

## About Road Work In North Carolina

### Dr. Joseph Hyde Pratt, the State Geologist, Speaks of the Great Need For State Aid In the Work.

Owing to the vigorous educational campaign conducted during the past five years by the North Carolina Good Roads Association and the North Carolina Geological and Economic Survey, the good roads sentiment has practically become State-wide among the counties and townships. The universality of this sentiment is evidenced in the long list of local road bills enacted by the General Assembly of 1913. Among these there are twenty-seven general county bills providing for bond issues in various sums, aggregating a total of \$6,315,000, of which \$550,000 have already been voted favorably upon or issued by county commissioners in accordance with the provisions of the acts. One hundred and five townships or road districts have been authorized to vote upon \$2,762,500, of which about \$500,000 have already been voted or decided upon by the County Commissioners as provided for in the special acts. Bills have been passed allowing forty-nine townships in seven counties to issue bonds up to a certain proportion of their township property assessment, varying from ten to fifty per cent. In these acts there is a possibility of another million dollars being added to the road fund of the counties and townships.

A general act apply to all the counties of the State, except four, provides that any township can issue bonds not exceeding \$50,000 with interest coupons at not exceeding five per cent, elections to be called by the various boards of county commissioners upon petition of one-fourth the qualified voters of any township (naming the amount of bonds, etc.) and notice of thirty days shall be given thereof. This bill, of course, opens up another source of revenue with large possibilities for road work. In many cases this act may work to the detriment of the construction of good roads in many of the counties of the State. There is no question whatever but that the county should be the unit in road construction and that the townships should not issue township bonds for road work until the county has refused to take up the work and issue county bonds. In that case it is right and proper that the individual township should not be kept back in its advancement on account of the county, but should have the right to issue township bonds. If this act should go into general effect it would mean that the richer townships would build roads at the expense of the poorer townships; and we would have throughout the State disconnected sections of good roads and very few continuous lines of good roads connecting county with county.

So far as has been ascertained, about fifty-five counties have been included in the special acts, and all the counties of the State expect one (Anson) can take advantage of the general act for bond issues for road construction. In other words, practically the entire State is in a position now to provide funds for the building of roads through bond issues.

The Legislature of 1913, however, failed to provide any means whatever for State aid in the wise expenditure of these various funds, which in every case are to be spent by local authorities without the advice and assistance of experienced road-builders, such as the State would be able to employ and furnish on request. And right here is where State aid is most needed, to provide:

1. Competent engineers for

locating roads, giving advice as to their construction, and assisting in the organization of a system of maintenance.

2. Testing materials in various sections and determining their value for road surfacing purposes, and advising the county authorities as to the most suitable and most economical materials for their own particular section.

3. Assisting counties and townships in drawing up specification for contracting certain parts of their road work; as grading, drainage, and in some cases, surfacing.

4. Inspection of completed work, to see if specification have been carried out.

5. Giving advice and assistance to counties in connection with bridge work; helping them to draw up specifications, etc.

Now, a permanently organized State department is necessary in order to develop a corps of engineers. A student just out from college trained in the engineering departments, can work well under more experienced men, and in the end develop into an excellent road engineer, but he is not in a position to take charge of road work at the beginning of his career on leaving college, and he can't develop such ability without working under and coming in contact with more experienced men. Of course county work furnishes no opportunity for such development. The State could employ a certain number of older, more expensive, and more experienced men, and in using them develop the younger men; and thus be able to give to the State the skill that is needed in this most important work.

