

## HIGHWAY BOARD IS RELIEVED OF PART OF COUNTY ROADS

### State Commission Takes Over Murfreesboro-Maneys Neck Road, and Meherrin River Bridge

## SETTLES QUESTION OF LONG STANDING

### Bond Money Can Now Be Diverted to Other Principal Roads of The County

A sigh of relief has gone up from the road board of Hertford County since the State Highway Commission decided to take over the Murfreesboro-Maneys Neck highway, connecting with the Virginia line on the Franklin-Suffolk road. Not only is the county relieved of the eight miles stretch of roads, but the bridge across the Meherrin river at Murfreesboro becomes the ward of Commissioner W. A. Hart, District Highway Commissioner.

D. C. Barnes of Murfreesboro, J. B. Wormrell, J. B. Majette, and W. T. Taylor, Como citizens, appeared before the State Highway Commission at Raleigh last week, and presented a plea for State jurisdiction over the road and bridge. It was granted, and now the county road board will not have to rack its brain over additional advances for gravel with which to construct that road, and turn Maneys Neck towards Winton, the county seat. This road will not only provide an outlet to Virginia, but it also connects with the Winton-Murfreesboro State highway, and assures for the people across the river a State owned and maintained road all the way from their township to Winton.

Estimates on the cost of a bridge at Murfreesboro center around a figure approximating \$140,000, another expenditure which would have been made by the county. Contracts have not been let for either the road or bridge, but the action of the Commission relieves the county of any further liability, and releases some of the county bond money to other projects which are badly in need of work.

Extremely bad weather during the last two or three weeks has held up the work of graveling the Harrellsville-Coffield road, for which the additional \$10,000 appropriation was granted by the county commissioners. The road board is expecting to do some permanent road building this spring and summer, and, with the Murfreesboro-Como road taken care of, there is in prospect some road building in Ahoskie township, which has received but little bond money.

There are two roads leading into Ahoskie that will probably come in for immediate consideration. One connects with the Bertie line near Powellville, and another is headed for St. Johns and Union, three miles of which is already graveled—the section to Frazier's Cross roads. Were these roads constructed of something permanent, the county system would connect with the state highway beyond St. Johns, and a route provided serving Union and Murfreesboro, as Murfreesboro would come in on an extension of the Union-Ahoskie road.

Menola people also are anxious to complete the route from their place to Ahoskie. To do this it will be necessary to construct a link from St. Johns to Menola.

As road building stands now, Murfreesboro has drawn the plum, with the help of the State Commission. It has an excellent outlet not only to the county seat, but is located on the State Highway to Jackson via Conway, and with Maneys Neck and Virginia over the stretch of road just assumed by the State Commission.

## DIES AT RIPE AGE

Mr. Sam Doughtie, 91 years old, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. John Saunders of Ahoskie, Tuesday, March 20th. He was one of the few surviving Confederate soldiers of Hertford County, and is the progenitor of one of Hertford County's best known families. Funeral services were held Wednesday afternoon at the home where he died, and interment was made on the old D. T. Doughtie home place. Rev. E. J. Isenhower, pastor of the Baptist church conducted the service.

## HIGH SCHOOL DEBATERS TO ENTER STATE CONTEST

### Will Debate Bethel Teams at Ahoskie and at Bethel on Friday Night, March 30

High school students at Ahoskie are expecting to bid for forensic honors on March 30th. They have entered the triangular debate contest put on annually by the Extension Service of the State University, and have drawn as their opponents the Bethel High School. None of the other schools in this section has entered the contest, necessitating the setto with Bethel, which is located in Pitt County.

Reports sent out from Chapel Hill this week say more than 250 schools have already signed up and will take part in the contest. The elimination debates will be held simultaneously over the State, on March 30, and the winners in each case will go to Chapel Hill in April, where the finals will be held.

Ahoskie will debate Bethel here and also in Bethel, both at the same time and date. If the local teams win both bouts, they will go to Chapel Hill for the finals. The query for this year's debate is: "Resolved that Congress should provide for the enforcement of the decisions of the Railway Labor Board." Ahoskie will uphold the affirmative side at home and defend the negative side in Bethel. The debate here will be staged in the high school auditorium, and the public is invited to attend.

This debate is but the natural outgrowth of the interest aroused in public speaking through the training received in the two literary societies of the high school—The Columbian and the Hesperian. Reports of these two societies and what members of each are doing is carried every week in the "Warwhoop."

The affirmative side of the query will be upheld by Bessie Cowan and Thomas Baker; the negative will be defended by Elizabeth Dilday and Columbus McKeel.

