

### N. C. RANKS FIFTH IN ROAD BUILDING

Reports Show Expenditure of \$32,588,514 During 1925; Pennsylvania Led the Nation

Washington special of October 28 to Winston-Salem Journal: With the expenditures for roads totaling \$32,588,514 in 1925, North Carolina ranked fifth among the states of the union in the amount expended for highways during the year, according to reports from the various highway departments just compiled by the United States bureau of public roads.

The total expenditure by the state highway department in 1925 for road and bridge construction on the several state highway systems amounted to \$29,125,101, according to the compilation. This North Carolina spent a little over five per cent of the national total.

States spending more money on road construction during the year than North Carolina were: Pennsylvania, \$62,294,355; New York, \$49,368,770; Illinois, \$36,375,983; and Michigan \$36,158,849.

In the south only Missouri with a total of \$31,593,957 and Texas with \$19,985,007 approached the North Carolina total. North Carolina's sister states, Virginia and South Carolina spent \$14,071,555 and \$9,132,953, respectively.

Of the total expenditure in the north during the year 59.6 per cent was spent for road and bridge construction, 18.4 per cent for maintenance, and 23 per cent for materials and equipment. Administrative and engineering costs accounted for 4.7 per cent of the total, interest and principle payments on bonds 7.8 per cent, and miscellaneous expenditures amounted to 6.0 per cent of the total.

### CLEAN FARM BUILDINGS ARE HARD ON BUGS

Raleigh, Nov. 3.—Grain weevils, insect pests and poultry parasites have a hard time making inroads into the farmer's income when all of the out-houses and storage bins are cleaned and disinfected.

"It is always a good plan to clean out the granary or corn crib before sowing the new crop," says David S. Weaver, agricultural engineer at State College. "The farmers know that weevils and other enemies of grain find a welcome refuge in the dirty corners and in the remains of last year's crop. When the grain is cleaned it is 100 per cent free from weevils and other enemies. However, admit rats and rats do considerable damage to stored grain during the winter months. The pests are said to be the most destructive animals in the world and it is a good plan to stop their holes with pieces of tin or some other hard material."

Mr. Weaver is also an advocate of whitewash on the average North Carolina farm. Where the farmer cannot afford to use paint, he can at least give the poultry houses and hog pens a good coating of whitewash. Even the dairy stables will benefit by such an application. This whitewash will keep the quarters free from insect pests and germs when liberal applications are made to the walls.

According to Prof. Weaver spraying the walls is better than brushing it on as the force of the sprayer gets the whitewash into the cracks and crevices not usually reached when it is applied with a brush.

The fall is a good time to attend to these money-saving jobs, states Mr. Weaver.

### KENNIE WAGNER SENTENCE IS LIFE IMPRISONMENT

Meridian, Miss., Oct. 30.—Kinnie Wagner, alleged slayer of five men was sentenced to life imprisonment late today for the slaying two years ago of Deputy Sheriff McIntosh, of Greene county.

The sentence was determined by the jury when in returning a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree it failed to agree upon the punishment, automatically fixing the penalty as life imprisonment.

The verdict came after a trial which, starting Wednesday, hinged upon the testimony of the defendant and two officers. Wagner, the only witness for the defense, testified that he had killed the deputy sheriff in self defense. Prosecution witnesses declared the officers who surrendered the house lodging Wagner after a jail break had not fired until after Wagner shot down the deputy in attempting to escape. They said that Deputy Sheriff McIntosh before he died had definitely identified the man who shot him as Wagner. Other state witnesses told of Wagner's admission to them that he had killed the deputy because he was forced to do so.

### EARLY WINTER JOBS FOR FAMILY GARDEN

There are a few timely jobs in the family garden that will help to make it a better vegetable producing spot in November.

November is a good month to have a general clean-up of the garden. Burn all the diseased plants left and make a compost heap or a manure pile of the refuse which is free from disease. Save the fallen leaves and add these to the compost heap. Plow the unused portion of the garden and leave the upturned soil exposed to the freezing and thawing of winter weather.

