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EDITORIAL

WILL THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ESTABLISH A COUNTY COURT?

We hear the question asked, "Will Lee county have a county court after the present Recorder's court is abolished? It will be recalled that the board of commissioners passed a resolution some months ago abolishing the recorder's court about the first of December. We believe that a resolution also passed giving the board authority to create a county court to take the place of the recorder's court if they saw fit. In other words they will create a county court if the amount of crime committed in the county will justify it. There is very little difference in a county court and a recorder's court. The judge has about the same jurisdiction.

We fall to see how the county can very well get along without a county court of some kind. There seems to be enough business to justify it. The jail is often pretty well crowded with prisoners awaiting trial at the Recorder's court. Should a county court not be established it will probably be necessary to call for one or two more terms of superior court. It would be a pretty costly business to hold prisoners in jail for several weeks or months pending court trial. The figures are not at our command showing the annual cost of holding a recorder's court. We know the cost of holding a term of superior court is pretty heavy. It would not be so costly to the tax payers if the machinery of the court would function as it should.

Judge McPherson is holding his last term of recorder's court this week. This court was called to clean up all litigations that had not been disposed of before making report to the county commissioners at their meeting next Monday. In the event that a county court is created the commissioners will appoint some member of the Lee county bar to serve in the capacity of judge. We have heard no one mentioned for the place and it is not known who will get the appointment.

PUNISH THE DRUNKEN AUTOMOBILE DRIVERS.

If every judge in the country would take the vigorous stand taken by Judge Rosseau, of this state there would be less wounding and killing of people in automobile wrecks on highways by people while under the influence of whiskey. He made a very positive statement in court at Albemarle a few days ago to the effect that no man convicted on a charge of driving an automobile while drunk can pay a fine and walk out of his court a free man. This probably means that the man so convicted in his court would go to jail or the roads. The man who will get drunk and menace the lives of other people by driving on the highways deserves to wear the stripes of a convict. He is more dangerous than a mad dog, and should have the limit of the law. This may be putting it strong, but it looks like it is only way to break up this business which is more dangerous than war itself if we are to judge by the statistics that are published annually giving the number of people killed or wounded in wrecks by people while under the influence of liquor. There is no excuse for a man to be guilty of such conduct. His own life is in danger as well as the lives of others who are not guilty of violating the traffic laws. During the past year or two a number of people have lost their lives within a few miles of Sanford by drunken automobile drivers. Some of these were killed during the past few months. Discussing this subject, the Laurinburg Express change makes the following timely comment:

"The drunken driver is just a very troublesome phase of the liquor problem, which is as much of a problem today as it has ever been in the opinion of some, the law may not presume to tell a man what he may or may not put into his stomach, what he may eat or drink. But the law can and must tell him that if he drinks he cannot drive an automobile on the highways. And the law having told him that must deal sternly with him who violates its injunctions. The utterly appalling death rate on the public highways is a national disgrace. To what extent the drunk driver is responsible for the most deplorable conditions, we do not know. But as Judge Rosseau rightly contends, he is a potential killer. He may be more deadly than a machine gun battery and a half dozen persons made or suffer serious physical and mental injury because he takes a drink and essays to drive an automobile. Stop him, imprison him, employ the most severe discipline known to the law and the courts to curb such evil."

ALL HIGH SCHOOL TEXT BOOKS PROPOSED FOR RENTAL LIST.

It will be of interest to the school people of Sanford and Lee county to know that the State high school text book Commission met in Raleigh last week, where a listing of texts in all high school subjects not previously listed was completed with a view to having all texts available for rental next fall. The new listing includes mathematics, Latin, industrial arts and music.

"The listing of texts for the new course of study in business represents perhaps the greatest single step North Carolina has yet made toward realizing a fuller adaptation of the course of study to meet the business needs of our state youth. Such subjects as salesmanship principles, retailing, store management, business organization, our financial system, advertising, business law, secretarial training, business correspondence, and in addition to the usual course of typing and shorthand, bookkeeping and business arithmetic will hereafter be offered in our high schools where a sufficient number of teachers can be made available. Moreover, the excellent course taking the place of Algebra for many students is called 'General Business' which is an introductory course of business information needed by everyone, whether he enters business as a vocation or not. This elementary course is followed by an advanced course later on in high school program and covers considerable education so greatly needed.

