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GOVERNMENT OWNER-SHIP OF POSTOFFICES

Uncle Sam is getting tired of paying high rents. Postmaster-General Hubert Work is one of the President's cabinet members who has had his patience already worked up to the breaking point. He says the United States Government can save money by providing its own public buildings.

He has recommended to President Harding that Congress authorize appropriations to build postoffices in every town in the country. His plan has been approved by Harding, and as soon as the details of the proposition can be perfected, Congress will be asked to produce the revenue. It is suggested that the Government borrow the money, which, Work says, can be secured at a 4 per cent interest rate. Once built they would be tax free, of course.

Out of the 5,836 postoffices in the United States only 1,200 are owned by the Government. More than 4,000 belong to individuals or corporations. A study made by Postmaster-General Work brings out some startling examples of extortionate rentals charged for many of the offices and fixtures. On account of the terms of lease whereby the lessor furnishes not only the quarters, but fixtures, light and heat there are so many chances for the Government to get the raw end of the deal that in a large number of cases public money is wasted through excessive rentals.

Each year twelve million dollars is paid for rentals of postoffices in the United States. Computing this for a long time period shows how much more advantageous it would be for the Government to spend one large sum of money for construction, eliminating the wastage due to excessive rents, and thus house its own force of employees without further expense.

WE CANNOT STOP NOW

Persons who have gone from Hertford County to view the Williamston bridge have been almost awed by the stupendousness of the project. They are amazed at the great undertaking; such an accomplishment right here "under their noses" has opened new avenues of thought.

Too long have our people been complacently satisfied with the relics of bygone days. Cut off by rivers on every side, and having been richly blessed by the native fertility of the soil which has been almost the sole means of livelihood, we have assumed an attitude of let well enough alone. It has required the minimum of hustle to make a "living." Further than that few have cared to add anything new under the sun.

Occasionally a spirit of unrest obesses us and we take on new ideas and drift away back behind the current of progress. But after each forward step a reaction always sets in; many warm advocates of the new idea turn against the very thing for which they fought a little while before. Anything like consistent progress has been lacking. There are signs of it everywhere now.

There was a majority in the county who wanted good roads. They said so at the ballot box. But it was only a short while after road construction began when about the only thing heard in connection with roads was a howling and grumbling against the way it was done, and among some sad regrets that the county had ever taken the step it did. It continues until this very day.

However, it is going to require only a minimum of education to allay the kicks that are going the rounds. Once the people realize what good roads are, and the benefits derived from their use a hush will be placed upon the fellows who pretend to see nothing good in roads. To get away from our own soil, see what the neighbors are doing, ride over their roads, and talk to them about what advantages

SEEN AND HEARD THIS WEEK

BY THE OFFICE CAT

"I paid \$55 town taxes in Ahoskie this year, but until now I have failed to discover where so much as fifty cents has been spent," says one Ahoskie citizen. "Of course, I have enough common sense to know every cent of tax money cannot be spent right at my door, but what I would like to know is, at whose door has any been spent. The only way I know by which the figures can be given is through a statement from the town's treasury, and I, like others, think it is already past time when a financial accounting should be given." If there's nothing to hide, why withhold the information?

All you have to do in Ahoskie to escape the law against assault and battery is to inveigle your intended victim into a building of some sort and assail him with all that's in you. The rule seems to abide that personal encounters should remain absolutely personal; that the law has nothing to do with it. "Let it quiet down" is the advice given and readily taken by the officers who are sworn to uphold law and order. Not even in that supposedly lawless state of West Virginia do lawbreakers get by so easily and with so little molestation as in Ahoskie. Visit any of the neighboring villages in Hertford County and see how quickly you are asked about this and that "scrap" in Ahoskie. Everybody knows all about it except the mayor's court or the justice's court. If you've got blood in your eye and are out for meat, the law in Ahoskie says fight it out—we'll not harm you. That is what it amounts to.

Being a member of the County Road Board is becoming more and more like being a garage man. No person ever has business with it except that a complaint is lodged. It is always something wrong.

Brother Archibald Johnson pleads for the elimination of the flapper from the school faculties. Ahoskie trustees have had the same vision. But the news is going around that the days of the flapper are numbered, anyway. Advices coming from those who have nothing to do but study these rivalities say that the short-skirted, bob-haired Miss who has been the companion of the cake-eater and candy-ankle species of the male tribe is fast becoming extinct.

If there are any doubts about the religion of Hertford County negroes they are quickly assuaged by a trip through the rural sections. Drive any direction you may choose, and at every country church on these hot September days there's an outpouring of the colored brethren religiously attending to their christianity. The old time protracted meeting period is still the biggest event of the year with Hertford County negroes.