"These are all timely suggestions that will help one in having a better garden next year," says E. B. Morrow, extension horticulturist. "It is also easy to add a few more vegetables. If the old asparagus beds have served its day, a few crowns should be set out for a new one. The vigorous one-year-old crowns are best to use and these should be planted in furrows, 8 to 12 inches deep and covered to a depth of three or four inches. In most sections of the state, cabbage plants might be set for an early spring crop. Lettuce seed may be planted in cold frames for early spring heading."

Mr. Morrow states that the cold frames and hot beds need to be repaired ready for early spring use. These two pieces of equipment are essential for good gardening. They are easily made and will more than pay for themselves by permitting the growing of vegetables out of season.

### FRUIT GROWING PROFITABLE IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

Western North Carolina is one of the best localities in the United States for the production of some of the small fruits such as grapes, strawberries, raspberries, sour cherries and damson plums.

George E. Murrell, horticulturist of the Southern Railway system, recently made a survey of conditions in this territory, with special reference to the production of grapes. He reports that the climate, soil and topography of the country could hardly be improved upon for the growing of Concord, Niagara, Catawba and similar varieties. He found that the existing vineyards produce large quantities of grapes of superior quality, and that the soil and climate are ideal for the growing of these fruits.

Mr. Murrell estimates that the cost of preparing the land, planting, fertilizing, cultivating and spraying the first year would be about \$200 per acre, and less when the owner does his own work and pays part from his hands. The best for fertilizing, cultivating, spraying and pruning the second year would be about \$69 per acre, and that the annual cultural cost after the second year would be about \$115 per acre. The third year the vines, under good care, should yield 8,000 pounds per acre, which if sold at five cents per pound would yield \$400 per acre.

So that vineyard cost, plus six per cent interest for the current season, would be secured the third year with an annual prospective profit of \$390 per acre thereafter for many years. As the price per pound of the price received by grape growers at Tryon, last year, the return would be \$754 per acre, or a net yield over the cost for the third year of \$515, but such higher figures require good local demand and could probably not be counted on for a large commercial production.

The above figures are based on selling the grapes as they come from the vine. Very much higher profits may be obtained if a market is developed for grape products. Mr. Murrell shows that 2,160 pounds of grapes from an acre of land would yield 108 gallons of grape juice worth \$125.20, and that, from the grape pulp remaining, by the addition of calculated water and sugar, 952 dozen two-ounce glasses of jelly, worth \$1,142.40, could be made, making the possible gross income per acre \$1,377.60, with the further opportunity of making marmalade from the residue after making jelly and using the skins to make the highest grade of table vinegar.

Mr. Murrell called attention to some of the collateral uses might be made of a grape juice and preserve plant. Raspberries produce profusely in that territory and raspberry marmalade is in active demand. Apple pectin, that can be made from the cull apples now largely going to waste in Western North Carolina, when flavored with raspberry makes a high-grade raspberry preserve which may be sold at a profitable price.

Damson plums, which make a superior preserve, may profitably be grown in this locality as may also sour cherries, both of which would be handled in the grape juice and

preserving plant, thus demonstrating that, under proper management, small fruits of the kinds mentioned may be made highly profitable products of Western North Carolina.

### SHAKERS, ONCE POWERFUL IN OHIO, FADE FROM RELIGION

Lebanon, Ohio, Nov. 1.—Only the epilogue remains to be told of the story of the Shakers, one powerful religious sect.

Less than half century ago the Shakers owned and farmed thousands of acres of the best lands in Ohio, as well as rich tracts in the east. Today, all their Ohio lands are in the hands of others, and the Shakers have gone. The few colonies remaining in the east, at East Canterbury, N. H.; Pittsfield, Mass., and West Albany and Mount Lebanon, N. Y., number but a few dwindling hundreds.

More than a century and a half ago, the adherents of "Mother Ann Lee" came to America from England, and established the first colony of shakers in New York state. Nearly a century and a quarter ago John Meacham, Isaac Bates and Benjamin S. Youngs, missionaries of the new faith, came over the Alleghenies to Lebanon, Ohio, where they set up the banner of the Shakers in the wilderness.

