the northwest section of the state is a hard surface highway from Jefferson in Ashe County, to Wilkesboro and then to Taylorsville, where it would make connection with the road wisely extended from Statesville to that key point by Commissioner Wilkinson. This would give a central avenue serving the large and untouched territory between Route 19 from Shelby and Spruce Pine and to Sparta on the south and to no. 26 from Elkin on the north. This is the central avenue of the whole mountain system."

In other words the new fifteen million should be so "allocated" as to insure completion of main highways in which Charlotte is primarily interested.

But what about the Seventh Highway District? This is the district which contains all the great mountain counties of northwest North Carolina. That is the District in which are to be found all the "Lost Provinces."

Neither of the roads which the Observer names is the "central avenue" of that district. And certainly the State Highway Commission would not think for a moment of allocating the new funds in utter disregard of one great highway district in North Carolina.

If the seventh district is to receive any of this new fifteen million dollars there is one highway in that district which cannot with justice be overlooked. It is the highway that is the backbone, the main artery, the "central avenue" of the seventh district. That highway is known as the Boone Trail and leads from Winston-Salem straight west through Yadon county, through Wilkes county and on through Watauga and to the Tennessee line. If there is anywhere in North Carolina a "central avenue of the whole mountain system" it is this Boone Trail.

Any allocation of road funds that fails to take this highway into account is a farce. That is why Winston-Salem and Forsyth County and a great majority of the people of the Seventh District will demand first, last and all the time that the Boone Trail be hard-surfaced before any other road in the seventh district receives attention at the hands of the State Highway Commission during the next two years. This is why the Seventh District is for this additional fifteen million dollar bond issue. There is no other way to complete this main artery of highway transportation linking up the mountain counties—the "Lost Provinces" with Piedmont Central and eastern North Carolina by the most direct route, except by an additional bond issue properly allocated.

THE MAIL ORDER FLEET

Charlotte Times.

Two persons within the past week have explained to us that they had been deceived by mail order houses with whom they had had dealings. We felt absolutely no sympathy for them, because both were persons of average intelligence and should have known that they could have gotten better values right here in Gaffney from reliable merchants who would have stood behind the goods.

When these people had stated their cases and asked our advice, we told them to employ a lawyer in the city from whence the goods were shipped and then when the case came to trial to go there and testify and that we believed they had a good chance to recover. "But," said they, "that would cost us much more than the value of the goods." "That" said we, "is the price which you are paying for dealing with people of whom you know nothing. You could have purchased the same goods in Gaffney as cheaply as you paid for them, and if they were not up to specifications and your merchant refused to make good, you could have brought suit and recovered right here at home."

We do not say that all mail order houses are irresponsible, because we know a few who will do what they say but we do know that it is only in very exceptional instances that you can buy goods from them cheaper than you can from home merchants. We mean goods of the same quality of course. There is a good reason for this; the merchant buys his goods in quantities and gets a better price on the person who buys only a single garment.

The merchants of Gaffney are a part of our body politic, they are our own people, and all things being equal, we should spend our money with them instead of sending it to people in the north and east increasing their circulation thereby depleting our own money supply.

Did you ever hear of anyone in New York, Philadelphia or Baltimore ordering goods from Gaffney? You never did and you never will, because those people are smart enough to keep their money at home where it will do them the most good.

COMES TO SENATE AFTER 50 YEARS ABSENCE FROM CITY

Senator Allen Jones, of Allegheny county, the oldest member of the upper house of the sixty-seventh general assembly of North Carolina, had not seen Raleigh since the fall of 1863, just fifty years ago, when he encamped here with the First North Carolina cavalry then on its way to Virginia to join "Light Horse" Harry Lee's brigade to fight the Yankees.

Senator Jones represents Allegheny, Ashe and Watauga, three "Lost Provinces." He is a cousin of "Grand old Man" Rufe Doughton, of Allegheny, and like the latter is chuck full of rampant Democracy the kind that has kept the fire glowing since the time Jefferson penned the constitution.

Senator Jones opened his eyes when he got here. He was only sixteen years old when he pitched his tent here in '63, the youngest member of Colonel Cheek's regiment, but all he remembered of Raleigh was a few old straggling buildings along Fayetteville street and the mud and dirt of the intersecting thoroughfares. "As well as I remember," said Senator Jones, "we pitched camp somewhere north of the city, or town as it was then. We had a good time here," he added, "for we knew that it wouldn't be long until we struck the firing line."

As it turned out, however, it was not until twenty days later that they came across the ragged soldiers of the then dwindling Confederate army and flung themselves against the opposing lines of blue. Senator Jones' memory of the trying days that followed is very vivid. He spoke words of praise for the gallant Colonel Cheek and for "Light Horse" Harry Lee, whom he gladly followed over many a hard fought field before arms were stacked at Appomattox in April of the following year.

