

HIGHWAY COMMISSION IN ANOTHER DILEMMA

Failure of Ferebee Highway Act May Delay Permanent Improvement of Road Between Elizabeth City and Woodville

The Pasquotank Highway Commission is about to face a dilemma which it had not anticipated. The failure of the Ferebee Highway project will mean that Pasquotank county will be confronted with the problem of building a permanent road between Elizabeth City and the Perquimans county line at Woodville. If Pasquotank does not build this road she will be criticised. If Pasquotank does build this road it will probably forever destroy the prospects for a district highway from Albemarle Sound to the Virginia Line via Elizabeth City.

In its road building program Pasquotank had not contemplated improving that important highway between Elizabeth City and the Perquimans line. The Ferebee District Highway Act was supposed to take care of that and Pasquotank would spend her appropriation on other roads.

But there is no probability that the District Highway will be built under the Ferebee Bill. It costs money to build roads. The Ferebee Bill does not provide the money. To begin with, it provides for an issue of only \$500,000 in bonds. But the bill didn't provide a sufficient amount to take care of that amount of bonds. The District Commission has not been able to get a bid on more than \$250,000 of its bonds. And it hasn't sold that \$250,000 yet, since no sale can be considered complete until the money is in hand.

But suppose the \$250,000 is paid in? The proposed road will cost \$1,500,000 according to the estimate of the Chairman of the State Highway Commission. With only \$250,000 to work with the District Highway Commission can not make application for more than \$250,000 of State and Federal Aid.

Now if the District Highway Commission gets \$250,000 from its bonds and if it gets then \$250,000 State and Federal aid, it will have only \$500,000 with which to build a \$1,500,000 road.

There is no way in the world the commission can stretch that \$500,000 to do three times \$500,000 worth of road building. It has been suggested that the Commission go ahead with what it can get and build as much of the road as can be built with \$500,000. But this newspaper does not believe that the five counties in the district will stand for that. Where would the money be spent? Spend it in Pasquotank and the counties of Chowan, Perquimans, Camden and Currituck probably would get out an injunction to restrain the commission from any such folly. Build a part of the road in any county without assurance of completing the road thru the other counties, and those counties not immediately benefited would make themselves heard.

And so here is the situation clearly stated. The Ferebee District Highway will not be built under the present Ferebee Bill. Another session of the General Assembly will have to come around to enable Senator Ferebee and his legal advisers to improve upon their original effort.

But in meantime Pasquotank will proceed to build her own roads, as far as she can build with her present appropriation of \$500,000. The question which will presently confront the Pasquotank Highway Commission will be whether to build the road from Elizabeth City to Perquimans, which is the Pasquotank link of the proposed District Highway? If Pasquotank builds this link, will Pasquotank tax payers come in on another district highway project? It is not hard to answer this question, since Pasquotank will have to pay four sevenths of the cost of such a project under the Ferebee plan.

This newspaper is frank to advise the several counties embraced in the Northeastern North Carolina Highway District to bestir themselves and look to their own road building, not banking too much upon a district development that now seems far in the future.

