

Proposed Legislation For Robeson

Rural Policemen Must Give Strict Account of Work and May be Increased to Six—May Provide for Election of Auditor—Two Women Will be Added to Board of Education—Home Demonstration Agent Safe—Abolish A. and F. Board of Lumberton.

NO COUNTY DIVISION FIGHT AT THIS SESSION

Raleigh, Feb. 9.—Not more than 6, nor less than 4, rural policemen, in the discretion of the county commissioners each policeman to make report monthly showing in detail his activities for each day of the preceding month, showing where he was and what he was doing each day, dependent on fees for any salary above \$100 the month, employed by the county commissioners and subject to removal by them for "good cause"; increase the membership of the county board of education from three to five, the two new members to be women; make the county auditor subject to nomination and election by the people; extend the corporate limits of the town of Fairmont; abolish the board of audit and finance of the town of Lumberton and place its duties upon the town clerk and treasurer—these are the local measures that Robeson county's members have decided to put through the General Assembly or are seriously considering with the chances in favor of decision to put through.

That is, those are the measures not heretofore mentioned in The Robesonian. As has been stated in this paper, Senator Varsler introduced last week a bill to abolish the office of county welfare and place the duties of school attendance officer upon the county superintendent of schools without extra compensation, the county commissioners having the discretion of sounding out public sentiment and reestablishing the office. The county superintendent is now paid \$100 the month for this work.

Home Demonstration Work Safe.

Opposition to that office has died down to less than a whisper. Indeed, like the report of Mark Twain's death, report of opposition to that office was greatly exaggerated at first. Letters have been pouring in to Senator Varsler in regard to this work, and he thinks that about 90 per cent of his letters give hearty endorsement. Endorsement of farm demonstration work is not so hearty nor so nearly unanimous, still Senator Varsler thinks that about 60 per cent of the letters he has received from citizens of the county favor continuing this work also. Home demonstration work is safe in Robeson so far as action by the county's present members of the Legislature is concerned. If the farm demonstration office still hangs in the balance the balance seems to incline now toward continuing it.

Elect County Auditor

There is considerable sentiment in the county, as expressed to the members of the Legislature, in favor of making the county auditor subject to nomination and election by the people, instead of being appointed by the county commissioners. It is altogether likely that a bill will be introduced to provide for that.

Can't Elect Superintendent of Schools

Representative McArthur wants to provide also for election of county superintendent of schools by the people instead of by the county board of education, but it seems that that cannot be done. Dr. E. C. Brooks, State Superintendent of Schools, advised The Robesonian that a man professionally qualified for this office cannot be nominated and elected by the people, so it seems that any movement in that direction is already taken care of.

Sanitary Inspector Highest Paid Officer.

Close inquiry, with a view to taking whatever action seems advisable is going to be made into the office of sanitary inspector. Some information regarding the remuneration this officer receives astonishes the county's law makers. They have been given to understand that in salary and fees this officer takes down the handsome pay of \$400 a month, which is more than the high sheriff or any other officer of the county receives. His salary is \$150 and fees for inspection of privies, etc., amount to enough to make \$480 the year, according to information coming from a reliable source. There is no particular objection to the office, but it is felt that either the salary or the fees ought to be cut off.

Tax Revision

Of course the thing that every citizen is now more vitally and vociferously interested in than anything else is revision of the valuation of property. A joint session of the Senate and House finance committees was held in the Senate chamber yesterday afternoon. Senator Varsler is chairman of the Senate finance committee. A cloud of witnesses appeared, packing the chamber to overflowing, and what farmers and others from all parts of the State told the committees was an earful. Some argue that a flat reduction of, say, 40 or 50 per cent, would give the desired relief, but

A Baby Still

Not Meaning a Baby Yet but a Diminutive Outfit for the Manufacture of the O be Mournful—This Here Plant is a Pocket Edition and May be Pulled Before It Was Ripe.

The baby whiskey still can be seen at the office of Sheriff R. E. Lewis. It was found by the riverside in the southern part of town Tuesday by Mr. John Roach. The plant is a 1-gallon 1921 model outfit, and as one admirer said, "It appears to have been pulled before it was ripe." It is a vest pocket edition. The still proper is made of a small powder can, the cap off the hub of a Chevrolet auto being used as a cap for the still and a Ford feed pipe being used for a worm while a small Karo syrup bucket is used as a cooler. It's a dandy outfit and it is thought was used in connection with a cook stove. The owner is not known by the officers. The still has the smell of the "old familiar."

Road Board Cuts Salaries

Road Supervisors' Salaries Reduced—Contract Let for Road Through Gallberry.

