

THE LARGEST PAID SUBSCRIPTION OF ANY PAPER PUBLISHED IN EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MET LAST MONDAY AT COURT HOUSE

Proved to be a Most Interesting Session. Matters of Importance Were Transacted. All the Bridge Keepers Were Appointed.

(Continued from yesterday.) The county Board of Commissioners met last Monday at the court house...

Resolved, That the county attorney be and he is hereby instructed to prepare and have introduced and passed by the general assembly...

Ordered that a map of Beaufort county be appropriated to each and every public school in the county...

Whereas the major part of the criminal term of the superior court of Beaufort county is consumed in the trial of minor offenses...

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this board that a court of intermediate jurisdiction between the justice of the peace courts and the superior courts should be established for this county...

Resolved, That the chairman and clerk to the board be and they are hereby authorized to borrow \$25.00 for the current expenses of the county...

The following committee was appointed by the board to consider the advisability of creating a road district in Washington, Chowan and Long Grove townships...

First Week E. V. Hays, J. C. Swagner, Q. A. Sullivan, J. W. Brooks, J. W. Howe, P. A. Barbagel, G. M. Williams, J. T.

THE LEADING TOWN MANY LIVES LOST SITUATION IS GRAVE

Rocky Mount Shows Most Growth in Ten Years ACCORDING TO THE CENSUS

Charlotte is the First City in the State in Point of Population, Wilmington Second and Raleigh Third According to the Last Census—List of Cities.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 5.—North Carolina's population did not show the same tendency of drifting from rural districts to the cities during the last ten years as was the case in many other states. Announcement by the directors of the Census Bureau of the population figures as enumerated in the Thirteenth census and towns of North Carolina having a population in excess of 5,000 indicates that slightly over 26 per cent of the state's today increase in population—222,477 inhabitants—was contributed by these cities and towns...

In point of increase in population Rocky Mount holds first place with a 274 per cent increase. Durham follows closely behind with 173 per cent and High Point shows a 228 per cent gain.

Table with 3 columns: City, 1910, 1900. Lists cities like Asheville, Charlotte, Concord, Durham, Elizabeth City, Fayetteville, Gastonia, Goldsboro, Greensboro, High Point, Kinston, New Bern, Raleigh, Rocky Mount, Salem, Salisbury, Washington, Wilmington, Wilson, Winston.

Atop a great section of the town lies in ruins today, according to the meagre reports. Communication was practically cut off today and from the interior of the earthquake some no definite word came at all.

Tennessee Confronts Critical Stage Politically

Differences Between the Regular Democrats and the Insurgents is the Direct Cause—Will be Without Funds to Run the Government Until Jan. 1, 1912.

Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 5.—The possibility that the state will be without a legislative body for two years with executive affairs administered by a hold-over governor without funds until the first Monday in January, 1912 was the situation that confronted the commonwealth of Tennessee today as a result of the renewal of hostilities between the regular democrats and the fusionists.

When the legislature convened yesterday afternoon not a regular ap peared to be sworn in and following this dramatic move in the campaign, the fusionists have sent an ultimatum that they will treat with the regulars now only upon the floor of the legislature.

The general opinion which prevailed today was that the regulars would leave for their homes without being sworn in and that the senate would continue to meet at intervals of three days until the period of the legislative term expires, although no business can be transacted owing to the dissolution of the house.

Governor Patterson will either continue in office, it was thought, or he will resign in favor of Speaker Baxter of the state senate.

HEAVEN GAINS EARTH LOSES

Sweet little Elizabeth Bell, the 4-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Wilson joined the jewels of heaven yesterday afternoon at five o'clock. Today a pall of sadness hangs over this happy home for she who was ever the sunshine and happiness of father and mother has left for the battlements of heaven.

The funeral took place this afternoon from the residence on West Second street at 3 o'clock, conducted by Rev. H. B. Seagriff, pastor of the First Presbyterian church. The interment was in Oakdale.

REV. R. V. HOPE DECLINES CALL

It will be gratifying to the many friends of Rev. Robert V. Hope in Washington and throughout this section to learn that he has declined the call to become pastor of the North Birmingham Christian church after careful consideration Mr. Hope has decided to cast his lot with the church here for another year.

MAN RETURNED

Son of Mr. J. S. Hodges Recovers After an Operation at Hospital. The son of Mr. J. S. Hodges who resides a few miles from this city was recently operated on at Fowle Memorial Hospital.

