

THE BEAUFORT NEWS

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VOLUME XIV

THE BEAUFORT NEWS THURSDAY FEB. 26, 1925.

NUMBER NINE

CITIZENS OPPOSE BOND ISSUE FOR PAVING HIGHWAYS

County Board Planning To Spend \$700,000 On Hard Surfaced Roads

WOULD ALSO HAVE BRIDGE

Considerable interest was aroused last Saturday when the news was circulated about the streets that Representative Alvah Hamilton had introduced a bill in the Legislature authorizing the issuance of \$700,000 worth of road bonds. This proposed issue is in addition to the \$150,000 which the county board proposes to issue to pay off the county's indebtedness. The larger bond issue, according to the reports, may be submitted to a vote of the people or the board may go ahead and sell the bonds any way if they think public sentiment favors the plan.

Considerable opposition developed against the proposed bill as soon as the news about it got in circulation. Telegrams were sent to Raleigh to hold up the bill until the opposition could be heard and a petition was circulated and signed by a good many people who do not approve of the proposed bond issue. Tuesday afternoon a delegation composed of County Commissioner C. H. Whitehurst, Messrs W. P. Smith, U. E. Swann, N. W. Taylor and J. M. Carraway left for Raleigh for the purpose of opposing the bill as it is drawn. It was understood by the News representative that they are willing to leave the matter to a vote of the people but are unwilling for the board of commissioners to issue bonds without an election.

A member of the board of commissioners was seen by a News representative and asked for a statement about the bond matter. He said the board had in mind a plan to build nine or ten foot hard surfaced roads from Beaufort to Harlowe and from Beaufort east to Atlantic and to connect the western part of the county with the Morehead City-Newport highway. Furthermore this plan calls for the building of a bridge between Beaufort and Morehead City by the State. This plan would connect a large majority of the people of the county with good roads and bridges and would save the county considerable money which now goes for trying to maintain the roads, so the board thinks. At present the county's budget calls for the expenditure of about \$25,000 a year on the roads. This money goes for labor, machinery, repairs, gasoline and the like. The county board thinks with hard surfaced roads the cost of maintenance would be a great deal less than it is now and the roads would be much better. It is also proposed to have a county road board which would look after the road construction and a bill has been introduced in the Legislature providing for this.

Bill Reported Favorably

The delegation returned from Raleigh today reports that the Senate committee voted by a considerable majority for the bond issue bill. It was expected to come up on the floor of the Senate today. County Attorney Luther Hamilton addressed the committee in favor of the bill and Mr. U. E. Swann of Beaufort spoke in favor of leaving the matter to a vote of the people. Mr. Hamilton urged that the bill be passed exactly as it was written and the committee so voted by a considerable majority. The matter of validating the other issue of bonds for \$150,000 will not go through as first planned but will be opened for other bids so the News has been informed.

MUSICAL MONDAY EVENING.

The music department of the Community Club will give a musical entertainment at the residence of Mrs. H. M. Hendrix on Front street next Monday evening at 8 o'clock. A colonial program will be rendered and an invitation to all music lovers is extended.

GROUP TEACHERS' MEETING HELD LAST FRIDAY

The teachers of Harker's Island, Bettie, Straits, Marshallberg and Smyrna schools held a meeting at Smyrna February 20th. The meeting opened with a Chapel exercise given by the grades of the Smyrna School. The children brought out in a very impressive way the unusual facts about George Washington's life and character. It most fittingly commemorated the life of the Father of our country. After this the teachers adjourned to the school grounds, where all types of play were skillfully demonstrated. An attempt was made to show the teachers how playground activities can be organized so each child can participate.

The model lesson for the day was taught by the seventh grade teacher Miss Ruby Picklesimer. She demonstrated a model plan for the teaching of silent reading, as the teachers in all of the schools of the County have been doing intensive work in this subject. After this lesson the teachers went to different rooms and observed demonstration lessons in all the grades.

One of the most attractive and helpful features of the Smyrna school is the Domestic Science Department. This department under the efficient direction of Miss Charlotte Brawley served a delicious luncheon to the teachers.

In the afternoon Miss Townsend led a discussion of the demonstration lesson. Mr. Wright next talked on the subject of the values of County Commencement. He clearly impressed the teachers with the educational value to be derived from the right kind of County Commencement.

This meeting stood out as being both an enjoyable and helpful occasion.

