

ROAD BOARD MEETS HERE TO RECEIVE BIDS ON HIGHWAYS

Called Session For Friday Will
Be Time To Decide on
Method of Building
Roads in County

FOUR CONTRACTORS
ALREADY ON HAND

Regular Meeting Last Monday
Taken Up With Approving
Bills Against Forces

Road commissioners of Hertford County will make some decision about how the roads of Hertford County shall be built with the residue of the half million dollar bond issue, at a meeting called especially for that purpose, Friday, April 13, at 1 o'clock, in Ahoskie. Upon that date, the fates which are usually pretty much disinclined to offer any favors on "Friday The Thirteenth" will either cast its lot with the contractors who are bidding for county work, or will say to the individual commissioners build your own roads.

Between a township system of road construction and doing it by outside contract lies a decision for the board is not inclined to a system of building roads themselves under county supervision and with a county superintendent of roads. They have already relegated that system to the junk heap from whence it will probably never arise so long as the complexion of the board membership remains the same.

The board met in regular session last Monday at Winton and finished passing on bills against the county made during the administration of F. G. Hines, resigned superintendent, and approved pay rolls for the six townships. Four road contractors were present and awaited to be heard after routine business was wound up. All submitted bids, which were sealed and deposited in the secretary's safe, to await the called meeting Friday. Others may submit bids in the meantime. Two of the bidders are at present working in Hertford County, on State roads, and the other two are doing work in the State, with headquarters at Durham and Richmond, respectively.

Mr. Barrow, road engineer from Roanoke Rapids, also appeared before the board and outlined a proposition to add the office of county road engineer to the road administration. He explained how the engineering work was essential to intelligent road building, and told of the work he had done in Northampton and Halifax counties in the capacity of engineer. He applied for a similar position in Hertford County. In the meantime, a decision will await the meeting here Friday.

Prior to the submitting of bids and the engineer proposition, the commissioners had voted to pay no more bills against the road force unless oked by either the road commissioner or the township foreman and adopted three special forms for properly keeping records of prison camps and township road forces.

An order was also passed authorizing the purchase of fourteen additional mules. Six will be purchased outright, while eight old ones will be traded in. Sheriff B. Scull was authorized to make the deal. According to the inventory just completed and which is in the hands of the road commissioners, there are 66 mules in the six townships belonging to the county, three townships having twelve each and the other three having only ten. When the new mules are secured, each township will be furnished with an even dozen good mules. The purchase of one or two additional road machines was also discussed, all of which indicates the remoteness of contracting roads in the county.

Purchase of mules and new equipment will probably be held up until

BAKER ESTATE WAS SOLD HERE SATURDAY, APRIL 7

Included in Real Estate Was
Some Choicest Property In
Town of Ahoskie

The estate of R. J. Baker, sold at public auction for division among the heirs last Saturday, brought a total of about \$29,000. It consisted of the home place on Church street, six building lots on Main street, the post-office and barber shop building, and several warehouse lots north of the J. N. Vann peanut storage warehouse. C. H. Mitchell was high bidder for the home place, offering \$7,800. He later transferred it to A. M. Browne, of Union, for the sum of \$8,000. Mr. Browne and H. S. Basnight offered several bids on the place.

The six lots on Main street were sold in a lump for \$5,050, and were bid in by Pembroke Bake, administrator. They were first offered separately and later sold as one tract. H. S. Basnight was high bidder on the corner lot, and John Haleges was high bidder on the other five. Sold separately, the plot brought only \$4,200, the bids being declared off when it was bid in at a higher price by the estate.

More buyers offered for the post-office building, and bidding became spirited as the figure ran above \$9,000. Beginning at \$6,000, prospective purchasers kept up the bidding until it reached the high water mark—\$10,000. It was sold at that figure to H. S. Basnight.

On account of the relatively cheap figures at which the warehouse lots sold, purchasers of this property were easy to find, and bidding was strong on the entire tract. J. N. Vann bought the choicest lot, next to his present warehouse. Both H. S. Basnight and son, W. H. Basnight bought some of the property. The total figures ran around \$6,000.

