

The GOOD ROADS QUESTION As Seen By Our Subscribers

Editor Sylvan Valley News:

Please give me space in your valuable paper to make a few statements of fact concerning an effusion from our representative about two bills which he alleges I sent to the senator from this district, asking him to have them enacted into law. I am unable to see why any representative should take the course that Mr. Deaver did in regard to those two proposed bills. In regard to the first one, referred to in his effusion as "Bill No. 1," the facts are these: Under chapter 487 of the public laws of 1907, which is our present road law, it is provided, in sections 13, 14 and 15, that any township in the county may petition the board of commissioners and procure the calling of an election to vote bonds for good road purposes. Mr. Deaver's proposed bill, a copy of which he sent me, showed that he was repealing the present road law, re-enacting the law which was adopted for Transylvania county in the year 1909. Mr. Deaver's law does not contain any provisions for the voting of bonds for good roads, and consequently, under his proposed law, neither the county nor any township in the county would have the right to vote on the question of bonds for good roads.

After consulting with some of the good citizens of the county we thought it might be well to get a law passed giving the people the right to vote on the question, should they ever care to exercise that right. Mr. O. W. Clayton and myself drew a bill containing the machinery necessary to allow the people to vote bonds by the county as a whole, if they so desired, or to allow any township in the county to vote bonds, if it so desired, and put the limitation of the amount to be voted therein the same as now provided by law in section 15 of chapter 487 of the laws of 1907, above referred to. We sent one copy of this bill to Senator Hannah and one to Mr. Deaver with our request that the bills be considered and enacted into law; stating that we could see no danger whatever in the bill, as no bonds could be issued under it until an election was called and the measure ratified by a majority of the qualified voters of the county or township; and the amount of bonds to be voted was left entirely to the discretion of the people, not to exceed the amount now provided for by the present law.

Now so far as I am concerned I am willing to leave to the voters of Transylvania county any question which may affect their interest, and abide by the decision of the majority of the qualified voters of the county, or any township or district in it. But Mr. Deaver seems to be very much opposed to allowing the people of the county, or of any township in it, to cast their votes upon the question in which they are more vitally interested, in my judgment, than any other public question that could be brought before them.

Why didn't Mr. Deaver tell the whole truth about it? He tried to make it appear in his statement that I, for some sinister or selfish motive, was trying to get the legislature to force bonds upon the people of this county. If he wanted to be fair and decent about it why did he not tell the people that not a single dollar's worth of bonds could be issued by the county or township under the provisions of the bill until a majority of the qualified voters had been cast in favor of it.

And now in regard to the bill which he refers to as "Bill No. 2" I will say that there was a well attended mass meeting held at the court house a short time ago when

the public road question was thoroughly discussed and it seemed to be almost the unanimous opinion of those present at that meeting that the township system of public roads of the county should be abolished and a general county system adopted in lieu thereof, with the board of county commissioners placed in general charge of all the public roads, with power to employ a general overseer or supervisor for the roads of the county, and with the further power to employ one man in each township to take charge of the roads. The meeting appointed a committee to draft a bill along the lines indicated. Messrs. T. S. Wood, T. T. Loftis, D. L. English, Welch Galloway, O. W. Clayton and myself were appointed as this committee. Mr. Galloway was away from home, but approved the proposed bill when he returned. Mr. Wood could not attend the meeting of the committee on account of sickness in his family. Mr. Loftis was busy and did not attend, so Mr. English, Mr. Clayton and myself drew the bills for the committee. Mr. Clayton and myself agreed on a bill which was approved by Mr. Galloway. Mr. English drew a bill, as a member of the committee, adopting a general county system, but differing in a few minor points from the one drawn by Mr. Clayton and myself. Mr. Clayton and I forwarded the bill which we drew, and which was approved by Mr. Galloway, to our senator, but Mr. Hannah has never even acknowledged the receipt of it, nor had the courtesy to write us whether he is for or against it, and the matter, so far as we are concerned, was dropped there. We have never written to enquire about the bill for the bond issue or the one in regard to the roads. Neither have we ever written to any other member of the general assembly concerning either bill, believing the matter had been altogether dropped, and that our chances for getting any relief on the question of good roads for this county was at an end for at least two years. But to my surprise there was an article in your paper last week concerning the matter.

In regard to the tax levy in the bill I will say that it was provided that the commissioners must levy not less than ten nor more than twenty cents on the hundred dollars worth of property. This is the exact provision of the present road law, yet Mr. Deaver states in his article that the bill "levies a special tax from ten to twenty cents on the hundred dollars worth of property in every township in addition to the bond issue," when it is plainly provided in section 11 of said proposed bonding act that if the county voted bonds, or if a township voted bonds, then and in that event the taxes levied under the law for road purposes, and which is now applied (or misapplied) to the roads of the various townships by the township authorities, or a sufficient amount thereof, shall go to the payment of the interest on the bonds. Now why did Mr. Deaver try to mislead the people in regard to this?