The salaries of the various township road supervisors were cut by the county road board at its regular monthly meeting Monday. The salaries in all the townships where bonds have been voted, except Lumberton and Maxton, were cut to \$125 the month. The salaries varied heretofore. The salary in Lumberton township was reduced from \$166.66 to \$150 and in Maxton township from \$200 to \$175 the month. In townships where bonds have not been voted the supervisor will receive \$3 per day for time worked. Contract was let to J. T. McRainey for building a road through Gallberry swamp in Parkton township at \$245 per mile. Other business transacted was routine.

Others argue, and they undoubtedly have the best of the argument, that a flat reduction would not give the relief sought, for it would still leave inequalities and that is the thing above all others that it is desired to avoid.

The committees did not indicate at the close of the hearing, which lasted 4 hours, closing at 7 p. m., what action they would take, but it seems probable that Senator Varsler's bill, the provisions of which were given in a recent issue of The Robesonian, will be passed, with some changes, very likely, but substantially as drawn by him. (This bill is published in full elsewhere in this issue.)

If by any chance a State-wide measure for revision should fail to pass, then Senator Varsler will offer a bill to give relief to Robeson county. Mr. George L. Thompson of Lumberton probably will be named to supervise the revision in Robeson. There seems to be more persistent demand for his appointment than for the appointment of any one else. He is a large land-owner and is regarded as fair-minded and well qualified in every way to place a fair and equal valuation on all property.

Rural Police Measure

Senator Varsler Monday night offered a measure amending the act of the last General Assembly relating to rural policemen of Robeson. It provides that there shall be not less than four nor more than six rural policemen, that the salary shall not be more than \$100 plus fees, and that each policeman shall make monthly reports whereby the county commissioners may check up the work.

On the first Monday in March, this year, and annually thereafter on the first Monday in January, the county commissioners shall, on the recommendation of the sheriff, appoint not less than four nor more than six "able-bodied men of good moral character, known not to be addicted to the use of alcoholic liquors, and to be courageous and energetic," and commission them as rural policemen. The commissioners are empowered and directed to remove any policeman provided for in this act at any time for good cause shown, and appoint others. Any willful failure on the part of any policeman to perform any duty enjoined in this act, or by other law, shall be sufficient "good cause" for such removal. Any failure on the part of any such policeman to perform any written directions issued to him by either the board of commissioners or the sheriff shall be sufficient cause for removal forthwith and without further notice.

Salary \$100 and Fees

The salary of each rural policeman shall be fixed by the county commissioners at not exceeding \$100 per month and the fees now allowed by law for the service of civil and criminal process on all such process served by him. Each policeman shall provide himself with billets and firearms as may be required by the commissioners, with horses or other means of conveyance for regular use in riding over the county and performing duties as mounted policemen, and shall bear all expense incident to their service.

Monthly Reports Must be Filed. It shall be the duty of each policeman on the first day of each month (Continued on page eight)

General Assembly

Salaries of Judges and Statutory State Officers Increased—House Defeats Tick Measure.

After long debate the House Tuesday passed the bill to increase salaries of statutory State officers and judges by a vote of 65 to 46. The bill already had passed the Senate and the action of the House made it a law.

The measure raises the salary of members of the Corporation Commission, the Commissioners of Labor and Printing and of Insurance from \$3,500 to \$4,500 per year; Supreme court justices from \$5,000 to \$6,000, and Superior court judges from \$4,000 to \$5,000 with a flat expense account of \$1,250 per year. The measure was started in the Senate by Senator Long, of Alamance, was killed then resuscitated and sent to the House, where it passed unamended.

Justices of the Supreme court have an expense allowance of \$250 a year, so that salary and expense allowance of judges of both courts are the same.

House Down Cattle Tick Measure.

The bill providing for State-wide cattle tick eradication was defeated overwhelmingly by the House yesterday. Opponents of the measure charged that it was merely to create positions for folks who "had no jobs."

A bill to retain welfare officers passed second and third reading in the House yesterday. It provides that welfare work will not be interfered with in the State but counties with less than 32,000 population are not required to employ a whole time welfare officer, it being left to the discretion of the county officials.

The Senate yesterday passed the bill asked for by the mayors of North Carolina authorizing the corporation commission to employ expert help when it was deemed necessary in getting at the facts in financial statements of public utility corporations seeking increases in rates or for other purposes. The bill provides that when such expense is employed and company loses its case, the petitioner shall be taxed with expense of the expert.

