

Sylvan Valley News

ONLY NEWSPAPER IN TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY

A HOME PAPER FOR HOME PEOPLE—ALL HOME PRINT

VOLUME—XVI

BREVARD, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1911.

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NO IMPROVEMENTS FOR FRENCH BROAD

ENGINEER FINDS PLANS ARE IMPRACTICABLE

Work Proposed by Former Con- gressman Grant Gets Adverse Report.

The people of this county have been awaiting with considerable interest the action the government experts would take with reference to the improvement of the French Broad river. It will be readily recalled that former Congressman John G. Grant obtained an appropriation of \$20,000 for the purpose of having a survey made to determine whether or not it would be practicable to make the French Broad navigable. Recently a party of government engineers came here and made the trip from here to Asheville on the river, gathered facts about the river, the lands along it, its flow, and the like, and returned to headquarters.

Within the past few days several local people have received letters from the chief engineer in charge of the work giving the opinion that nothing can be done for the river except at a cost far in excess of the amount of benefit which would accrue.

That the people of the county may know the conditions as found, and the further course of procedure in case there should be any inclination to continue the fight to have something done, the News herewith reproduces the letter from the office of the engineer:

"It having come to the notice of the undersigned that you are understood to be interested in the question of the improvement of the French Broad river in North Carolina, you are hereby informed that the preliminary examination of the locality named authorized by the act of congress approved June 25, 1910, has been made, and that the report submitted thereon is unfavorable to the improvement. The principal conclusions upon which the report was based are as follows:

"1. There is very little navigation on this section.

"2. The cost of a satisfactory improvement would not be warranted by present commerce, or by any increase in the same at present prospective.

"3. A stretch of river impracticable of improvement at present at cost commensurate with the commercial interests involved intervenes between the French Broad river in North Carolina and the lower portion of the river, which is a navigable tributary of the Tennessee.

"4. The question of the development of water power was also considered, but the physical and economic conditions appear to be such that this development could not now be economically combined with the improvement of the river for navigation.

"5. Damage is periodically caused by floods in the river, but the cost of an efficient flood protection system would at the present time be out of proportion to the amount of damage caused.

"You are further notified that all interested parties have the privilege of an appeal from this conclusion to the Board of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors, a permanent body sitting at Washington, D. C., to which all examination and survey reports of this character are referred. Parties desiring to do so may be heard on appeal by the board either orally or in writing. Any statements, views, or arguments concerning the necessity for the proposed improvement which they may wish to present for the consideration of the reviewing officers should be forwarded to the Board of Engineers for Rivers and

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF COUNTY MEETS

DOCTORS FOREGATHER FOR DISCUSSION

Adopt Resolutions in Regard to Better Sanitation and Health Laws.

The Transylvania County Medical Society held its regular monthly meeting on Monday with a full attendance. A number of matters of interest to the society were discussed, and the question of the public health in the county occupied considerable attention. On this question the following resolutions were adopted by the society.

"Resolve, that we hereby heartily endorse all of the resolutions passed by the Board of Health of Transylvania county at its meeting on November 25, 1911.

"Resolve, that we as physicians urge upon the people of Transylvania county the ever increasing need of sanitation and their co-operation with the health authorities that the laws for the prevention of disease are laws made by the people for the benefit of the people, except the Physicians, that the Medical Profession is the only self sacrificing profession or business as appears when the profession advises as we now do the observance of all health laws to prevent sickness it is depriving each member of the profession of a certain amount of income. The prevention of an epidemic of fever, diphtheria, scarlet fever, etc., is that much money out of the individual Doctor's pocket and as a rule, instead of the people appreciating this fact and giving to the medical profession the honor and credit deserved, they often antagonize the good work, Miss Gossipbox talks with a maximum of tongue and minimum of brains, and Miss Know-all, raises a hue and cry against sanitation and quarantine and Mr. Grouchey is all upset if the medical profession does not take his diagnosis in place of it's own in a given case of disease.

"Resolved further, that we hereby recommend and endorse the efforts of the Board of Health, Supt. of Schools and County Supt. of Health for the proper business like manner in which they are serving the best interest of the public in preventing disease.

"Resolved further, that we urge upon all good citizens to report the existence of all contagious diseases at once to the Supt. of Health, and co-operate with him as to quarantine, this prevents disease in their homes and death in their families, probably the death of the most beloved and cherished child.