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AN INCREASE IN YOUR TAXES IS RECOMMENDED. THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS IN A RECOMMENDING MOOD WITHOUT APPARENT CAUSE

The resolution referring to the recorder's court adopted by the Board of County Commissioners at their recent meeting is one which should have the immediate consideration of the people of Beaufort county.

In a great many particulars it is non-committal. One thing is made quite clear and that is they want this bill railroaded through without any regard for the wishes of the people whom this court must serve. For what purpose should this bill be enacted "as speedily as possible"?

Where would the county or its citizens save anything in the way of expense if the bill as set out in the Commissioners resolution be enacted into a law? (One man would be benefited and he is the reporter.) It is proposed to have one recorder with jurisdiction over the entire county, this being true, would it not cost any person the same amount to come to Washington from Beaufort or South Creek to attend a recorder's court as it would to attend the superior court and would he not be subject to a summons to appear before this court every month or every day during the year whereas now he cannot be forced to attend criminal court more than four times each year.

Again, nothing is said as to how the recorder shall obtain his office, whether by appointment or by popular vote of the people. The Commissioners should bear in mind the fact they are only representatives of the people to carry out or to put in effect the wishes of the people, and before committing themselves on any proposition of so much importance as this one, should ascertain the wishes of their constituents.

Have they looked carefully into the question of costs of operating a recorder's court? The Daily News is not opposed to a recorder's court provided the people want one, but it feels that they should be fully advised before it is saddled upon them.

Possibly a recorder's court for Washington or Washington township would be a good thing to have, but we do not believe such a court located in Washington with jurisdiction of the county is at all practical, nor would it be good policy or economy to establish one of this kind, further we are directly opposed to the enactment of any law which will take from the people a constitutional right, which is, to have a voice in the naming of their officials.

The judges of our supreme and superior courts are elected by a popular vote of the people, then why should not the recorder be so named? A bill similar to the one now advocated by the County Commissioners, was presented to the legislature two years ago and it met with such strong opposition that it was withdrawn.

The representatives from Beaufort county, before passing any law affecting the interests of the citizens of Beaufort county, should first have such bills, as introduced, published in the county papers, so that the people may be fully advised and thereby have an opportunity to express themselves.

Another matter of grave importance received the attention of the Board, this was the convict force, they instructed the county attorney to prepare, have introduced and passed a law increasing the tax levy 19 cents on the \$100.00 valuation for the maintenance of the chain gang. We venture the assertion that

NOT TWENTY PER CENT OF THE VOTERS OF BEAUFORT COUNTY WOULD VOTE FOR SUCH A TAX WHEN THEY ARE FULLY ADVISED AS TO THE COST OF THE WORK WHICH THIS FORCE DOES.

Beaufort county has operated its convict road force for about four years and during that time has spent about \$25,000.00 for its maintenance.

We feel justified in saying that the work which has been done during that time could have been contracted for with practical and experienced road builders for \$10,000. Admitting this to be true then Beaufort county has spent \$15,000 for the privilege of saying that we operate a convict road force.

Since when has it become necessary for Beaufort county to have an auditor and why is the defining of his duties to be left with the legislature which will be called upon to create such an office? Evidently the authority of the County Commissioners has been enlarged or they have gone beyond the requirements of their office. The Board of County Commissioners are public officers, elected by the people and their duties are laid down in the statutes.

They have never asked publicly to be instructed by their constituents on any of the subjects mentioned. The only matter which came before them requiring legislative action was that of maintaining the public roads by taxation, on this they were expressly instructed to have drawn and passed, a law to this effect, this the only matter on which they had instructions was returned back to the people of each township with the statement that they were unable to frame a law which would be satisfactory to the people, on all the other questions they did not ask for nor seem to want any instructions from the people. Why?

Until such time as our county affairs are taken out of politics and placed on a strictly business basis will our county be in debt and forced each year to borrow money to pay current expenses.

Why did not the Board of Commissioners instruct the county attorney to draw and have passed a bill giving a legalized primary to the town of Washington and Beaufort county and another fixing the salaries of our county officers? These are matters on which the people have spoken and why have they, "the Commissioners," remained silent on these subjects? Is it because these things do not meet with their approval and they hope to let them go by default?

Let them answer to the people. To the voters of Beaufort county the News says watch the doings of the present legislature and insist that the people be consulted. When the people have the bills to pay and burdens to bear.

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