

MR. HART INTENDS TO BUILD HIGHWAY OF HARD MATERIAL

District Commissioner and State Highway Commission Say All Promises Will Be Kept

STATE PAPERS CARRY A DIFFERENT STORY

Is Now Working On Largest Project Yet Undertaken In Any County

Letters received in Ahoskie, coming from District Highway Commissioner W. A. Hart, and Frank Page, Chairman of the State Highway Commission state that all promises made to Hertford County in the construction of State roads will be fully carried out. Mr. Page says in his letter "There has been no change in the plans of the Commissioner from the First District, nor the chairman of the State Highway Commission relative to the proposed construction in your county."

Here is what Mr. Hart says: "I have never made any promises to Hertford County except to say that I would do the best I could for them, and I expect to do it." In another paragraph of the same letter, which was written to the secretary of the Ahoskie Chamber of Commerce Mr. Hart says "I am doing far more for your county than you realize. I am working hard on the largest project that has been undertaken by me in any county; and, I believe if I live it will be put through. But it takes time. It is a stupendous task, a lot of hard lot, without any compensation whatever."

Having no information about what Mr. Hart refers to except such as is contained in the above paragraph, it is presumed reference is made to the bridge across Chowan River at Winton. It is well remembered that Mr. Hart, speaking at Winton two years ago, said that was one project he expected to put through, adding "I want my name emblazoned upon that bridge and I want everybody to know that I built that bridge."

Hertford County citizens have been laboring under an impression that the Aulander-Winton road would be constructed of hard-surfaced materials, and a small delegation of Ahoskie persons arranged a meeting with Mr. Hart in an effort to learn what his plans were for this highway. Although no definite promises were made, he said he would exert every effort to make it hard-surfaced, at least part of the way, and would complete it all the way with aid from the county. Later messages were purported to be received here by some of the same delegation, from Mr. Hart saying he would probably make of it a 9-foot hard surfaced road all the way, and would use only state funds.

When the Associated Press carried the news that this road would be a soil road, the local chamber of commerce sought light from the district commissioner and the state commission. A later article appearing in the News and Observer stated that the contract would be let for a gravel road. Mr. Hart says this about the advertised letting: "As a matter of fact, the road in question has been advertised to be let for grading, which always has to be done before the surfacing is put on; as I have made it a positive rule never to grade and surface at the same time."

The people of this county and this newspaper is willing to accept Mr. Hart's explanation of the nature of the contract to be let. There has been misleading information coming out of some source, neither the Associated Press nor the News and Observer having published that it would be graded only.

So far as the Windsor-Aulander road is concerned, advices from Mr.

ICE FACTORY WILL NOT USE CURRENT

100-Horsepower Crude Oil Engine In Process of Installation Here

PROBABLY MEANS NO DAY ELECTRICITY

"It has come to the point where a 'survival of the fittest' is causing us to make changes in each of our ice plants, at Ahoskie, Edenton and Elizabeth City," said Mr. E. R. Conger, President of the company which has its headquarters at Edenton, when stating his reasons for discontinuing the use of electric current to run his plant in Ahoskie. Mr. Conger met with the town council Monday night, in response to a tentative proposition made his company by the town, for a contract to furnish power for the Ahoskie ice factory during the season of 1923.

For the past three years, the ice plant here has used more or less municipal electric current for their motive power. Through arrangement with this company, Ahoskie enterprises of less magnitude have been furnished with a 24-hour electric service for about four or five months. However, with the announcement by Mr. Conger that the company will generate its own power comes the inevitable prospect of only night service this summer. The local ice plant will use a minimum of current provided a 24-hour service is inaugurated this summer, as they now have several small motors that could be profitably connected with the town light plant.

A 100-horsepower crude oil engine will be installed at the ice plant, and will take the place of the large 50-horsepower motor formerly used to run the plant. Mr. Conger is here this week superintending the construction of a cement foundation for the engine which has not arrived yet. A large tank for storing the crude oil has been unloaded, and will be put into place on the lot next to the engine room. It is of 18,000 gallons capacity.

There will be no addition made to the tonnage capacity of the ice plant, although more extensive storage rooms will be built. Plans call for storage space of double the present size.

