

# THE DANBURY REPORTER.

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## MECKLENBURG'S GOOD ROADS

HOW THEY ARE BUILT AND THE COST OF THEIR CONSTRUCTION--THEY INCREASE VALUE OF LAND IN MECKLENBURG.

Mecklenburg county, N. C., and Charlotte, its capital, have been made famous the country over by the magnificent graded macadamized roads which connect Charlotte with every part of the county.

The statement has been made by people who have traveled extensively that Charlotte is unique in being the only city of 40,000 population in the United States which can boast of 100 miles of macadamized roads radiating from its business district to all sections of the county.

These good roads have attracted wide attention, and many visitors, including representatives of State Legislatures, have inspected the system with the view of creating a similar good condition at home. They have added very considerably to the wealth of the city and county, helping alike the business interests of both.

In fact, no one factor in the development of the community has been more pronounced in its direct results, and competent authority has placed the increase in value at \$1.25 per acre for every acre of land adjacent to these good roads, and this amount per acre will in one year pay for the building of all of them.

The real value of good county roads can only be appreciated by those who have enjoyed the privilege of using them frequently, and the many advantages which accrue to the community through their construction are entirely too many to be enumerated in one short article.

They furnish the avenue of easy communication between the seat of production and the markets permitting the producer to take advantage of the highest prevailing prices, regardless of the year, and also permit him to decide for himself as to how large or how small the load to be hauled may be. It is a common occurrence in and near Charlotte for one horse or one mule to haul six or seven bales of cotton at a load, and this over the same roads where, under former bad condition, the passing of an empty wagon during a wet season would have been very difficult.

Statistics gathered from over one-half of the cotton growing counties show that the average expense of hauling cotton is 16 cents per hundred pounds, or about \$2.75 for a load of three bales. The cost of hauling may be reduced considerably more than one-half by the building of smooth permanent roads, and permitting the doubling of the load to be hauled, thus saving, to the growers of cotton, millions of dollars annually, which would in a short time pay the entire cost of the construction.

Good roads facilitate travel and make easy communication between different part of the county, bringing the merchants into closer relationship with his customers and thereby enabling him to increase his business; they reduce the time and make travel a pleasure, permitting the people of the farm to drive across the county and take advantage of many interesting and entertaining features which take place in the towns and cities; they make possible the prompt delivery of mail all the year and they attract to the county the very best class of immigrants; they contribute to the elevation of the social and educational standards of the com-

munity by furnishing means at all seasons of the year for the people to enjoy the benefits and privileges to be derived from the best educational institutions, and from the intermingling with others in social intercourse.

A short statement as to the manner of construction of the roads about Charlotte may prove of interest. The outfit necessary for the work consists of a portable engine, road machine, crusher, bins, steam roller and revolving perforated boiler plate screen made to run three sizes of stone. Much of the stone is furnished during the quiet season, after the crops have been worked, and is delivered to a certain convenient place along the road.

The roads of Mecklenburg are built nine inches deep, of three sizes of crushed stone. The first layer is of the largest size, about two inches square, which is spread to a uniform thickness of 4 inches and rolled smooth; the next layer, which is of smaller stone, is three inches thick, is carefully spread and rolled, and is followed by the top dressing of the finest screening from the crusher, and spread to a depth of two inches and rolled as the previous layer.

Convict labor has been used here with success, and now the work is practically all done with this kind of labor. The cost of feeding, clothing and guarding the convicts amounts to something like 25 cents per day for each convict.

Under the present management the work of constructing the roads in Mecklenburg county costs from \$1,600 to \$2,500 per mile, according to the amount of grading that is necessary, without including the cost of the bridges. Under the old system which was used some years ago when the road building was commenced, the cost in some cases reached \$4,000 per mile and in no case did it cost less than \$4,500 per mile.

In building roads where the best results are desired, care should be taken to provide good drainage and correct grading, usually a ditch on either side of the road, or, better, a drain under the centre will be satisfactory, and instead of using small wooden bridges, terra cotta or metal culverts will give the best results.

