

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP TO VOTE BONDS WAY IS OPEN FOR OTHER TOWNSHIPS TO FALL IN LINE AND SECURE GOOD ROADS

Meeting of Good Roads Association Held Last Night. Col. Rodman, Judge Bragaw and Others Discuss Project. Resolutions Adopted. J. L. Mayo Replies to Colonel's Statements Regarding Correspondence and Other Matters.

A complete—and final—discussion of the method with which good roads were being voted in Washington township, the opposition to this plan and suggested changes were taken up at a well-attended meeting of the Washington Good Roads Association last night. It was decided at the close of the discussion that the election be held as has been advertised.

The following resolution, introduced by Judge Bragaw, was read:

RESOLUTION.
Whereas, though the Washington Township Good Roads Association was originally organized to promote the cause in Washington township by urging the calling and carrying of an election to issue bonds for good roads in said township, yet it is composed of members who are also heartily and sincerely interested in good roads in every other township in Beaufort county, and is desirous of assisting, to the fullest extent in its power, without limitation, in this respect:

And whereas it has been brought to the attention of this Association that some of the citizens of the town of Washington are opposing the movement in Washington township upon the ground that Chocowinity township and Long Acre township should be in these movements, so that these two townships may receive a share of the taxes derived from property within the city of Washington;

And whereas under the law as it now exists, the several townships cannot act together, but must of necessity act individually in the matter of calling elections and voting upon the proposition;

And whereas the members of this Association welcome the opportunity to aid in the extension of the Good Roads movement to other townships in Beaufort county;

And whereas this Association is fully convinced from its investigations and from the experience of other counties, that the defeat of the good roads movement in Washington township at this time will reader much more difficult of success similar movements in other townships in the county;—and that on the other hand the success of the movement in Washington Township will greatly aid in creating a favorable attitude toward the question of good roads in other townships;

And whereas this Association is advised by those who have investigated the legal and other questions involved, that if Chocowinity township and Long Acre Township will each petition for an election and will authorize the issuance of bonds by a majority vote of the qualified voters of each of said townships, then that arrangements can be provided to enable said Chocowinity township and Long Acre township legally to receive their just and fair proportion of the taxes levied in the city of Washington for good roads;

Resolved, Be it Resolved that those citizens who now express opposition to the issuance of bonds for Washington township be invited and earnestly urged to join with this Association in working for Good Roads in Washington Township; and that this Association pledge itself heartily to cooperate with such citizens in the effort to call and carry elections for good roads in Chocowinity township and Long Acre township;—to the end that each of said townships may receive, together with Washington township, a fair and equitable proportion of such taxes as may be derived from property within the city of Washington.

Resolved further that it is the sense of this Association, after careful consideration and investigation of conditions, and after competent legal advice, not only that the success of this movement in Washington township is necessary to the success of a similar movement in Chocowinity and Long Acre Town-

ships, but also that if Long Acre and Washington townships will carry elections in favor of bond issues, as hereinbefore suggested, it is entirely possible and practicable to provide that Long Acre and Chocowinity townships shall each receive its proportionate share of the taxes paid upon the property in the city of Washington, without increase of such taxes in said city.

Col. W. C. Rodman, in response to a special invitation, was present and expressed his views on the matter, after the good roads movement had been outlined in detail by E. L. Stewart and preliminarily discussed by Harry McMullan, H. S. Ward, Judge Bragaw and others.

"I am forced to say that my conscience will not permit me to agree with the sentiment expressed by Mr. Stewart or Judge Bragaw," began the colonel. "I believe, however, that Mr. McMullan correctly stated the legal question involved when he said that the money derived from the taxes in Washington could only be used in Washington township and not in Long Acre or Chocowinity.

"Mr. Stewart states that he finds more opposition outside of the city of Washington than in the town and that the city should be included in this township alone in order that there might be a better chance for the excess of votes in the city to carry the deficiency of votes in the township. Assuming this to be true, is it not all the more reason why there should be a unanimity of action in the city of Washington and that the favorable votes in the city of Washington should benefit Long Acre and Chocowinity equally with Washington? In other words, the majority in Washington city ought to be used as much to help Chocowinity and Long Acre as Washington township. It is unfair to use all the majority of the city of Washington to help Washington township and not Long Acre or Chocowinity. I am not saying that there is so opposition in Long Acre or Chocowinity, but, as Mr. Stewart has said, there is also opposition in Washington township."