COOPERATIVE MARKETING PLANS ARE GOING FORWARD

As was announced in the News last week, a meeting was held in Morehead City on Thursday evening of a number of persons who are interested in organizing a cooperative marketing association in Carteret county. George R. Foulks of the Division of Markets of the State Department of Agriculture was present, also E. G. Gaither District Agent and County Agent Hugh Overstreet. The meeting took place at the Woodland Hotel.

The matter of organizing the association was discussed fully and the decision was reached to try to perfect an organization in the Morehead City territory in about two weeks. An effort will be made to organize the truck growers of the Beaufort section in about thirty days and it may be that another local will be organized in the Newport territory. All of these branches are intended to constitute a county association which will affiliate with similar organizations in eastern Carolina.

OFF FOR FLORIDA.

As stated in the News last week, the old yachts Pilgrim and Sea Scamp have gone to Florida having the lower one might be used for pro-sailed Monday afternoon. The Sea Scamp was towed by the Pilgrim and both vessels were well supplied with mariners. In addition to those named last week W. H. Taylor and article on each container. A small Charles Clawson Jr. went along. A box was placed for the change and Lincoln and a Ford car were taken along and some of the party will return in these machines. Several places in Florida will be visited and possibly a trip will be made to Cuba.

BANKRUPT STOCK SALE

The stock of goods of The Leader, a dry goods firm which went into the hands of a receiver some weeks ago was sold here today by Receiver Jas. Wallace Mason. The stock and fixtures were bid in by E. K. Ayoub of Washington, N. C. for \$650. According to an inventory taken a few weeks ago it was worth \$1450. The sale will have to be confirmed by the court.

MARRIAGE LICENSE.

Only one license to wed was issued by Register of Deeds Jno. W. Hamilton during the past week, it was to Harold Hamilton and Mamie Hamilton both of Sea Level.

VETERANS' LOAN FUND INVALID

Supreme Court Holds That A Majority of Registered Vote Was Required

Raleigh, Feb. 26th—The \$2,000,000 bond issue for loans for homes to veterans of the world war, which received 143,015 votes in the last general election as against 62,261 votes cast in the negative, was yesterday declared invalid by the North Carolina Supreme Court. The opinion of the court was written by Chief Justice W. A. Hoke, with Associate Justice Heriot Clarkson filing a dissenting opinion. The Legislature now in session will be asked to correct the bill.

The measure has universally been considered as being in effect and more than a score of persons have applied for the position of Commissioner of the Veterans' Loan Fund created under the act and some of them have received strong support from all sections of the State. The validity of the bonds was put in question some weeks ago when Chester B. Masslich, of New York, bond attorney for the State, refused to render a favorable opinion on the bonds without a ruling from the Supreme Court.

Act Not Unconstitutional
A test case was prepared, the measure being attacked on the ground that the act as drawn by Frank D. Grist, now Commissioner of Labor and Printing, and who was the Representative from Caldwell county in the 1923 General Assembly, required a majority of the registered vote instead of a majority of the votes actually cast. The complaint filed in the case also attacked the constitutionality of the measure on the ground that it constitutes class legislation.

However, the opinion of the court filed yesterday does not hold the measure unconstitutional, this point being ignored entirely in the opinion of the court which is based entirely upon the ground that the act as passed by the General Assembly requires a majority of the registered vote instead of merely a majority of the vote actually cast.

GOOD PROFITS SECURED FROM ROADSIDE MARKET

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 16—Surplus produce from the garden, orchard and poultry yard may be sold to advantage by using a small roadside market. This is especially true if one lives on one of the main highways where travel is heavy.

S. C. Clapp, superintendent of the Mountain Branch Experiment Station near Asheville, tried out this plan last summer and sold over \$400 worth of surplus produce right at the market in addition to taking orders for large deliveries to be made from the farm. Mr. Clapp made a little stand just high enough for one to drive by and look over the produce comfortably without getting out of the car. The stand had two shelves, so that the lower one might be used for pro-sailed Monday afternoon. The Sea Scamp was towed by the Pilgrim and both vessels were well supplied with mariners. In addition to those named last week W. H. Taylor and article on each container. A small Charles Clawson Jr. went along. A box was placed for the change and Lincoln and a Ford car were taken along and some of the party will return in these machines. Several places in Florida will be visited and possibly a trip will be made to Cuba.

Mr. Clapp hardly ever visited the little stand except to replenish what had been sold. The produce was placed early in the morning and the money taken out late in the evening. Some evenings Mr. Clapp found as much as twelve dollars in his box and there was never a mistake of over a few pennies caused by difficulty in making change.