There is no reason why every county in the State should not have good roads. This may be acquired by the application to the best advantage of the materials found in each locality, which contribute to their construction. When people once enjoy the benefits of hard, smooth country roads no money or influence can be brought to bear to create a sentiment toward returning to the old-time condition, and the money necessary to maintain them is paid cheerfully.

### KING.

King, Aug. 6.—Mr. Charlie Campbell's residence was struck by lightning last week but no serious damage was done.

Miss Eva Preston, from Stokesdale, N. C., is visiting Misses Ruby and Daisy White.

Misses Flora Spainhour and Hattie Grabs spent last Thursday with Miss Martha Oliver.

Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Keiger left last week for Greensboro, High Point and other places, where they will visit friends and relatives.

## MR. PETREE REPLIES TO "332."

He Takes It For Granted That He Is the One Whom "332" Was Censuring In His Letter.

Mr. Editor:

In last week's Reporter, some one writing over "332," takes it upon himself to censure belittle and one of the workers in the Farmers' Institutes and the work he is doing in the matter of discussing Tobacco Culture at these Institute gatherings. As no one has been engaged in this particular line of Institute work in this section but myself, I take it for granted that I am the target at which this fellow aimed his sarcastic flings. And, Mr. Editor, I would give the matter no attention, whatever, if your readers knew just who my censorious critic is. But when I remember that not a single year of the last forty has passed without finding me engaged more or less of the time in the cultivation of tobacco, and that I have always been a close observer of the nature and needs of this particular crop, and that in all my talks in the Farmers' Institutes I have been careful to advise only such work and methods in the management of the crop, as long experience has proved to me to be good, I feel like speaking out. For what this would-be-critic has said, is only to discourage the adoption and use of safe and sound methods.

"332" tries to make it appear that I have failed in making a tobacco crop this year. I admit that there is a tenant on our place who has failed on a part of the land he has planted this year, the failure being due to his not having set desirable plants, of which I was not aware until it was too late to apply the remedy. But all who heard my talk in the Institute at Locust Hill Farm, will remember that I called special attention to the planted disease which caused the failure of tobacco on the land above mentioned, and that I said that much of the tobacco this year was suffering from the effects of the disease; and that I tried to make the whole matter serve us all as a lesson by which to avoid the disease and the failures incident thereto, in the future. But just why Mr. 332 should seize the fact that a tenant here has failed in part on his tobacco crop, and then make it a ground for stating as he did, that I had made a failure on my crop, and for criticising me and my work in the Farmers' Institutes, I am unable to understand, unless it was because he was actuated by the spirit of envy and prejudice.

As to my fitness for the work this strippling speaks of, I have only to say that, I suppose the State's Director of the work would not have called me to it last year, and then again this year, had he not judged of my fitness for the place by the work I did in the Farmers' Institutes two years ago. And I wish to say, that, having been called to the work as I was, and realizing that there are so many honest toilers laboring in the tobacco fields, and that it would be a costly waste of time, money and labor, for them to be governed by other methods than those which would give best results, I have felt it a duty to advise no work or plans other than those I honestly and conscientiously believed would be for their good.

Mr. 332, who says he is a farmer, but who skips first from one place to another, sometimes into the towns, and then into the country, and sometimes into one thing, and then another (I will not now state just what) says that two years ago people wrote me from all over the State for tobacco seed, and that I had to go all over the neighborhood to get seed to supply them. Yes, Mr. 332, people all over the State did write me for tobacco seed; and this, in itself, shows that your criticism of my work in the Farmers' Institutes is unjust; for it is evident that the people would not have wanted tobacco seed that had been grown as I grew them, had they not felt the force of what I had said about growing them in that way. As to my going all over the neighborhood for tobacco seed to supply those who had written for them, I will say that when I had sent out all the seed of my own growing, I did send out some seed that some of my neighbors grew; but in no case

did I send out any such seed without telling the parties to whom they were sent that they had been grown by some other than myself. And in no case did I ever charge anything for the seed I sent out only the postage on them; in fact, I often had to pay the postage myself. So Mr. 332 can see that it was not a money-making business with me, as perhaps he thinks. For he talks like he is one of the "outside fellows" who grew the seed I sent out. But I suppose the seed he refers to were some his father let me have to try on my own farm. As it was claimed that these seed were of an earlier kind of tobacco than the kind I was planting, I wished to try the tobacco on my own farm. At that time this father was living in our neighborhood, and, being a clever fellow, he gave me some seed to make the trial; and I don't think that any of them were ever sent out to any one else. No, Mr. 332, I am not running a seed-house, and making big money at your expense.