At the present time there are exceedingly few experienced road engineers in the State, and these are, of course, able to do only a certain amount of work. Now if a township has a bond issue of say \$10,000 to \$25,000 with which to build its roads, it can readily be seen that it would take a good part of this to employ a high priced engineer, which would mean that the number of miles of road to be constructed out of said bond issue would be limited; and yet, if a good engineer is not employed the bond money will not be wisely spent and the roads constructed will not be well built, and most likely a system of maintenance will not be inaugurated to insure the upkeep of the roads after they are built. Thus it can readily be seen that the State, in furnishing an engineer, can be of great assistance to the townships and counties issuing bonds; and the expense to the State for the maintenance of such a corps of engineers would be a great deal less than if each county or township issuing bonds were to each employ an engineer, even if there were enough engineers to go around. It is exceedingly hard for a county or township with a limited amount of money to spend, to secure a good engineer who wants permanent work.

The only remedy which has been found efficacious in other States is in State assistance, and it is quite evident that this is now the most urgently needed provision in connection with the North Carolina road work. The State engineer could readily do the work for two, three, or even four counties. His work would be subject to the approval of his Department, which would be a guarantee of efficient work; local politics would be eliminated in the location of roads (a most important consideration); competent engineers would be avail-

able, whereas at the present time the demand is infinitely greater than the supply; and the chances for the wise and economical expenditure of the \$9,000,000 of bond money now being considered by the various counties and townships increased at least seventy-five per cent.

That the county officials are realizing the need for expert advice and assistance in their road building is a most encouraging sign, and this is all the more reason why the State should meet the demand. At the present time the Geological Survey has twenty-five applications on file for road engineering assistance which it is unable to supply, simply because, with the meager appropriation now given for this work, it is not possible to employ a staff of engineers; and this need can not be met unless the State provides a sum sufficient to meet the needs of such a department.

The great majority of the counties and townships proposing this bond issue are rural and agricultural without large towns or cities, and these would be greatly benefited through a proper and economical expenditure of their road bond; but they will be very greatly handicapped by an unwise expenditure, with poor results, and a debt. It seems to me if the State is to continue as a STATE, and not as a collection of counties and townships, there is no more important or urgent service she can render her individual units than to see to it that these sums of money (representing in many cases a real sacrifice in some of the poorer sections) are properly, efficiently, and advantageously expended; and a State appropriation necessary to do this, or say \$50,000 annually to start with, is very small in view of the immense benefits and savings to the counties and townships which would undoubtedly result.

#### DON'T FORGET

Don't forget that my store is headquarters for low prices on clothing and gents furnishings. I have a big stock to close out at and below wholesale prices. And am getting in lots of goods which will be sold very low. Don't forget that I have moved from the Lewis and Simmons old stand to the W. T. McDaniel stand in front of O. N. Swanson. Come and see me. I will treat you right.

P. E. SIMMONS.  
Pilot Mtn. N. C.

#### Notice of Sale of Capital Stock.

Pursuant to an order of the Board of Directors of "The North Carolina Traction Company," at their last annual meeting, there will be offered for sale at public auction, at the front door of the court house, in Danbury, Stokes county, N. C., on the 19th day of May, 1913, at 12 o'clock M., 26,400 shares of the Capital Stock of the said company now held by Fred L. Hall, J. B. Bartlett, and Joseph Brettler, and of the par value of ten dollars per share. Will be sold to satisfy a delinquent payment thereon of \$3.33, per share.

THE NORTH CAROLINA TRACTION CO.  
J. M. LAYNE,  
Secretary and Treasurer.

#### Farm For Sale.

I have decided to sell my farm of 128 acres, good land, splendid buildings, tobacco barns and outhouses. Will take \$2,300. See me at once. 16apr4t  
C. O. BAKER,  
Meadows, N. C., Route 1.

#### NOTICE.

The Horn Land and Lumber Co. has a nice lot of ear corn for sale at Carter's farm. See Mr. S. M. Nance. Corn will be sold at the market price.  
HORN LAND & LUMBER CO.  
G. E. Horn, Sec-Treas.