NOTICE TO STREET LIGHTING COMPANIES

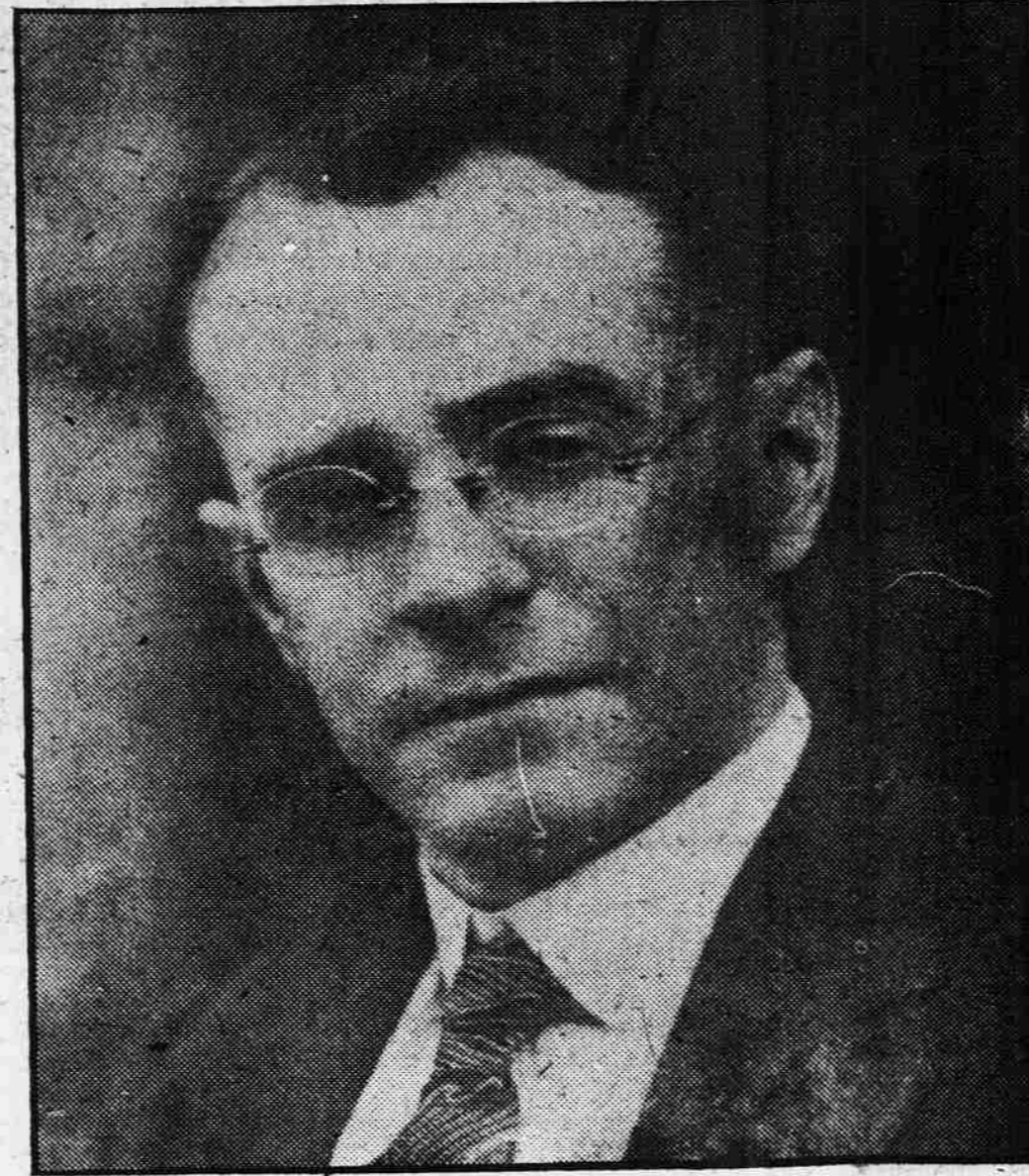
Sealed bids will be received by the City Manager of Elizabeth City, N. C., until 12 Noon, Tuesday, July 29th, 1919 for the street lighting of the City on a one, three or five year contract. Bidder must state price per lamp and candle power which he agrees to maintain for each style of lamp. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids. July 17th, 1919.

FRED W. SIMONDS, City Manager.

"THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS"

The only official and authentic treatise of The League of Nations, a book of 192 pages, large type. 50c per copy. By mail 4c extra for postage. Supplied by THE INDEPENDENT, Elizabeth City, N. C. upon receipt of price.

You Just Can't Keep A Kramer Down



HERE then is a Saunders' snapshot photo of one of Elizabeth City's most useful citizens, H. G. Kramer, President of the Elizabeth City Chamber of Commerce and Cashier of the Savings Bank & Trust Co. Mr. Kramer is President of Group 1 of the North Carolina Bankers' Association and is Executive Committeeman of the state organization for this district. He is in line for the presidency of that association.

TICKS ARE KILLING OFF FOREMAN BROS. HERD

Aberdeen Angus Cattle Brought to this City From Texas to Start Stock Farm

Tick fever has gotten into the fine herd of Aberdeen Angus cattle which the Foreman Bros. Stock Farm brought to this city from Texas last fall. Nine have died, including the best bull in the herd and it is feared that 85 to 90 per cent of the herd will be wiped out by the disease.

There were 91 animals in the original herd; a number of calves this summer brought the herd up to 192. The cattle were bought as tick immune and were so represented to the Foreman Bros. by government agents who superintended the purchase for them. But if immune to ticks in Texas they are not immune to the free range tick of this particular corner of the Old North State.