Despite opposition, the new sect grew and became wealthy. The Shakers bought the best land in the region. They were sober, industrious, pious and honest. They abolished marriage and depended upon converts from other denominations or "from the world" to keep up their membership. But they offered the convert little beyond a life of peace and quiet. When a man and his wife joined the sect, all their material possessions passed into the hands of

the church, and the conjugal ties were abolished.

Shakers made their life almost monastic in color. Like monks and nuns they toiled for their church, gave succor to the needy, and maintained the relationship of brothers and sisters. The "pooling" of lands and all resources in the hands of the church made it communistic enterprise.

There was little intellectual life, and education was not encouraged until the later years of the church. The Shakers believed that Adam and Eve were the physical progenitors of men, but that man's spiritual nature sprang from the mythical union of Jesus and Ann Lee.

But the church and communistic colonies founded on these beliefs and practices did not prosper. There were desertions; schisms broke out. Within comparatively few years the membership in Ohio dropped from more than a thousand to the one lone Shaker still in Lebanon, and the total membership in all the colonies in America from more than 6,000 to less than half a thousand.

"Steven, dear," whispered the burglar's bride, as he started on his evening's work, "try to be a little more quiet when you come in tonight."

"Soberly, kid," replied the fond husband. "Did I wake youse up last night?"

"No, but you awoke mother. And I don't want her running up to the penitentiary and complaining to father that I married an amateur."—Legion Monthly.

Customer: "I was told to buy either a casserole or a ramisole and I can't remember which."

Clerk: "Ah! Is the chicken dead or alive?"

### START MOVEMENT TO SURFACE ROAD

Plan to Ask the Highway Commission to Improve Yonahlossee Blowing Rock to Linville

The Lenoir News-Topic of last Thursday says: The proposition of widening and hard-surfacing the Yonahlossee road from Blowing Rock to Linville was discussed here Monday

by Hugh McRae, of Wilmington, and a committee of the Lenoir Chamber of Commerce. Mr. McRae is the majority stockholder in the Linville Improvement Company, owners of the Esceola Inn at Linville. He has for many years taken an active interest in the improvement of the roads and highways in Avery, Caldwell, Watauga and other surrounding counties. The members of the committee who met with Mr. McRae were F. H. Coffey, president Lenoir Chamber of Commerce; Mark Squires, W. J. Lenoir and Chas. M. Sturkey, secretary.

Mr. MacRae discussed the proposition of getting behind a movement to bring before the State highway commission the advantages of making the Yonahlossee a hard-surface highway so as to make it a connecting link between Johnson City, Tenn., and Blowing Rock, Lenoir, Hickory and Charlotte. With the permanent improvement of this road a new short route would be opened up for travel leading from the central states to the southeast. There is a great need for such a route at present, and should it be built the increasing travel during the coming months and years would turn thousands of tourists through Lenoir and other points. It would touch.

Blowing Rock is interested in the plan, and T. H. Coffey and others there have given their assurance that

they will do everything possible to further the plan. The local committee has taken the matter up with the Hickory Chamber of Commerce and a joint meeting of the two bodies will be held in the near future to discuss the importance of the matter.

