

Sylvan Valley News

ONLY NEWSPAPER IN TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY

A HOME PAPER FOR HOME PEOPLE—ALL HOME PRINT

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PAVING CONTRACT AWARDED

Poe Construction Co., Gets Contract and Work Begins in About Ten Days.

At a meeting of the board of aldermen Tuesday night the contract was let to the Poe Construction Co., of Charlotte, N. C., for the paving of the principal streets of the town, including parts of Main, Broad, Caldwell and Depot streets, with Bermudez natural lake asphalt on a four inch concrete foundation, the work to be commenced immediately, or just as soon as the necessary machinery can be brought here from Charlotte.

Bids had been advertised for on this work and were received up until four o'clock Tuesday afternoon, the time being postponed from ten o'clock, as originally advertised, to allow time for the arrival of any prospective bidders who might come on the morning train.

When the bids were opened they read as follows:

Atlantic Bitulithic Co., of Richmond, Va.: Bitulithic paving with concrete foundation \$2.15 per square yard; granite curb 57c per lineal foot; storm sewer 86c per foot.

F. J. McGuire, of Norfolk, Va.: Tarvia X, rolled stone, penetration method, \$1.39 per square yard; Tarvia X, four inch concrete base, \$1.49 per yard; Tarvia X, mixed method, \$1.54; Dolarway \$1.39 per yard. No guarantee on any of the above.

R. A. Poe Construction Co., of Charlotte, N. C., the successful bidders, as follows: Asphalt macadam (oil product) on rolled stone base, penetration, \$1.14½ per square yard; with concrete base, using either Texico, Standard Binder C or Tarvia X, \$1.34½; with concrete foundation using Bermudez natural lake asphalt \$1.39½ per square yard. This last named was adopted by the board, and will be guaranteed five years by the builders. Concrete curb and gutter 75c per foot; resetting old granite curb 10c per foot; storm sewer 78c per foot.

Nolle Construction Co., of Chattanooga, Tenn.: Asphalt macadam, rolled stone base, \$1.30 per yard, no guarantee; asphalt macadam, Standard Binder C or Texico concrete base \$1.43, guaranteed for five years; granite curb 75c per foot; resetting old curb 20c per foot; storm sewer 86c per foot.

Star Dray Co., of Hendersonville: Asphalt macadam, Standard Binder C, rolled stone base, \$1.27 per yard; concrete base \$1.43 (not to include the grading). Granite curb 45c per foot; resetting old curb 10c per foot; storm sewer 85c per foot. No guarantee on any of this work.

After the bids were read the representatives of the various companies were asked to come before the board, one at a time, to explain any question arising in regard to the bids. Each one made good arguments, showing just why their product was away ahead of anything else under consideration and why the board should adopt their bid and let them go to work. This all consumed a great deal of time and after all had been heard the board took a recess until after supper, when they again took under consideration all the bids, with no interference from any of the bidders.

The first definite action taken was the adoption of a concrete foundation for all the work to be done, it being the sense of the board that a rolled stone base would not be satisfactory.

After this it was decided that a combination concrete curb and gutter be adopted for Main and Broad streets and one side of Caldwell. This will be a nine inch curb with a two foot extension on each side of the street to take care of all water.

The next action taken was the adoption of a binder for the work. After considerable discussion Aldermen Ashworth, Cox, Duckworth

and Snelson voted for Bermudez; Alderman Cook expressing a preference for Tarvia.

The contract was then awarded to the Poe Construction Co., as they were the only bidder who had specified Bermudez asphalt.

A representative of this company informed the News that the machinery would be shipped next Monday and that work would possibly begin in about ten days.

On Wednesday, after the contract had been awarded, a representative of the Texas Co., of Norfolk, arrived but was too late to make a bid. He wanted Texico adopted as a binder.

BUILDING & LOAN ASSOCIATION

To the shareholders of the Brevard Building and Loan Association:

Gentlemen: In submitting my report of the affairs of our association at the close of the fourth year, it affords me much pleasure in saying that its condition was never better, its popularity never greater or its usefulness never more realized by the people of Brevard and Transylvania county than at this time.

We can say with all modesty that we believe the Brevard Building & Loan Association represents a big uplift in the life and activities of Brevard and its citizens.

We do not believe we are saying too much when we claim to be materially helping this town and everybody in it. We ask no special credit for it, for we are making a reasonable profit, and are extending to all good, seriousminded, saving citizens an opportunity to improve their condition in life.

In improving property we are enhancing the value of real estate, we are making payrolls, we are helping merchants; we are encouraging thrift generally instead of extravagance and wastefulness.

Every officer and member of this association takes a pride in the idea of civic helpfulness as well as the mere profit involved. Every loyal citizen of this town wants it to prosper and above all, every citizen wants to prosper himself. Therefore every citizen of Brevard should be head, heart and hand with the Brevard Building & Loan Association.