MRS. FRANCES COX.
Mrs. Frances Cox, 75, died at her home, Route 4 Jonesboro, Wednesday, November 25th, after a long illness. Mrs. Cox, member of a well known Lee county family was the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Hunt. She was long a member of the Christian church. Surviving are four children, Mrs. Ben Johnson, Mrs. C. O. Spack, Miss Mary Cox, and T. E. Cox, Route 4 Jonesboro; two sisters, Mrs. W. I. Brooks, and Mrs. J. J. Edwards, R. 4, Jonesboro, and 10 grandchildren. Funeral services were held at the home at 10:00 A. M. Thursday, Interment was in the Hunt family cemetery, near Jonesboro.

NOTHING CAN STOP AMERICA.

All indications point to 1937 as a year of still further progress in the rise of the nation out of the depression. Employment in manufacturing industries has risen steadily in the past year and is likely to reach or surpass the 1929 levels in the near future—possibly in the coming month.

General unemployment has fallen sharply and many economists believe that the census of the unemployed now being planned by the Department of Commerce will show two things: First, that those who are without work and are seeking work number less than 6,000,000; Second, that there is already an actual shortage of skilled labor in many trades, industries and communities. On this latter point no less an authority than Dr. Harold G. Moulton, head of the Brookings Institute, has already predicted that we shall have an actual shortage of labor within the next five years if industrial production recovers to the 1929 limit.

In other words, the emergency phases of recovery are past. The myth that we need such panaceas as the 30 hour week, federal fixing of manufacturing wages and hours and other arbitrary proposals emanating largely from professional labor leaders, has been exploded.

The above will hold good as far as Sanford is concerned. In fact, there is now no such thing as a depression in Sanford. All manufacturing enterprises in the town are running at full speed and all kinds of business give the town a prosperous outlook. It has been years since the future looked as bright along all lines as it does today. There is now not an empty business house of any kind on Steele, Wicker, Carthage, Moore, or Chatham streets. Less than 2 years ago almost half of the business houses on some of these streets were empty, and there was little prospect of their being occupied any time soon, but the recovery has been marvelous.

The same thing can be said about dwellings in the residential sections of the town. We recall that just a few years ago dwellings in Sanford were torn down by the owners so as to keep from paying taxes on them. They could not be rented at any price. The owners found them a liability as they had to pay taxes on the property. Now these dwellings would rent at a good price. This is one thing that shows what has been accomplished by the present administration in restoring the country to normal conditions. A great change has not only been wrought in Sanford, but it will hold good in the surrounding country.

U. S. 1 Highway Starts Campaign For Safety

Organization Wants Four Lane Roadway Entire Distance From Maine to Florida.

Alarmed at the national increase in automobile fatalities and injuries and determined to make U. S. 1 a leader in a great safety movement, officials of the U. S. No. 1 Highway Association met recently and resolved to make their highway the safest in America.

This highway, America's first all paved, North-South route and today the only continuous Maine-to-Florida road, has already taken steps in making its lanes safe. It possesses more three to four lane roads today than any other North-South route. With this wonderful background the association will open a campaign to make its entire route of extra lanes. The aim is four four-lane highways with a center spread of grass dividing the lines of traffic.

It is the hope of the officials of the wide-awake U. S. No. 1 Highway association to lessen the fact increasing number of accidents along American highways. The association has assumed the role as leader in this humanitarian movement. The officials representing every state from Maine to Florida along U. S. No. 1, have already begun their job of getting public leaders interested in this safety movement. Scientific studies have shown that extra lane, high speed highways are a lead-in immediate solution to the problem.

U. S. Highway Association consists of members of civic and business organizations in the point along the highway which runs through Boston, New York, Washington, Richmond, Raleigh, Augusta, Jacksonville and Miami. The executive meeting was attended by association directors and state vice presidents.

