

Sylvan Valley News

Our County—Its Progress and Prosperity the First Duty of a Local Paper.

J. J. MINER, Manager.

BREVARD, TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY, N. C., FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 1907

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Transylvania Lodge No. 143,
Knights of Pythias



Regular convention every Tuesday night in Masonic Hall. Visiting Knights are cordially invited to attend.
T. W. WHITMIRE C. C.

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Doctors find
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The 5-cent packet is enough for usual occasions. The family bottle (60 cents) contains a supply for a year. All druggists sell them.

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Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. Never fails. Buy it now. It may save life.

GOOD ROADS MEETING.

Bond Issue the Best Plan--Experience of Other Counties.

Editor Sylvan Valley News:

As the time is fast approaching for the mass meeting of the citizens of the county to consider how we shall improve our roads, I thought I would give a few impressions of what I had learned from the experiences of other counties. As I understand the proposition now before the people of this county something is going to be done to make our roads more passable than they are at present and that a mass meeting has been called for the purpose of deciding how said improvements shall be made. As I have read in your valued paper there are several ways and methods proposed, each and every one of which has its good and weak points, and also its advocates. And I also understand that the reason for this mass meeting is to get the general sense of the tax-payers of the county as to their wishes in the matter and what plan they think best suited to the county, and to have a free and open discussion of all the plans.

As the question of good roads is a very live one in this state and as many of the more progressive counties have already experimented as to the best methods of having the work done—by taxation alone, by work and taxation jointly, and by issuing bonds, as well as the physical method of building the roads—I would consider it most foolish for us to now experiment. We should be able to profit by the costly experience of others and now adopt that plan which has proved the best in other counties under similar conditions.

After a careful study of the methods of several of the other counties in the state—both in the level eastern portions, in the hilly piedmont region and in our glorious mountains of the west—I will say candidly that if possible I am in favor of a bond issue for the purpose of building and maintaining the roads of the county and paying the interest of the bonds by taxation, and building good macadam roads.

Our sister county of Haywood has tried all the known methods of working the roads and after having given all plans a fair trial has decided that a bond issue is the best—in fact the only way to permanently improve the roads during the lifetime of the present generation, and that macadam is the most satisfactory way of building the roads.

It is impossible to formulate any plan that will work absolutely the same on all men—no system of taxation does that—so we have to adopt in all tax levies as well as in other forms of government, that method which gives the greatest benefit to the greatest number and is most economical.

Several objections have been made to a bond issue, as it will

open up a large chance for stealing, and that the men who handle the proceeds of the bond sale may steal or graft some of it. Such an imputation on the people of Transylvania county is most unjust. We can readily find many men here who would handle many times the amount of any bond issue and account for every cent of it. The officers of our banks, our county treasurer and sheriff handle during their terms of office many times the amount of any bond issue we may raise. I do not think that any argument relying solely on the charges that we could not get honest men in the county to handle the money raised by a bond issue will be openly made by any citizen of the county, for any man who actually believes that such a condition exists ought to move to some other county where he can find honest men. We have plenty of good men who would handle any amount we could raise most judiciously. The county has already issued \$85,000 worth of railroad bonds and I have never heard any charges that any one stole any of the proceeds. There was just as much opportunity to steal in that instance as there will be if bonds are voted for improving the country roads.

If bonds are issued and it is decided to macadamize the principal roads of the county—for it would be impossible to make every road in the county perfect—we would have to grade and macadamize about 60 miles, which would give us a good road from Lake Toxaway to the Henderson county line on Boilston, passing through Brevard; one from Island Ford bridge to Brevard; from the Henderson county line beyond Grange to Brevard; from the foot of Mill Hill mountain to Brevard and then to Penrose and also to Davidson river mills, making in all about 60 miles of first class macadam road. In time the other and more unimportant roads could be also improved.

It would cost about \$2,000 per mile to build these roads in a first class manner, so we would have to sell \$120,000 worth of bonds, and the interest and cost of collecting the same would amount to about \$7,200 per year. This seems a large sum, but if the roads were worked under the present system according to law, and allowing the men only the small wages of \$1 per day, the value of the time of those liable to road working in the county figures up to more than \$10,000 per year, as we had last year nearly 1,000 polls in the county who were each liable to 10 days work on the roads.

Of course these macadam roads could not go by every man's house in the county, but every man in the county would be benefited. The railroad did

not go by every man's property here, but every man in Transylvania has been benefited greatly by the building of the road, and the same would apply to, the building of good roads.

Nothing would be a greater attraction to investors—and the very class of investors that we want, namely, those who want to buy farms and cultivate them—than to be able to point with pride to our good roads, and in a few years the increased valuation of the property would more than pay the increased tax, and the good roads would be a clear profit.

