

## WITHOUT FINANCES TOWN IS HELPLESS

Little Extension Work Can Be Done, Regardless Of The Pressing Needs

### MEETS TWICE THIS WEEK

"The town is just like many an individual; it would like to make many improvements and carry out a large program of expansion, but it hasn't the finances and hence must wait." Thus did Mayor L. C. Williams enunciate a principle that must needs be and is the policy of Ahoskie's council when it met at the regular Monday night meeting this week. Mayor Williams made the statement only after persistent demands having been made by citizens for street improvement and other municipal expansions.

With its hands tied on account of lack of finances, the present council is finding it exceedingly hard to carry out any extensions to public enterprises; and never before in the town's history, perhaps, have there been more demands and appeals made. The council is grappling with the municipal light and water plant problem, in an effort to make of it a feeder to the town treasury rather than a drain, and that alone has enough angles to it to give them plenty of work.

Street extensions, water and sewer line extensions, and additional poles and wiring for electric lights have kept the council busy for the last three meetings. The meeting place of the council has been crowded and it has done little else but listen to appeals. A. T. Willoughby has been wrestling with the council on the proposition of extension of Main street, West, and the opening of another street from Main to West Church street.

He wants to dispose of his property or make improvements, and he wants the council to either take the street, or give him authority to erect house or otherwise use the property he now owns, with assurances of no future comeback. The Council, with no money and no way of getting any, took no action.

The R. J. Baker heirs also want to compromise on the condemnation proceedings for a street over their property, north of the Barnes-Sawyer Grocery Company's building. The case is now pending in superior court. A price was named and the heirs made an offer for two lots, of a 50 feet frontage. The former council named the purchase price figure, and this board ratified its predecessor's action.

S. M. Applebaum, of the Ahoskie Department Store, wanted to know something about an alley at the rear of his company's store on Main street. J. A. Copeland, owner of several stores in the Main street block, has closed one end of the alley running through from E. J. Gerock's store to Mr. Copeland's. Mr. Applebaum wanted to know if the town would declare it an alley and thus insure means of egress and ingress to the rear of all the stores. No action was taken by the council.

Other minor matters consumed all the time until after eleven o'clock and the council rested for a day.

## MASONIC PICNIC TO BE HELD JULY 26

The executive committee of Masons in the six surrounding counties met at Colerain last week, and took the first steps in arranging for the annual Masonic picnic. It will be at Chowan Pleasure Beach, Colerain, July 26th, it being the usual time.

Committees on provisions, refreshments, erecting concessions, and other necessary details were appointed, and the work to be done was distributed among the several lodges represented. Public speaking and baseball will probably feature the annual occasion.

## PENNANTS FLYING

Pennants of various colors and hues are flying to the breeze from all Ahoskie automobiles these days. They have also been tacked to out of town cars, whose owners are friendly to the local market. There are still a few left for distribution.

## TAXABLE VALUES ABOVE THOSE OF LAST YEAR

Ahoskie Township Will Pay One-Third Of County's Total Taxes For 1923

Taxable values in Hertford County for 1923 are \$394,002 greater than 1922 values, according to the tax listers' books which have been turned into the clerk of the county board of commissioners. Had every township in the county shown as great a rate of increase as Ahoskie township, the amount would have been much greater. Values in the latter township exceeded 1922 values by more than a half million dollars.

That amount was pulled down by some of the other townships, in which there has been a decrease in values since last year. In Maney's Neck the largest deflation took place, practically \$200,000 being lopped off 1922 values. Where this large decrease comes in is a matter of speculation. Other townships remained practically the same as in 1922, although some showed a loss and others a slight gain. But for Ahoskie, however, the taxable values would have been less this year than they were last.

Exclusive of corporation taxable values, there was listed for taxation, in the entire county, \$10,194,551. Figuring the corporation values same as last year, the grand total to be taxed will be \$11,440,547. Last year, the property listed amounted to \$9,800,549, exclusive of corporation taxes.

Ahoskie township taxpayers have listed \$3,155,120 of the total real and personal property in the county; and since the county's largest corporations are within this township, a large part of the \$1,245,996 of corporation tax values must be credited to Ahoskie. It is safe to assume that Ahoskie township alone will pay one-third of the county's 1923 taxes, for roads, schools, and general expenses.

Figures for the other townships are: Maney's Neck, \$897,800; Murreboro, \$1,442,459; Harrellsville, \$1,605,100; Winton, \$1,386,946; St. Johns, \$1,707,126.