Senator Jones, despite his 77 years, is marvellously active and full of vigor. He is an interesting story teller, and one can readily see that he keeps up with current events. He won a signal victory over the Republican opponent in the mountain counties, carrying the district by over two hundred majority.

Senator Jones lives on Peabody's Creek, just across Egan's Station, a few miles from the little village of Whitehead. His home is in the verdant grass section of Allegheny where land within the past few years has jumped ten and twenty dollars an acre to a hundred and fifty and two hundred. Little trace is to be seen of the mountain county to make a living but keep up the fence and mow the hay in the summer. Cattle, horses and sheep on the fine pasture lands, with buckwheat on the mountain sides literally make of it a "land of milk and honey," one of the garden spots of the world.

BOONE SENIOR B. Y. P. U.

Coming, next Sunday night January 14th, to the Boone Baptist church, a Bible study lesson, The short books of the new Testament, "Philippians," as a background for the study of Paul's letter to the Philippians. We must read again the story of Paul's visit to Philippi (Acts 16). We all remember the vision of the man, holding out appealing hands, saying, "Come over into Macedonia and help us." Paul was in Troas, on the coast of Asia, when he had this vision. God called him from work in a province to the conquest of a continent. Paul crossed the narrow Aegean Sea from Troas to Asia to Philippi in Europe. Beyond the city lay Greece and Rome, the centers from which issued the learning, the commerce, and the armies which governed the world. Thus Paul began that European ministry which carried out Christ's purpose for him, to bear my name before the Gentiles (Acts 9:15).

Do you enjoy love letters? Get your supper early and come to our B. Y. P. U. Sunday night at six o'clock. We study Paul's love letter to the Philippians, it is the most beautiful of Paul's letters, in which he lays bare his very heart in every sentence. Of course we all enjoy to read love letters and I think most of us young people have a fancy to get a chance to read some one else's. Let us remember that this letter was written from a prison in Rome, and is called Paul's love letter. We can recall another striking example of Paul when he was in prison with Silas in Philippi, and they sang songs in the night until the earthquake was sent to set them free (Acts 16:25, 16). Now in the Roman Prison, Paul's chief word is Joy or rejoice.

Have you ever heard it said, Well we cant all be missionaries, as if that settled the question of duty to those in foreign fields who are without Christ? The only trouble about that statement is that it just isn't true. We all can be missionaries, and foreign missionaries at that. Do you want to know how? "Oh," you say, "by giving our money so that others can go if we cannot." Yes, in a sense that is a way in which we can go to the uttermost parts of the earth. But there is more real and personal ways than that in which you can become an actual foreign missionary, or a home missionary either, and stay right where you are if it be God's will for you to stay. Decide to be an "Intercessory missionary." There are two things necessary to become an intercessory missionary, first, the putting of Christ at the center instead of the circumference of life, and second, the mastery of the secret of prayer. Neither is easy,

A SOUND VETO

(Springfield Republican) President Harding has preformed a public service that entitles him to much praise in vetoing Senate Bill 3275 known as the veteran's pension bill, applying to other than Spanish war and World War soldiers. If Congress should pass it over the veto, that body would be entitled to an equivalent amount of censure. How little attentive to such legislation the people are is evident from the fact that the bill originally passed both branches by overwhelming majorities without a protest from any quarters being heard. It was small potatoes compared with the bonus bill, costing only \$108,000,000 a year as against the several billions ultimately involved in the bonus.

The most flagrant feature of the Bonus bill, now vetoed, is the lessening of the provisions for veterans' widows. Many a congressional battle was fought between 1890 and 1910 over widows, often youthful, who had married civil war veterans during their old age. A compromise was finally reached under which no Civil War veteran's widow was pensionable unless her marriage had taken place prior to June 27, 1905. The vetoed bill extended the marriage period 10 years, or to June 27, 1915. Even after that date it provided that any marriage "or cohabitation" for two years prior to a veteran's death should entitle the widow to a pension of \$50 a month for the rest of her life.

A woman of 20, consequently, could obtain \$50 dollars a month until she was 100 years old—if she survived that long—by marrying cohabiting with him for two years prior to his death. In this way a pension roll on account of the Civil War could be kept in being much more than a century after the civil war ended. In fact, civil war pensions to widows who were not alive 70 years after that war ended will actually continue to be paid while existing laws until the last decade of the present century. This conclusion is based on the government's admission with pensions on account of the Revolutionary war and the war of 1812-1814.

The President ignores an equitable claim upon the government's generosity in saying: "I do not recognize any valid obligation to pension women who now, nearly 60 years after the Civil war, become wives of veterans of that war."