The maintenance of the roads could be provided for by a special tax or law requiring those who lived contiguous to them to either pay a certain amount or do a certain amount of work, which would also equalize to a certain extent the taxation. A small property tax added to an additional tax on the poll would pay the interest on the bonds and provide a fund for paying the bonds at their maturity.

It is very hard to make the people living in those sections not immediately on the proposed macadam road to see the great benefit of the building of said road, and it may be that voting bonds in each township would be the best—the only difference being that by the township method it would take longer to get a good system of roads. I do not believe there is a township in the county that would not vote for bonds after seeing the benefits of good roads in one township in the county. And as Brevard is the center of the county it may not be a bad idea for Brevard township to start the ball to rolling and to vote enough bonds to macadamize the principal roads in said township to the borders thereof and thereby set an example to the other townships of the county.

If there is any other or better method of securing good roads I hope that the exponent of it will be at the mass meeting and let his plan be known. What we want is better roads, and there is no need of caviling over the method so that we get the roads.

Hoping to see a large and representative gathering of Transylvania's progressive and representative citizens on the first Monday in January, 1907, and that some satisfactory method will then and there be proposed and adopted, I remain,

Yours truly,

BONA VIA.

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollar's Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O.

We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions, and financially able to carry out any obligations made by his firm.

Walding, Kinnan & Marvin,
Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price, 75c per bottle. Sold by all druggists.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

How to Decorate the Turkey.

The Christmas turkey is dressed with as much care as the Christmas hostess and in more colors. If it be a family turkey a wealth of paper ribbons adorns it, and a grouping of parsley rosettes trims its sides, says the Boston Traveler. Half a lemon makes a head for his turkeyship, and of course it rests in a bed of green stuffy edible. The turkey is browned before his exterior treatment begins and in this matter there is only one rule, which is that he shall be browned all over. He must be done "just to a turn," and the turn is a deep rich brown, almost as dark as seal brown, but very shiny, with the shine caused by the richness of his cookery. Now the turkey is taken out, and a platter specially prepared for him is brought forth. This is heated and is covered with green, and for this the pretty water cress plant is as decorative as anything. Take his birdship and while he is still sizzling tie around him a paper chain. Let it be made in a sort of effect which is so becoming to the American king of table birds. Carry this ruching of ribbon around his noble breast and fasten it in the back, so that as he lies upon his back his breast will rise in a handsome, graceful arch, adorned by the ribbon trimming. The turkey will want a few rosettes upon skewers of wood, or metal will answer the purpose. Do not let the turkey go to the table minus a head or minus a tail. A lemon cut in half, with a few notches for balancing purposes, will answer for both places. Take the half of a lemon that is to make a head and let it rest in a bed of parsley. The turkey must have his wristlets, for no turkey looks well without them. For wristlets or paper cuffs you can buy the cuffs that come for this purpose, or if you cannot buy them handily you can make them. Take of firm white paper enough to go around the turkey's leg. Fold the paper, and when it is folded slash it. Cut it as though you were making a fringe. Now glue the cuff into shape. Let it dry and you have an ornament for the turkey's leg. This will protect your fingers from grease when you nibble the drumstick.

How to Make Chestnut Dressing.

In preparing a chestnut dressing for the Christmas bird, use French chestnuts. Cook one and a half pints in boiling water until tender. Shell and press through a vegetable ricer. Season with two rounding tablespoonfuls of butter, a saltspoonful of pepper, a level teaspoonful of salt and four tablespoonfuls of cream. Now add a cupful of fine cracker crumbs and a quarter of a cupful of melted butter. Never put poultry seasoning or sweet herbs into a chestnut dressing.

Food don't digest? Because the stomach lacks some one of the essential digestants or the digestive juices are not properly balanced. Then, too, it is this undigested food that causes sourness and painful indigestion. Kodol For Indigestion should be used for relief. Kodol is a solution of vegetable acids. It digests what you eat, and corrects the deficiencies of the digestion. Kodol conforms to the National Pure Food and Drug Law. Sold here by Brevard Drug Co.

Mr. Rockefeller advises young men to spend their youth in study. Probably he would have them burn the midnight oil.

The Right Name.

Mr. August Sharpe, the popular overseer of the poor, at Fort Madison, Ia., says: "Dr. King's New Life Pills are rightly named; they act more agreeably, do more good and make one feel better than any other laxative." Guaranteed to cure biliousness and constipation. 25c at Z. W. Nichols' drug store.

"What is viler than the smell of liquor" asks an Indiana Lecturer. Well, we should say a cheap cigar.

That's the house the Doctor built. The biggest house you see; Thank goodness he don't get our money. For we take Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea.

—Brevard Drug Co. & Z. W. Nichols.