County and local tax levies have not yet been made. However, if the school budget is approved as it now stands, a levy of 93 cents on the hundred dollars will be necessary to take care of it; 35 cents on the hundred dollars will be necessary for road administration and sinking fund for bonds; and the 15 cents constitutional limit will have to be levied for county administration. At that, the 15 cents levy will not take care of expenses.

Last year's total county levy was 92 cents. This year's will be \$1.43 on the hundred dollars, provided the above schedule is adopted. This does not include local tax levies.

## MEHERRIN MEMBERS HAVE BIG RECEPTION

Woman's Missionary Society and T. E. L. Class Stage A Joint Affair

(By MRS. B. S. LIVERMAN)

The Woman's Missionary Society and the T. E. L. Class of Meherrin Baptist Church held their annual joint reception on Friday afternoon, June 29th, 1923. This reception was held on the beautiful lawn under the historical oak at the church.

The members of the society and Sunday School Class gathered about three o'clock in the afternoon, accompanied by their husbands and sweethearts. The social committee deserves much credit for the fine amusement program they had planned. It was filled with surprises, stunts, jokes and games which all enjoyed to the fullest. All just had to practice the proverb, "Laugh and grow fat."

After the games and fun was over, refreshments consisting of ice cream and cake was served by the committee. All went away after three hours of merriment and fun, having expressed themselves to the committee, as having had the greatest and most enjoyable afternoon of their lives.

## DIRECTORS TO MEET

The directors of the Hertford County Building & Loan Association will meet tonight, Thursday, at eight o'clock, in the directors' room of the Farmers-Atlantic Bank. Several applications for loans will be considered, and the issuance of the second series discussed.

Subscribe to the HERALD—\$1.50

## Local Greeks To Greet Home Folks

Mother, Sisters and Neice Will Sail From Constantinople, July 11th

John and George Haleges, proprietors of the Manhattan Cafe, are among the Greeks in this country who are having a little experience with the restricted immigration laws of the United States. Readers of daily newspapers know something of the situation surrounding the arrival of the King Alexander at the New York harbor last week, when many foreigners were denied admission after entering the port on account of the month's allotment being filled.

The Haleges brothers had been trying to arrange passports and secure transportation for three sisters, mother, and a neice, living in Constantinople, for several weeks, and expected them to arrive on the King Alexander. They were unsuccessful in their efforts, and felt some uneasiness about chances of securing passage for several months, after reading of the turning back of July immigrants.

However, as American citizens were celebrating the date of their independence, on the Fourth of July, a cablegram was received here by the Haleges brothers stating that their relatives would sail for America on July 11th, aboard the ship Madona. The date of arrival is set as August 4th, and the place New York.

John Haleges will leave Ahoskie in time to be in New York City on July 30, to make arrangements for the entry of his kinsfolk under the restricted immigration laws. He and his brother have repeatedly had correspondence with the government officials on this side and through them with the U. S. Consul in Constantinople. Money has been sent to their people for transportation, and all plans made for their arrival in the United States. The information contained in the Fourth of July cablegram was, therefore, welcome news, and allayed all fears of a delayed entry into this country.

The two local Greeks have asked the editor of this paper to convey their thanks to Ahoskie persons who have aided them in their efforts to bring their kinsfolk here.

Coming to Ahoskie less than four years ago with only six months residence in the United States, the Haleges brothers have exhibited some of the keen business sense common to their race. They have grown in business until their establishment here is one of the leading enterprises of the town. Along with their ordinary business routine, they have also shown a keen appreciation of the spirit of progressiveness in civic ideals and civic progress.

In all movements of a public nature, they have been among the very first to give of time and means, and as boosters of Ahoskie they take first rank. The HERALD has had more than one opportunity of telling of their charitableness.

Next April, they will apply to the U. S. Courts for full citizenship papers. Five years as residents and a knowledge of the Constitution are necessary qualifications. At the date referred to, the five years will have been passed; and, with reference to the educational qualifications, they have been studying zealously in order to meet the test.

## RAILROAD HAS NOT ERECTED WARNINGS

The Atlantic Coast Line Railroad has failed to erect its warning signs in Ahoskie, calling attention to the North Carolina stop law. The State law provides that the signs shall be on the side of the highway, 100 feet from the crossing. There has been practically universal disregard of the stop law inside Ahoskie.

The town council has ordered its clerk to advise the railroad to erect the signs, or either erect gates at the crossings within the town limits. The Wellington & Powellville Railroad has already erected signs at its crossings.

## A DAUGHTER BORN

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Joe Umphlett Tuesday morning a daughter, weighing eight pounds.

Special investigation shows trend in nearly all great industrial centers to be towards shop, with workers outside union agreements doubled to 1,00,000 in past year.