"The people seemed to appreciate my trusting them," says Mr. Clapp. "Many of those driving by stopped and looked over the material and would then drive in to the farm and buy a larger amount than I had on display. I sold apples, egg plant, bell peppers, melons, peaches, grapes and other produce."

Mr. Clapp believes that the farmer who has a surplus of produce might well use this idea to advantage this summer and dispose of his material right at his front gate.

STATE NEWS

The steamer Fort Hamilton sailed from Wilmington last Saturday afternoon carrying passengers for Bermuda. There were 250 Carolinians aboard, among the number former Governor Morrison and Mrs. Morrison. The Fort Hamilton flies the British flag.

A contract was let recently in Charlotte for the erection of Lake Lure dam and power plant at Chimney Rock. The dam is to be 104 feet high and 500 feet long. The lake will cover 1500 acres. The contract price of the whole job is \$675,000.

The new ten story Odd Fellows building in Raleigh was dedicated Saturday afternoon. There was a large attendance for the exercises. The building cost \$440,000.

Federal officials are trying to break up the illicit trade in narcotics in North Carolina and arrests have been made in various parts of the State. Last Saturday and Sunday 21 arrests were made in and near Charlotte. Dr. F. V. Taylor of Stanly Creek, Gaston county was one of those arrested. A number of women were gathered in also.

Seventy five counties participated in the State fair premiums last year according to E. V. Welborn the manager. Craven county with \$651 led the list in the eastern part of the State.

While crossing a street in Raleigh Saturday afternoon Representative Christian of Cumberland county was struck by an auto and badly injured. He was taken to a hospital where it was found that his skull was fractured.

The Tallassee Power Company at Badin, Stanly county, has erected a fine school for the colored children there. The building has twenty rooms and all conveniences.

Eardy Ellis a white man of Green county was arrested a few days ago on the charge of complicity in the murder of Will Whitley which occurred August 3rd, 1921. A man and woman are now serving life sentences for this murder. Ellis says he is innocent of this charge.

Marvin Falls of Durham was sentenced to 15 years in the penitentiary Saturday on the charge of attempting to kill his 15 year old wife on February the 2nd. He attacked her with a piece of pipe and a razor.

C. W. Williams a citizen of Rocky Mount has bought a live Buffalo and brought it to town. The animal came from Druid Hill park in Baltimore. He seems to like his new home very well according to reports.

High Point is to have another large silk mill soon giving employment to several hundred people. The Hillcrest Silk Company of West Newark, N. J. has bought land and will erect the mill at an early date.

Seven prisoners escaped from the penitentiary at Raleigh Monday night. Three of them were caught before they had gotten very far. They made their way through the roof of the tubercular ward and lowered themselves to the ground with sheets knotted together.

A fire at Smithfield Saturday night destroyed seventy six bales of cotton. The cotton belonged to the merchants there. There was some insurance but not enough to cover the loss. The origin of the fire is unknown.

LIGHT POLICE COURT.

The police court docket was unusually light last Monday, only one case having been on trial. Norfolk and Southern engineer Agnew Lewis was charged with having violated a town ordinance by discharging black smoke and cinders from his engine on Broad street. Judgment was suspended on payment of cost.

Whenever a matter of public interest is under discussion the News likes to give both sides. A number of articles have appeared in this newspaper recently advocating the new high school building. Opponents of the proposition have had nothing to say in print. If those who oppose wish to express their views over their own signatures will send in their communications the News will gladly give them a reasonable amount of space. The matter is very important to the entire community and there is nothing like publicity to bring out all of the facts.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

The following real estate transfers have been recorded by Register of Deeds Jno. W. Hamilton since the last issue of the News. W. P. Lewis et al to W. L. Gillikin, tract in Smyrna Township, consideration, \$50.

A. H. Dennis and wife to W. N. Dennis a tract in White Oak Township, consideration \$100.

M. L. Wright et al to Wm. H. Bailey, lot 3 Beaufort, consideration \$10.

S. P. Hancock and wife to J. R. Hancock tract in Beaufort Township, consideration and affection.

D. M. DeNoyer Mortgagee to W. E. Skarren part lot 190 Old Town, Beaufort, consideration \$100.

Blanch Helms to Lorenzo Dowdy lots 3 and 13 in block 17 in Morehead City, consideration \$450.

Geraldine Oaksmith to R. E. Lewis, lots 81 and 82 in Morehead City, no consideration shown.