HIGHWAY AUTHORITIES OF VIRGINIA HEAR ARGUMENT

Meeting in Suffolk To Decide
Upon Route To North
Carolina Line

Suffolk, Va., April 12.—Four routes from the North Carolina line were urged by attorneys representing the interests of the citizens of these routes before the members of the State Highway Commission, H. G. Shirley, State Highway Commissioner, Wade Massey and I. Walke Truxton, this afternoon in the Nansemond County courthouse; and, after hearing all their arguments, Commissioner Shirley announced that the decision of the Commission would be made known later through the Nansemond county clerk.

Lee Britt represented the route out of Suffolk by Saratoga street, Somerton road, Meadow road to Cypress Chapel and thence the White Marsh road to Corapeake. J. R. Saunders represented those who want the road to go by Whaleyville, Somerton and to the North Carolina line near Roduco and Winton. W. E. L. Taylor of Norfolk spoke in behalf of the residents of the White Marsh road, the line to connect with North Carolina at Corapeake.

J. H. Corbitt represented the Hosier road which also connects with North Carolina at Corapeake. Lee Britt read a message from the North Carolina State Highway Commissioner Hart telling that the road from Sunbury to Corapeake had already been allocated. Mr. Hart in his communication advised that link between Roduco and Virginia State line has not been let.

Sentiment in this section is divided between the Whaleyville-Somerton route and the route by Meadow road, Cypress Chapel and Corapeake.

VISITING RELATIVES

Mrs. H. S. Basnight and daughter, Miss Ethel Basnight left Thursday to spend some time with relatives in Elizabeth City and Creswell.

the meeting is held in Ahoskie, to consider the contractors' bids. All bids submitted were based upon the cost per mile, of the different types of roads. Each contractor making a bid agreed to take over the mules as well as all equipment they could use.

Attendance upon the meeting last Monday was so large that the road board session was convened in the main auditorium of the courthouse.

Drainage Is Now A Big Problem

Hertford County Becoming Inter-
ested in Reclaiming
Uncultivated Lands

Ahoskie persons, and landowners throughout the county are interested in any scheme to provide intelligent drainage of swamp and lowlands to the point where the acreage becomes profitable farming lands. There has been more or less agitation from time to time for the undertaking of a few drainage projects in the county, especially along the run of Ahoskie swamp, but no concerted action has been taken.

Over in Gates County and the other counties beyond the Chowan, several large projects are already under way, some of which have been completed, and the land turned into profitable farming lands.

Increasing interest in the drainage movement will result from the announcement published below, and which was furnished to the HERALD, by Hon. Jno. H. Small, president of the Drainage Association:

"Through your courtesy I am taking this opportunity of calling attention to the meeting of the North Carolina Drainage Association in New Bern next week on Wednesday the 18th. Every intelligent owner of land appreciates the relation of efficient drainage to crop production, to public health and to the construction of public roads. A large portion of our lands in Eastern North Carolina require drainage and consist of some of our most fertile soils. We have been accustomed in the past to think of drainage only in connection with cut-over swamp lands, but these constitute only a part of the problem. Many farms, some of which have been cultivated for generations, have never been effectively drained, with the result that crop production is very frequently impaired, with occasional total destruction. Under a wise drainage law, districts have been formed and more than five hundred thousand acres of waste lands have been reclaimed and made valuable. But the movement is only well started. Just as the drainage law contemplates co-operation between a number of landowners, so can this movement be carried forward successfully only by co-operative efforts of intelligent citizens. The State Drainage Association furnishes the means for this civic cooperation. There should be a large attendance at New Bern. A most interesting program has been arranged."

SCHOOL EXERCISES BEGIN HERE APRIL 29th

Rev. Q. C. Davis, Albermarle, N. C.,
Will Deliver Commencement
Address

After two weeks and two days, there will be no more going to school in Ahoskie until the 1923-24 session opens next September. Commencement exercises will begin at the Ahoskie High School, April 29, and will cover a period of four days, ending May 2nd.

Rev. Q. C. Davis of Albermarle, formerly pastor of the Windsor Baptist church, will deliver the address to the graduating class. Professor Raynor tried to prevail upon Dr. W. L. Poteat, president of Wake Forest College, to come here, but owing to other engagements Dr. Poteat could not come. Reverend Davis is one of the State's popular commencement speakers.

For the first time in several years, the boys will divide honors with their sisters in the number in the senior class. Sixteen boys and girls will receive their diplomas during commencement, and the number is equally divided between boys and girls.

Further announcements of the exercises to be given will appear in subsequent issues of the HERALD.