"The foregoing resolutions are adopted and published for the benefit of the people, and not for the benefit of the Board of Health or the County Supt. of Health, or any special one, but for the people as a whole, and individually."

Harbors, Southern Building, Washington, D. C., in time to reach the board within four weeks from the date of this notice. If oral hearings are desired, dates for the same may be arranged for by correspondence with the board.

"Should you desire further information in order to assist you to prepare your argument on the subject, you will be allowed access to the report on file in this office. It will be understood, however, that all information so furnished will be for personal use only, and not for publication.

"You are requested to communicate the foregoing to any person known by you to be interested in the improvement, and who, not being known to this office, did not receive a copy of this communication."

PYTHIAN OFFICERS ELECTED

Brevard Lodge Knights of Pythias No. 224 at its meeting Tuesday night elected the following officers for the ensuing term. These officers will be installed at the first meeting in January:

Past Chancellor—J. S. Bromfield.
Chancellor Commander—M. M. Chapman.

Vice Chancellor—R. B. Wilson.
Prelate—D. D. Bracken.
Master of Work—T. L. Snelson.
Keeper of Records and Seal—Ora L. Jones.

Master of Finance—W. L. Wiley.
Master of Exchequer—E. W. Carter.

Master at Arms—W. M. Bradley.
Inner Guard—R. L. Gash.
Outer Guard—G. H. Paxton.
Lodge Deputy—R. L. Gash.
Trustees for One Year—W. H. Harris, Welch Galloway and J. S. Bromfield.

Following the business of the session the members of the lodge adjourned to the Royal Lunch Room where a light supper was served and an hour pleasantly spent in social intercourse.

ANOTHER SOLDIER GONE

Robert H. McFaul was born in Virginia June 14th, 1833, died in Brevard, N. C. at the home of his daughter, Nov. 24th, 1911.

His wife met a tragic death in Aug. 1909, having been killed by a train near Knoxville, Tenn., since which time and event, he has made his home with his daughter, Mrs. H. A. Plummer, she being one of seven children. His family is widely scattered. Ohio, Tennessee, Texas, North and South Carolina claim them as citizens.

Mr. McFaul came of sturdy old Virginia parentage and moved to Tennessee more than 50 years ago, where he reared his family.

For more than a half century he was a consistent member of the Methodist church. He was a close student of the Bible and was one of those old-fashioned types of men who felt that the plain simple Gospel was the crying need of the world. He was a plain, honest, honored citizen and a Christian gentleman of the old school.

In the troubled years of the "storm cradled nation that fell" he shirked no duty, but was a faithful soldier. He filled a soldier's prison, he fills a soldier's grave. In prison life he contracted diseases that followed him to the end.

He rounded out nearly four score years before laying down life's burdens. An extremely active man he was impatient during his last illness because he was not able to follow some honest toil to be self-sustaining.

The home in which he spent his last years, Mrs. Plummer, was one where every want of his was satisfied so far as it was possible to make it a pleasure for him, and the filial devotion shown him in his last sickness was such as to convince the world that there are those who honor their father and their mother.

The body was carried to Knoxville, Tennessee and laid to rest in the Old Grey cemetery beside his wife, his life-long companion.

A good man, a faithful soldier, a loving father, a Christian gentleman has gone to his reward. Peace to his ashes.

"When the sun's grown cold,
And the stars grown old,
When the leaves of the Judgment Book unfold,
He shall surely hear the comforting words: "Thou hast been faithful, enter into the joys of thy Lord."

A FRIEND.
Brevard, N. C., Nov. 28th, 1911.

Christmas is only three weeks away, and the stores in the town are already beginning to have special displays of gifts for the holidays. One of the most notable and attractive is the window of England's store.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN IN REGULAR MEETING

FIRE CHIEF DOYLE OFFERS RESIGNATION

Mayor Breese Presides Over Board Which Has Only Routine Business.

The board of aldermen of Brevard met Monday night at the council hall in regular monthly session with a full attendance of the members of the board, presided over by Mayor W. E. Breese, Jr.

Owing to the fact that he will soon move beyond the town corporate limits, C. M. Doyle, chief of the fire department, tendered his resignation to the board, and the same was accepted. Mr. Doyle will continue to fill the position until his removal to his new residence, and his successor will not be elected until the next meeting of the board.

