

BOND OPPONENTS MET TO FIGHT "SLAVERY AND BONDAGE"

CAPTAIN STUDDART, MARSHALL LEGGETT, H. E. HODGES, AND COLONEL RODMAN MADE SPEECHES. RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED.

At a meeting held this noon in the court house at which close to one hundred voters of Washington township were present, and which was called for the purpose of ascertaining the sentiment of the voters regarding the proposed bond issue for good roads, some forcible speeches were delivered, setting forth points why the issue should be strenuously opposed.

The meeting was called to order by Marshall Leggett. H. E. Hodges moved that John Bell be elected chairman. Mr. Bell took the chair and called for the election of a secretary. C. H. Harrison was selected to fill this place.

The first speaker was Captain Studdart, a resident of this city. "I am for good roads," began the captain, "but not as laid down by the committee which has the movement in charge in Washington township. If Washington wants to grow and prosper it must help those who help it. There is no use of being in a great hurry in this matter, for we can wait until the next session of the legislature, when the great war may be over and when conditions will be more settled in this country of ours."

"I have no quarrel with the opponents who are behind this movement in their zeal, however, they have overlooked some important things. Let them wait a while and let them consult with some of the older heads, before attacking a measure of this kind. Their proposition is not a fair one. It leaves out Chocowinity and Long Acre townships, which help to pay the bills of Washington. But that, my friends and fellow citizens, is not all. These people who are here today say that they do not want a bond issue. Are they going to force it over these men?"

"I say to you, my friends, don't vote for taxes of any kind until you have running water in your homes, until you have cement sidewalks around your houses and to your barns and can make conditions easier for your wives in the country."

Marshall Leggett followed Captain Studdart, and made a highly interesting address.

"Gentlemen," he began, "I cannot understand this proposition of the townspeople taking up good roads on behalf of the country people. I have followed this good roads movement from the very beginning. The first thing I knew, however, was when a committee got together and the next thing I knew they had sent out invitations to a smoker, to rope in the poor suckers. I want to tell you, my friends, that whenever you see this committee or this crowd together and making love to you, keep both eyes open and keep alert, for you may be sure that they want to do you for something and that they have gotten something up their sleeves. I tell you my friends, the people of Washington ought to build streets in their city before they come out to the country and try to build roads for us farmers."

"From the standpoint of taxation, we are growing under it. And for us to now go up to the ballot box and ask for more to be put on us—is that consistency? How many people of the rural districts will get much benefit out of good roads?"

We've got no more reason to believe that the proposed bond issue will be judiciously spent than the money in the past has been. You won't find anyone in the country who is in favor of the bond issue, but who had something to do with the spending of the money in the past.

"This meeting was called for the purpose of letting the people of Washington know how we farmers feel about this thing. I am the last man in the world to raise any hard feeling between the people of the city and of the country. I have heard silver-tongued lawyers say that anyone who opposed the bond issue did so to create a sentiment between the people of the city and the people of the country, but that is not so. We are ignorant and we are sorry for it and if we want to be taxed, we want to be taxed for education and not for automobile roads. The men who own automobiles are behind this movement, my friends."

"They say that it will enhance the value of your property. That only means that your taxes will be doubled. This bond issue will not raise one more grain of corn on my farm, or allow me to get any more cotton off an acre. I urge you, my friends, to register and to down this proposition."

Mr. Leggett's remarks were greeted with hearty applause. He was followed by H. E. Hodges, who spoke as follows:

"My friends, this bond issue is a serious question with me. If bonds issues keep coming in on us the way they have been doing in the past, it will not be many years before we are serfs and slaves. They tell you that it will enhance the value of your property, but what will that do? It will cause the property to go into the hands of a few, into the hands of the moneyed men and the corporations."

"Did you ever hear anything about \$50,000 bond issues before the automobiles came into style? I want to tell you that our forefathers fought for liberty and freedom and that they shot hell out of those who would oppress them."

