

THE DANBURY REPORTER

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PIEDMONT TO PILOT MOUNTAIN

BY STOKES RESORTS

Telegram Sent State Highway Commission, Signed By Stokes And Winston-Salem Citizens, Urging Immediate Consideration Of This Road — Project Will Give Employment, Market For Produce, and Develop Watering Places.

A telegram was this week sent to the State Highway Commission at Raleigh urging immediate consideration of the proposed improved road from Piedmont Springs to Pilot Mountain.

This project, which means the extension of No. 268 State Highway from Pilot Mt. through Stokes to Piedmont Springs, where it will intersect with state highway No. 89, is a link of the larger conception of a through highway from Elkin to Leaksville, touching Pilot Mt. the mountain resorts of Stokes Danbury, Sandy Ridge, and Stoneville. No. 268 from Elkin to Pilot is already completed, likewise a hardsurface from Stoneville to Leaksville is built.

The text of the wire to the state road authorities is as follows:

"Danbury, N. C.
January 14, 1935.

"State Highway Commission,
Raleigh, North Carolina

"We urge you give road leaving 89 at Piedmont Springs via Moores Springs, Vade Moore springs, old historic Rock House Pilot Mountain, connecting with highway 268 favorable consideration for immediate surface improvement. This most important project for Stokes county. Development this should lead to immediate improvement of these resorts thereby giving employment and a market for produce, etc., to a community which has suffered most from drought and depression.

"Signed: H. H. Brown, Stokes county commissioner; J. A. Joyce, Stokes county commissioner; W. J. Swanson, Surry county commissioner; O. Q. Snow, Surry county commissioner; J. J. Taylor, Shff.; J. W. Tuttle, Clerk Superior Court; R. L. Smith, Register of Deeds; N. O. Petree, W. G. Petree, Dr. G. E. Stone, Paul T. Taylor, A. R. Phillips, N. F. Pepper, Dr. R. H. Moorefield, Dr. S. F. Tillotson, McK. R. Smith, W. R. Badgett, O. E. Snow, J. A. Pell, I. M. Gordon, John H. Folger, A. D. Folger, R. C. Lewellyn, Earl Dwiggings, O. N. Swanson, W. F. Swanson, N. S. Mullican, R. M. Hanes, R. E. Lasater, A. H. Eller, Chas. F. Norfleter, Robert Gribben, Ray Johnson, R. I. Dalton, Thomas Barber, J. A. Mackie, J. Porter Stedman, A. Clint Miller, Fred S. Hutchens, J. E. Thore, J. B. Arrell, W. A. Collins, S. Gilmer Sparger, J. C. Carson, R. J. Scott, Mrs. Minnie G. Doyle."

FHA MEETING HERE JAN. 21

BETTER HOUSING CAMPAIGN TO BE STARTED IN STOKES — MEETING AT COURT HOUSE NEXT MONDAY TO APPOINT COMMITTEES COVERING COUNTY.

Ralph E. Hollock, of Asheville, field representative of the Federal Housing Administration, was here Tuesday interviewing county citizens with the prospect of putting on a campaign for better housing in the county.

The FHA is a governmental agency which insures up to 25 per cent. loans made by banks or other loaning agencies for the improvement or rehabilitation and furnishing of homes.

Mr. Hollock while here arranged for a meeting to be held at the court house next Monday at 2 P. M., at which an organization will be effected covering the county in the interest of the promotion of these loans. Committees will be appointed in each township, to educate and inform the people with reference to the benefits of this service.

Mrs. Doyle Ill

Mrs. Minnie G. Doyle, county FERA chief, was carried to her apartments at Walnut Cove Wednesday, ill. Mrs. Doyle's condition, while such as to engage the anxious concern of her friends, is not regarded as at all serious.

Real Estate Deals At King—Other News

King, Jan. 16. — Dr. and Mrs. Fred Hauser, of Bland, Va., spent Sunday here the guests of Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Hauser.