## TRAINING SCHOOL OFFERS COURSES TO HOUSEWIVES

"Still water runs deep," is a saying as old as the hills, yet it still expresses a great truth. The Hertford County Training School has been still for the past two months but in the meantime it has been running deep. As evidence of the same, this article has been written to direct the public eye to the deep running events of the training school.

This is a true saying—any school that does not exert an influence on the life and character of the people of the community in which it is located, has to that extent failed in the high aim which it was established. Using this as a standard, how does the training school measure up? To what extent does the training school touch the life of the people? This question should be of interest to the public in general and to the county board of education in particular. This is a farming section. The training school has an agricultural department under the supervision of a vocational teacher of agriculture. Does this department touch the life of the people of the rural community? This is your answer. There has been established at the training school what is known as the Community School of Agriculture. Through this school the rural community has been reached. A course in Poultry Husbandry was designed especially to meet the needs of the mothers in the home. A club composed entirely of the women, mothers of the home, was organized and is known as the People's Garden and Poultry Club. During the coldest week in January, this club met at 2:30 each afternoon to receive instructions in poultry and husbandry. It was indeed interesting to see the mothers of the community with their tablet and pencil, treading slowly but earnestly toward the training school. The total enrollment was twenty-six with daily average of twenty-two. Think of it, a daily average of twenty-two, mothers of the home eager to learn how to raise more and better chickens! The half has not been told. A branch of the People's Garden and Poultry club known as section A, was organized over the swamp at the No. 19 school located on Auander road. The same course in poultry husbandry was given during the week of March 5th to 10th. From over the

(Continued on page 2)

## Mr. Sharp Keeps History Straight

### His Hobby Is Compiling Names of Hertford County Roster of Confederates

If there is a single person in Hertford County who can talk intelligently on most anything that might arise, that person is Mr. Henry Clay Sharp, of Harrellsville. He is long on figures; has an unflinching memory for facts and dates; knows just as well what they are doing in Greece as in his own household; is a past master at doping out political situations; and can quickly locate any place of almost inconsequential notice on the map.

But his one hobby, if he has one, is keeping history straight about the Confederate Veterans of Hertford County. He is historian for the Hertford County organization of United Confederate Veterans. As historian, he has compiled the roster of Hertford men who served in the War Between the States, and in an instant he can give almost any information desired about the Confederates.

He carries in his pocket a little notebook, and upon its leaves he has written out the data about the Confederates. Enough facts, including names, dates and rank have been crammed into that little book to fill an ordinary volume of 100 pages. If there isn't that much information written down, Mr. Sharp right off-hand, can tell you enough about the men on the roster to make up for it, and a plenty more.

The HERALD has been fortunate in securing from Mr. Sharp the record of A. C. Vann, the latest Confederate Veteran to be claimed by death. This is the short sketch supplied by Mr. Sharp:

"Albert C. Vann was a member of Company B, 40th Regiment, Artillery. He was taken prisoner at the battle of Bentonville, N. C., 19th of March, 1865. He was orderly of the Hertford County Camp of Confederate Veterans. He was tax collector for Hertford County 1879-80. He held other offices."

According to Mr. Sharp, there are only three men left who were in Mr. Vann's company, the other two being Mr. Thad E. Vann and Mr. George C. Brett.

Of all the men of Hertford County who served in the Civil War, only about twenty-five are living; and of this number, fifteen are residing in the county. Mr. Sharp is anxious that these men stage another re-union some time this year, probably in connection with some other public celebration, since the number is too small for a separate day of their own.

In this connection, Mr. Sharp exhibited a letter written by the late Mr. Vann, relative to attendance upon the re-union of Confederate Veterans held in Richmond, Va., last June. The following letter was written to Mr. Sharp by Mr. Vann.

"I am enclosing two identification cards, one for you and one for Mr. Fairless. No one is entitled to reduced rates unless they have a card of this kind. Get ready and let's go. It may be the last chance."

It was Mr. Vann's last chance. Mr. Sharp did not attend the re-union, but says he regrets his failure to attend, and wishes he had accompanied his friend and comrade, Mr. Vann.

## AHOSKIE STREETS ARE BEING WORKED

Business of placing the streets of Ahoskie in a better light with traffic is proceeding with more or less hindrance, due to recent heavy rainfalls. The new tractor has been hooked to a drag and made to chug around town on the principal streets, pulling the mud up in the middle of the road bed, and covering up the man-sized holes.

A new road maintainer has been ordered this week, and as soon as it arrives will be put in operation, to improve the road beds which have almost disappeared during the winter. Dirt, sand, and clinkers will also be dumped into the holes.

The county road machine was put into operation here Wednesday, and together with the tractor, Constable Britton is trying to put West Main street into more passable shape.

Eight pounds of good red clover seed sown with a grain drill will give a better stand than 15 pounds sown by hand.