The Foreman Bros. have had great plans for a stock farm at Elizabeth City. They own several thousand acres of outover woodland just beyond the city limits and they purposed to establish a pretentious stock and dairy farm on this property. What effect their present experience will have on their plans remains to be seen; but it is certain they do not feel encouragement. You just can't raise blooded live stock in a tick infested free range country.

60 AND GOING STRONG

Capt. John Sawyer, about 60 years old, was convicted of immoral relations with Ethel Parker, who gives her age as 16 years, in police court Tuesday morning. Sawyer was given 3 months on the roads, and the girl was sent to a reformatory for one year. Sawyer noted an appeal, and was placed under \$100 bond for his appearance at the next term of Superior Court.

PLAN TO TEACH WHOLE TOWN HOW TO SWIM

Secretary V. R. Gilmore of the local Y. M. C. A. will launch a campaign to teach everybody in Elizabeth City how to swim during the week beginning Monday, July 21. Health authorities and physical culture experts everywhere agree that swimming is one of the very best ways for people to take exercise, since it brings into play every muscle in the body, but not strenuously enough to tire the swimmer unduly.

The water wings method will be used, as Secretary Gilmore points out, the most satisfactory way to teach beginners how to swim. As soon as the novice learns the rudiments of the water sport, the water wings will be taken away from him. Thus the danger of too much dependence upon the latter will be eliminated.

Mrs. Gilmore will have charge of the girls, and the swimmers-to-be will line up in the water, while the directors will stand upon the bank with long, rubber-tipped poles, will instruct them how to proceed to swim. When one of the student swimmers makes a mistake, he will be tapped with the director's pole, and the proper sort of motion explained to him. Since there are many persons young and old in this city who have not learned to swim, these free lessons by experts are expected to draw large crowds to the river shore.

RETURNS TO CIVIL LIFE

H. C. Forehand, of South Mills, is home again after two years at Langley Aviation Field as Road and Sewer Engineer for the Department of Military Aeronautics. Mr. Forehand will resume the practice of civil engineering, giving special attention to farm drainage problems.



HE IS ELIZABETH CITY'S OLDEST NEWSPAPER MAN

Might Have Been Wielding the Pen To-Day If He Hadn't Got Hold Of a Sword in '61

The oldest newspaper man in Elizabeth City is Mr. M. B. Culpepper. You didn't know that, did you? Mr. Culpepper, born Oct. 23, 1848, now 75 years old, was writing locals, sticking type and carrying papers for The Old North State, a weekly journal of the Albemarle Region, published in Elizabeth City before the Civil War.

Mr. Culpepper remembers that The Old North State was a journalistic power in its day, but its total paid subscription list in the city amounted to less than 100. More copies of THE INDEPENDENT are now sold on the streets of Elizabeth City every week say nothing of the paid subscribers of this newspaper.

The Old North State was printed on an old Washington hand press. The type setting machine had not been invented and the paper was not big enough to require machinery for folding and mailing, as is required by THE INDEPENDENT.

The editor of The Old North State was General Wm. E. Mann, commander of the State Militia in this section of the State bought by the Albemarle Sound and the Virginia state line, and then known as the Albemarle Region. In fact this section of the State was still called the Albemarle Region when THE INDEPENDENT was established in 1908.

THE INDEPENDENT was established in 1908. THE INDEPENDENT insisted that the name had lost its historical significance and began calling this section "northeastern North Carolina." And now everybody, including Solicitor Ehringhaus, calls this section North Eastern North Carolina. Which shows that a newspaper does create public opinion without the public even suspecting that it is having its opinions and traditions upset. Once upon a time this newspaper decided to make a Colonel of Isaac M. Meekins. This newspaper began calling him Col. Meekins and now he is known as Col. Meekins from one end of the land to the other.

It would be interesting to know more about The Old North State and its publisher. Mr. Culpepper says the paper suspended at the outbreak of the Civil War and the editor, Genl. Mann gathered an army of 600 men from the counties of Chowan, Perquimans, Pasquotank, Camden and Currituck. Mr. Culpepper, then a devilish, rollicking, tough, stringy, hard drinking, hard hitting stripling of 18, enlisted with the army. The army was sent to Roanoke Island, leaving Elizabeth City and section to the women and children and no one to look out for the women and children. Genl. Mann saw the mistake and rode all the way from Elizabeth City to Raleigh, in a horse drawn sulky, to get permission from Governor Vance to transfer part of his forces to Elizabeth City for a season. This Governor Vance consented to do.