Mr. Conger and his associates believe a crude oil engine can be operated at much less cost than either electric power (at prevailing rates) or steam engines. "This is more or less an experiment with us," Mr. Conger says, but adds further that investigation of the records of similar crude oil engines show a very low operating cost and a reasonable length of service from the engine.

ORDINANCES WILL BE PRINTED IN PAMPHLET

Newly Adopted Laws Published In This Issue Will Be Codified For Distribution

After several special sessions within the past three weeks or more, the Ahoskie town council has concluded the passing of ordinances. In this issue of the HERALD is a complete list of the town's laws as they were enacted by the council. Copies of the ordinances as appearing in the paper will be posted for public information.

At a meeting to be called soon, the ordinances will be codified and arranged for permanent record on the town's books. The ordinances as adopted will also be published in pamphlet form, and copies distributed to the town's citizens.

Mr. S. P. Watson was a business visitor in Murfreesboro last Saturday.

Hart tally with the information carried in the State papers that it would be graded only. It will be hard-surfaced later. The information carried in the HERALD about the Windsor-Aulander road was correct in every detail.

St. Johns Township Is The Second Largest Taxpayer In The County

Next to Ahoskie, St. Johns township is the largest taxpayer in the county for schools, roads and general county expenses. The total value of all real and personal property in St. Johns township is \$1,680,480, divided among whites and colored as follows: white, \$1,475,233; colored, \$205,247.

Taxpayers in St. Johns township will pay into the county treasury in 1922 taxes the total amount of \$15,460.41. County schools will get \$8,738.49 of that amount; roads will receive \$4,201.20; and \$2,520.72 of the taxes paid by these taxpayers will help keep up the county expenses.

There are within the township 241 white persons who pay poll tax, and 306 colored poll taxpayers. White persons own 40,103 acres of real estate, valued at \$1,137,599; colored persons own 4,654 acres, valued at \$145,347, the two totaling 44,757 acres with a total value of \$1,282,946. Timber lands are listed at a total value of \$3,000; and timber rights at \$8,481, all of which is listed by white persons in the township.

Town lots in St. Johns do not cut a very big figure, as the villages of St. Johns and Menola constitute the only town property in the township. There are 38 town lots listed, 30 by whites and 8 by negroes, at a total value of \$29,770. The aggregate value of real estate in the township is \$1,324,197, white persons owning all but \$148,447 of the amount.

Personal property listed in St. Johns township is as follows:

Merchandise—\$8,745 by whites, \$200 by negroes; material being manufactured—\$3,190 all owned by white persons; household and kitchen furniture, less the \$300 exemption provided by statute—\$17,787 by whites, \$2,341 by negroes; horses—174 listed by whites at value of \$12,020, 189 listed by negroes at value of \$11,695; mules—360 listed by whites at value of \$26,870, 218 by negroes at \$17,245; one jack listed by negro and valued at \$50; sheep—80 listed by whites at value of \$240; goats—59 by whites at value of \$59, 49 by negroes at \$49; hogs—2,354 listed by whites at value of \$5,730, 1,857 by negroes at \$4,835; milk cattle—205 by whites at value of \$3,950, 174 by negroes at \$3,115; other cattle—314 by whites at value of \$145, 1 by negro at \$25; firearms, etc. listed under items 53-80—\$20,114 by whites, \$7,875 listed by negroes; solvent credits—listed by whites \$197,562, by negroes \$8,237.

Personal property listed for taxation in St. Johns township is valued at \$356,283. Of that amount white persons list \$299,483, and colored persons \$56,800.

SELECTION OF PURE SEED NECESSARY FOR FARMER

Yield From Field Selected Cotton Has Been Greater In Every Instance

(By H. L. MILLER)

For two successive years now we have proven that it is costing the farmers in this county from 75 to 100 pounds of lint cotton per acre to plant seed that are not carefully field selected each year. Even if you did get your seed direct from a reliable seed breeder, if you have been planting them for more than two years, then you are taking this 75 to 100 pound loss per acre, and this isn't guess work as an acre or an estimate either, for we have tried it out on dozens of farms in the county, using seed direct from a good seed breeder, side by side with seed grown here in the county for three or four years. In every case the pure bred seed have outyielded the other seed by quite a bit, the average being to be exact, 81 pounds of lint per acre.