**John White & Co.**  
LOUISVILLE, KY.  
Established 1887  
Highest market price paid for FURS  
and HIDES.  
Wool on commission

#### NOTICE!

This is to notify all persons having claims against the partnership composed of W. D. Bennett and S. L. Murray under the firm name and style of Bennett & Murray, that the firm is dissolved by the death of W. D. Bennett, one of the partners of said firm, and that all persons having claims against said partnership which were in existence at the death of said deceased partner, W. D. Bennett, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned, S. L. Murray, who is the surviving partner of said partnership on or before the first day of May, 1914, for payment, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their payment. This partnership did a general mercantile business at Walnut Cove, N. C.

Walnut Cove, N. C., April 21st, 1913.  
S. L. MURRAY,  
Surviving partner of the partnership of Bennett & Murray.  
J. D. HUMPHREYS, Atty. for surviving partner.

#### NOTICE!

Having duly qualified as administrator of the estate of James A. Bostick, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons holding claims against the estate of the said James A. Bostick to present them to the undersigned for payment, duly authenticated, on or by the 10th day of April, 1914, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are respectfully requested to make immediate payment to me.

This the 4th day of April, 1913.  
R. J. PETREE, Admr.  
P. O. Germantown, N. C. R. 1.  
N. O. PETREE, Atty. for Admr.

#### NOTICE.

Having duly qualified as administrator of the estate of G. W. Merritt, deceased, all persons indebted to same will please make settlement of same, and all persons having claims against the estate of the said deceased are hereby notified to present same to the undersigned duly authenticated for payment on or before the 10th day of May, 1914, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

This May 3, 1913.  
D. H. BOYLES,  
Administrator

#### GOOD FARM FOR SALE.

I will sell privately a good farm, consisting of 117 acres. It is situated on a public road five miles from railroad and is adapted to the growth of good tobacco and other crops grown in this section. There is a five room dwelling, good well in yard, also good feed barn, good pack barn containing good basement, also good tobacco barns, plenty of timber for place. For any information desired address  
J. A. SLAWTER,  
Pinnacle, N. C., Route 2.  
Box 12. a29

#### NOTICE

Having duly qualified as administratrix of the estate of W. D. Bennett, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons holding claims against the said estate, to present them to me for payment, duly authenticated, on or by the first day of May, 1914, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said deceased, are respectfully requested to make immediate payment to me.

This 25th day of April, 1913.  
MRS. LOLA BENNETT,  
Administratrix.  
P. O.: Walnut Cove, N. C.  
N. O. PETREE, Atty. for Admx.

#### YOUR CHANCE!

80 acres well improved, with five-room dwelling, nice orchard, good productive soil, level land, 3 miles of Stoneville, \$1800.00.

137 acres 3 miles of Stoneville, three-room house, four tobacco barns, 12 acres creek bottoms, land rolling but extra for tobacco and grain. Lot of timber. A pick-up, \$1500.00.

66 acres of well improved land with four-room dwelling and other out buildings, some bottom land, all level and of best productive soil. An ideal little home with good location. CASH \$1400.00.

If you want one of the above, write me when you will come. They are for quick sale.

B. R. STONE,  
Stoneville, N. C.  
Box 7.

#### Notice of Sale of Real Estate.

By virtue of a decree of the Superior Court of Stokes County, rendered in the case of S. W. Eaton and others against Etta Dorsett and others, being No. 510 of the Special proceedings docket of Stokes Superior Court, appointing the undersigned a commissioner to make sale of the lands of Noah W. Eaton, deceased, I will expose to public sale to the highest bidder upon the terms set forth below, upon the premises in Stokes county, on Saturday, June the 7th, 1913, at the hour of one o'clock p.m. two tracts of land in Stokes county, adjoining M. D. Hamm, T. J. King, John W. Fleming, S. J. Wall, and others, belonging to the estate of Noah W. Eaton, deceased, and bounded as follows:

First tract: Beginning at a rock and pointers on the North bank of a branch, M. D. Hamm's and M. L. Eaton's corner, and runs North 86 1-2 degrees West with M. D. Hamm's line, 26.58 chains to pointers in T. J. King's line, thence South 3 1-2 degrees West with T. J. King's line, 29 chains to pointers, formerly a Spanish oak, Mrs. Louise Eaton's and T. J. King's corner, thence South 86 1-2 degrees East, 11 1-2 chains to pointers, thence North 3 1-2 degrees East, 3.96 chains to a chestnut, thence South, 84 1-2 degrees East, 15.13 chains to a water oak and pointers on the West bank of a branch, thence North, 3 1-2 degrees East, with Hamm's line, 26.91 chains to the beginning, containing 75.73 acres more or less.

Second tract: Beginning at a post oak stump, Mrs. Louise Eaton's corner, called two white oaks in a deed from J. Q. A. King to N. W. Eaton recorded in the Register's office of Stokes county, in Book No. 27, page 392, and runs South 3 degrees West with Mrs. Louise Eaton's line, 23 1-4 chains to a dogwood in S. J. Wall's line, on the top of the stony ridge, formerly a stake, thence North, 89 degrees West with S. J. Wall's line, 2.40 chains to a rock pile and pointers in John W. Fleming's line, thence North, 3 degrees East, with John W. Fleming's line, 23 1-2 chains to a stake, Fleming's corner, in King's line, thence South 86 degrees East, with King's line, 2.40 chains to the beginning, containing 5 6-10 acres, more or less.

Terms of sale: One fourth cash on day of sale, one fourth to be due and payable on the first day of December, 1913, and the remainder to be due and payable on the 7th day of June, 1914, with interest on the deferred payments, at six per centum per annum.

Bond with approved security will be required for the deferred payments. This the 30th day of April, 1913.

THOS. B. SMITH,  
Commissioner.  
N. O. Petree, Atty. for Court.

#### Notice of Sale of Real Estate.

By virtue of decree of the Superior Court of Stokes County, N. C., rendered in the case of S. W. Eaton and others against Etta Dorsett and others, being No. 511 of the Special Proceedings Docket of Stokes County, N. C., appointing the undersigned a commissioner to make sale of the land of Mrs. Louise Eaton, deceased, I will expose to public sale to the highest bidder upon the terms set forth below, upon the premises in Stokes County, N. C., on Saturday, June the 7th, 1913, at the hour of two o'clock, P. M., the following tract of land in Stokes County, adjoining the land of M. D. Hamm, and others, and bounded as follows:

Beginning at pointers, formerly a Spanish oak, T. J. King's corner, and runs North, 86 degrees West, with T. J. King's line, 17 3-4 chains to a post oak stump, called two white oaks in a deed from J. Q. A. King to N. W. Eaton, recorded in the Register's office of Stokes County, in Book No. 27, page 392, thence South, 3 degrees West, on N. W. Eaton's line, 23 1-4 chains to a dogwood in S. J. Wall's line on the top of stony ridge, formerly a stake, thence North, 74 degrees East, with S. J. Wall's line, 6 60-100 chas., thence North 73 degrees East, with said Wall's line, 10 chains, thence North, 71 degrees East, with said Wall's line, 5 chains, thence North, 76 degrees East, with said Wall's line, 4 chains, thence North, 66 degrees East, with Wall's line, 5 chains, to a stake and pointers in Hamm's line, thence North 3 1-2 degrees East, with Hamm's line, 10 3-4 chains to pointers, thence North, 86 1-2 degrees West, 11 1-2 chains to the beginning, containing 48.76 acres, more or less.

Terms of sale: One fourth cash on day of sale, one fourth due and payable, December the 1st, 1913, and the remainder due and payable on the 7th day of June, 1914, with bond and approved security for the deferred payments bearing six per cent interest from day of sale. This the 30th day of April, 1913.

THOS. B. SMITH, Commissioner.  
N. O. Petree, Atty. for Court.

**DR. CHAS. MARTIN**  
Dentist.

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