Recent real estate deals in King, John Shamel et al to John Southern lot on West avenue, consideration \$110.00, Alvin White to Rengo C. White house and lot on Spruce street \$450.00 and other considerations.

H. McGee, of Germanton, was among the visitors here Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Devey Love, who have recently moved into their new home on Pulliam street were given a shower by relatives and friends Friday evening. They were the recipients of many nice presents.

L. J. Kiser cut an ugly gash in his leg while chopping wood Friday. Dr. R. S. Helsabeck sewed up and dressed the wound.

Mr. and Mrs. George Yelverton, of Greensboro, were week-end visitors to relatives here.

The following births were recorded here last week, to Mr. and Mrs. Leham White, a son; to Mr. and Mrs. Arl Helper, a daughter and Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Covington, twins, a boy and girl.

Norman White has moved into his new home in West View recently completed.

Mrs. Silas Culler and children, of Pinnacle, spent Saturday here the guests of Mrs. Annie Walker.

(An Editorial.)

THE BURDEN ON THE SCHOOL AUTHORITIES

The school authorities of Surry county cannot escape the responsibility which is theirs, nor shield themselves from the certain bitter censure which will descend upon them for sponsoring one of the most serious accidents to school children which has occurred under the State school regime.

The law requires the parents of North Carolina to entrust their children to the hazard of the highways, crowded as they are with tragedies. It is the duty of these officials to whom the safety of the children is given to provide for them safe transportation as far as is in their power.

The question of the safety of the children who are lent to the school authorities by their parents has long been mooted at many a North Carolina fireside. Many parents may be excused when they feel ill at ease to see their boys and girls packed like sardines in a jitney which races down the highways with an irresponsible youngster under the steering wheel.

The evidence in the case of the Pilot near-tragedy discloses serious neglect on the part of the authorities and criminal recklessness on the part of the driver.

The ill-fated bus left the school loaded with 35 students, and steered by a boy only 16 years old, who had less than a year's experience managing the most dangerous machine of the age. He travelled at a fast speed with his priceless freight. This fact is indisputable as the bus hurtled itself 120 feet after striking the wagon, and then jumped a 12-foot stream. As the radiator of the car imbedded itself in the opposite bank of the creek, it could naturally go no further.

The boy driver declares that he was blinded by the sunshine in his face. So much more reason for going slowly, carefully, until he could discern objects ahead. But he went on blindly, not seeing a man on his right until his bus was almost upon him, swerving to the left and not seeing the parked wagon at all.

The school authorities speak in extenuation of the affair. They explain that the boy had a "good record" as a driver. All 16-year-old youths who drive cars are permitted to have good records until they kill somebody with their incompetence and carelessness.

This, which came near to being a tragedy of major proportions, should be a lesson to all school authorities everywhere. Those parents who are hovering around the hospitals where many of the little folks, maimed for life are struggling for their little lives — those parents are justified in their demands for an investigation.

One result of the very unfortunate affair when brought before the state higher-ups in education, as it will be brought before them, should certainly be a ruling that only MEN of experience, of tested sobriety and of mind and conscience should be used as bus drivers.

These buses are carrying every day the most prized possession of the citizens of the State, and their greatest asset—their children. Their safety should be guaranteed.

Taking Over The Post Office

Mrs. A. G. Sisk, who has been appointed post master at Danbury, is this week arranging to take over the office here, and remove the same to her cafe and store.

Methodist Church

Services Sunday, January 21st, as follows:
Pine Hall, 11 A. M.
Forest Chapel, 3 P. M.
The public is cordially invited to these services.

Attorney General Brummit Dies

After a few days of illness with pneumonia, Attorney General Brummit died at his home in Raleigh. His successor it is believed will be A. F. Seawell.

Another School Bus Crash

Accident at North Wilkesboro. Collision between school bus, carrying 42 children, and an automobile. Eight children injured.

FARMER LOANS FOR YEAR 1935

APPLICATIONS MAY BE TURNED IN TO R. O. PALMER AT DANBURY, WHO HAS BEEN APPOINTED AGENT BY PRODUCTION CREDIT ASSOCIATION.