"They say that our present roads in Beaufort county are a disgrace. That's no excuse for this bond issue. We have a chain gang, we have paid thousands of dollars in taxes, and yet we have nothing to show for all this expenditure. We ought to kick against this while we have the opportunity to kick. My friends, I want to tell you that I am a natural born kicker. I've been kicking for fifty years. I want to tell you that I have gone up to the ballot box and voted against a measure and that I was the only white man who did so."

"And now they try to bring this method of bondage and slavery upon us. They want the people of the rural districts to take the word of a few hot-headed lawyers, who are always looking out for No. 1. Some of them even come to you and tell you that bonds are a blessing. Register, my friends, so that we can avoid this additional tax against ourselves and our homes."

Mr. Hodges' speech was exceedingly well delivered and he was frequently interrupted with applause.

and laughter, when he scored some particularly strong points.

Col. W. C. Rodman was the next speaker called upon. He took up the measure of road legislation and gave his views on how the good road work should be carried out in Beaufort county. He began by stating that he had no feeling in this matter except to act for the best interests of the county. He also added that he had no criticism for those who favored the bond issue and that he believed that they believed they were working for the best interest of the county. He stated that there was not a stronger advocate of good roads in the county than he. (Owing to the necessity for hurrying to press, we are unable to give Col. Rodman's talk in full. He covered those points which he mentioned in his talk before the Good Roads Association meeting and which he brought out in various letters that have been published by this paper.—Editor.)

At the conclusion of Col. Rodman's talk, Marshall Leggett submitted the following resolutions, which were adopted by the meeting:

Whereas, a bond issue of \$50,000 for the roads of Washington township has been proposed and has been submitted to the voters of said township under the public laws of 1913;

And, whereas, we, the citizens of Washington, Long Acre and Chocowinity townships, present at this meeting, are opposed to the proposed bond issue at the present time, under present conditions and the surrounding circumstances;

And, whereas, we wish, at the same time, to express our unalterable desire to see good roads all over the county of Beaufort;

Now, in order that the people of the city of Washington, Washington township, Chocowinity and Long Acre, may know our views in this matter,

Therefore, Be It Resolved:

(1) That we hereby pledge our allegiance to the cause of good roads throughout the length and breadth of Beaufort county and expressly state that we will use our utmost endeavors to see the roads of Beaufort county improved in every practical and economical way.

(2) That in our opinion, the tax a heretofore collected for Long Acre, Chocowinity, and Washington Townships, have not been economically expended, but on the other hand, have been wasted and frittered away to the detriment of the tax payers and those who have been compelled to use the roads.

(3) That we favor the consolidation of Long Acre, Chocowinity and Washington townships into one road district, and that the taxes from the city of Washington be expended in a fair and equitable manner for the improvement of all the roads in that district.

(4) We deem it unfair for the people living in the city of Washington to tax the farmers of Washington township for the improvement of certain roads solely for the benefit and pleasure of automobile owners.

(5) We believe that the roads should be improved for the joint benefit of the farmers and business men of the city of Washington and we farmers living outside of the city limits in Washington township, earnestly request our friends in the city not to vote these taxes on us against our will.

BENT OVER STOVE; HAIR IS BURNED

Miss M. M. Cherry of River Road Narrowly Escapes Serious Accident While Lighting Fire.

(Special Correspondence) While starting a fire in the stove, Miss M. M. Cherry of River Road, recently met with an accident which, but for her quick work, might have resulted in a fatality.

Miss Cherry bent too close over the stove. Her hair came in contact with the flame and in a second it was ablaze. The flames reached a large celluloid comb and this also caught fire and burned fiercely. Sparks settled in her clothing and this also caught fire.

Fortunately there was some water close by and without losing her presence of mind Miss Cherry threw it over herself and quickly had the flames extinguished. When she took an inventory of the damage done it was found that part of her hair had been burned off, the melted comb compactly glued to the top of her head and part of her clothing burned.

Miss Lowery, one of the popular teachers in the Aurora schools, passed through the city today en route of her home for the holidays.

WASHINGTON NOW HAS TRAFFIC COP

Excellent Idea is Being Carried Out. Officer Stationed at Corner of Market and Main Streets.