As to the general road bill it was the purpose of those who drew it to adopt a county system and put the management of the public roads under the supervision of the board of commissioners, they to fix the salary of all employees, but limited the amount beyond which they could not go. It gave the commissioners authority to employ a general overseer or engineer for such time as they thought necessary, and I for one have confidence enough in our board of commissioners to feel and know that they would not allow the county to be robbed in the operation of the pro-

posed law, and so far as paying the general overseer is concerned, in my judgment, the amount that is now, and has been for the past several years, goes for the payment of township authorities for looking after the roads would be more than enough to pay the general overseer and an extra man to look after the roads in each township.

Now as to which is the best system, the county or township system, I will refer the people to Henderson, Buncombe and Haywood counties; all of these counties are building splendid roads and developing their county under a general county system. But how about Transylvania? We have had a township system for many years, and it looks to me like we are in a deplorable condition. There is not a man in the county who had a team during the winter but did not, in my judgment, lose more than half the time of his team during the winter months as a tax for the want of good roads. In fact the business of the county has almost been stopped on account of the mud, which is a tax upon the people for the want of good roads. We have no roads, no road law by which conditions can be bettered, and no representative in the general assembly through whom we can get relief. I do not profess to be a politician or a political leader or adviser, but it strikes me that it is time for the good people of Transylvania county to come together upon the measures necessary to pull our county out of the mud, develop it and put it side by side with our sister counties in the race for material advancement.

Respectfully,

W. W. ZACHARY.

WEDDING BELLS

The Wallis home on Main street was the scene of a very pretty wedding yesterday when Miss Jean Irvin Boswell, sister to Mrs. W. J. Wallis and Mrs. J. C. Witmer, was united to Mr. Samuel McCulloch of Round Oak, Ga. The reception rooms were decorated with flowers and evergreens, the color scheme being pink and green, which showed up beautifully against a background of white.

The glare of day was kept out by heavy curtains, and a soft glow was shed through the rooms by multitudinous shaded candles in silver and crystal stands. About twenty friends were assembled to witness the marriage and wish the happy couple "God speed."

Punctually at two o'clock the wedding party entered the parlor where the officiating clergyman, Rev. R. P. Smith of Asheville, performed the ceremony. The groom was supported by his brother, Mr. Robert Lee McCulloch of Atlanta, Ga. Mrs. Wallis, beautifully dressed in pink, with arms full of pink carnations and fern, was matron of honor.

The bride, dressed in clinging blue silk and lace, with a magnificent bouquet of bride roses and asparagus fern, entered on her father's arm. Mrs. David Ward played the wedding march. The ceremony was simple but solemn and beautiful.

After tendering congratulations to bride and groom the guests were served with delicious refreshments, and all joined in drinking health and prosperity to the happy couple, the toast being given by Rev. C. D. Chapman.

Mr. and Mrs. McCulloch left for the honeymoon on the afternoon train. They will make their home at Round Oak, Ga. The bride has endeared herself to the inhabitants of Brevard, and all who know her wish her every joy and blessing in her new home.

None but a narrow minded man could afford to stay away from the wedding next Saturday. It is time for the other kind to take the matter in hand and see that something is done. The rest can be converted later.

DEATH OF A. J. GALLOWAY

Another Veteran of the Confederacy Passes Away.

Andrew Jackson Galloway was born November 13, 1833; died February 16, 1913.

The birth of the subject of this sketch reaches back to that memorable night (November 13, 1833) of eighty years ago when the shining firmament, for some unknown reason to mortal man, became much disturbed and there was a real shower of meteors dropping from their accustomed places in the starry sky, and the old inhabitants termed that memorable night "the night when the stars fell."

Out on the southern slopes of the Blue Ridge, in what is now known as Old Toxaway, Transylvania county, but what was then Macon county, if that territory was in an established county at all at that time, Andrew Jackson Galloway was born on the night above mentioned. His parents, William J. Galloway and Jeanett Galloway, were natives of this same settlement and grew up with that generation who were of the first settlers of the Upper French Broad and Savannah valleys.

Brought up at a time when the tilling of the soil was the only general reliance for a livelihood, he made farming his chief occupation, and at the age of twenty-four years, on the 15th day of February, 1857, was married to Alpha M. Aiken, of what is now Pickens county, S. C., she being six years younger than he.