S. F. Nelson and wife to Willis Nelson and wife 1-2 acre in Harkers Island Township, consideration \$60.

BAPTISTS RALLY IN NEW BERN SOON

The Baptist leaders of the Neuse Atlantic Association including all the pastors, active laymen, women and young people, are called to meet in the New Bern First Baptist church on March 10th for an all day Mission Rally, beginning at 10 o'clock. It is expected that a light lunch will be served at the church at the noon hour.

The purpose of this Rally is purely informational and inspirational. Addresses on Missions and different phases of the denominational program will be made. Round-table discussions on the present status of the work and on future plans will be open to all. Besides the local talent of the Association, the following general denominational workers will take part in the program: Dr. Chas. Anderson of Fayetteville and Prof. M. A. Huggins of Raleigh. A representative group is expected from each church in the Association.

HOGS ARE RECEIVING ANTI-CHOLERA VACCINE

A good many Carteret county hogs are receiving anti-cholera vaccine this week as a result of work being done by Dr. C. P. Caldwell and County Agent Hugh Overstreet. Dr. Caldwell is from the Department of Agriculture at Raleigh. Yesterday they went out on the North River road and to Gloucester. Today they have gone up Bogue Sound and will visit a number of farms where they have appointments.

NICE SIGN ERECTED.

A handsome electric sign was put up yesterday on the front of the drug store of Mr. Joseph House. This is the only electric sign in that block of Front street and in fact there is no other in town of this particular kind.

The Chamber of Commerce membership has now climbed up to 70 members, is your name on this list? The fee is only \$5.00 per year.

CHANGE OF HOURS.

Beginning next Sunday, March 1st, and during March and April the Services on Sunday night in the churches of the City will be at 7:30 P. M.

TURN ON LIGHT BAILEY DEMANDS

In Sunday's issue of the Raleigh News and Observer Josiah W. Bailey, a well known citizen of the State, says that it is the duty of the General Assembly to investigate various public departments. He thinks much waste could be stopped by such a course. His article in the Raleigh newspaper reads as follows:

The General Assembly is struggling with its task of levying taxes sufficient to meet the greatly increased expenditures of the State. It is seeking to find the sources of an annual revenue of \$14,000,000. It realizes that the counties cities and towns have about exhausted the power of property to pay taxes; and that, therefore, there ought not to be a tax on property for State purposes. It is proceeding, therefore, in the direction of income, inheritance, franchise, license and privilege taxes—and it is hesitating on the brink of a system of sales taxes that it realizes would put in jeopardy the Democratic party. The entire situation is a most serious one.

The business men of the State are telling the General Assembly that they are not in condition to pay increased income, franchise or privilege taxes; that they are by no means as prosperous as they were in 1922-23 or in 1918-20. This is only too true. The big tobacco manufacturers are making money; but the cotton mills and furniture factories are not. The railroads are making money as they never made it before, and they are making it out of North Carolina in unjust proportions. This is not opinion—it is established by the report of the Ship and Transportation Commission. On the whole, the protest of the general run of our business men is absolutely sound. We have reached the point where additional taxes are sure to cripple business and to discourage those who conduct it. We are short for the year 1924 about \$100,000,000 of primary income. That is to say the gross income of our farmers is about \$100,000,000 less than it was last year. This will in the course of the year cut our commerce by fully \$500,000,000.

Duty to Investigate

Under such circumstances I assert that it is the primary duty of the General Assembly to investigate with the view of cutting down the expenses of our government. This ought to be done before a dollar of additional taxes shall be levied. This is required by every rule of good faith. I am satisfied that an investigation will disclose and stop many leaks and save much money, and in support of this assertion, I wish to point out a remarkable state of affairs.

In contemplation of our law—section 7675, C. S.—the Auditor's office is charged with his duty of investigating and checking all payments of public money and seeing to it that every dollar is accounted for.

But our State Auditor's office does not do this. We now have large numbers of office holders traveling over the State. Their expense accounts are great. All these expenditures ought to be audited and checked by some independent department.

1. Who investigates or checks or passes upon the collection and expenditures of the office of the Secretary of State, the automobile and highway taxes?

2. Who investigates or checks or passes upon the expense accounts of the numerous deputies traveling over the State out of the Commissioner of Revenue's office, the automobile division of the Secretary of State's office, the Department of Agriculture, the Auditor's office? I find in the Auditor's report that our State paid about fifty thousand dollars last year in hotel bills. Who checks these payments?

3. Who checks State prison expenditures and receipts?

4. Who checks the scandalously large sums paid by the State Auditor's office for county audits?

5. Who checks the oil and gasoline accounts and the accessories accounts of the numerous automobiles owned by the State and used so free-

(Continued on page five)