Washington today assumed another degree of metropolitan appearance. We now have a traffic policeman at the corner of Main and Market streets, who keeps the vehicles straightened out and whose duty is to prevent any collisions or mix-up in traffic.

Officer Nye was the first man to be assigned to this duty. The idea is an excellent one and it is hoped that it will be kept up. It is of especial benefit on Saturdays, when the traffic is heavier than usual.

WILL ASSIST MILL CHILDREN

Superintendent of Education in Lenoir County is Impressed by Number Who Have to Work.

Kinston, Dec. 18.—Prof. Jos. Kinsey, Lenoir county's veteran superintendent of schools, has been investigating the status of mill children. He finds that "work they must, most of them, but why in darkness?" He passed a cotton mill, where the operatives were pouring out, and was impressed by the number of boys and girls in the crowd.

"Shouldn't that host of youngsters be in school?" he asked adults leaving the mills. The grown-up operatives readily convinced him that they should not. Practically all of them, he was informed, "labor to support widowed mothers and younger sisters and brothers, and some, of course, to keep sorry fathers."

Professor Kinsey today declared his intention of starting a campaign for public night schools, at which attendance might or might not be made compulsory. He wants no sessions a week, between the hours of 7 and 9 p. m.

MINUTES OF THE CRESCITE CLUB

Mrs. Worthington Entertained Organization Thursday Afternoon.

Hostess, Mrs. Malcolm Worthington. Papers, "The Modern Wonders of the World; a Wireless Telegraphy and Wireless Telephone, by Miss Janet Wetmore; h. X-Ray, Radium, Antitoxin and Anesthetics, by Mrs. William Rumley; c. The Aeroplane and Submarine, by Mrs. Harry McMillan."

After business part of the meeting the hostess served a delightful luncheon course, assisted by Mrs. E. K. Willis. The club was also glad to have with them Mrs. James Coridon, of Raleigh, as their guest.

BREAKS ARM IN "CRANKING" AUTO

John C. Thomas Suffers Painful Accident Near Maple Cypress.

(By Eastern Press) New Bern, Dec. 18.—While attempting to "crank" an automobile near Maple Cypress yesterday afternoon, John C. Thomas had the misfortune to break one of his arms.

Mr. Thomas, in company with George A. Nicholl, had gone out to try their luck with dog and gun and were preparing to return when the accident occurred.

Mr. Thomas was carried to St. Luke's hospital where the injured member was given medical attention.

WOULD DIVIDE THE STATE CAPITAL AT GREENVILLE

Greenville Judge Declares That State Will Have To Be Divided Some Time.

(By Eastern Press) Greenville, Dec. 18.—If the plan which a local judge unfolded today was carried out Greenville would have no kick coming. Since learning of the proposition to "swipe" some section of this county, a piece of Craven and a little from another to enlarge Lenoir, the judge has figured out a much better proposition, and it certainly sounds more reasonable, he says.

The plan is to divide North Carolina into two States. One part of the present State would retain its original name, while the other section would be universally known as Eastern Carolina, and would have for its capital, Greenville, of course.

The plan is a mighty good one, according to the way the judge views it, and he says that he does not think stating that he expects to see that done some day when things become congested in this country and it is found that the states are too large to be controlled by one State government.

Of course, this plan as proposed by the judge, can not be thought of at this time. Right now North Carolina is getting along pretty well with one governor and the others that are always trying to be on election year.

"It will be expected," said the judge, "that were such a proposition as this to be put through some time in the future, there will be a long and loud wall heard from certain

CASES BROUGHT UP BEFORE RECORDER HAD GOOD GRAFT CITY SCHOOLS HAVE CLOSED

A number of cases were tried and disposed of before the recorder yesterday afternoon.

William Biggs, colored, charged with stealing a pair of gloves from Russ Hoot store, was found guilty and recommended to be hired out.

Ed. Reddick, riding bicycle on the sidewalk, was fined costs of court.

Joe Cherry, soliciting, was found not guilty.

Katherine Moore and Mary North, assault, were each fined \$5 and one-half the costs.