SOIL CONSERVATION CROPS GROWN IN LEE COUNTY

County Demonstration Agent, F. O. McMahon states that a check up on reports of our compliance surveys shows that the cotton producers of Lee County grew 5123 acres of cotton in 1936 as compared with 5,350 in 1935. This was a decrease of 4.2 per cent of the county's cotton base. The tobacco producers grew 4,727 acres of tobacco in 1936 as compared to 4,665 acres in 1935. This was an increase of 1.3 per cent and was 81.3 per cent of the county's tobacco base. Eight thousand, three hundred and sixty nine acres of soil conserving crops were grown in 1936 as compared to 8,110 acres in 1935. This was an increase of 1.69 per cent.

One thousand one hundred and twenty-two farms were signed up to co-operate in the program last spring. Of this number 948 or 84.7 per cent have complied and will receive payments. They will receive approximately \$63,000 for diverting cotton and tobacco acreage to soil conserving crops and about \$5,000 for carrying out soil building practices.

SEABOARD MILLS, INC.

It was stated in this paper last week that D. C. Lawrence and son, D. C. Lawrence, Jr., had bought out the plant of the Seaboard Milling Company, which suspended operations a few years ago, and would put the plant in operation at an early date. They have had the business incorporated under the head, Seaboard Mills. The concern will do a general milling business with an authorized capital stock of \$50,000, of which amount \$300 has been subscribed by D. C. Lawrence, Sr. and L. C. Lawrence, Sanford, and L. C. Lawrence, Jr., Jacksonville, Fla. These gentlemen propose to begin at once making repairs to the plant and will put it in operation early in the new year.

SANFORD TEAM WHIPS WHITEVILLE HIGH, 16-0

Sanford high school football team defeated Whiteville's eleven, 16-0, at Whiteville in a game that was an aftermath to the scoreless tie the two outfits played here two weeks ago. The first encounter was a semi-final contest in the Eastern Class B title playoff, and following the deadlock Whiteville won a toss for the right to play Roanoke Rapids in the finals. Suggs scored Sanford's first touch down in the first quarter, and Seymour went over in the second quarter for the second six pointer. The final two points came near the close of the game when a Whiteville man was tackled behind his own goal line for a safety.

Traffic Law Violators Jam County Court

Three State Patrolmen Guarding the Highways Around Sanford—Driving Without License Most Violated Law—Court to List All the Week—Judge McPherson Has Tried 1,000 Cases Since 1928.

Recorder's Court moved up a peg this week and held forth Monday instead of the usual Tuesday session. Judge McPherson stated that this was done for the reason that some question existed as to whether or not his court ceased to function on the first day of December. However, this question was finally settled in favor of the court until midnight, Sunday, December 6th, that being the zero hour under interpretations of the law and the resolution abolishing the court.

More than a dozen cases were heard Monday, and practically all defendants were charged with driving without a driver's license in two cases, boys under 16 and with out a license, of course, accompanied by their fathers, answered to charges. In each case the boy was turned over to the juvenile court and their father convicted of allowing a person to operate his car without a license. All traffic violators were left off with the costs, which, in each case, amounted to about \$16.

For the past several days three patrolmen have been guarding the roads around Sanford on the lookout for petty traffic offenders. It is understood that this campaign is state wide, and is intended to make more safe the state highways for the traveling public. This operating cars with defective brakes, no rear light, no reflector, no headlight, and without driver's license are all picked up and cited into court to answer to whatever charge these patrolmen find necessary to make.

Recorder's court will be in session all this week, and on Saturday afternoon the court will adjourn since Judge McPherson has presided over it since December, 1928, and has tried during that time over 1,000 cases, with a low percentage of appeals, and an exceedingly low demand for jury trials. This is a good record and shows that Judge McPherson has "been on the job" all through these years. His record as a judge speaks for itself. His host of friends wish him continued success in his profession.

LEE COUNTY U. N. C. ALUMNI INVITED TO CHAPEL HILL

Invitations have been extended a number of University of North Carolina alumni in Lee County to attend the annual general alumni assembly which will be held in Chapel Hill, December 9th.

