

Sylvan Valley News

ONLY NEWSPAPER IN TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY

A HOME PAPER FOR HOME PEOPLE—ALL HOME PRINT

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ANOTHER MAN WANTS GOOD ROAD BUILDER

TOWNSHIP ROAD LAW A FARCE

If County Expects to Get Out of
Mud, Must Send Right Men
to Legislature

Three cheers for Will Grogan—and him in Brevard township, too. Who'd a thank it! But Will's head and heart is right; that is the reason he takes the right view of the road question. That is employ a competent road builder for the county. Look out, Will (our nominee). You remember you told me to advocate a county road law requiring all road tax from all sources to be collected into a common county road fund, and spent on the public roads according to class and importance, without discrimination as to townships, would be to court certain defeat. Grogan is not the only man in Brevard, Boyd and Catheys Creek townships who advocates a competent road builder. And of course to advocate a competent road builder for each township is foolishness.

Give us a county road law providing for a liberal road tax for a general county road fund, giving each township the privilege of voting a supplementary road tax. Then provide for the employment of convicts by the county. Let the law provide for the election of one road commissioner from each township, whose duty it shall be to classify all roads in the county according to importance, employ a competent road builder, and direct the expenditure of every dollar of the county road fund, the supervisors of each township to direct the expenditure of the supplementary township road funds. Empower the road commissioners to lay off new roads or change any old road regardless of whose land it might damage, assess and pay the damage.

Under such a law this county could well afford to buy a complete outfit of road building machinery, and teams to use the machinery with. Without which it is impossible to improve our roads. And when the county road commissioners prove their wisdom by calling on the state to furnish a competent and expert road engineer to help lay off, grade and permanently locate same, so that every dollar spent can be done toward permanent improvement, and not absolutely wasted as at present. I say that when the road commissioners prove to the people by their wise and economical expenditure of the county road funds that it is possible to have better roads, I will pledge old Dunns Rock to come to the front with her colors flying high above the mud, white and dry.

It begins to look to me now that the man who refuses to advocate a county road law with all the ability, wisdom, power and tact he can command is courting certain defeat. Get out of that measly little selfish idea of a township road law. See Luke xi:52.

You can't have good roads under any form of township law, and by a township law you hinder those who would have good roads.

We will grant that Brevard could paddle her own canoe and build every road up to the standard to the township line. Then what have you accomplished? No other township can do it.

Under the present conditions I can sell one-half cord of wood, delivered in Brevard, for \$1.50. If the roads were improved only to the township line, I would still have to charge the same price. Make a good road all the way and I can haul one cord of wood, which I can well afford to sell for \$2.50.

Grogan claims his knowledge was gained by traveling over five town-

ships. A very good argument. His article of last week proves a man can learn something by traveling over roads. But if he can gain all his road knowledge by traveling over five townships kept up by our present system, what ought a man to learn who has traveled over eleven states with a horse and buggy, and in some of the states to almost every man's door? I should say that was going some. And he ought to have some knowledge of the fundamental principals of road building, especially when almost every county in which he traveled was kept up by a county road law, and by the most approved methods. Such has been my experience and observation.

Now, I am no candidate, not even for road overseer or road builder, for I feel my incompetency. Yet I do claim to know how it is done, and I know that the task is too great for a man, or collection of men, who has never in his life been out of Transylvania county.

Gentlemen and fellow citizens of glorious old Transylvania county, let's for one time in our lives lay aside fool party prejudice and have the courage of our convictions and vote for the man who will pledge his powers to throw off, to free us from this infamous, unwise, unprogressive, unjust, selfish, sectional farce. Let's vote for the greatest good to the greatest number, and prove to the world that we have caught the spirit of wisdom and progress worthy of our present time. The greater my neighbor's prosperity, the greater is mine. Fellow citizens, I warn you now that if you let this opportunity pass to send a man to represent this county who has the courage of his convictions and will fight to the death for his convictions, and those convictions are to throw off this insane township road law and enact a wise county road law and forever close the mouth of the old ancient moss back whose only prayer is: "Lord, bless me and my wife, my son John and his wife, and let the devil take the rest."

I tell you if we lose this opportunity to throw the brakes off the wheels of progress that the next legislature will put them on with iron bands which no man can break.

Let the supervisors of each township call a meeting requesting every voter to be present for the express purpose of discussing ways and means for better roads, to elect delegates to a county good roads meeting and be sure to elect every voter as a delegate to the county meeting instructed to vote for a county road law and the man who will make the law.