## WILL SEEK TO INTEREST OTHER COUNTIES IN ROAD

### People of Two States Working Hard for Direct Route, Winton to Suffolk

E. A. Brothers, of Whaleyville, Va., representing the people of Nansemond County, came to Ahoskie Tuesday evening for a conference with the local chamber of commerce and representatives from Winton and Harrellsville on the routing of a state-owned highway, by the most direct route, from Winton to Suffolk.

About two hours were spent in a discussion of the plans to be pursued in order to induce the North Carolina Highway Commission to take over a section of road in Gates County, from Roduco to Somerton (Virginia line) seven miles in length. Mr. Brothers was sure the people of Suffolk and Nansemond County would meet the Carolina Commission at Somerton, if they had assurances of this State's meeting them at that point.

Under present plans, the North Carolina section of highway, as adopted, provides a circuitous route for Hertford, and Bertie counties, as well as several counties beyond the Roanoke river. Travel from these counties into Virginia will pass over the Hertford County highway, crossing the Chowan river at Winton, and thence into Gates, Roduco to Gatesville to Sunbury, and from there to Corapeake where it meets the Virginia line. The extra mileage necessary to get into Virginia is variously estimated at from 15 to 22 miles.

In order to perfect a direct route it will only be necessary for the two State Highway Commissions to meet at Somerton; and means that North Carolina will only add an additional mileage of 7 miles, from Roduco to Somerton.

Besides the chamber of commerce there were other Ahoskie citizens at the conference. Dr. W. B. Pollard of Winton and Dr. J. A. Powell of Harrellsville, both members of the county road board, also attended. The opinion prevailed that other counties included in the list of beneficiaries should a direct route be secured should be interested in the proposition, and their support in bringing pressure to bear upon the District Highway Commissioner, and the State Highway Commission.

The Virginia people will hold a meeting to settle on the Virginia section to be taken over, April 11; and they want some concrete plan presented by that time.

In the meantime, this committee will work to interest other counties, and probably eventually appear before the Commission to request a re-routing or the taking over of the additional seven miles of highway.

## DRAWING UP BY-LAWS OF BUILDING & LOAN

Frank P. Meadows and J. Roy Parker were appointed on Tuesday night by the chamber of commerce to draw up constitution and by-laws for the proposed Hertford County Building & Loan Association. Mr. Meadows is working for the committee and will have the work completed this week.

In the meantime, a license to commence business will be sought from the Insurance Commissioner at Raleigh. With a license secured, the first series will be offered for sale, directors will be named, and the building and loan will begin to function.

Already 90 shares at \$100 per share have been subscribed for, in order to secure license. Lee Parker was the first man to receive a receipt for dues paid in, the amount being \$10, monthly payment on 10 shares. Other subscribers are: H. S. Banight, S. M. Applebaum, Dr. L. K. Walker, J. I. Crawford, V. D. Strickland, J. Bailey Barnes, R. H. Jernigan and J. Roy Parker. Each has subscribed to 10 shares.

## ACCEPTS BANK POSITION

John Gatling, who has had charge of Pender's Grocery Store here, has resigned that position to accept the assistant cashiership of the Farmers-Atlantic Bank. He will succeed Miss Thelma Boyette. Mr. Simmons of Greenville succeeds Mr. Gatling at Penders.

## Ahoskie Now On Crest Of Prosperity's Wave

### \* CONTRIBUTORS TO MONUMENT FUND \*

Although contributions to the fund for erecting a monument in memory of Jefferson Davis on the courthouse lawn at Winton are coming in with a small-like tread, Mrs. R. C. Bridger of Winton, who is directing the campaign, is hopeful of renewed interest and believes the money will be raised within the next few weeks, in time to place the marker there and unveil it on North Carolina Day.

The marker, which will be erected under the auspices of the U. D. C. chapters in Hertford County, will also commemorate Hertford County's dead in the World War. A tablet containing the names of all county boys who died in the service will be placed on the monument.

Total contributions to the fund up to last Saturday night were only \$12, and practically all of this amount came from boys who served in the World War. The list of contributors are:

Carlton Brett	\$ 2.50
R. B. Hill	1.00
Leonard Overton	2.00
Robert J. Vann	5.00
Haight P. Taylor	1.00
Mrs. S. P. Taylor	.50
TOTAL	\$12.00

## SPRINKLE COMPANY OFFERING BARGAINS

The influence of music in the home has long been recognized as tending to elevate character as well as to provide pleasure. Especially is this true as regards the younger generation and in consequence nearly every home of refinement can boast of a piano or playerpiano.