## MARKER FUND NEARING ITS ULTIMATE FIGURE

Mrs. Bridger Making Last Appeal Through Public For Support and Money

Making the last public appeal through the press of the county, Mrs. R. C. Bridger, of Winton, is asking for more donations to the fund being raised for the marker in memory of the World War Veterans of Hertford County. Five hundred dollars is the ultimate goal towards which the U. D. C. chapters of the county are working. Of that amount they have raised \$334.75, leaving a balance of \$165.25 to be secured.

"It has taken hard work," says Mrs. Bridger, who also states that she and her workers expect to reach the goal before a rain is slackened. "I'll get it and it will go up in Winton" is the confident expression made by Mrs. Bridger.

More than any other person who has been working for the fund, Mrs. Bridger has given of her time and energy to produce the fund. She has sent out appeals by letters, she has spoken before schools and clubs, and she has made personal appeals for donations. The school and women's clubs responded nicely, and the other U. D. C. chapters in the county have added to the fund. The one lone exception to the unanimity with which the public has responded has been those who did not take any part in the war, and who were not represented by any relative during the war.

The HERALD is not authorized to make that statement, but the returns stand out boldly to show it. Were these persons to show interest enough to give a small donation, and were it to be general throughout the county, the balance could be easily produced. A donation sent to Mrs. Bridger at Winton will receive prompt credit, and will be appreciated not only by the sponsors of the fund and marker but also by those who participated in the World War.

The marker will be erected on the courthouse lawn, and will bear the names of the Hertford County boys who died in the World War. It is but a little recognition of the sacrifice they have made, and the opportunity to donate should be considered a rare opportunity. The marker will be unveiled at Winton on North Carolina Day, during the month of August.

The following is Mrs. Bridger's appeal, put to verse:

A woman strong and true and brave,  
Started out a fund to raise,  
To place a monument on Court House green,  
That from the highway might be seen.  
She had in mind her country's boys,  
That shed their blood on foreign soils,  
That those back home might rest in ease,  
Their duty paid by acts like these.

They faced the cannon shot and shell,  
They feared not foe or battle's hell,  
Their country's honor was at stake,  
So in her name the spoils did take.  
They did their duty, they did it well,  
Some returned yet others fell,  
They gave their blood, their life, their all,  
To save us from a slacker's call.

Now, are we slack or slow to prove,  
The honor we felt in seeing them move,  
To where their danger, small or great,  
Hung like a cloud to seal their fate.  
All ports of our country have heard her plea,  
Some have responded while others see,  
Feel not the duty and sacred trust,  
To place Hertford's name on high and above rust.  
Our largest contributors are Myrick and Green,  
Five dollars from each in bank can be seen.  
Who will be next to honor the call,  
In dollars and dimes and quarters not small.

This is our last plea for a cause dear to all.  
The goal is not reached but we hope to by fall,  
To write on bronze tablet the names of our men  
Who died in the hope to gain victory at the end.  
Two hundred dollars or more must be raised  
Before we can shout Hallelujah and praise.  
So in she slow to act on unveiling,  
Remember 'tis you who is slow in the aiding.

## GIRL SCOUTS CAMP

Members of the local troop of Girl Scouts left here early Tuesday morning for Laxy Hill Camp, Chowan Pleasure Beach. They will spend the week there, returning on Saturday. They are chaperoned by Misses Ella Pearee and Mary Gatling. The Scouts carried with them their provisions for the camp, having secured necessary funds through street sales of candy, ice cream, and other articles during the last few weeks.

## FATHER IS DEAD

Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Gerock returned to Ahoskie last Sunday after spending some time at Maysville, Onslow county, where they were at the bedside of Mr. Gerock's father. The latter died on Friday.

## Commissioners Hear Appeals For Reduction Of Taxable Values, But Are Slow To Make Any Big Change

### \* DIPPING VAT MONEY \* \* BORROWED IN COUNTY \*

Faith in one's own county has been clearly evidenced in a transaction consummated by the county commissioners. They borrowed every cent of the \$10,000 with which to pay the costs of dipping vats erection from a citizen of Hertford County. He is Mr. Jno. O. Askew, Sr., of Harrellsville.

Failing to get the money from the bond buyers who have been financing them, the commissioners turned to their own county—man and he graciously came across with the funds. The county has executed promissory notes for the loan, and has received the cash. The transaction was closed last Monday at Winton.

## LOCAL POSTOFFICE ADDS FIFTEEN MILES SERVICE

Eighty Families In Bertie Will Be Served By Letter Carrier No. 4

Effective next Monday, July 16, the Ahoskie postoffice will serve practically eighty new families, who now receive their mail at delayed intervals from Cremo and Askewville. Approximately 15 miles of additional service will be added on that date, carriers on routes 4 and 5 taking on the increased mileage. The increase in mileage will also bring added pay to Messrs. B. E. and Herbert Copeland, the two rural letter carriers.