F. HENDERSON.

THE SINGING CONVENTION

Left out last week.

The singing convention was a happy event for many people. It was encouraging to the visiting choirs to meet with the kind hearted people of Gloucester and partake of their generous hospitality. And the convention seemed to be very much appreciated by the citizens of Gloucester, for we heard the remark several times, "this is ahead of anything we have yet seen."

The next meeting of the convention will be at Cedar Mountain on the 4th Saturday and Sunday in October, and we hope all of the choirs in the county will be represented. Come one and all and let's try to make this the greatest singing convention ever held in the county. It will do your soul good to come and hear those wonderfully sweet songs.

It is gratifying to the president and vice president to see the improvement already attained from their untiring efforts to bring vocal music to a higher plane in our church services in the county; so let every lover of good music lend a helping hand in this great work.

W. C. McCALL, Pres.

JUDSON CORN, Sec.
Transylvania Co. Inter-Denominational Singing Convention.

DIRT ROADS WIN PRAISE OF USERS

NO ATTEMPT AT MACADAMIZING

Work in Williamsport Region
Excites Admiration of Farmers
and Motorists.

Philadelphia Record.

Williamsport, Pa.—The dirt roads over the hills in this section are undergoing such a transformation at the hands of the State Highway Department that every teamster and automobile driver is singing the praises of the state's recent campaign of road up-keep begun under the Sproul road law. No attempt at macadamizing has been made, the only material used being the natural soil.

The secret of the improvement lies in the fact that all cross-gutters, or "thank-you-ma'ams" have been taken out, the road crowned in the centre, a good, deep gutter dug at each side of the road and the road-bed itself rolled and smoothed, with every loose stone in sight thrown out of the way.

The highway from here to Muncy, and the fifteen miles of road from here to Jersey Shore, both of which were in such shape just before the state took hold of them that automobile drivers shunned them completely, are now in boulevard condition. The same is true of the road along Lycoming creek, on the way to Elmira, N. Y., a beautiful route, but heretofore only partially enjoyable because of miserable roads. The road for the most part runs through townships in which the taxes were already heavy, and but little good work was ever done on them. The state road crews each consist of a half-dozen men under the direction of a foreman, and one crew is given five or six miles of road to mend.

It was at first declared that the road-building would be a matter of political inefficiency, but the work done and the results accomplished have turned the sentiment into a really enthusiastic acceptance of the plan. Farmers are drawing 40 per cent. larger loads to town than previously, and another direct beneficial result as an object lesson is that many of the township supervisors, securing the improvement in the roads made by the state employes in removing the cross-gutters, have also begun this method of repair.

In Eldred township, this county, between Williamsport and Warrensville, a distance of nine miles, every cross-gutter has been eliminated, and the road is as smooth as a race track. The supervisors have been publicly commended for the great change wrought in the roadway. Farmers, milkmen and truckers whose business takes them over this route, declare that they are drawing much heavier loads than before and at much less exertion and wear and tear. One man who drives fifteen miles says the good road has given him a half-hour of advantage in time each way.

It was contended by local road-makers, when the state began its system of crowning the centre and the removal of the cross-gutters that the roads would not keep up, but would go to pieces at the first hard shower. This contention has been knocked to smithereens, for this section has experienced some of the hardest storms known this summer, and the roads mended under the new style behaved so splendidly as to create wonder. Usually under the old conditions it took two days to dry after the rain, whereas under the new drainage system, wagons and automobiles went over the road dry shod inside of ten hours.

UNIFORM RANK W. O. W.

At Hendersonville August 27, 28
and 29.

The news that the regular encampment or the fourth district uniform rank, Woodmen of the World, composed of the states of North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland and District of Columbia, will be held in Western North Carolina the latter part of August, will be received with much interest by all who are connected with the order.

The encampment will be held at Hendersonville, in Laurel Park, and will be distinctly military in every respect, and is one of the six held in America. The tents used will be the army regulation pattern, and the arrangement of the camp will be under the supervision of an experienced military officer. The baseball park will be used for drill and battalion maneuvers and for the official contests, which are a feature of each encampment. Two free trips to the national military encampment are offered as prizes to the company or companies showing the highest percentage in drill. It is expected that at least 300 members of the uniform rank will attend, and the number of sovereigns in attendance is confidently expected to reach the 2,000 mark. Ten companies have guaranteed their attendance, and in addition there will be a number of the general officers who will be there.