PROPOSED CONSOLIDATION OF SCHOOLS AND BOND ISSUES

Bill Will be Introduced for Election on Bond Issues of \$50,000 and Consolidation of Seven Schools at Orrum—Bond Issue of \$25,000 is Proposed for Consolidation Schools at Raemon and Purpose is to Include Mt. Moriah.

Mr. L. C. Brogden, State supervisor of rural schools, and County Superintendent J. R. Poole addressed a large crowd at Orrum Tuesday afternoon on the proposed consolidation of the schools at Mt. Elim, Broad Ridge, Oakton, Nye, Bloomingdale and Proctorville with the school at Orrum. A vote was taken to see how the people stand on it and the expression was 40 against to 38 for.

A bill will be sent to Senator Varsler tomorrow providing an election to building. There is a large dormitory to be held on this proposition and for a bond issue of \$50,000 for a school building at Orrum and in the high school there they have 90 pupils. There are 200 pupils in the Orrum school. If the bond issue and consolidation are voted, children living more than two miles from the school will be hauled in trucks.

A bill also is being drawn to provide for a bond issue of \$25,000 for a building at Raemon and to include Mt. Moriah in the consolidated district there, which now includes Hillside and part of McLeod's with Raemon. One truck is being used there and if Mt. Moriah is included another truck will be used.

OUT BARKERS WAY

More About a Certain Road and Road Work—Demonstration Agents Doing Good Work and Want It Continued—News Items and Personals.

Lumberton, R. 1 Feb. 7.—Farmers are out of heart it seems like, in this section over high-price guano and low-price cotton.

Lots of people in this section are enjoying pork. Seems like most of them took last week for their killing time. That's the right way—raise your meat at home.

Well, it seems like somebody don't know when a road is worked, and for instance that certain road was worked on or not over a year ago by the chain gang, and I could name over two overseers that have had work done on that road. That road that leads to nowhere was put on the county not over nine months ago. And as for kicking, I am not; only want the money spent in the right way. Good roads are what we all want, but we are not going to have them while we have the wrong overseers.

Mrs. Judson McDonald and daughter, Evelyn, of Florida, are visiting relatives at Barkers way.

We are sorry to report Mrs. Lucy Kinlaw has pneumonia. Mr. Brack Kinlaw spent last week with his mother Mrs. Lucy Kinlaw. Little Miss Dorothy Powers spent the week-end with her aunt Miss Bessie Powers.

Mr. Leslie Rozier of Camp Bragg, spent the week-end with his home folks. I don't claim to know much about

Recorder's Court

Road Sentence for Larceny and Fines for Assault, Reckless Driving, Failure to List Taxes and Fornication and Adultery.

Ernest V. Sience was before Recorder Filled this morning on charge of manufacturing and selling whiskey. At the recommendation of the solicitor and the attorneys for private prosecution, the case was not pressed with leave and the prosecuting witness, O. C. Bruce taxed with the cost of the action.

Joe Tedder was found guilty of assault and battery upon Rembert Farnell by Recorder David H. Fuller Saturday and was fined \$15 and cost. He was also required to make a \$50 cash bond for his appearance before the court each week for six months and show good behavior towards all men.

Rembert Farnell was found guilty of assault and battery upon Joe Tedder. The defendants live at the Jennings cotton mill and both showed signs of being in a fight. They used sticks upon each other, according to the evidence, Tedder being the aggressor.

George McQueen, colored, was given a 60-days' road sentence on the charge of larceny. McQueen completed a road sentence two weeks before, which was imposed for the same charge, and had served on the roads one time before, this making his third sentence to the roads.

Sam Tompkins was found guilty of the charge of fornication and adultery. Prayer for judgement was continued upon paying a fine of \$50 the defendant to report to the court the first Monday in each month for a year and show good behavior.

Elbie Britt was fined \$15 on the charge of reckless driving of an automobile.

Gater Bell, Mack Campbell, Harrison Rogers and Arthur Powell, all colored, were up on the charge of failure to list taxes. They were required to pay their taxes.

Cotton Meetings Well Attended

Strong Sentiment for Reduction of Cotton Acreage and Fertilizers—Some Township Canvassers Have Completed Their Work.

Large crowds are attending the cotton meetings being held in various towns in the county this week and the sentiment for a great reduction in the cotton acreage and also in the use of commercial fertilizer is strong, according to Mr. O. O. Dukes, county farm demonstrator. Meetings were held at Maxton and Rowland Tuesday, at Fairmont and Marietta yesterday and at St. Pauls and Parkton today. Tomorrow meetings will be held at Lumber Bridge and Pembroke.