You will probably say that it is too much trouble to field select your seed, besides you don't know how. Or you may say that it is too expensive to buy your seed from a breeder each year. But both of those excuses, (they are not reasons) are easily brushed aside if you really want the best.

Here is my suggestion, buy one bushel of the best seed that can be had, from the best breeder in the best breeder in the country, for each ten acres you expect to plant next year. Then save these seed carefully next fall and you will have seed only one year from a breeder for your general crop next year. Then of course plant your seed patch again with seed direct from the breeder. In this way you will never have to spend much on good seed, nor you won't have the trouble of field selection, and you will always keep up your strain of seed.

If you want the addresses of the best breeders of cotton seed for our section, I will be glad to furnish same upon request. Good seed are scarce this season, so if you want any buy them early.

METHODIST MINISTER ILL

Rev. J. M. Bryant, pastor of the M. E. Church, is confined to his room at the home of Mr. and Mrs. M. O. Gerock, with the chickenpox.

BIG 10-DAY SALE TO BEGIN NEXT WEDNESDAY

Persons throughout Hertford and Bertie counties, as well as buyers from some parts of Gates county await with eager anticipation each year the big sale conducted in Ahoskie by the Ahoskie Department Store. Year after year, this local concern has put on this sale which is advertised and strictly carried out as a bona fide proposition in which every article is marked right down at cost and below.

This year their sale will begin on Wednesday, January 31, and continue for ten successive days, Saturday, February 10th being the last day. Advertisements in circular form, and a two-page "spread" in this issue of the HERALD tell of the wonderful bargains offered in Ahoskie—at this big department store.

Courteous, affable, and business-like clerks will handle the enormous amount of goods that will go across the shelves of the Ahoskie Department Store during their sale, and every buyer will be shown the usual consideration and fairness which this house is known to give all its customers.

ERECTING RESIDENCE

The two-story frame residence of J. A. Horton on McGlohon street, next to the garage built by Hobbs Motor Company, is now nearing completion. Mr. Horton will conduct a garage and repair shop in the building next to his new home.

MR. HOLLOWAN SICK

The friends of Mr. Bob Hollowan will regret to learn that he is confined to his bed by sickness. His condition has been very low for several days.

BASKETBALL GAME

The boys' basketball team of the Ahoskie High School will stack up against the fast Rich Square team in the Farmers Warehouse here, Friday afternoon at four o'clock. The local boys have made a fine record this season, and right now are in tip top form. Their recent victories over Drivers, Va., and Tarboro have stamped this aggregation as a strong contender for honors in Eastern Carolina. Lovers of this indoor sport

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SEEKING NEW SECRETARY

Correspondence with Norman Y. Chambliss, president of the Secretarial Association of the State, has brought advices to V. D. Strickland, president of the Ahoskie Chamber of Commerce, that Ahoskie can secure the services of a very competent secretary if it is ready to take action. C. O. Harris, who recently resigned as secretary here, is also aiding the local directors in obtaining another man. The regular Tuesday night meeting of the directors was deferred pending advices from Benton & Benton, architects of Wilson, as to when their representative will be here with plans and specifications for the new hotel. A meeting will probably be held Thursday night to take up the question of employing secretary, as well as to discuss further action on the hotel proposition.