The gathering marks the time of the annual business meeting of the University Alumni Association, and representatives from various local alumni clubs and permanently organized classes will attend in addition to the regular items of business the program will also include on include D. L. St. Clair, president; 1937-1939 appropriation request by President Frank P. Graham. Dr. Howard E. Rondthaler, of Winston-Salem, is president of the University Alumni.

University Alumni officers of Lee county who have been sent invitations include D. L. St. Clair, president H. M. Jackson, vice president, and W. E. Horner, secretary. D. B. Teague, Sanford attorney, is chairman of the committee to make nominations for general alumni officers for 1937. Others from Lee county who have received invitations include J. C. Pittman, J. H. McIver, E. L. Gavin, A. F. Seawell, Jr., Carl Thompson, and Dr. Lynn McIver, all of Sanford.

NEGRO EXONERATED BY CORONERS JURY

A coroner's jury summoned by Dr. J. Foster, Lee county coroner, to investigate the killing on Sunday night of Isaiah Miller, 35, negro, who was shot by his brother in law, Shelby Fuller, 25, Tuesday ordered Fuller released on a verdict of justifiable homicide.

The killing occurred at the home of Fuller on the farm of Mrs. D. F. Harris, Jonesboro, located on Route 3 Sanford, where both negroes lived and according to the evidence offered Fuller shot Miller in self defense. The load from a shot gun entered his chest near the heart killing him instantly after Miller attacked him with a knife. Fuller voluntarily surrendered to the officers after the slaying.

CHANGE IN SERVICE

The Sunday evening service of the Presbyterian church which has been held at 7:30, will now be held at 8 P. M., beginning Sunday evening and will continue at that hour until spring.

C. C. COOPER DIES AS RESULT OF CAR WRECK

Calvin Cooper, of this place, who was critically injured in an automobile collision on Monday of last week at the intersection of highways 61 and 62, near the Guilford-Randolph county line, died last Sunday at a Greensboro hospital, where he was taken immediately after the accident. He received a severe frontal fracture of the skull and never recovered consciousness.

Mr. Cooper, who was born and reared in Randolph county, died at the age of 52 years. He moved to this section years ago where he has since made his home. He was engaged in the lumber business with Mr. Harvey Hicker, who was also injured in the wreck in which Mr. Cooper was killed, but is now improving and was able to return home a few days ago. Mr. Cooper, who was one of the county's best citizens, will be sadly missed in the community in which he lived and especially in the Christian church of which he was an active member. He was a member of the board of trustees of Deep River school and was always interested in the many things that go to build up a community.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Fannie Smith Cooper, one daughter, Miss Margaret Cooper, of Reidsville; six sons, Lee, Roy, Paul, Louis, William and Joseph Cooper, all of R. 5, Sanford and Carl C. Cooper, Jr., of Sanford. Several brothers and sisters survive.

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock from the Jones Chapel Methodist church near Moncure, with the Rev. J. A. Danton pastor, officiating. Interment was made in the church cemetery. The large crowd that gathered for the services and the many beautiful floral designs that covered the grave indicated the high esteem in which the deceased was held.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

There are many beautiful displays of Christmas goods in the windows of some of the stores here. The Christmas stock of goods are very attractive, but it will be to your interest to make your purchase before they are picked over. There will be a great rush here during the few days before Christmas, and the sales ladies and salesmen will be so rushed that they will not be able to give each shopper the attention that they would like to show.

Going back to the decorations we find that there are more kinds of designs in the stores and windows that we have never seen here before. The decorations and lights of various colors give the town the appearance at night of a fairyland. Some of the merchants have not yet put in their decorations. When this is done it will add to the Christmas attractions of the business section of the town.

HIGH COST OF MOTOR TAXES.

Auto motive taxes paid by North Carolina vehicle owners average 31.4 per cent of their vehicles as compared with an average tax rate of 1.7 per cent on real estate and other property, it was estimated today by Paul Britt, chairman of the Lee county Oil Dealers association.

Pointing out that the average value of motor vehicles in this state is \$212, Mr. Britt said that last year auto motive taxes averaged \$66.63. At this rate, he added, the motorist pays for his vehicle in taxes in three years and two months, whereas the owner of real and other property finds many years passing before his tax bill equals the assessed value of his property. He advocated repeal of federal automotive taxes, and use of revenue from reasonable state gas line sales taxes and registration fees exclusively for highway financing.