They settled on what is now known as the summit of the Blue Ridge in Transylvania county about three miles south of Rosman. Thirteen children were born of this marriage, one dying in infancy, another at the age of twelve, and the others—living and dead—saw and have seen the years of maturity. Mrs. Martha Chapman of Quebec, N. C.; T. H. Galloway, Mrs. Jane S. Bagwell and Welch Galloway of Brevard, N. C.; Mrs. L. E. Hines of Easley, S. C.; Mrs. Lou Webb of Dallas, N. C.; V. H. Galloway and Avery Galloway of Horse Shoe, N. C., and Flem Galloway of Lake Toxaway, N. C., are still living; Benj. Galloway, Amaligus Galloway, and Mrs. Dora Kitchen are dead.

His wife still survives him and their married life, which was one day more than fifty-six years, was one of continued marital happiness, and a more devoted couple, even down to old age, could not be found.

He joined the Confederate army in August, 1862, and remained until about the close in 1865, and was always a staunch and firm believer in Southern rights.

He was looked upon as one of the most industrious men this country has afforded, and if there was one thing he deplored it was idleness and want of care, and until he became physically unable to work he was always doing things that others might have looked upon as unnecessary. As Abraham of old might be traced by the altars he erected throughout the land of Canaan, so could A. J. Galloway be traced by labor wrought upon mountain top and in valley in the clearing of new fields in order that he might be able to live in that independent atmosphere where borrowing was unknown and every man had enough and to spare.

From the summit of the Blue Ridge he moved to where Lake Toxaway is now located, and there in that beautiful valley he began to open new lands in 1867, and though farming had been much neglected in that community, he fastidiously new life and soon had one of the prettiest farms to be found in that section of the county. He built a house which stands today as "the old homestead" just across the lake from Toxaway. There he lived until the Toxaway Lake enterprise began to assume a certain definiteness, and rather than stand in the way he voluntarily sold his home and farm and pur-

chased a farm on the west fork of French Broad river, which, like others, had "gone down" from neglect. Here he began to rebuild the waste places and again he soon had one of the best kept farms on west fork of French Broad.

His family having scattered and his health having broken, this farm was sold and he purchased a small farm near Horse Shoe in Henderson county where he lived until his death which occurred on Sunday night, February 16th, 1913, having reached about four-score years.

For nearly half a century he had been a member of the Baptist church and his last days were his best days in the faith. His sufferings had become almost unbearable and not long before his departure he expressed a desire to be at rest, and it seemed to come as an answer to his request, and he died as one who "wraus the drapery of his couch about him and lies down to pleasant dreams."

As peacefully as a child closes its eyes in sleep he passed out to be with Him whose divine presence meant so much to suffering humanity while He walked and talked with the toiling millions in the flesh and whose spirit has lightened up the dying couch of so many who have waited for His coming to receive them unto himself.

All that could be done to make his last days void of suffering was done by loving hands and kindly neighbors, and the many who came to offer their services was an evidence of the high esteem in which he was held by those who know him best.

The funeral services were conducted at the home by Rev. Limer of the Baptist church and his body was laid to rest in Old Shaw's Creek Camp Ground cemetery by the side of his youngest daughter, Dora. "An honest man is the noblest work of God." This can be truthfully inscribed on the monument that marks his grave. May those who survive him have the presence of the same divine spirit to tint the sunset of life when they shall cross the bar.

ONE WHO KNEW HIM.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

The birthday of the "Father of His Country" was celebrated at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph S. Silverstein last Saturday night in truly appropriate style.

The guests, some seventy-four in number, were greeted at the door by the nephew of Mrs. Silverstein, Mr. Howard Mount, who was dressed in the style of a colonial gentleman, with powdered hair, knee breeches and buckled shoes. Mr. Mount ushered each guest into the presence of the host and hostess who directed them to the dressing rooms. On the way upstairs Misses Miriam and Dorothy Silverstein presented each gentleman with a hachet pin and each lady with a bunch of cherries.

The Langren orchestra from Asheville discoursed sweet strains from a secluded alcove. Each guest found a partner by comparing severed slips of paper on which was written some famous exploit of "Master George" or "the General." Delicious cake and cream was served during the evening. The dining table was decorated with centerpieces bearing the flag, while the national colors were everywhere "on evidence," beautifully draped from ceiling and walls.

Mr. and Mrs. Silverstein were assisted in caring for the comfort and enjoyment of their guests by Mrs. J. W. Mottman, Mrs. Thomas Shipman, Mrs. Fred Miller and Mrs. Spencer Macfie.

All present enjoyed the evening and were enthusiastic in their praises of host and hostess.

For a sprain you will find Chamberlain's Liniment excellent. It allays the pain, removes the swelling, and soon restores the part to a healthy condition. It and 50 cent bottles for sale by all druggists.