Colonel Rodman then entered into an explanation of what had been done in 1910 towards forming Long Acre, Washington and Chocowinity into one road district and the subsequent dissolution of this district in 1915.

"Going back to Judge Bragaw's resolution," continued the colonel. "If it were carried out it would give an unfair advantage to Washington township and would kill the chances of Long Acre and Chocowinity townships ever securing good roads. I realize that nothing can be done until 1917, when a bill can be passed in the legislature, giving the right to the three townships to vote on the issues, Washington city thereby helping to offset the vote in Long Acre and Chocowinity. The method on which you have decided is going at the things backwards. I believe it is better to wait one year and improve all the roads in our section than improve the roads in the extreme north-western part of the county and roads which, in my opinion, are travelled less than any other main roads in the county.

"You say that the bond issue will not carry if the three townships are linked together, but you should at least give them the opportunity of deciding this before forever taking the chance away from them. I believe that if the matter is thoroughly explained, Chocowinity will carry it two to one although I am not so confident about Long Acre. I believe, though, that Long Acre would also carry it."

"Mr. Stewart compares our situation with that of Farmville and Greenville. The situation is so similar that they are not to be compared. Washington is located in the extreme western side of the county, while Greenville is practically in the center of Pitt. Out of Greenville, the roads go in every direction. This presents a very different view to the matter. I feel that if the measure is carried as you gentlemen propose, Long Acre can never improve the roads of Chocowinity nor Chocowinity the roads of Long Acre and we will have to drive over bad roads as long as we live.

"In reply to Mr. Goerch's editorial, that there are more automobiles in Richland township than in Chocowinity, there is, however, no comparison in the amount of trade that comes to Washington over the roads. We don't want this movement for joy riders; we want it for business purposes."

At the conclusion of Colonel Rodman's remarks, the gist of which is given above, another discussion was held, after which Judge Bragaw made a most forcible address in defense of the present plan of procedure.

"We are all desirous of obtaining better roads in the county," began the judge. "We want results and we should not let little difficulties in obtaining the results hold us up. Our plan and the colonel's plan are exactly similar: we both want good roads. There is only one slight difference: by our plan we'll get good roads and by his we won't."

"It is conceded that the township is not best as a unit for voting bonds for good roads. Mr. Swindell was right when he suggested that the county as a whole take it up. Colonel Rodman was right when he suggested that it be taken up by three townships instead of one. The only objection to Mr. Swindell's suggestion is that we will be many years in getting results. The objection to Colonel Rodman's suggestion is that Pantego, Richland or Bath townships have as much right to be included in our plan as either Chocowinity or Long Acre. Would it not be unfair to leave them out? If we postpone the matter until Chocowinity or Long Acre come in, we will have to wait until the entire county does. If Chocowinity wants good roads, she can call for them. Long Acre can do the same. If they carry their elections it will be their own act. We should not undertake to over-ride Chocowinity or Long Acre by the majority of votes in Washington."

"There is a suggestion that the Washington township election ought to be defeated in order to extend the movement into Long Acre and Chocowinity townships. While agreeing that we should have good roads in Chocowinity and Long Acre townships, and that they should be entitled to their proportionate share of the taxes raised from property in the city of Washington, it would be fatal to this plan to permit the defeat of the election in Washington township. In the first place, the election for Washington township has already been requested by more than twenty-five per cent of the qualified voters of this township, and the County Commissioners were required to call the election, and have no authority in law to call it off now.

"Again: To attempt to call this Washington township off would not only be illegal, but it would mean a waste of such expenses as have already been incurred.

"Again: The three townships cannot, under the existing law, have a joint election, and bonds issued for the three townships would be void and could not be sold and roads could not be built.

"Again: No joint election of the three townships could be held until a special act of the Legislature could be obtained, not earlier than 1917.

