THE BEST COUNTY IN THE STATE

WHAT THE RURAL TELEPHONE IS ABOUT TO ACCOMPLISH IN GEORGIA.

Practically every home in Hancock County, Georgia, will be equipped with a telephone when the plans of the Sparta, Ga., merchants are completed. The farmers are co-op. erating with their progressive city neighbors in bringing about this improvement. It will be of inestimable value, both to the rural residents and to the merchants. The universal spread of the rural telephone has per haps never shown a more striking result.

It will be the best of phones, too that this up-to-date community wil have installed. The central exchange at Sparta is an adjunct of the Southern Bell Telephone Company, which, like all other Bell lines, is equipped with the latest improved appliances of the Western Electric Company, the largest manufacturers of telephones and telephone appar. tus in the world. This company has already equipped many rural lines in the country surrounding Sparta.

services means the annihilation of may have his home at the extreme end of the county, but he will be able to talk to his brother in Sparta with as little trouble as if the two lived on opposite sides of the same road. Business men whose rural neighbors furnish them trade will their finger-tips. It is difficult to esof money, to Hancock County.

The Atlanta Constitution recently commented editorially on the subject, under the heading Getting in. to communication, as follows.

Hancock County has taken a step in the direction of progress which others will do well to employ as a pattern.

Instigated by the enterprising citizens of Sparta, there has been set in motion a project which will soon put a telephone into practically every farmhouse in Hancock.

Realizing the importance, not only to the farmers, but to the business interests of Sparta, of such a system of communication covering practically the entire county. Sparta business men raised a fund for the purpose of building rural telephon e lines and bringing them into connection with the city system.

From this fund approximately half of the expenses of constructing the lines ewill be paid, farmers paying the other half and cost of installing their telephones

It is, therefore, purely a local enterprise, which has for its ob. ject intercommunication of the entire county in general, and centralizing the county's business at the county seat, in particular.

Both the citizens of Sparta and the farmers of Hancock are making a good investment; the farming interests will do their trading at home, instead of going into the adjoining county.

But aside from that, the per ple of the whole county will be brought, socially and commercially, into closer harmony and unity. They will have at hand means of rapid communication, not only among themselves, but with the outside world.

The value of the rural telephone is not problematic; it has been demonstrated and its proven proven worth is vastly more than its small cost.

Hancock County has gone about it in the right way.

It will result not only in material advantage to the individ. ual citizens of the county but in broadening of view and of sphere of activity which are important community assests.

There should be no county in the State without its rural teiephone service.

It is not only an indication of progress, but it is a positive factor in continued advancement and growth.

Spartans are already boasting that when the imp:ovement is completed they will have the best county in Georgia.

A fund of \$500 has been raised to aid farmers in purchasing the necessary equipment for telephone lines, to be built into the city and connect with the telephone exchange there. The committee in charge of raising the fund met with every possible encouragement, and it was declared at the time that an additional \$500 could be easily raised if needed. Seldom has any movement been given such an enthusiastic recep. tion. The farmers in the section around Sparta were intense in their desire to secure telephone service in the home and eliminate the burden of isolation.

In less than a month after the The installation of a county wide fund was raised plans were made for the construction of several telephone all distances in Hancock. A farmer lines, and almost one hundred telephones were added to the system. Inquiries came to the committee from all sections of the county, and the movement is yet in its infancy.

The matter was taken up by the city early last March, when a number of enterprising citizens realized have every customer practically at that if the farmers' homes were connected with Sparta by telephone timate just how much this improved it would result in centralizing their ment will mean, expressed in terms interests in that city and would in. sure business that might otherwise go elsewhere. It meant a great deal to the business men in the city and to the farmers. A mass meeting was called, and a committee appointed to the course of a few hours \$500 was raised. A second mass meeting was called, and the following section was reported:

The committee, consisting of May-

or J. D. Bennett, W. H. Burwell, M. L. Duggan, George White, Robert Holmes and R. E. Wheeler, appointed to solicit subscription from the business houses of Sparta, to be collected as needed, having report. ed that they had raised \$500, it was ordered that said sum be paid out on approval of said committee to enccurage and aid in the construction of farmer's telephone lines to be connected with the Central Exchange at Sparta and leading along approved routes in the county at the rate of \$10 per mile. I is understood that amounts so paid out on lines approved by said committee, are to be in the nature of a bonus to such lines for the purpose of encouraging For that's what French was made a systematic rural telephone system

centering at Sparta. Faremers' telephone lines garely cost more than \$25 per mile, so that the bonus of \$10 per mile is an important item. A prominent citizen in discussing the matter declared that I love the words perhaps because the action of the city marked an epoch in Georgia, and was one of the most progressive steps ever taken by a southern city.