Now, Mr. Editor, as to whether or not the things this fault-finder has said about me and these matters, amount to anything that is really big as he seems to think, or whether they are conspicuous only because of their littleness, your readers can decide. I could say more about the matter, but for the present, I will spare my critic, and shield him by withholding his name. But in conclusion, I will just add that, in the future, he had better try to keep his own house clean before he attempts house-cleaning for other people.

W. A. PETREE.

### SOME MADISON NEWS.

Rockingham's New Court House Soon To Be Completed--80 Bushels Of Potatoes From Half Acre Land--Other Notes.

The B. F. Smith Construction Co., who have the contract for building Rockingham's new court house, is pushing the work to completion. The building is fully half completed and Col. Davis assured Judge Moore last week that he would have the building completed and ready for occupancy by the November term of court.

The Rockingham Telephone Co. is putting in a complete exchange in Madison. And we think pretty nearly every one is patronizing the company from the number of wires going up.

Ziglar Bros. are digging their famous potato patch; and they will have a yield of 80 bushels of potatoes from an half acre of land. This is equal to 160 bushels to the acre and at 50 cents to the bushels would net \$80 to the acre. This beats raising corn or tobacco as it takes very little labor to raise potatoes.

We are forced to announce to the subscribers of the Herald that there will be no issue of the paper next week. This is caused by the fact that both our printers, Mr. Morrison and Mr. Ware, are members of the Reidsville Militia and were ordered Monday to report next Saturday for duty in order that they might go with their company to the exposition next week. This did not give us time to secure the necessary help to get out the paper, and we hope our friends and patrons will bear with us in this instance and not criticise us for what we could not help.—From the Herald.

Abbott's Creek Baptist Association will begin at High Point on the fourth Saturday in this month. It is learned that reduced rates will be given on the railroads on account of the association.

"REGULAR AS THE SUN" is an expression as old as the race. No doubt the rising and setting of the sun is the most regular performance in the universe, unless it is the action of the liver and bowels when regulated with Dr. King's New Life Pills. Guaranteed by all druggists, 25c.

## SCHOOL TEACHERS SALARIES

FIXED BY THE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION AT A RECENT MEETING FOR THE VARIOUS SCHOOLS OF THE COUNTY.

At a recent meeting of the Board of Education for Stokes county the salaries of teachers in the various school districts of the county were fixed, as follows:

### DANBURY TOWNSHIP.

Dist. No. 1, white race, \$ 30.00  
" " 2, " " " 18.00  
" " 3, " " " 30.00  
" " 4, " " " 30.00  
" " 5, " " " 30.00  
" " 6, " " " 28.00  
" " 7, " " " 18.00  
Dist. No. 1, col. race, 20.00

### MEADOWS TOWNSHIP.

Dist. No. 1, white race, \$ 30.00  
" " 2, " " " 30.00  
" " 3, " " " 30.00  
" " 4, " " " 30.00  
" " 5, " " " 28.00  
" " 6, " " " 30.00  
" " 7, " " " 30.00  
" " 1, col. race, 15.00

### YADKIN TOWNSHIP.

Dist. No. 1, white race, \$ 30.00  
" " 2, " " " 30.00  
" " 3, " " " 28.00  
" " 4, " " " 30.00  
" " 5, " " " 30.00  
" " 6, " " " 30.00  
" " 7, " " " 28.00  
" " 8, " " " 20.00  
" " 9, " " " 28.00  
" " 10, " " " 30.00  
" " 11, " " " 25.00  
" " 12, " " " 30.00  
" " 13, " " " 30.00  
" " 14, " " " 25.00  
" " 15, " " " 28.00  
" " 1, col. race, 15.00