"Motorists of this state on the average pay \$66.63 a year in special ad which \$10.98 represents the cost of additional motor vehicle taxes, of federal motor taxes," said Mr. Britt. "These federal levies increase the motorist's tax bill about 19.7 per cent. All in all this motor tax bill amounts to 31.4 per cent of the \$212 value of the average motor vehicle. In three years and two months the motorist will have paid for his motor vehicle over again in taxes! The national average of four years and seven months, but in the case of taxes on real and other property 32 years pass before taxes are equivalent to value. In this state the tax rate on real property is estimated at 1.7 per cent.

The high cost of motor taxes indicates the necessity of being fair to the motorists, as one of the state's largest sources of revenue. Fairness calls for reasonable state gas line sales taxes and registration fees, and use of the revenue therefrom exclusively for highway financing. The motorist is paying for roads, and should have them. Fairness also calls for repeal of the duplicate federal gasoline tax."

Locals

Mr. T. G. Gunn, proprietor of the Gunn Veneer Works, gave a Thanksgiving barbecue to 70 of his employees, at his plant last Thursday. The thing that made the occasion a happy one for them was the statement from him to the effect that he had increased their wages 10 per cent. Mr. Gunn has recovered from the depression and now has about all the business he can handle.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Clayton and children, Harvey, Jr. and Chas. McIver Clayton, of this state, spent the Thanksgiving season with Mrs. Chas. Watson and other relatives here. While here Mr. Clayton had the misfortune to lose his Buick car. Two young thieves while going to their home in Maine from Florida, drove up to the home of Mrs. Watson last Saturday night and left an old car stolen at Southern Pines, and left in Mr. Clayton's car. After they had almost finished the trip, they were arrested as suspects at Darien, Conn. by officers who upon making an investigation found that the car belonged to Mr. Clayton. The car has been returned and the two thieves are in jail awaiting trial.

Mr. Carson Matthews, who has been employed at the Kelly gin, in this place, had the misfortune to lose his right hand in the gin Monday morning while making some adjustments about the machinery. He was wearing gloves at the time and it seems that the glove on his right hand became entangled, drawing his hand into the machinery, and before he could release it, it was so badly mangled that it had to be amputated below elbow at the Lee County Hospital. Mr. Matthews, who is a good man, is highly esteemed by a large circle of friends who regret his misfortune. It seems that "Little" Curtis Kelly, who was near Mr. Matthews at the time the accident occurred, saved Mr. Matthews from more serious injury by jerking him away from the machinery.

Mr. A. B. Wicker can do other things besides faithfully performing his duty in preventing automobiles from being wrecked by coming in contact with trains at the crossing near the Seaboard freight depot. He has the reputation of being one of the best hog raisers in the section. We think he has proven this by two hogs he raised this year. Something like a year ago he bought two Poland China pigs, paying \$5 a piece for them. He killed these hogs last Monday and the combined weight of the two was 860 pounds. If you can beat that, let us hear from you. We will be glad to hear from people in Lee county or this section who kill unusually large hogs during the season that is now on. The one report will get this paper free of charge for one year. As meat is advancing in price on the local market the farmers in the surrounding county should be able to make a profit raising hogs.

Mr. T. A. Riddle, who has been engaged in the mercantile business in Sanford for years, has moved his grocery business from one of the rooms in the Smith building on Chatham and McIver streets. The entrance to his new stand is on the McIver street side of the building. Messrs. Wilbur and Glenn McIver, who were connected with the Lee Furniture Company, have organized the Lee Furniture Company, and are now opening a new furniture store at the stand formerly occupied by T. A. Riddle and Company. They are having the building overhauled and are now placing their stock of goods in the building. The basement will be used as a storage room. Messrs. McIver are experienced in the furniture business and their friends wish them success in their new venture. The customers and friends of Mr. Riddle should call on him at his new stand.