This is the first official encampment ever held in North Carolina, and Hendersonville is fortunate in securing it, since the competition was open to four states. The officers are to be congratulated on their selection of the Land of the Sky, for nowhere on earth can a more beautiful country be found. The securing of the encampment is due largely to the efforts and members of the 137th regiment, which is located in this district, with headquarters at Asheville, with Col. H. E. Walter district manager in charge.

The Woodmen of the World band of Lenoir will furnish music.

MORRIS LAND SOLD

An important land deal took place recently when T. W. Whitmire negotiated the sale of the Morris property in North Brevard to C. J. Kelloway of Wilmington. The property consists of a dwelling house and 32 acres of land, on which is a large orchard. The consideration was \$4,000.

Mr. Kelloway's wife is staying this summer at Beech Nut Farm, and he makes occasional visits there. His business is connected with the railroad. There is a probability, we understand, that Mr. Kelloway will at some future time move here and take charge of his newly acquired property.

ETOWAH NEWS

The people have been enjoying the dry weather of the last few days.

Miss Effie Shipman of Route No. 1 visited Miss Annie Blythe last week.

Mrs. T. S. McKinna is very ill. We hope for a speedy recovery.

The revival meeting here was a great success. Twenty-four persons professed faith in Christ. Eight united with the M. E. church while several others are expected to unite with the other churches in the community.

Rev. W. H. Pless left Monday for Marion, where he will assist Rev. D. L. Earnhart in a meeting. Rev. P. P. Orr expects to fill Rev. Pless' appointment at Little River chapel Saturday. There will also be services Saturday night.

Rev. A. J. Manley began a series of meetings at Boilston Sunday night. Quite a number of our people are attending the services.

Osee Orr is visiting his uncle, Dr. E. S. English, of Brevard.

As news is scarce this week I will close with best wishes for all.

BILL WRAY.

REGISTER OF DEEDS OF HAYWOOD SUICIDE

JAMES NOLAND SHOOTS HIMSELF

Embittered on Account of Vile
Ingratitude of His
Friends.

Waynesville, August 5.—Embittered, it is believed, by reflecting upon "vile ingratitude" of those who he felt should have been his friends, James Noland, register of deeds for Haywood county, shot and killed himself in his bedchamber early yesterday morning.

Mr. Noland was a candidate for renomination in the democratic primaries of Saturday. The theory is that he knew of many votes against him upon whose support he had counted; people, it is said, for whom he had done favors, such as lending them sums of money or signing bail or other bonds, voted for his opponent.

Mr. Noland shot himself with a pistol, apparently just after rising from bed, about 7 o'clock yesterday morning, and died at once. He was one of the most prominent men in the county and was about 35 years old.

In the house at the time of the tragedy were Mrs. Noland and several of her children. Mrs. Noland did not hear the pistol shot, but her attention was attracted when she heard the body fall. She sent her little daughter to inquire what the matter was, and a moment later the child ran back crying that "papa was on the floor, all bloody."

Mrs. Noland rushed to the room only to find her husband expiring while blood streamed from his temples. The bullet, fired into the right temple from a 32 caliber revolver, had passed entirely through the head, emerging at the left temple. Death was almost instantaneous. County Coroner S. L. Stringfield was summoned, but he decided there was no occasion for an inquest, suicide being evident. The funeral will take place tomorrow.

The suicide is ascribed by some of his friends to Mr. Noland's failure to obtain renomination at the primaries Saturday. He had a lead of 12 votes, but another primary would have been necessary. A hard fight had been made on Mr. Noland and for some days he had seemed unwell or depressed. For several days he had scarcely eaten anything. Late Saturday he complained to several of his friends that support in the primary had not been forthcoming from persons of whom he had expected it, and he seemed both bitter and dejected, it is said. Shortly before midnight he left for his home two miles from town, and on arriving at the house ate a light supper, which he asked his wife to prepare. He did not discuss politics with her, it is said.

Mr. Noland was one of the most popular and best known men in the county, and was a man of considerable means, his estate being estimated at from \$30,000 to \$40,000. He is survived by a widow and seven children, two boys and five girls. He had served for two terms as register of deeds. He was a native of the county, and was a farmer and dairyman.—Gazette-News.

The board of aldermen held their regular monthly meeting last Monday night at the mayor's office. Practically no work was done at the meeting. Another meeting was appointed for Saturday night of this week.

"Were all medicines as meritorious as Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy the world would be much better off and the percentage of suffering greatly decreased," writes Lindsay Scott, of Temple, Ind. For sale by all dealers.