In some townships the committees appointed to make a house-to-house canvass to secure pledges for acreage reduction have practically completed their work. Mr. Dukes brought in 66 pledge cards yesterday. The meetings have been addressed by Mr. Dukes and others.

Pruning Demonstrations

Township pruning demonstrations next week. These are the townships that were missed during the snow. Smith's at Sandy McNeill's, Feb. 15, 10 a. m.

Pembroke, at Mrs. E. F. Brown's, Feb. 15, 1:30 p. m.

Maxton, at M. P. McLean's, Feb. 16, 10 a. m.

Alfordsville, at Arthur McLean's, Feb. 16, 1:30 p. m.

Whitehouse, at C. K. Morgan's, Feb. 17, 10 a. m.

Gaddys, at Mrs. M. F. McArthur's, Feb. 17, 1:30 p. m.

O. O. DUKES, Co. Farm Demonstrator.

Letter Carriers Will Meet Feb. 22.

The annual meeting of the Robeson Letter Carriers association will be held in Lumberton on Tuesday, February 22, instead of May 30 as heretofore. All members are urged to attend. Mr. C. H. Howard of St. Pauls is president and Mr. John B. Meares of Lumberton is vice-president of the association.

Mr. W. J. Johnson of St. Pauls, R. 4, was among the visitors in town Tuesday.

Rev. C. V. Brooks and Mr. Layton McGougan of Red Springs were Lumberton visitors Tuesday.

the county's affairs. Mr. Dukes is doing some mighty good work, we are glad to report and so is Miss Andrews. Know we can't get along very well without their good services, so we wish all their good work to continue.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Powers, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Powers, all of St. Pauls, spent Sunday p. m. in this vicinity.

Mr. C. C. Burns left Sunday for South Carolina. Mr. and Mrs. Ira M'White spent Sunday near St. Pauls with Mrs. M'White's sister Mrs. Catherine Inman.

Parkton News Letter

Parkton and Antioch Each Win a Victory—Game With Philadelphus Next Monday—Basketball—Road Caterpillar Does the Work—Death of Mrs. W. J. Faircloth—Personal and Other Items.

By C. D. Williamson. Parkton, Feb. 8.—Parkton high school basketball team nosed out a victory over the Antioch team on Monday afternoon of this week. Both teams played hard and it was anybody's game until the last few minutes of play. Watson, Moore and Thomasson played stellar ball for Parkton and Gibson and McPhail did fine work for the visitors. Armstrong and Council as guards did good work for Parkton also. The final score was Parkton 21, Antioch 19.

Tuesday evening the Parkton team went up to Antioch and played another match game and the Antioch boys returned the compliment, when the final score registered 24 to 14 in Antioch's favor.

This scribe witnessed his first game of basketball here on the local ground yesterday, p. m., as did several others of our town, but we are here to say that it is some sporty game and we will be found on the grounds next game. We are advised that Philadelphus basketball team is scheduled for Parkton next Monday p. m. and a tight game is anticipated.

Messrs. E. K. Campbell and T. W. Thompson were Lumberton visitors today.

Mrs. Ed Owens and daughter, Lucile, of Roseboro, are on a visit to Mrs. Owens' niece, Mrs. A. B. Williamson, who had not seen her in 30 years.

We feel safe when we say that the largest worm ever crawled over our streets was the caterpillar that plowed over different streets of our town Saturday, and today, dragged several sections of the public roads of our township and seems to give perfect satisfaction and the main advantage as we see it is it is not forever in the bog. It is always on top and ready to crawl. Think Capt. Jenning would do well to negotiate.

Mr. R. T. Gaitley moved Monday and now occupies a portion of Mr. Britt's residence, while Miss Gaitley occupies a portion of Mr. Blount's residence.

Mr. J. D. McCall moved today to the A. C. McCormick place, which Mr. McCall recently purchased.

Mr. Ernest Breese and Mr. Chapell of Fayetteville were callers in town tonight.

Mr. Britt and Mr. McLeod of Buie were visitors in town Sunday.

We regret to report Mr. C. A. Bodenhamer on the sick list—but hope he may soon be out again.

Mrs. W. J. Faircloth died Saturday morning of pneumonia, was only sick one week. The funeral was held Sunday morning from the Baptist church conducted by Rev. J. L. Jenkins, pastor of the deceased, at 10 o'clock, a. m. and interment was in the Parkton cemetery. Deceased was 28 years old and is survived by her husband and four children. We extend our sympathy to the bereaved ones.

Miss Pauline Sikes came home from Greenville last Friday. She has been sick with the flu and has not yet recovered. We trust she may soon be restored and be able to return to school.