### FIND DEPOSIT OF CYANITE IN NORTH CAROLINA

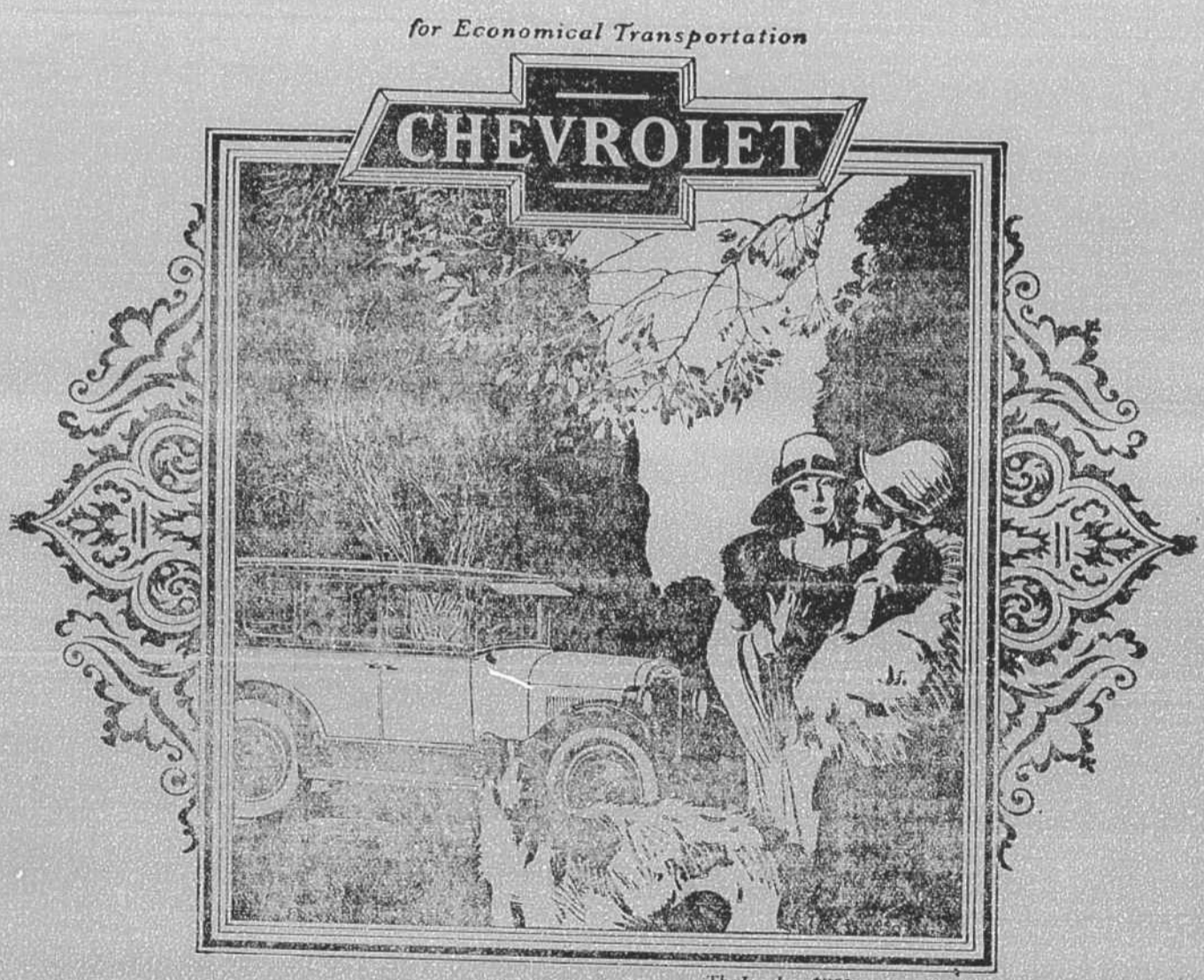
An official report of the reported find of deposits of cyanite near Burnsville in Yancey county, is in course of preparation and any statement on the matter will have to be made by Major Wade H. Phillips, director of the department of conservation and development.

This statement was made last week by former State Geologist Jasper A. Stuckey in confirming reports that he had discussed the possibilities of deposits of the minerals with J. A. Pollard, owner of the land in which the deposits are said to be located.

Dr. Stuckey said he visited the property with Mr. Pollard and located what appeared to be cyanite deposits. He added that he told Mr. Pollard the land appeared to contain several million cubic feet of rock with cyanite deposits which he estimated would range from five to thirty per cent but that the practical value of the deposits depended on "whether they can be concentrated and also test out satisfactorily."

Dr. Stuckey said that he did not believe it proper to discuss the matter as what he had discovered would be reported to Major Phillips who would be the proper person to issue a statement on the matter. Major Phillips who would be the proper person to issue a statement on the matter.

Cyanite, Dr. Stuckey explained, is a comparatively rare substance used for its refractory qualities particularly in electrical insulations.



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