Announcement was received today that R. O. Palmer, of Danbury, has been appointed to take applications for crop and seed loans to be secured from the Winston-Salem Production Credit Association, or through the Federal Loan by the Secretary of Agriculture.

All applications will be tendered to Mr. Palmer, who will be located at the court house in Danbury, and be forwarded to the proper authorities for approval.

Mr. Palmer states that he will be ready to begin taking applications by the 1st of February and urges those who desire loans this year to apply early in order to avoid delay by pressure of applications.

Farm Census To Begin At Once

An enumeration of the 1935 Farm Census will be started within the next day or two. Mr. J. R. Hall, supervisor of Greensboro, N. C., announces that the staff of enumerators throughout Stokes county have been appointed with an exception of one or two townships in which appointments are ready to be made.

This census will include a complete schedule of all crops, live stock, chickens, hogs, timber land, waste land, building, tenants and many other facts relative to operation and maintenance of good farms. Every land owner and tenant will be visited by an agent of the government within the next few days and it is hoped that they will familiarize themselves with all the facts and be ready to answer questions rapidly.

A complete list for the county enumerators is not given but for the benefit of local farmers, it is learned that E. O. Palmer, former assistant to B. P. Bailey, as Register of Deeds, has been appointed for Danbury township.

Folger Introduces Bill

Senator Folger, of Surry and Stokes, takes cognizance of the serious school bus accident near Pilot Mt., last Thursday and introduces a bill. He asks that no person under 25 be allowed to drive a school bus; requiring an all steel body for buses, shatter proof glass, and speed limited to 30 miles.

New Beer Bill

A beer bill is introduced in the General Assembly allowing 4.5 content instead of 3.2.

E. W. Carroll, of Germanton, was here Monday.

32 CHILDREN ARE INJURED

SCHOOL BUS WRECK

It Was All But A Fearful Tragedy When Load Of Students Going Home From Pilot Mountain School Crashed From The Highway Into The Creek—Many In Hospital — Nearly All Will Recover.

Thirty-two Pilot Mountain public school children were injured, one critically and several others seriously, late Thursday afternoon of last week when a school bus, enroute from Pilot Mountain into the Shoals section where most of the children lived, struck a farm wagon and plunged over a culvert and embankment one mile west of Pilot Mountain on Highway 268.

The Mt. Airy Times, whose report of the affair is copied below, says that the wreck, the most serious in the history of the Surry county schools and one of the most serious in the highway annals of Surry county, occurred when the bus, driven by Archie Barker, 16-year-old student driver, cut around a pedestrian on the right of the highway and collided with the farm wagon parked on the opposite side. The bus then got out of control and plunged upward approximately forty yards before leaving the hard surface highway and turning down the fill on the bank of a small creek.

The bus carried a load of thirty-three pupils in addition to the driver, according to the closest check that could be made, and all except two were injured in one way or another. One girl, Minnie Marie Bowen, 14, was reported in critical condition by the surgeons of Martin Memorial Hospital here, where a score of the wreck victims were rushed for treatment. The only ones to escape injury were Joy Flynn, 18, and Norma Lee Logan, 8, one of the smallest occupants of the bus.

The little Bowen girl, a second year high school student, sustained head injuries, fractured ribs and possibly a punctured lung, though the full extent of her injuries had not been ascertained. Six others were reported to be seriously hurt. They were Ozelle Scott, 17, with a fractured pelvis; Buster Martin, 14, lacerated scalp, fractured thigh; Gertrude Marion, 12, fractured pelvis; Margie Chilton, 14, fractured pelvis; Jessie Cooke, 16, fractured pelvis; and Ethel Chilton, 15, possibly a fractured pelvis.

There were ten others under treatment at the hospital, with painful but less serious injuries. They were Oliver Allen, 15, head wound; Clyde Allen, 17, discoloration and fracture of the wrist; Pansy Calhoun, 13, scalp wound; Pernie Logan, 11, scalp wound and cerebral concussion; Tom Hauser, 19, compound fracture

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