The Norfolk headquarters of the Sprinkle Piano Company is making an unusual offer in this edition. Briefly, the firm offers to place a nationally famous Gulbransen playerpiano in any home in this vicinity on 30 days free trial. The offer includes the gift of 30 music rolls, a bench and a scarf free of charge. A payment of ten dollars is required as evidence of good faith and this is applied to the purchase price—a total of three years being given in which to complete the remaining payments.

The Sprinkle Piano Company is a well and favorably known concern with offices and sales rooms in five different cities. The above offer is for the purpose of introducing the Gulbransen playerpiano in this vicinity and may be withdrawn at any time.

## B. Y. P. U. GIVES A TACKY PARTY

On last Friday evening, the B. Y. P. U. of the Ahoskie church gave an enjoyable Tacky Party at the home of Mrs. J. C. Sessoms. Among the "tackies" who attended, Miss Estelle Vinson was the tackiest of all, according to popular vote taken after arriving at the home. She was given the prize.

Later in the evening, after the participants had about exhausted themselves poking fun and laughing over the weird costumes, a refreshment course was served. It consisted of candle delight salad and saltines.

Those present were: Rev. E. J. Isenhower, Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Howard, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Sessoms, Mrs. E. E. Lane, Misses Nannie Newsome, Thelma and Lillian Boyette, Beatrice Holloman, Arles Isenhower, and Estelle Vinson; Messrs. Luke Isenhower, and Jodie Matthews.

## MRS. VANN IN WILSON

Mrs. J. N. Vann, who was selected as Ahoskie's Queen in the Eastern Carolina Exposition contest, left here Wednesday for Wilson. She will enter the Queen Contest Thursday, in which the winner will be awarded a \$500 diamond ring.

## FISH MARKET OPENS

Curb fish brokers have been plying their trade in Ahoskie during the last few days. Several nice lots of herring, rock, and shads have been sold here this week. They are brought here from Colerain.

Resources of Two Banks Show  
an Increase Within One Year  
of Approximately Thirty  
Per Cent

## NEW BUSINESSES ARE HEADED THIS DIRECTION

### Ahoskie Department Store Will Make Store Largest Business House in Town

### "How's business in Ahoskie?"

Right offhand, the HERALD unmistakably says business in Ahoskie is good. In using that term, there is implied the full meaning of the word 'good.' Business activity is not only increasing at a healthy rate, but it is of such a nature as to allow those engaged in it a nice, steady profit.

## Resources Increase

One of the surest barometers to business conditions is afforded by the institutions that handle the money upon which business is dependent. In Ahoskie, the two banks furnish just such a barometer; and the resources of the two banks tell in no unmistakable terms of increased business activity.

Practically 30 per cent increase is shown in the resources of the banks in the twelve months period between March 19, 1922, and March 19, 1923. One year ago, the two banks here had combined resources of \$538,266.53. On Monday of this week, people of Ahoskie and its adjacent territory had \$862,251.69 in the two banks here. There has been a gross increase of \$147,984.96 during the last year.

## New Business Enterprises

Since the fall of 1922, there has been perhaps the largest increase within several years of new business enterprises. Only a few months ago, five choice business locations in the Sessoms' block, in East Main street, were going begging. Today every one is occupied.

The corner location, originally designed for a banking and trust company and later converted into livery stables, has been rented within the last few days to another brand new enterprise.

Mr. Rose, a native of Northampton County, who has made a signal success in merchandising, has rented this building to conduct one of his chain stores. He is now located at Henderson, but intends coming to Ahoskie as a permanent home base for his extensive operations.

Other new firms in this block are: J. L. Perkins & Sons, branch of a Greenville house; Boulter's Variety Store; and a bakery which will soon be in full operation. E. J. Bell & Co., and C. W. Casper occupy the other two stores.

## Real Estate Active

Renewed interest in the harter and sale of Ahoskie real estate, and especially of business property, has been seen here within the last few weeks. One of the most important transfers was the Z. V. Bellamy store property on Main street, which has been purchased by the Ahoskie Department Store, Inc. The purchase price was \$6,000.

The purchasers of this desirable property plan to make out of the one-story brick building probably the largest and most handsome business structure in the town. Under present plans, two additional stories will be added, new front built in, and interior entirely re-worked. The two first floors will be used as sales rooms, while the third floor will be used as storage space.

Mr. Bellamy will probably remain in this building until next September. At that time, the new purchasers will begin the new additions, which will be completed by January 1, 1924, when it will be occupied by them. For the rest of this year, the Ahoskie Department Store will remain in their present location.

Announcement of the impending sale of town property owned by the R. J. Baker heirs has created a flurry in real estate circles. This sale will include some of the choicest property in Ahoskie, residential, business, and warehouse property being on the list

(Continued on page 2)