### QUAKER GAP TOWNSHIP.

Dist. No. 1, white race, \$ 30.00  
" " 2, " " " 18.00  
" " 3, " " " 30.00  
" " 4, " " " 30.00  
" " 5, " " " 30.00  
" " 6, " " " 30.00  
" " 7, " " " 30.00  
" " 8, " " " 28.00  
" " 9, " " " 28.00  
" " 10, " " " 30.00  
" " 11, " " " 30.00  
" " 12, " " " 28.00  
" " 13, " " " 28.00  
" " 14, " " " 28.00  
" " 1, col. race, 18.00  
" " 2, Graded, col. race, 5.00

### PETER'S CREEK TOWNSHIP.

Dist. No. 1, white race, \$ 30.00  
" " 2, " " " 30.00  
" " 3, " " " 30.00  
" " 4, " " " 28.00  
" " 5, " " " 30.00  
" " 6, " " " 30.00  
" " 7, " " " 30.00  
" " 1, col. race, 18.00

### SNOW CREEK TOWNSHIP.

Dist. No. 1, white race, \$ 30.00  
" " 2, " " " 20.00  
" " 3, " " " 28.00  
" " 4, " " " 30.00  
" " 5, " " " 30.00  
" " 6, " " " 30.00  
" " 7, " " " 30.00  
" " 8, " " " 25.00  
" " 1, col. race, 18.00  
" " 2, Goin race, 5.00

### BEAVER ISLAND TOWNSHIP.

Dist. No. 1, white race, \$ 30.00  
" " 2, " " " 30.00  
" " 3, " " " 30.00  
" " 4, " " " 30.00  
" " 5, " " " 30.00  
" " 1, col. race, 18.00  
" " 2, " " " 18.00

### SAURATOWN TOWNSHIP.

Dist. No. 1, white race, \$ 30.00  
" " 2, " " " 30.00  
" " 3, " " " 18.00  
" " 4, " " " 30.00  
" " 5, " " " 30.00  
" " 6, " " " 30.00  
" " 7, " " " 28.00  
" " 1, col. race, 18.00  
" " 2, " " " 15.00

Teachers and school committees will please clip this and keep it for future reference.

J. T. SMITH,  
County Superintendent Schools.

### A PRECEDENT.

The Election Of Keeper Stephens As Superintendent Of The County Poor House, Breaks The "Two-Term Resolution."

The action of the Republicans of Stokes county last week in awarding the keeping of the County Home the third term to Mr. W. R. Stephens, might reasonably be considered to be the wedge that has broken the resolution passed by a Republican county convention a few years ago to the effect that no Republican officer in Stokes should hold his position longer than two terms. If the friends of Keeper Stephens were victorious in their contention that he should again have the job that he has held down satisfactorily to them two years, the friends of some of the other incumbents may insist along the same line. And the Reporter is informed that there is considerable sentiment among the Republicans in the county in favor of the principle that what one convention may do is by no means binding on another.

Instructions To School Committees.

Danbury, N. C., July 31, 1907.  
To the School Committee:  
It is your duty to employ and dismiss teachers.

You have no more important duty imposed upon you than the employment of teachers. "As the teacher is, so is the school."

Advertise your meetings a few days before hand, so that the teachers can find out when and where you will meet.

Do not employ any immoral teachers, even though they have a certificate from the county Superintendent. You can sometimes find out the character of the teachers when the Superintendent cannot.

The Board of Education has fixed the maximum salary for every school in the county.

If you think any teacher you are employing is not worth the amount fixed by the Board of Education, then do not pay the amount fixed by the Board, but pay less.

Take into consideration the qualification and experience of every teacher, and place them where you think they will do the best work, regardless of the wishes of anybody.

You can pay first grade teachers the maximum salary, but no more.

Do not make any contract with any second grade teacher for more than \$25.00 per month, because that is all that the law allows them.

Make a written contract with every teacher and send a copy to the County Supt.

Very truly yours,  
J. T. SMITH,  
County Supt. of Schools.