The telephone is as essential to the farmer as to the business man in the city, he said. The lines in rural districts are a sign of progress and prosperity. The time when it was necessary for the farmer to waste time driving to the city to attend to rifling maters, and when the farmer's wife was isolated from neighbors and friends, is past. Mod. ern science has made it possible for the farmers to have efficient tele-

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D. W. NEWSOM, Registrar, Durham, N. C.

phone service in his home at such low cost that there is no reason why every progressive farmer should not have a telephone in his home.

POPLAR BRANCK

Popular Branch, Aug 9,-Our farmers are very busy digging sweet potatoes and shipping them to Northern markets. So far they have been selling for a good price.

Our corn crop has been cut off one-half by the heavy rains during June, July and so far in August.

One of our old friends, Mr. Wm. Bray of Currituck has been in our town for the past week. It seems that everybody was glad

to shake hands. Come again Wm.

Mr Joseph Baum of Palmer 1sland Club is over to spend a night with his son.

Mr. T. G. Poyner of this place died about ten days ago.

Mr. W. A. Doxey and G. W. secure subscriptions t othe fund. In Twiford took a trip to Norfolk last week and report having a good time.

> The Wedding Bells are ringing loud. Mr. Hines it is stated will wed Miss Bettle Jones, Sept 1st.

> We are sorry to hear that Mr. Mark Gregory is going to leave us He is going to move to Virginia.

GOODBY! GOD BLESS YOU! like the Anglo-Saxon speech When I was leaving mother It takes a hold and seems to reach Way down into your feelings That some folks deem it rude I

know And therefore they abuse it, But I have never found it so, Before all else I choose it. I don't object that men should air

The Gallic they have paid for With Au revoir, Adieu, ma chere

But when a crony takes your hand At parting to address you He drops all foreign lingo and

He says: Gooddby! God bless you!

When I was leaving mother Standing at last in solemn pause We looked at one another

And I-I saw in mother's eyes The love eternal as the skies, Whatever fate befell me,

She put her arms about my neck And soothed the pain of leaving, And, though her heart was like to break,

She sqope no word of grieving. She let no tear bedim her eyes, her For fear that might distress me; But kissing me, she said goodby And asked our Gord to bless me.

-Engene Field.

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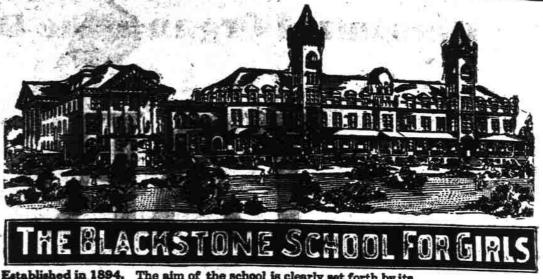
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This is to advise that commencing TUESDAY JUNE 1st, 1909 Sleeping Car Service will be inaugurated. between Greensboro, N. C. Morehead City and Beaufort. N. C. on the following schedule.

Sunday	C	nly	Daily.	Ex	Sun.	Da	ly Ex	S	un.	Sunday	01	ıly
12.45						Greensboro (So. RyA	6.00	a	m	6.00	a	m
2.50						Durham (So. Ry.)A				3.19.	a	m
4.30						Raleigh (So. Ry)A				11.59	p	\mathbf{m}
6.30						Goldsboro (So. Ry)L				9.45	p.	m
7.00						Goldsboro (N. & S. Ry)A				9.15	p	\mathbf{m}
8.00						Kinston (N. & S. Ry.)L				8.15	p	m
9.20						New Bern (N. & S. Ry)L				7.00	p	m
10.50						Morehead City (N. & S. RyLy				5.35	p	\mathbf{m}
11.15	a	m	11.25	a 1	n Ar	Beaufort (N. & S. Ry)L	5.15	p	m	5.115	p	m
, 10, 100 to 100 to												

West Bound Wilmington, N. C. Section 1. Goldsboro, N. C. Sections 2 and 3 Beaufort, N. C. Sections 4 and 5 Morehead City, N. C. Drawing Room and Sections 9 and 10 Raleigh, N. C .- Balance of Space.

ASSIGNMENT OF SPACE

East Bound

Charlotte, N. Co Sections 1 and 2.

Salisbury. N. C. Section 3

Greensboro, N. C .- Balance of Space.

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Rates for seats in Parlor Car will be as follows, which is in addition to regular first-class fare. For Distance of Seventy-five (75) miles and under, Twenty-five cents For Distance of over Seventy-five miles, Fifty (50) cents. Tickets should be purchased from train conductor.

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Agents and Representatives will please give the above all possible publicity. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1st 1909-ISSUED MAY 24TH, 1909

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