This newspaper isn't quite certain what became of Genl. Mann, but Mr. Culpepper, whose picture heads this little human interest sketch, is living hale and hearty, and to-day holds down the registry and money order division of the Elizabeth City post office. And there isn't a man of any age in this good old town who writes a more firm or beautiful hand than M. B. Culpepper at the age of 75.

The accompanying picture is from a snapshot photo by W. O. Saunders.

ALL DONE IN A DAY

Out of town people who come to Elizabeth City for eye glasses can have their eyes tested, glasses made and fitted the same day by Hathaway service. No need to wait a week for some one to order glasses for you. I have my own grinding plant and not only prescribe the glasses you need but make and fit them on the premises. It saves a lot of time as well as lot of middlemen's expenses.

DR. J. D. HATHAWAY
Optometrist
Phone 999 Bradford Bldg.

A 15 FOOT ROAD COSTS LITTLE MORE THAN NINE

Estimates Compiled by Pasquotank Highway Engineer May Have Effect of Silencing Advocates of Narrow Roads For This County

BIG PRIZES FOR STATE FARMERS

North Carolina State Fair Has Pretentious Plans For October Meet

At the Fifty-eighth North Carolina State Fair, to be held in Raleigh on October 20 to 25, the Fair Association is planning to give away over \$1500 in prizes to farmers making the best display of field and garden crops. One thousand dollars of this money will be awarded for county exhibits made under the supervision of the county agent of the Agricultural Extension Service, or someone else who has been authorized by the County Board of Commissioners.

As it now stands, at least four counties have signified their intention of competing for this prize money. The additional sum of \$500 will be distributed in premiums for the best collected agricultural exhibit by any individual farmer in North Carolina. In this case, all the products exhibited must be grown on the exhibitor's own farm. Farmers who are interested in sharing in the prize money should communicate at once with J. E. Fogue, Secretary of the Fair Association, requesting a catalog which will give all of the necessary information.

The North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service is co-operating heartily with the officers of the association in an effort to secure creditable exhibits this fall. Officials of the State Department of Agriculture and State College will be on hand at the Fair continuously during the week in looking after the agricultural exhibits. This in itself will add much to the educational value of the Fair.

In addition to the prize money, the State Fair also has promised one of the most wonderful exhibits ever brought into North Carolina. This exhibit will be put on by the Government, under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture, the War Department and the Navy Department. Nothing with a greater instructive value could possibly be offered than this gigantic display, being as it is a graphic illustration of modern warfare and of improved agricultural methods. This exhibit, together with the large amount of prize money, is making the State Fair more interesting this year than ever before.

The county winning first prize in its display will be awarded \$300 in cash; the second premium is \$200; the third \$150; the fourth \$100; and the next five will be awarded \$100; the second \$75; the third \$50 and the next 11 \$25 each.

COSTS MONEY TO GET A POP BOTTLE CLEAN

But One Elizabeth City Bottling Plant Pays The Price And Has Clean Bottles

The Elizabeth City Coca-Cola Bottling Works has just installed a remarkable piece of machinery that should interest consumers of bottled beverages. The new machine automatically washes, sterilizes and rinses 200 bottles a minute. And the machine gets the bottles clean, hygienically clean.

The new machinery cost several thousand dollars to install and is the last word in bottling sanitation. Bottles arranged on a traveling chain pass thru hundreds of gallons of hot water containing a strong disinfectant which is automatically injected into each bottle. Each bottle is then automatically rinsed and it is claimed that seven gallons of water are injected into every bottle during its passage thru the machine. Dirt, flies, bugs, germs or foreign matter of any kind can not escape. The bottles pass directly from the machine to the bottlers without having time to pick up more dust or germs.

In a display advertisement in this newspaper, Mrs. Margaret Dawson Owens, manager of the Elizabeth City Coca Cola Bottling Works extends a cordial invitation to the public to visit the machine and see how their goods are bottled.