Carthene Moore, carrying concealed weapons, was found guilty and fined \$5 and costs.

P. Orleans, for letting pony run at large on the streets, was fined costs.

SERVICES TOMORROW AT THE COUNTY HOME

Rev. H. B. Searight will conduct services at the county home tomorrow afternoon at three o'clock. The public is cordially invited to be present.

INVESTIGATE!

Choice lots are offered for sale by us on Brown and Charlotte Sts., extended all lots have 75 feet or more frontage, with 150 feet depth to a 20 foot alley, and are high and dry. Reasonable restrictions assure your living among white people only with desirable neighbors. Select the location of your home where you will be free from either natural or artificial nuisances.

Investigate our property before buying elsewhere.

BEAUFORT FARM CO.

By W. T. HUDNELL.

From The Savings Account to The Christmas Stocking

How many stockings are you going to fill on Christmas morning? In how many of them would you like to put bigger, better, prettier things? Don't we all wish every Christmas that we could give father a nicer house coat, or mother a finer dress, or the dozen and one other members of the family, something a lot richer than our pecker book allow?

Our Holiday Savings Fund Which Starts December 27th

This plan is so admirable that saving becomes an easy matter. You pay only a few cents a week for 50 weeks and then receive our check two weeks before Christmas, for all your savings, plus 4 per cent interest. Come to the Bank any day between now and December 31st, and start your savings account in our Holiday Fund. It is the one sure way to "fill the stockings" with the things you want—the one sure way to have the kind of Christmas that makes us Merry.

THE SAVINGS & TRUST CO.

WILLIAMSTON TO GO AFTER DUPONT MILL

MARTIN COUNTY CITY IS HAGER FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF PLANT NEAR ITSELF.

HAS MADE BID

Letter Has Been Sent to Head of Powder Company at Wilmington. Large Tract of Excellent Land is Available.

(By Eastern Press) Wilmington, Dec. 18.—On Thursday, the Chamber of Commerce wired the Dupont Powder Co., at Wilmington, Del., asking it to locate the proposed North Carolina plant at Williamston. This message has been followed by a letter in which are set forth the advantages of the town.

With a magnificent water front on a river on which freight steamers go out into the commerce of the country and yet the sound will not admit of the passage of the modern warships to this point, and with the Atlantic Coast Line touching all points, the town can offer the best proposition to the Duponts, which can be made in this eastern section.

The Wilson farm, with its hundreds of acres, lying on the river, is the ideal place for the establishment of such a plant. The people of the town are anxious to secure this plant and will offer a site and other considerations to induce it to come to Williamston.

CITY SCHOOLS HAVE CLOSED

Teachers and Pupils to Have Two-Weeks Holiday. Funds Raised for Orphanages and Playgrounds.

The city graded schools closed yesterday afternoon for the Christmas holidays and will remain closed until January 3, giving the teachers and pupils a two-weeks vacation.

The pupils yesterday raised \$16.45 as contributions to the Masonic and Oxford Orphanages.

Fifty dollars have been raised by the pupils for equipping a play ground. The Second Year High School raised the largest fund, giving \$15.90 to the project. Work on the playground will be started as soon as weather conditions are favorable.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. D. F. Putnam, of Roxboro, will preach at the morning and evening services at the First Baptist church tomorrow. All of the church members are urged to be present. We extend a cordial invitation to the public.

Sunday School at 9:45. By all means come out to the Baraca class. W. L. Vaughan, Teacher.

Miss Edna Willis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Willis, is home to spend the Christmas holidays.

JUST LIKE NEW

Is the way we always return your garment after cleaning, pressing and repairing it. We await your command to call for your clothes.

WRIGHT'S STEAM PRESSING WORKS

PHONE 231

NEW THEATRE TO-NIGHT

ENTIRE CHANGE OF PROGRAM TONIGHT

Prices 5 & 10

Are You Interested In a HOME?

A new Series of the Home Building and Loan Association will open on

January 8th, 1916.

SEE

W. E. SWINDELL, Pres., or J. B. SPARROW, Sec'y.