Mr. Vann Is Not Yet Reconciled

COMO, N. C., January 21, 1923. MR. EDITOR—

Although I am too unwell to write, just want to say a word, (which will be my last) to set myself straight with the CAT, and our county boards, which Mr. Eley says I jumped on. I surely did not mean to jump on any one but simply wanted to state my views which Mr. Eley's elaborate letter has not changed. I've never read any parliamentary law in my life, but have been serving on religious, political and educational boards for over forty years, but never heard the question raised in any of the meetings as to power of chairman, nor do I remember ever seeing any of the meetings having a tied vote, but do remember having had the idea impressed on me all my life, that a body selected a chairman, whom they thought was equal to, if not superior to any of the body in point of honor, initiative, experience and judgment and manifested by their vote, that they were willing to trust him to vote justly, judiciously and wisely to untie them if they happened to get tied up. Besides Dr. Mitchell's conduct was not without a precedent in our county. A J. G. Majette while chairman of the Board of Commissioners when installing the steel cells in the jail voted twice and there never was any complaint, which convinced me that the impression I had gotten about a chairman was correct. Some of us had never heard of Mr. Robert's parliamentary law, so just the rules which custom had made law, and was practiced without developing any serious trouble. Am glad that I seem not entirely alone in my opinion as Judge Manning is a mighty good partner to have, in finding out the law. I have the pleasure of knowing him, and have heard him expounding the law in his office and he impressed me that he knew what he was talking about. One action of the Board, of which Mr. Eley says he was chairman, I can't understand. (You know I am from Missouri.) He says his board adopted Robert's parliamentary rules as laws, which allowed the chairman one vote and then passed a resolution forbidding the chairman to vote but once. Please tell me the need of any such resolution, after having adopted such resolutions. A reasonable conclusion would be that they were afraid their chairman would be untrue and they wanted to double bind him. It seems to me that such action could readily be construed to be a reflection on the honor, integrity and judgment of their chairman and that is why I said and still say I would not like to serve as chairman of any board, who passed such resolutions. I have not said, nor do I mean to say that such action is a reflection, but do say it can be reasonably so construed. I do hope the CAT and different boards will pardon me if I've been the least disrespectful or unkind and remember that I am from Missouri and hardly able to sit up and I need to be shown. T. E. VANN.

will see a good exhibition Friday afternoon, and should go out and help whoop it up for the local boys.

TOWN MAY HAVE TO PAY FOR FAILURE TO EXTEND SEWER

Dr. J. H. Mitchell Sues Ahoskie For \$2,500 And Demands That Line Be Carried To Swamp

OFFICIALS DID NOT ANSWER COMPLAINT

Present Commissioners Will Complete Work And Seek A Settlement

For failure to extend the municipal sewer line to the run of Ahoskie swamp, the town of Ahoskie may be loser to the amount of \$2,500, besides being forced to expend the necessary amount for the extension. At present the main sewer line empties on the lands of Dr. J. H. Mitchell, about one hundred feet below the edge of his farm. The pipe that carries the city sewage off is laid across Doctor Mitchell's field, a straight line beginning at the south end of West street, between the homes of H. W. Stokes and C. C. Sessoms.

The Doctor has started suit against the town administration for the sum of \$2,500, alleging that his pasture which was used for his milk cows and other stock has been made unfit for use, and that the overrun of the sewage has otherwise damaged his property to that amount. Summons was issued against the town, with the following officers named as defendants (they being the duly authorized agents of the town at that time) W. L. Curtis, mayor; H. W. Stokes, D. P. Boyette and J. B. Barnes, commissioners, April 29, 1922. "Pat" Taylor of Winton served the summons the same day issued.

The officials of the town failing to make any answer to the complaint of Doctor Mitchell, D. R. McGlohon, Clerk of Hertford County superior court, on motion by Roswell C. Bridger, attorney for Doctor Mitchell, on 18th day of December, 1922, "ordered, adjudged and decreed that plaintiff recover judgment of the defendant by default and inquiry." The cause will now be heard in the Superior Court, being transferred to its dictation by Clerk McGlohon.

When the contracting company was constructing the sewer system in Ahoskie, the town authorities made a contract with Dr. J. H. Mitchell for a 16-foot right of way across his farm, for the purpose of laying the main sewer line. The price paid for the privilege of running the line under and through his property was one thousand dollars. The contract, which was signed by Doctor Mitchell and W. L. Curtis, Mayor, provides that the sewer line be carried to the run of Ahoskie Swamp.

For some reason unknown to the present town board, the sewer line was not extended to the run of the swamp. It stops short of the swamp several hundred feet. The sewage disposal is now dumped on the woods lands of Doctor Mitchell and is carried to the swamp by a small stream that courses through the woods. To lay piping in this "bog" will require a neat sum of money, for purchase of pipe, and the work in connection with laying it. Practically all of the course to the run of the swamp is boggy and in very slightly wet weather is partially filled with water. In order to keep the pipe from settling down into the mud, it will have to be supported by piling driven underneath, or by some other means equally as expensive.

It is understood that Doctor Mitchell called the attention of the town officials to the condition existing, and asked for relief before entering his suit. At that time an order was passed by the board to extend the