CYRUS BAZEMORE HERE

Cyrus Bazemore, young University student, spent last Saturday and Sunday in Ahoskie, leaving Sunday for Chapel Hill, to resume his work after the Easter holidays. Cyrus formerly worked in the HERALD office. He is now attending the State University, and during the odd times is working in a newspaper office in Chapel Hill. A few weeks ago, the "little" finger on his right hand was amputated on account of being caught in belting.

BUILDING AND LOAN TO BEGIN BUSINESS

Meeting Being Held In Richard
Theater Today for Stock
Subscription

ASSOCIATION STARTS
OFF VERY FAVORABLY

More than 250 shares have already been assured to the first series of stock issued by the Hertford County Building & Loan Association. About forty business men attended the meeting here Thursday afternoon, and practically every one present became stockholders. Mr. Coghill explained the features of the association thoroughly, following which a canvassing committee was appointed to solicit further stock.

The committee is composed of Rev. E. J. Isenhower, Dr. L. K. Walker, Frank Meadows, R. H. Jernigan, V. D. Strickland, Jas. I. Crawford, Dan P. Boyette.

The books will be open until the last day of this month for subscriptions.

A permanent organization will not be effected until five hundred shares have been subscribed. When the shares have been subscribed a meeting of all stockholders will be called and the directors elected.

The Hertford County Building & Loan Association, with its principal offices at Ahoskie, is now a body corporate and is functioning in high gear. The initial series is now open for subscription, and the certificates will be dated April 1, which throws it right at the beginning of the calendar quarter.

This afternoon, Mr. C. W. Coghill, an authority on building and loan association work, is in Ahoskie speaking to a mass meeting of citizens and those who expect to be future citizens on the why and wherefore of stock in a Building & Loan Association. The meeting is being held at the Richard Theater, and the publicity given the gathering is expected to bring out large numbers.

Ninety-five shares have already been subscribed to the first series, by the eight incorporators, and two others who are non-residents of the town and who did not want to miss an opportunity to get a share of the first stock issued. The subscription books will be formally opened today and stock solicited from all those who attend the meeting. Later a canvassing committee will be appointed to work among those who did not have the opportunity to attend the meeting, giving all a chance to subscribe to this distinctly home enterprise, which is working for home interests alone.

Directors will be named at today's meeting, and they will be twelve in number, according to the provisions of the tentative by-laws and constitution. Immediately after their election by those who subscribe, a director's meeting will be held, and officers of the association elected. The directors will also probably choose a secretary-treasurer of the association, make arrangements for an office, and otherwise get things in shape for a properly functioning building and loan association.

The association is county-wide in its scope, and it is very probable that subscribers from other towns in the county and among the farmers will be sought. The interest in Ahoskie is growing stronger, and the association is beginning business under the most favorable circumstances of any local organization of recent date.

FREIGHT RECEIPTS LARGER

According to reports made last week of the receipts and disbursements at the local A. C. L. freight office, the total business for March, 1923, exceeded that of March, 1922, by more than \$18,000. Clerks in the office say business is growing steadily, and the increases are larger than any other period during the life of the office.

Will Select Candidates By Convention, April 19

Three Councilmen, A Mayor and Constable, and Three School Trustees Will Be Elected May 7—Two Highest Candidates at Convention Will Run It Off in Election—Little Interest Has Been Shown

There will be an old-time nominating convention in the W. O. W. Hall, Thursday night, April 19, at which time voters of the town of Ahoskie and also those of the Ahoskie school district will select candidates for the town and district election called for May 7. At a joint meeting of the town council and trustees of the school last Friday evening, the convention method was unanimously chosen.

To give every qualified voter an opportunity to vote and to make the race for office more competitive, the two nominees at the convention receiving the highest votes will be certified as candidates for the election May 7, and will run it off then. In other words, there will be six candidates for the council, two for mayor, two for constable, and six for trustees declared nominees at the convention. All persons otherwise qualified to vote for members of the General Assembly and who have resided in the town six months are entitled to vote at the convention.

Paul W. Holloman is acting registrar for the town and school district and the books are open for new registrants. There are many women in the town who have not registered and who would be entitled to vote for both town and school officials. An effort will be made to get the women on the books, and elicit their interest in the affairs of town and school.

Three trustees will be elected this year, all to serve six years. The terms of Dr. Paul Mitchell and Mr. S. J. Dilday expire this spring; and the office vacated by L. C. Williams, who resigned to become mayor of Ahoskie, will be filled. This vacancy will be for two years, or the unexpired term of Mayor Williams.