Carrier No. 4 will take in a good slice of mileage in Bertie county, serving families in the Cremo, Hexelena and Askewville sections. In taking over this route, he will drop from his itinerary the Montgomerys Mill and Bantleys Grove section of his old route. Carrier No. 5 will take over this portion of the former No. 4 route. The approximate proportion of the added service is ten miles additional for carrier No. 4, and five miles for carrier No. 5.

Postmaster A. T. Willoughby speaks of the change as follows:

"With all this re-arrangement of service only four families have been slightly inconvenienced, while an additional population of 471 people has been reached, who now have no rural free delivery mail service at all. When this extension of Rural Free Delivery Service is made effective, there is not now left any road that is not covered by a rural free delivery route, in reach of Ahoskie service."

Persons in the sections of Bertie county to be covered by this added service have had very inadequate mail service for years. There being no mail clerk on the W. & P. passenger trains, mail to and from Askewville and Cremo was heretofore made up at either end of the line, Ahoskie and Windsor. Letters or other mail is therefore delayed, and service is far below satisfactory. The new arrangement will give these people every day service.

## COAST LINE ADDS ANOTHER PULLMAN

Effective last Monday, the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad added an extra Pullman on trains nos. 49 and 48, Norfolk to Wilmington. Train 49 passes Ahoskie in the morning at 10:33 A. M., and number 48, northbound, passes here at 3:11 P. M.

Heretofore the Coast Line has been operating a Pullman service on its trains nos. 41 and 42, known locally as the "Late" and "Early Trains." Through the efforts of several chambers of commerce on the route the additional service inaugurated this week was brought about. Prior to the World War and during the War, this company operated a parlor car on trains 49 and 48.

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Total Taxable Property Is Lower Only \$24,800, And Prospects Are For More To Be Added

## BOARD MET MONDAY AND AGAIN TUESDAY

School Budget Creates Argument; And Will Be Disposed Of Next Friday

Working a solid day and a half, during which time it was listening to requests for reduction of taxable values, the board of county commissioners have lopped off only \$24,800 from the total valuations as turned in by the tax listers. Monday was set aside by the board to hear complaints and to equalize tax values of the county. Although many were there on that day and also Tuesday morning and every one of them asking for reductions, few and far between were the reductions.

Friendly threats of increasing values were made, and in one notable instance two farms in Harrellsville township were boosted in value, one being ordered raised from \$10,000 to \$20,000, an even doubling up. They were the farms of J. O. Askew, Sr., and Starkey Sharp, Sr., the former being doubled and the latter raised \$2,000. However, both of these taxpayers will be given an opportunity to be heard on the first Monday in August. The farm adjoining these two places, owned by H. S. Basnight and valued at \$26,000 was reduced to \$20,000, or an amount equal to each of the others.

A lot on Main street in Ahoskie, owned by the R. J. Baker heirs, was reduced from \$4,500 to \$3,500. The lots in the next block belonging to H. S. Basnight, known as the Leary property, was reduced from \$3334 to \$2500. These were the principal reductions made on Ahoskie property.

However, Ahoskie is due for more consideration when the commissioners meet again in August. Several Ahoskie taxpayers, among them being S. P. Watson and C. C. Hoggard, will be cited to appear and show cause why their property shall not be increased, to place it on an equal valuation with other town property.

## And The Fun Began

With equalization out of the way until the first Monday in August, the commissioners convened Tuesday afternoon for the purpose of approving or rejecting the 1923-24 school budget, a little matter that has caused several verbal explosions already and which has been postponed for two or three meetings. And, that \$106,000 the county board of education is seeking from the 1923 taxes caused more outbursts and met the same fate.

Ten o'clock, Friday morning, July 13, is the time set for a final decision. John O. Askew, Jr., the Harrellsville member, was not present Tuesday afternoon, and the board did not want to let a living member of its body be absent upon the occasion of that meeting. The stage was all set for action Tuesday, and the principals were there. First, Dr. J. H. Mitchell, chairman of the board was on hand; W. Dare Boone, board attorney answered questions and did his best to explain and interpret; Mr. N. W. Britton, county superintendent of education, was also in the meeting and told the board what the money was to be spent for, including trucks, gasoline, drivers, and new school buildings for negroes. Those items and the scale of pay for teachers set by the State accounted for the increase over the previous year.

Dr. Mitchell was everlastingly against approving the budget, which will carry a tax rate of 93 cents, or 41 cents more than last year, and all (Continued on page 3)