Four million more veterans of the wars of the United States were made by the last war, and new precedents in pension legislation should be generously considered by Congress in connection with the fiscal burdens of future generations. If the war risk insurance system, as a substitute for the old pension system, has already broken down, new pension laws merit a much stricter scrutiny and criticism than they have been getting in late years.

Read the Ads

ENTRY NOTICE No. 2564

State of North Carolina, Watauga County, Office of Entry Taker of Said County.

W. R. Graham enters and lays claim to the following piece of land. The same being vacant and unappropriated in Watauga Co., Bald Mountain Township, on the south waters of Elk Creek and adjoining the lands of Mattie and Elizabeth Graham, N. M. Dobbin and others.

Beginning on a chestnut in Graham's line, running various courses for compliments, so as to include all the vacant land between Mattie and Elizabeth Graham, N. M. Dobbin and others, containing by estimate one acre, more or less.

Entered January 2nd, 1923. H. J. HARDIN, E. T.

as going to the foreign fields is not easy, but he who has met these two conditions is as truly a missionary as the worker in the heart of China or Africa or any other mission field. Now to do this we should go over the list of the missionaries in the foreign fields and pick out whose work is peculiarly on your heart, and then pray for this missionary, and by doing this you can become an intercessory missionary.

HERMAN WILCOX

READ

"Business is Business"

By Rev. B. H. Harmon

"A story of the mountain, bootleggers, outlaws, timber exploiters and white trash.

But the book proves that white trash is not trash at all, but excellent, tempered steel."—The Gorham Press.

"The scene is laid in mountains of North Carolina. It denis with the "poor white trash," their miseries, pride, gullibility, the grinding heel of the capitalist, its injustice and hinderance of the growth of the people. The style is simple, and the material of the story told in an artless way which is often, of course, the highest art."—From a review in the Christian Evangelist.

Send \$2.00 to W. S. HARMON Bech Creek, N. C.

THE KU KLUX

(The Carolina Citizen.)

In the early part of the last century there was a great hue and cry in this country against the Masonic fraternity. Newspapers and politicians and even preachers denounced it, and excitement ran high. The masons were accused of being in league with the devil, who, it was asserted, frequently met with them in their lodges, and all manner of crimes were charged against them. A political party, called the anti-Masonic party, was formed, and a man, whose name nobody can now recall without referring to an encyclopedia, was nominated for president and actually carried two or three states.

But the Masonic fraternity lived and flourished, and came to be recognized as a respectable member of society, while the anti-Masonic political party soon died and was forgotten. Reading of these times now makes one inclined to believe that nations, as well as individuals, are subject to periods of brain storm.

The Ku Klux Klan of today seems to be going through the same experience. The organization is being denounced in the most frenzied fashion by more or less prominent newspapers and politicians, and yet it continues to grow and spread. Apparently it is thriving upon the opposition. We sometimes wonder if its promoters are not very shrewd advertisers, and have encouraged the fight upon it in the knowledge that such methods will strengthen it rather than weaken it. It is very probable that the majority of the people of the United States had rather be lined up against the opponents of the Ku Klux Klan than with them, on almost any sort of public question.

When the present Ku Klux Klan was first started several years ago few people paid any attention to it. The general attitude of the public was one of indifference. There appears to be little if any reason for its existence and some of the claims of its promoters were so greatly overblown as to be absurd. Then, too, some of the men, who went through the country trying to arouse local Klans were not of a type to inspire respect or confidence. But suddenly intense opposition to the Klan flared up in certain quarters a better type of men appeared as promoters, and since then the growth of the organization has been phenomenal. It has spread to every state in the union, and within recent months has been more active in the north and east and west than in the south. There has been little evidence as to what it has actually done, but some people profess to be alarmed as to what it may do. There seems to be very little alarm on this point in the south where this organization started, and in other parts of the country the alarm apparently exists in the minds of the newspaper editors and politicians rather than in the minds of the people as a whole.

The fact of the business is that the Ku Klux is to be judged, and will be so judged by the public, by what it does rather than by the claims made by its sponsors or by the charges made by its opponents. If it proves to be a helpful organization it will live; if it turns out to be harmful in any way it will soon run its course and die. Anything that will draw men closer together and make them realize more fully their duty as citizens to uphold the law and the principles upon which the government was founded is to be commended, no matter what its end may be. Any organization whose sole mission is to stir up racial or religious strife or intolerance will not get very far nor last long. And it may be said in passing that the Ku Klux Klan has suffered quite as much in this respect from some of its promoters as it has suffered from any of its opponents. Some of the claims made by some of the organizers have been calculated to disgust reasonable men with it, and that it has survived these things is proof that there must be some inherent merit in it.

QUALIFIED

"What profession is your boy Josh going to select?" "I'm going to educate him for a lawyer," replied Farmer Cornsloss. "He's naturally argumentative and bent on mix'ing into other people's troubles an' he might just as well get paid for his time." Washington Evening Star.