With a convention already called, an election in prospect, and registration books open, all the fixings for the selection of officers are in shape. A scarcity of candidates is the only proposition now facing the town and district, and in that respect, there is plenty of conjecture, but no avowed candidates who want the places. Not a single person has announced a candidacy, and none of the present officers, of town and district, has stated whether he will accept or decline the tender of office, were it made to him at the convention.

In the meantime, a few names have been suggested for the town officers. There have been no new names suggested for the councilmen places, except those mentioned in a previous issue of the HERALD. Besides the present members, H. S. Basnight and J. Bailey Barnes were advanced. If they want the places, little indication has been made by them. L. C. Williams, incumbent, R. H. Jernigan, attorney W. R. Johnson, and J. R. Garret have all been mentioned as possible candidates for mayor.

Mr. Garret says he can accomplish more by holding to the office of county road commissioner, and thereby is eliminated from the race. Mr. Jernigan is at present holding office as school trustee, and to become mayor would relinquish the former office. Whether he would swap places is not known, but sentiment for him as mayor has grown since the first intimation of his being nominated. Attorneys Williams and Johnson would be eligible to the office upon the grounds of nomination.

Who the constable will be is little discussed, although the office has become an important one, in which the voters should take an interest.

Turning from the municipal offices to the trustee election, there appears little or no interest in selection of candidates. It is highly probable that the present incumbents may be re-nominated and elected. However, there is some reason to believe two or three women will be nominated next Thursday night at the convention.

Women voters have heretofore shown more interest in the school election and at the election two years ago, women candidates were on the ticket. Six years ago, or before the constitutional amendment providing for equal suffrage, Mrs. C. C. Hoggard was a nominee; but her right to hold the office was ruled unconstitutional.

MISS WILLIAMS HERE

Miss Mary Williams, county rural supervisor, spent Wednesday in Ahoskie, observing work of the teachers in the local school.

* MONUMENT FUND * STILL GROWING *

- * Mrs. R. C. Bridger, U. D. C.
- * District Leader, announces the receipt of \$8.45 addition to the fund now being raised for erecting a monument on the court-house lawn at Winton, in memory of Hertford County's dead in the World War. The following persons contributed to the fund mentioned above:
- * Rev. J. L. Saunders \$1.00
- * Miss Julia Cobb 1.00
- * St. Johns School 5.00
- * Holly Spring School 1.45
- * Last Saturday was Tag Day in Ahoskie, the proceeds from the sale of 250 printed tags going to the fund. The Ahoskie chapter fostered the Tag Day program, and vendors of yellow tags were much in evidence on streets of Ahoskie last Saturday.
- * The exact amount raised here has not been made known to this office, but it is safe to say \$10 or 15 was raised by the sale of tags.
- * August 23rd is the day the U. D. C. wants to unveil this marker, and those who expect to give something to the fund can help the cause along by doing it now, to insure the cost of erection.

ROBBERS WERE BUSY HERE WEDNESDAY

Robbers of a discriminating kind twisted four iron bars encasing the rear window of J. L. Perkins & Sons' store here Wednesday night, and prizing up the window which was locked, entered the building to inspect the stock of men's furnishings and shoes carried in that place of business. Mr. Hite, manager of the store, was in Greenville at the time and had left the store in charge of J. C. Jenkins.

When Mr. Jenkins came down Thursday morning, he found the window up, bars twisted, and several pairs of shoes strewn about the floor, with a suit or two of clothes lying about on the counters. Close inspection of the stock on hand has revealed an approximate loss of about \$150.

The robbers evidently were seeking only a few choice articles, as they did not make away with much of the stock, although it was badly deranged.

This is the second or third attempt at robbery of this store, their efforts having been thwarted at previous trials through watchman placed there to discover the whereof of tracks seen around the rear of the store. Mr. Hite is offering a reward of \$100 for the capture or information leading to the capture of the robbers.

On the same night the local store of Pender's was burglarized, and an undetermined amount of groceries carried off. An inventory of the stock is now in progress to ascertain the exact amount taken.

Of the 1310 students enrolled at the North Carolina State College, 551 are taking some of the agricultural courses. This is over 42 per cent, and looks good for the future of progressive farming in North Carolina.