FORMAL OPENING OF LEE COUNTY LIBRARY

On Friday evening, at 8 o'clock there will be a formal opening of the Lee County Library given by the Library board which is composed of Mrs. C. M. Reeves, chairman; Mrs. W. W. Roberts, K. E. Semour, Rev. A. V. Gibson, of Sanford; Mrs. S. V. Stevens, Broadway, and Miss Elva Bryan, of Jonesboro, and Miss Helen Rosser, librarian. All who are interested in the library are invited to attend.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. and Mrs. Guy Matthews announce the birth of a daughter, Sunday, November 29th. Mother and daughter are getting on nicely.

Miss Louise Long, student at Flora McDonald College, spent Thanksgiving at home.

Senator-Elect Pittman's Road Bill

He Has Drawn Up A Road Measure Which Will Be Introduced in the State Senate Which Seems to Be Attracting Attention—State Highway Commission Due For Some Shelling.

In commenting on this bill, Wade H. Lucas, who spins the political pin wheel in the Raleigh Evening Times, says:

"Along with talk that the present State Highway and Public Works Commission is due for some shelling as well as some changing when Governor Clyde R. Hoey and the members of the 1937 General Assembly come to town next month, Senator-elect J. C. Pittman, of Sanford, co-sponsor from the 13th District composed of Lee, Chatham, and Wake, is letting it be known that he has already drawn a bill to bring, as he is wont to put it, the highway commission closer to the people as well as to provide for the election of the members of the commission by the people. Into the Senate hopper Senator-elect Pittman says he will drop his bill early in January to provide for the members of the Council of State to serve as members of the highway commission will probably other appointive members chosen by the Governor. The popularly elected officials, however, under the Pittman bill will dominate the road policy as well as serve without additional pay beyond that they draw now. The Senator-Elect says he has talked with a good many people and the reaction has been favorable to his bill. While here he did not say whether he talked with such council of state members as Chas. M. Johnson, State Treasurer; Thad Eure, Secretary of State; elect Public Instruction Superintendent Clyde Erwin and others who will remain in their present position for another four years.

Admitting the main purpose of his measure is the democratization of the highway commission, the Lee legislator elect has nothing personal against Highwayman Capas M. Weynick, but he does not think the chairman should be called upon to "approve his own actions." His bill further provides for the lieutenant governor who will be Chatham's W. P. Horton after January 7 or 8, to be chairman ex officio of the highway board and a full time secretary would be employed.

MR UNDERWOOD KILLS A DEER

Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Underwood, Sr. returned Sunday night from Branchville, S. C. where they spent Thanksgiving with Mr. Underwood's sister, Mrs. Harry Byrd. Mr. Underwood spent Thanksgiving Day, his birthday—in the woods driving for deer with a party of hunters. Two deers were killed during the day, one of which was brought down by Mr. Underwood. He shot the deer while he was coming straight toward him in the road. As the deer moved off Mr. Underwood shot him the second time. After he ran a short distance in the woods he fell where the hunters found him. This was the first deer killed by Mr. Underwood, although he has hunted for them a number of times.

MR REEVES' BIG TURKEY FARM

It was stated in these columns a few months ago that Mr. Marvin C. Reeves had in process of raising 300 young turkeys. This is considered the biggest turkey farm anywhere in this part of the state. In the early spring Mr. Reeves bought 370 Out of the 370 he lost 70. This was a small loss, considering the fact turkeys are hard to raise. Soon after they were hatched out of the shell they cost Mr. Reeves 35¢ apiece. Mr. Reeves sold a few of these turkeys for Thanksgiving. He is offering the others for the Christmas holidays. The turkey crop is said to be good in this section this season. It is estimated that there were 20,000,000 turkeys raised in this country this year. There were 15,000,000 last year. Turkeys at 25¢ a pound is as cheap, if not cheaper than the price of various kinds of meat at this time.

PLAN CLINIC FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN

The local Rotary Club will sponsor a special orthopedic clinic for examination and treatment of underprivileged crippled children Wednesday, December 9th at Lee County Hospital. Dr. F. L. Knight, president of the club, announces the clinic will be in charge of Dr. W. F. Cole, Greensboro orthopedic specialist. No charge will be made and necessary material for treatments will be furnished by the Rotary Club. These clinics will be held the second Wednesday of each month if attendance warrants it.