It is a home institution, with its shoulder to the wheel, interested in the welfare of every thrifty citizen; interested in encouraging saving, selfhelp, independence; interested in improving the town as a whole—increasing payrolls, attracting new population, bringing merchants more business—in fact this association cannot thrive and grow without acting as an all-round benefactor for everything and everybody in Brevard.

As to our financial condition, I will simply call your attention to the following figures taken from the records, which tell better than mere words, no matter how well chosen, the strength and growth of this modest institution towards bigger and better things.

One ago we had 740 shares in force. Today after paying off in withdrawals 105 shares, we have 811 shares in force. Our undivided profits March 22, 1912, were \$1,178.29; today we have \$2,198.00, an increase of over 90%. Our net profit for the past twelve months is \$1,019.71.

The business for the fiscal year shows for receipts \$11,187.21, and disbursements \$11,159.51, leaving cash and in bank \$27.70. Our total assets one year ago were \$18,810.54, while today they are \$28,387.50, an increase of \$9,516.96.

We are glad to say that in the four years that we have been doing business we have not had to sell any security to protect ourselves from loss, nor have we lost one penny on account of bad loans or for any other reason.

The entire board of directors have worked with me in order to make the present success, and I want to thank them for their co-operation and help in our past success.

Respectfully submitted,
A. M. VANDER, JR.,
Sec. and Treas.

AN APPEAL FOR THE ROADS

Hogback Township Roads Are in a Very Bad Condition.—Help Wanted.

Editor Sylvan Valley News:

I should like to call the attention of the people of the county to the wretched condition of the roads in Hogback township, and to implore the board of county commissioners to help us get some relief by appointing a good supervisor, or overseer, for the township, since it now devolves upon the board to do this work for the townships, according to Mr. Deaver's letter in last week's issue of the News.

We do not for one moment pretend to say or imply that Mr. T. E. Reid, the present overseer, has misappropriated the funds of the township, for we believe he can account for every dollar that has been collected, showing where and for what purpose it has been spent. But we do say he has either used very poor judgment in his work on the public roads, or has been directed by a board of supervisors to use it in a way that has benefited the township very little, if any at all, during the last two years.

And, to call the attention of the people to the method which has been used and is still going on in the township, I wish to quote from the language of a prominent citizen of Jackson county some words that he used in my presence last week. These are his words: "There are five amendments to the roads in Hogback township which have been or are being built, and you can't ride a mule over either one of them."

Now, that quotation is about the correct language to use to show the way things are going on in this township, in regard to the roads.

Now, I know personally about what is called the Quebec amendment, and can verify what the gentleman said in reference to the amendments of the township. There has been \$122 of the township road funds used on this amendment, and it was spent a year ago, and it would be impossible to ride a mule over the road. And, what is worse than this, I am told that township supervisors have received the road as a public road.

What is true of this amendment is true of the other amendments of the township, if some of the best citizens of this township and of Jackson county are to be believed.

The amendment on Ponceon Camp mountain—one of the best and most needed in the township—is done, with the exception of a bridge sixty or more feet in length, which I understand the township authorities are wanting the county to build; and I am reliably informed that a fifteen or eighteen foot bridge is needed, if the proper fills are made at each end.

I am not opposed to the county building bridges in our township, and I believe they ought to build us more and better bridges, but they should be built across our large water-courses, and not across branches or mudholes.

And while these amendments are being botched as above stated, the roads of the township have gone down till one can hardly drive an ox team over them, much less drive over them with any kind of team, with any comfort or ease. The roads are just simply "horrid."

And why I am calling the attention of the county, and especially the county commissioners, to the conditions of the roads in this township, is because it is to the vital interest of the whole county that we have good roads in this township.

Everybody in the county knows that Lake Toxaway, the most noted summer resort in the mountains of Western North Carolina, or almost of the United States, is situated in this township. And if we don't provide good roads for the guests who visit this resort the whole county will suffer in that the people will go to the counties that are providing good highways for their pleasure and comfort. So,

it cannot be said that this is a only a township affair, but it is a question that affects the whole of Transylvania county.

There is going to be one drawback about getting any one to serve as an overseer, if I understand what the road law is at the present time.

This law, as I understand, provides that the overseer shall receive only one dollar per day for his services, and if the act does not allow better compensation to the overseer, it will be a hard matter to get any one who is competent to do the work in a satisfactory manner for the townships.

I hope these few suggestions will cause the people to begin to agitate the road question, and that if we have such a law that we can get no relief for the next two years, maybe we will have devised some better plan for road construction and maintenance while we wait. If so, this will be some compensation for the abuse I expect to get for this article.

But whatever may be said against me or for me in reference to what I have said in regard to the roads of our township, it has all been written with a view to benefitting the people of Transylvania county, and not that I have any ill will toward any one.