"Again: The defeat of the movement in Washington township now would discourage any movements in the other townships and make any election for good roads in other townships exceedingly difficult and would accomplish no benefit. It

would postpone good roads in Beaufort county for a long time.

"Again: If, on the other hand, this election in Washington township by the co-operation of all those favor good roads in the county is carried, it will greatly aid in carrying elections in Long Acre township and Chocowinity township, and any other township in Beaufort county. Each of these other townships can call an election and hold it during the coming year, 1916.

"Again: If Chocowinity township and Long Acre township will petition for an election and carry it in 1916, arrangements can legally be made for the building of good roads in all three townships, and for each township to get its proportionate share of the taxes on property in the city of Washington.

"On the other hand, if Washington township should carry this election and later Chocowinity and Long Acre townships should defeat a movement for good roads, then Washington township could go on with its road work, and not be prevented because of the unfavorable vote in Long Acre and Chocowinity.

"The plan which should appeal to all sincere advocates of good roads for the county would be to vote together for a favorable result of the election on January 4th in Washington township. If this election is carried, let a movement be started at once in Chocowinity township and Long Acre township, which movement would be greatly aided by the result of the election in Washington township. If Long Acre township and Chocowinity township should then vote favorably, arrangements can be made for the building of roads in all three townships and for each to receive its proportion of the taxes paid in the city of Washington. On the other hand, in the event that Long Acre township and Chocowinity township should vote unfavorably, then the work of building good roads in Washington township could proceed without interference or delay.

"This plan would not delay the work of building good roads in all three townships as long as the defeat of the movement in Washington township would delay this work. If the election is carried in Washington township in January 1916 and the other townships will proceed to hold an election and vote, there will be no necessity for a later election by the three townships together. Under this plan every objection which has been made in good faith by those who are sincerely in favor of good roads can be met and overcome, and no good reason can exist for opposing a favorable vote in Washington township at the election in January."

At the conclusion of Judge Bragaw's remarks and after some further discussion, the motion was made, seconded and carried that the resolution introduced by him be carried. The meeting then adjourned.

Mr. Mayo's Letter.

In connection with Colonel Rodman's letter, which appears in another part of today's issue and which was addressed to Representative J. L. Mayo at Raleigh, Mr. Mayo makes the following explanation of the true conditions and also voices his sentiment in regard to the present attitude of the colonel as follows:

"I had hoped to avoid any newspaper or other controversy over the good roads bond issue for Washington township but since it has been forced on me by Colonel Rodman I shall endeavor to explain a few facts which the colonel either intentionally or inadvertently failed to mention.

"In his article published in yesterday's News the colonel starts out by saying that I had failed to call attention to the letter which he wrote me while I was in the Legislature. I plead guilty to the charge because the letter has absolutely so

CITY OF HOPEWELL IS BURNING UP

(Special Bulletin)

The Daily News this afternoon at four o'clock received a report to the effect that the city of Hopewell, Va., where the DuPont powder mills are located, is the scene of a destructive fire, which threatens to wipe out the entire town.

It is stated that Germans are suspected of having started the fire and two or three arrests have already been made. At three o'clock the fire was at its height. The entire powder plant is said to have been destroyed. Firemen were unable to cope with the flames. The damage will run into the millions.

WERE HOSTESSES AT BRIDGE PARTY

Given Yesterday Afternoon at the Home of Mrs. L. H. Mann on N. Market Street.

Mrs. L. H. Mann and Miss Winifred Nicholson were hostesses at a delightful bridge party, which was given at Mrs. Mann's home on North Market street yesterday afternoon and at which a large number of friends were present. The home was beautifully decorated, the Christmas color scheme of red and green being carried out in long leaf pine, ferns and Christmas bells. Refreshments were served in two courses. Mrs. J. A. Tucker and Miss Mary Hill assisted in the serving.