Even the white folks of Hertford still believe in the religion of old days. The itinerant fellow has to search for and wide to find a people more devoted to the church and its affairs than the folks of this particular section. We are great church-goers. If real goodness is an infallible corollary of church attendance, there is little question about Hertford County people being relatively among the most religious in the country.

Legal tangles are growing to such an extent in administering the affairs of the County Highway Commission that some members have suggested an all-lawyer board. When the new board takes charge of the affairs, in December, Ahoskie is going to help solve the problem. Mr. J. R. Garrett, the nominee, has long ago cinched the title of attorney-general of the dominion over which he reigns.

"Jake" Hamilton is here with his vaudeville and moving picture show this week. Ahoskie affords Hamilton some of the season's best audiences, and his show has become a fixture here. Many are attending the show from other Hertford County towns. The tent is pitched on Copeland's vacant lot.

are derived there from means that an assimilation process is going to soon set in, and it will be but a short time when Hertford County people will fall in line.

The Williamston bridge is destined to awake in our people the appetency for permanent roads. Even if the inclination is lacking, the realization of our utter inability to successfully cope with our neighbors who have good roads is certain to force us into action. It's bound to come.

HERTFORD COUNTY ROADS

(By J. A. PARKER)

There seems to be a great deal of discussion over the County over road building; and the way they are being built. I feel constrained to write an article in defense of road building that is going on within the county.

First, I will say that I believe we have an efficient superintendent and that, if Mr. Hines is given the proper consideration, encouragement and support, he will build our roads. And, I will say I believe him to be the only real road builder we have ever had in the county.

Some want a cheap man at less salary. It would be like employing a man raised in a city who never plowed a mule, to run a 10-horse farm. Failure would be the result. A man has to have the training and preparation to make a success of anything. I am almost sick hearing men in the county complaining Taxes! Taxes! And the taxes on the county road bonds will be on our children after we have passed away.

What does that matter if they have to help pay for them? I want to see some good roads, and travel over them; and when I am dead, that my children and grandchildren won't have to pull through the mud as I have for more than fifty years.

Mr. Editor, I tell you there are lots of folks in the county who object to roads being straightened any, or sharp bends being taken out. If it takes ten feet of his land to do this, he wants damages. Yes, if his farm is enhanced in value a thousand dollars by a good road going by his home, oh yes, he wants damages. Well, I tell you, the kickers are a great menace to progress. They talk road bonds will bankrupt our county.

These complainers talk like they have never paid any road taxes before. Heretofore we have been paying fifty thousand dollars under the old township system, and still pulling ourselves out of the mud. I have worked under every road system in our county from eighteen years old to forty-five, and since then been taxed for roads for forty-three years; and the whole thing or every system has been a failure.

I have a progressive spirit. I want to see better roads, better schools, better churches, and a better citizenship; better, religiously, morally and financially, and every other way that will be an uplift to humanity; and I am not kicking over taxes. If it takes taxes to bring about better conditions, let's have the taxes. So, my friends, stop abusing, complaining and criticizing, and let's get behind the road building program and make it go.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

Having this day qualified as executrix of the estate of Samuel Weaver, late of Hertford county. This is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the 15th day of August, 1923, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This 15th day of August, 1922.
MATTIE WEAVER COLLINS,
Executrix of Samuel Weaver, deceased. 8-18-6t.

The Hertford County Herald is giving away gold. Don't fail to read the big display ad in this issue.

Queer Feelings

"Some time ago, I was very irregular," writes Mrs. Cora Robie, of Pikeville, Ky. "I suffered a great deal, and knew I must do something for this condition. I suffered mostly with my back and a weakness in my limbs. I would have dreadful headaches. I had hot flashes and very queer feelings, and oh, how my head hurt! I read of

CARDUI

The Woman's Tonic

and of others, who seemed to have the same troubles I had, being benefited, so I began to use it. I found it most beneficial. I took several bottles and was made so much better I didn't have any more trouble of this kind. It regulated me."

Cardui has been found very helpful in the correction of many cases of painful female disorders, such as Mrs. Robie mentions above. If you suffer as she did, take Cardui—a purely vegetable, medicinal tonic, in use for more than 40 years. It should help you. Sold Everywhere.

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MONDAY
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TUESDAY
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"ROADS OF DESTINY"
A soul-stirring drama of the
tragic forces of fate, with a
great star who was in
Madame X

WEDNESDAY and
THURSDAY
Gloria Swanson in Elinor
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With Rudolph Valentino

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There are only a few more days in which to take advantage of the opportunity to get one of the gold pieces. After October 1st the offer closes. If you want to share in the profits, wade in now.

USE SAMPLE COPIES

Extra copies of the HERALD will be furnished upon request if a prospect wants to see what he or she is buying. Send us any names to which you want papers mailed and we'll see that the papers are sent out.

Hertford County Herald

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