If we are not, as Archibald Johnson said with reference to the members of the last legislature, "afraid of our shadows," then let us agitate this question until we get better roads. Then we will have our reward. Yours truly,

W. B. HENDERSON.

Quebec, N. C.

THE SEARCH AND SEIZURE LAW

Editor Sylvan Valley News:

Raleigh, N. C., March 10.

Here comes my good Christian friend, Mr. C. W. Henderson, and jumps on me with all the vigor and vengeance of a Puritanical zealot for endeavoring to have "private residences" in our county exempted from search under the search and seizure law recently passed. About forty of us tried to do this but without avail. And if my friend had kept in touch with current events as closely as he evidently did with certain eagerly diffused gossip about my action in this matter, he would have known that the application of the law is statewide; and he would also not have had the serene equanimity of his "mental emporium" so rudely disturbed. Now I do not wish at all to deal harshly with my friend because I am over-anxious to retain, or regain if I ever had it, his friendship so as to insure a continuation of his prayers for my ultimate salvation which he so graciously promises in his article. But I must confess my faith in this regard is just a little skeptical, because if his prayers for my salvation should have the same effect that his prayers for my defeat had, I fear I should appear rather worse for his prayers.

Then again my friend declares that petitions went up from every county of the state praying for the passage of this act. Now I wish to inform him that I have never heard of any from Transylvania, and only one letter reached me asking me to vote for the bill. Dozens of letters and scores of petitions reached me asking me to have our county exempted. So the question arises, where was my zealous prohibitionist during the time these petitions were being circulated and forwarded to the general assembly? Did he ever circulate such petition? If so, where are his signatures and what did he do with his petition? A man so devoutly in earnest about raising the moral standard of his unfortunate brother should have been at work securing a monster petition favoring the bill. It applies to Transylvania county including hotels as well as residences. I did my best to exempt residences from search, just as I would do again under the circumstances and for which I have

no apology to make. So now my friend has the "great law of our state" that he says was all that was necessary to make prohibition absolute. Let him show his sincerity by helping enforce it. I look for the community about which he complains to be speedily cured under his leadership.

And he also declares I have allied myself with the whiskey interests. Terrible thought—bringing into the imagination more frightful scenes than Dante ever dreamed about purgatory! And yet this caustic and learned critic knows that I am next to a total abstainer from alcoholic drinks. I believe in temperance—in words as well as in whiskey; in the sensible application of sensible laws. I believe in justice, but I also believe in tempering justice with mercy. I am no advocate of the old Spanish and Puritanical laws that condemned and damned a man because he did not believe as others wished him to believe. One erected a crackling pyre of human flesh; the other filled the jails and burdened the gallows with innocent men and women. Behold how anxious we are for the salvation of our neighbor! Temperance for one's fellow man is a laudable desire, but is a work of education, not of force and violence. For "a soft answer turneth away wrath, but grievous words stir up anger." Fanaticism is the parent of crankiness, and crankiness never enlarged a single soul. Crankiness degenerates into narrow-mindedness, and narrow-mindedness into idocy. But my dear friend declares with all the patriotism that characterized a knight of the round table that I have laid unholy hands upon some covenant and "disgraced our county" by my legislative acts. Let's see, old friend.

First—Did I "disgrace our county" when I voted for a six months school term?

Second—Did I "disgrace our county" when I voted against an iniquitous primary law that would have destroyed in a large measure the independence and liberty of men?

Third—Did I "disgrace our county" when I voted for a corrupt practice act for the purifying of politics, which forbids the use of whiskey and money in elections?

Fourth—Did I "disgrace our county" when I voted against taking money out of the state treasury to pay petty officials scattered over this state? You will hear of this.

Fifth—Did I "disgrace our county" when I had the nerve to vote almost alone (only one other) against the most drastic revenue bill that has possibly ever been considered in this state and which laid increased taxes upon the avocation of our people?

Sixth—Did I "disgrace our county" when I voted against the re-assessment of property this year providing for an increase in taxes?

Seventh—Did I "disgrace our county" when I voted to increase the allowance to Confederate soldiers and to provide for the erection of a monument to them in every county of the state and to provide for the erection of a home for the widows of Confederate soldiers?

Eighth—Did I "disgrace our county" when I killed a bond bill for our county, the appreciation of which would have placed thousands of dollars of additional taxes upon our people and their children? But why continue to reiterate. It's useless. Come out into the bright sunlight of openmindedness and fair dealing, my friend, and don't cringe in the murky atmosphere of littleness. You will feel better. For I fear the trouble with my friend is just a little feeling of chagrin over the fact that I have been able with the assistance of the people, to accomplish some things which it had been declared I would not be allowed to accomplish. So

"Fare thee well, and if forever,
Still forever fare thee well."

Sincerely,

CHAS. B. DEEVER.