M. LEIGH SHEEP CO. HOLID TO ESTABLISHED CUSTOM

M. Leigh Sheep Co. Elizabeth City's woman's wear store, publishes this week their final announcement concerning their July Clearance Sale. The July Clearance Sale is an annual event with this store and not even a threatening shortage of merchandise influences Mrs. Sheep to depart from a custom which has helped so much to popularize his store with the feminine. Women seeking bargains in woman's wear of every description will make no mistake in taking in the July Clearance Sale at M. Leigh Sheep Co. The reductions are genuine. This newspaper has always found goods and prices at M. Leigh Sheep's ju" as advertised.

Everybody interested in good roads — and almost everybody everywhere is interested in good roads these days — will find much of interest in a bunch of estimates that will be submitted to the Pasquotank Highway Commission today by County Road Engineer Thos. L. Higgs. Engineer Thos. L. Higgs. Engiquotank county can build her own roads at \$5,000 a mile less than the same roads would cost if built by contractors.

The Pasquotank Highway Commission recently rejected bids on nine miles of road to be built between Elizabeth City and Weeksville, a distance of nine miles. The lowest bid for concrete was \$3.13 a square yard. The lowest bid for vitrified brick on a concrete base was \$4.27 a square yard. Engineer Higgs submits estimates today to show that Pasquotank can build the same roads at \$2.85 a square yard for concrete and \$3.10 a square yard for vitrified brick.

But the biggest surprise in Engineer Higgs' figures is the difference in the cost of a 9 foot road and 15 foot road. A 15 foot concrete road, according to his estimate, will cost \$225,853.22 for the 15 miles, or \$25,092.65 per mile. A nine foot concrete road will cost \$188,494.95 for the nine miles, or \$20,943.88 per mile. There isn't a very considerable difference between the cost of the two roads.

The type of concrete road upon which the estimate is based is a monolithic construction seven inches thick in the center, tapering to five and a half inches on each side.

The type of brick construction estimated calls for a three inch vitrified brick on a three inch concrete base and grouted with cement. A 15 foot road of this construction, nine miles long, will cost \$245,516.05, or \$27,279.56 a mile. A nine foot road of the same construction would cost \$224,599, or \$22,723 per mile. The total difference in the cost of a 15 foot road of this type over a nine foot road would be only \$20,929.00 or not enough to build an additional mile of road.

If Engineer Higgs' estimates are found to be correct, (and there is no occasion to question them), then the advocates of nine foot roads in this county may find themselves silenced. Lots of folk would rather have 15 miles of nine foot road than 10 miles of 15 foot road. But hardly one will be found who will prefer 10 miles of nine foot road to nine miles of road fifteen feet wide.

In his estimates today Mr. Higgs advises the Highway Commission not to seriously consider nine foot roads of concrete construction. He says he would not recommend anything but brick for such a road and he unhesitatingly recommends brick for abrasive strength, beam strength, all around durability and low cost of upkeep. But when he recommends brick he speaks of brick laid on a concrete base and filled with a cement binder.

The money from the sale of the \$500,000 bond issue is expected to be available at an early date and no time will be lost in getting construction under way. The Highway Commission does not expect to get more than ten or twelve miles of road built this year. It will undertake the construction of more mileage next year and if they make good there is a possibility that the county will take advantage of the special session of the General Assembly next summer to secure an additional bond issue to enable the commission to build more miles of permanent roads. At the present prices of material and labor the commission will not get very far with its present fund of \$500,000.

NEGROES OF AMERICA MAKE KNOWN 9 THINGS WANTED

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored Peoples, at its annual convention recently adopted a platform of what the Negro wants. There are nine planks in the platform and here they are:—

1. A vote for every Negro man and woman on the same terms as for white men and women.
2. An equal chance to acquire the kind of an education that will enable the Negro everywhere wisely to use his vote.
3. A fair trial in the courts for all crimes of which he is accused, by judges in whose election he has participated without discrimination because of race.
4. A right to sit upon the jury which passes judgment upon him.
5. Defense against lynching and burning at the hands of mobs.
6. Equal service on railroad and other public carriers. This is to mean sleeping car service, Pullman service at the same cost and upon the same terms as other passengers.
7. Equal right to the use of public parks, libraries and other community services for which he is taxed.
8. An equal chance for a livelihood in public and private employment.
9. The abolition of color-hypenation and the substitution of "straight Americanism."