MT. ELIM MATTERS.

Proposed Consolidation of Schools Defeated—Roads in Bad Condition—Opposed to Any Increase in Taxes Now—Farmers Puzzled.

Correspondence of The Robesonian. Orrum, R. 1, Feb. 8.—We are having some real rough weather in these parts for the last few days. It has been raining.

Farmers in this section are all puzzled as to what crops to plant and how much fertilizer to use. Use as little commercial fertilizer as possible and make plenty of meat and bread and "taters," and then if we have any land to spare plant an equal amount of cotton and tobacco, say 2 acres of each to the horse farm.

Mrs. A. B. Lawson, who has been on the sick list for some time is still unimproved.

Miss Florida Stephens is on the sick list.

Miss Lessie Ivey of Lumberton was a visitor in the Mount Sunday. Concerning the consolidation of Mt. Elim, Broad Ridge, Oakton, Proctorville, Nyes and Bloomingdale schools with Orrum high school, it was defeated at Orrum this afternoon by a vote of 40 to 28.

It seems like our Senator at Raleigh is trying to decrease our taxes but if we go and vote bonds on ourselves to the amount of \$1,000,000 how can he help it? That is what the board of education seems to want and also some of our citizens. Not that the writer is opposed to education, but I am opposed to increase in taxes these strenuous times.

We are very sorry to report the death of Mr. H. F. Bissell, who died Sunday afternoon and was buried this (Tuesday) morning at 11 o'clock. He was one of our most valued citizens.

Our roads in this section are in bad condition owing to the rains of the last few days. Hello "Aunt Sophia," what has become of you? Are you busy fishing?

LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY

FEBRUARY 12

1809-1865

16TH PRESIDENT



COTTON MARKET.

Middling cotton is quoted on the local market today at 11 1/2 cents the pound; strict middling 12 1/2 cents.

BRIEF ITEMS LOCAL NEWS

—Gasoline has dropped to 30 cents the gallon in Lumberton.

—There will be an important meeting of the Eastern Star in the Masonic hall this evening at 7:30. All members urged to be present.

—A special meeting of Pine camp No. 144, W. O. W., will be held at Long Branch tomorrow (Friday) evening at 7:30. All members are urged to be present.

—Mr. M. H. Nobles began work Monday on a 5-room bungalow on a lot belonging to him on Eighth street. Mr. Nobles and family will occupy the house when completed.

—The condition of Master Neill Archie, 9-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Jennings, who has been suffering with pneumonia since Friday of last week, is somewhat improved today.

—License has been issued for the marriage of Ambrose Britt and Leola Fipps and not for Jesse Brigman and Leola Fipps, as stated in Monday's Robesonian. Brigman purchased the license, but not for his own use.

—The regular monthly meeting of the Robeson County Medical society was held in the municipal building here yesterday afternoon. Owing to the weather, the attendance was not large, but a most interesting meeting was reported.

—This has been an unusually rainy week hereabouts. While no unusual heavy rains have fallen, the continuance of rain has caused the land to become very wet. Lumber river is rising and indications point to a freshet.

—Mr. R. C. Sessoms and sons, Messrs. Casper and Edward C., of R. 2, St. Pauls, were Lumberton visitors Tuesday. Mr. Edward C. Sessoms arrived home Friday from Germany, where he spent several months with the army of occupation being given an honorable discharge from the army. He enlisted in the infantry about the time the World War closed.

LaFayette Mutual Has Made Substantial Gains.

The annual meeting of the LaFayette Mutual Life Insurance company was held yesterday at the company's office here. The following directors were present: E. A. Poe and Dr. S. Highsmith of Fayetteville; O. L. Clark of Clarkton; W. J. Beattie, Jr., of New York city and L. E. Whaley, Dr. T. F. Costner and E. E. Page of Lumberton.

Report for the year 1920 was submitted and showed that the company had made substantial gains, assets increasing 38 per cent reserve 30 per cent and insurance in force 20 per cent.

The company was found to be in excellent condition and making steady progress all the time.

Spelling Bee at McDonald Tomorrow Evening.

Correspondence of The Robesonian. McDonald, Feb. 9.—There will be an old-fashioned spelling match at the McDonald school building Friday evening, February 11 at 7:30. An admission fee of 20 cents for adults and 10 cents for children will be charged. The public is invited.

Mr. B. Tolar of Rennett was among the visitors in town Monday.

Mr. W. D. Campbell of R. 2, Lumberton, was in town Monday.

or what are you doing? we all want you and "Aunt Becky" to come again as your letters are interesting. Wish The Robesonian prosperity.