Among those who were present were Mesdames B. G. Moss, A. C. Hathaway, Harry McMullan, W. A. Rhount, E. L. Brooks, E. L. Stewart, W. C. Ayers, H. C. Carter, W. G. Williams, E. H. Moore, John Gorham, J. A. Tucker, C. B. Bell, C. M. Campbell, Harold Washburn, John Rodman, E. W. Ayers, F. Mueller, of Philadelphia, Frank Short, S. R. Clary, Ed. Mallison, N. L. Simmons, C. L. Payne, J. L. Nicholson, E. H. Young, W. H. Carter, Ed. Brown, B. B. Bell, of Shawboro, and Misses Mary Cowell, Mary Hill, Miss Fagan, of San Francisco, Miss Allison and Elizabeth Simmons.

ANOTHER MEETING CALLED TONIGHT

Good Roads Association to Discuss Matters at Special Session at Chamber of Commerce.

In order that a few details, in connection with the plans of the association in the good roads movement, may be decided upon, a special meeting of the Washington Good Roads Association has been called for tonight in the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce, beginning at eight o'clock.

All members who can possibly do so are urgently requested to be present and give their views on the matters that are to be brought up.

**GOOD PICTURE PROGRAM
NEW THEATRE TONIGHT**

The New theatre will not exhibit the "Neal of the Navy" pictures as stated in this paper yesterday tonight. They were unable to secure this serial for tonight, but announcement will be made in this paper tomorrow when the installment that should be shown tomorrow night will be shown. There will be an excellent program of six reels at this house tonight.

**TODAY'S COTTON
QUOTATIONS.**

LINT—11 7-8 cents.
SEED COTTON—\$4.75.
COTTON SEED—\$45.00.

PREPARE FOR BIG BARBECUE ON WEDNESDAY

COMMITTEE IN CHARGE OF AFFAIRS ARE MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR BIG EVENT.

2,000 EXPECTED

Barbecue to be Held at Old Ford. Number of Prominent Speakers Will Express Their Views on the Good Roads Question.

Preparations for the big barbecue that is to be given at Old Ford next Wednesday are proceeding in a most satisfactory manner. The committee in charge of the affair have already arranged for the hogs and these have been "put in training" for the big event.

It is believed that fully 2,000 persons will attend the barbecue. Residents of the township and other parts of the county and a number from Pitt county are expected to be present. Several prominent out of town men, in addition to local orators, will talk on the good roads project and will tell what has been done in other parts of the State. The crowds will begin to arrive at Old Ford early in the morning. By ten o'clock the majority will have arrived. After the big barbecue, the speeches will be held. The gathering will break up at about four or five o'clock.

WAYOME CLUB MEETING.

Plans Made for Moving Club Rooms to Main and Gladden Streets.

The Wayome Club met last night to settle several urgent business matters coming up before it. A good many were present, among whom was N. Henry Moore. Mr. Moore gave a good bit of advice in the different business matters coming up, which was greatly appreciated by the members. This club unanimously voted that the rooms over Mr. Albert Willis's new store, corner of Gladden and Main streets, should be rented from Miss Lydia T. Rodman. Miss Rodman has already been seen as to the rooms, and she very generously agreed to repair the room and put them in good condition for the club's benefit. Owing to the arrangement of the rooms this seems to be an ideal place, and the club hopes to occupy the rooms by the first of January.

These rooms consist of four large rooms, the largest of which, facing on Main street, it was decided to be used as a pool room. The next room in size which is a very spacious room also, is to be used as a gymnasium, etc. The other two rooms are to be used as reading rooms and card rooms. There is light, water and gas in these rooms, and evidently they will be most suitable for the purposes of the club.

Another important matter brought up was as to the purchase of pool tables. Several tables were mentioned, but the most attractive bargains were prices on two tables at Rosemary, owned at present by the Washington-Beaufort Land Company, which company offered them to the club at half price. It was decided to select members of the club to go to Rosemary, examine the tables, and if satisfactory, to immediately crate and ship them here. As a result Messrs. Clay Carter and Walter Warner were appointed to go and they will leave Friday afternoon on their mission.

The club adjourned to meet again at a call meeting to be called when the committee returns from Rosemary.

NEW THEATRE

TO-NIGHT

Excellent Program
Photoplays
6—Splendid Reels—6
Tomorrow Night
"ME, HIM & I"

MAIN ST.