On the recommendation of the chief of the fire department the board ordered that five hundred feet of fire hose be purchased as soon as the funds of the town will permit. The present supply of fire hose is insufficient for fire fighting purposes, and the new purchase will provide the necessary means of protection required by the insurance regulations.

J. M. Kilpatrick tendered to the board his resignation as building inspector, a position recently created, and in his stead the board elected O. V. Summey.

By order of the board a number of residents on North Caldwell and Whitmire streets were required to connect with the city sewer system. The town clerk was ordered to serve written notice of this action upon the said residents, and to see that the order is complied with at once.

The monthly analysis of the water in the reservoir showed that same is pure and free from any contamination, and the report of the water committee showed that the supply is abundant.

The board ordered a payment of \$2 monthly from the town funds towards the special electric lights around the square. The balance is paid by private subscriptions.

A number of bills were presented and ordered paid, and there being no further business the board adjourned.

DEATH OF MRS. SEARCY

Many friends and relatives in this county will learn with regret of the recent death of Mrs. John Searcy in South Carolina. The following account is taken from a recent issue of the Easley Progress.

"Mrs. Lizzie Waldrop Searcy, wife of John Searcy, died last Tuesday evening, 21st of November 1911 at six o'clock, after an illness of nearly three weeks of intense pain and unusual suffering. All that could be done by willing hands and loving hearts was done, but God saw fit to transplant her in the beautiful city.

"Mrs. Searcy had been a consistent member of the Baptist church for twenty years.

"Mrs. Searcy was before her marriage, Miss Lizzie Waldrop of Selma, N. C., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Waldrop of Selma. She leaves father, mother, husband and several brothers and sisters, and eight children to mourn her death.

"Mrs. Searcy was about 40 years old, her faith was strong, and her last days were spent in calm and repose waiting for the call of her Master.

"Her remains were interred in Corinth cemetery, the funeral services being conducted by Rev. W. J. Sheriff."

DAVIDSON RIVER ROAD IS CLOSED

COMMISSIONERS SO DECIDE ON MONDAY

Opposition Fades Away and Re- quest of Mr. Vanderbilt is Granted.

The Davidson river road will hereafter be closed as a public road by order of the board of county commissioners made at the regular December session on last Monday.

There were a number of speeches made in favor of the granting of the petition for the closing of the road, and at the conclusion of the discussion Chairman Brooks turned to Commissioner Miller and asked: "What do you say, Mr. Miller?"

"Yes," came the answer.

"What do you say, Mr. Lyday?"

"No," said Commissioner Lyday.

"I say yes," said Chairman Brooks. Whereupon the following order was directed entered upon the minutes of the board:

"It is ordered by the board of county commissioners that the Davidson river road be and is hereby closed as a public road from the Davidson river mill to its termination on the property of George W. Vanderbilt upon the condition that the said Vanderbilt shall at all times permit the following parties to freely use said road without any charge to them:

"First—Owners of the Picklesimer tract of 60 acres and the owners of the Johnson cabin tract, and their heirs and assigns.

"Second—Public officials of the federal, state and county government while upon official business.

"Third—The minister and congregation of English's chapel while passing to and from religious worship."

This question of allowing the petition of Mr. Vanderbilt for the closing of this road has been before the board for some months. It has been postponed from meeting to meeting for various reasons.

At first there was considerable objection to allowing the request made in the petition, but as the reasons for the closing of the road have gradually become known all opposition has apparently died away, and at the meeting of the board on Monday there was no one present to voice any objection. In fact, several of the men who had originally opposed the closing of the road were present to speak in favor of the granting of the petition.

Among those who were present before the board to speak in favor of the petition for closing were T. L. Gash, T. T. Patton, J. C. Deaver, W. E. Breese, Jr., R. L. Gash, J. L. Bell and others. These gentlemen explained to the board that the road as it now exists is of little benefit to the county, and that if the petition for its closing be granted as requested by Mr. Vanderbilt without any conditions attached, then there is every chance that Mr. Vanderbilt will within the very near future build a magnificent automobile road through the property from this end which will eventually mean an hundredfold more to the county than the maintenance of the road as at present. Several of the gentlemen speaking before the board stated that they had been told in confidence by Mr. Vanderbilt or his agents that "great things were under way for that portion of the Vanderbilt estate lying in this county, and that in order for these things to be carried out as planned that Mr. Vanderbilt must be given a free hand. It was also urged that the proposed development of this end of the estate would more than likely be the controlling factor as whether or not a railroad is built through this sec-

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