CHARLOTTE FOR NEW RAILWAY

(Continued from page one)

go to waste, in so far as North Carolina is concerned," Judge Finley said. "The products raised on the other side of the ridge are entirely different from those raised on this side, and the entire resources of the region are going into building of Johnson City and other Tennessee cities.

"The state is not doing herself justice in allowing this to continue. A railroad connecting the counties with the rest of the state, extending to the Seaboard and through the mountains giving us access to the coal fields and an outlet to the northwest, will be of inestimable advantage to the state.

"This railroad will do away with the so-called gate cities of Virginia, placing us on an equal footing with the Virginia cities industrially. Virginia has three roads leading to the coal fields all their good roads, if the state of Virginia can have three good roads from the coal fields to the coast, there is no reason why North Carolina should not have one. In proportion to business of the two states, North Carolina should have six.

"The matter should appeal to the pride of every citizen of the state; not only to their pride but to their pocketbooks. The state is rapidly moving forward. It is gaining momentum every day and the accumulated energy is moving it forward faster every day."

The "Hindenburg Line"

"One fourth of our border counties are without railroad facilities and the commercial Hindenburg Line must be broken. A railroad should extend from Taylorsville to Wilkesboro and thence, the most feasible way, to Butler, or Maymead, on the Tennessee line, connecting there with roads into the coal fields. From those points a road can be built back to Taylorsville and other mountain centers. The Southern Railway realized that a road should be built several years ago, but a survey never commencing an effort to be around a mountain ridge.

"Twenty million dollars could be brought back into the state in a very short while. The Irish potatoes of Watauga county are valued to be the best raised in the country. A year or so ago Gaston county wanted these potatoes to feed her many workers in the mills. The question of bringing the potatoes to Gaston county was gone into.

"It was learned that, bringing the potatoes through Tennessee, shifting them several times from one railroad to another, would cost more than it would cost to bring the produce from New York state. It costs more to carry potatoes across two counties into the third county than it does to ship them from northern New York.

"The people on the eastern coast want coaling stations. These stations could be established with a road leading through the mountain counties to the coalfields. These stations would enable vessels to lay in a supply of coal without going to Norfolk.

"We have made a trip to Washington and talked the matter over with various railroad officials. They state that they are interested in only a trunk line through this section, and that no branch line would be considered.

"The question of how the state is to build her road system, the state should have enough money to the extent of \$100,000,000 for road, or

the state could build the road and lease it to some railroad company. "North Carolina would save enough in gateway freight rates to pay the money back time and again."

Other Committeemen Talk

Mr. Burke, of Taylorsville made a rousing talk, stating that he had learned that Charlotte had a big heart, and urging that the city put its heart and brain together and aid in putting over the project. With the combined aid of Charlotte and various other cities of the state, the matter can be put across, he stated. He spoke of the matter from a human standpoint, stating that the state owed it to the mountain people to give them the advantage.

"The mountain people come to you with the message that they want to come south," he ended.

Mr. Hackett spoke of the various counties, declaring that the mountain people do not want the railroad if it will benefit them alone.

"But it will be of untold benefit to the entire state," he said.

Judge Harding spoke of the resources of the region, telling of a trip he made recently from one court to another.

"I was forced," he declared, "to go through Virginia twice, through North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and back into North Carolina."

The jurist stated that he was informed that there is one company in the state that would pay into the state treasury enough money in taxes in sixteen days to build the road. He expressed himself as heartily in favor of it.

Mr. Hendrix spoke of the products raised in that section, telling of the quality of the Irish potatoes.

"And above all," he declared, "the product here that the state has is the splendid character of the mountain people."

Commodore Cameron declared that he was heartily in favor of the proposition.

When state roads are in the development of the section," he asserted.

"The people of North Carolina are anxious and the state will continue to develop with the construction of this road, laying up the available money to be used that we have already been followed by a number of other counties in the state, and we should be pleased to have a road of this kind in the state of North Carolina, and the remainder of the state put together.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a bill will be introduced in the present session of the Legislature to amend the charter of the town of Boone so as to extend the boundaries of the said town. Edw. N. Hahn, Mayor

We Are Strictly Supervised

We are required to report six times each year to the Banking Department of the Corporation Commission. These reports are very exhaustive and convey such information regarding our financial condition as will enable the supervising authority to determine whether our business is being carried on with proper regard for safety of funds entrusted to our keeping.

We are also subject to examination by the bank examiner or auditor who calls without giving any notice or warning, whatever. The examiner goes over and proves all our books and securities and inquires into every phase of our operation.

We have always welcomed the strictest supervision and shall continue to do so.

The Peoples Bank & Trust Company