

THE BEAUFORT NEWS

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NUMBER 43

COMMISSIONERS LET A CONTRACT FOR DAVIS ATLANTIC ROADWAY

Simmons Construction Corporation Gets Contract. Will Build Concrete Base With Asphalt Top. Virginia Company Lower on Concrete Slab

Contrary to the expectations of some people the Board of County Commissioners at a special meeting here Monday let a contract for a paved road between Davis and Atlantic. All members of the board were present but as the vote was taken in executive session the News does not know whether all the members voted for it or not. According to the minutes the motion was made by Commissioner Huntley and seconded by Commissioner Hall.

The contract for the road was let to the Simmons Construction Corporation of Charlotte. It is for a four inch concrete base with two inch asphalt type. All of the bidders, except the Simmons Construction Corporation, submitted bids on a six inch concrete slab stone. Representatives of the Virginia Engineering Corporation told a News man that they were not asked to bid on anything except concrete and did not know bids were desired on a concrete and asphalt type of road. The bid on the concrete slab was considerably lower than the Simmons bid. Two bids for putting shells on Harker's Island were received but action on this matter was postponed for a later meeting. A few citizens were present at the meeting Monday. The names of the bidders and the amounts bid follow:

Simmons Construction Corporation Charlotte, N. C.	6 inch Concrete Slab	\$430,925.00
4 inch base, 2 inch Asphalt Top (Oil)		\$390,325.00
4 inch base, 2 inch Asphalt Top (Lake)		\$403,975.00
Frank Mitchell Construction Company, Belhaven, N. C.	6 inch Concrete Slab	\$441,287.50
Virginia Engineering Co. Richmond, Va.	6 inch Concrete Slab	\$413,950.00
F. J. McGuire, Norfolk, Va.	6 inch Concrete Slab	\$474,635.00
Roberts Paving Co., Salisbury, Md.	6 inch Concrete Slab	\$433,340.00
O. F. Leighton & Co. Inc. Richmond, Va.	6 inch Concrete Slab	\$467,900.00
R. H. Wright & Son, Norwood, N. C.	6 inch Concrete Slab	\$429,625.00

CITY COURT HAD A FULL SESSION SATURDAY

There was no police court Monday afternoon but considerable one took place on Saturday evening previous. A large number of men both white and colored were tried on the charge of having been drunk and disorderly. Nearly all were convicted. They got off under suspended judgment and the costs. Those charged with drunkenness were Aleck Mason, Ambrose Roberts, A. C. Darling and John Bunyan Cogleton, white, John Washington, Joe Fulford and Elijah Hardesty colored were also convicted on drunkenness charges.

John Fulford, colored, charge assault, judgement suspended on payment of costs. Joe Fisher, colored, disorderly conduct, judgement suspended on payment of costs. Charles Parker, colored, disorderly conduct, case dismissed. Cases against H. G. Perkins, Lovie Davis, Wm. Green, John Sutton and Dave Smith were continued. In order to accommodate some defendants who work on fishing boats there will be a session of court Saturday Nov. 6th at 7:30 in the evening.

Wretched Conditions Found In A Family Near Lukens

Wretched Conditions—14 pt. head In their investigations in Carteret county, as in the counties, welfare workers sometimes find very distressing situations. One of this kind that was particularly sordid was brought to light a few days ago. It was of a family living a few miles from Lukens. It seems that the matter was brought to the attention of the grand jury and that body ordered the County Welfare Department to investigate it.

On Monday County Welfare Officer Alvah Hamilton and County Health Officer Dr. T. C. Britt made the investigation. A family of thirteen persons were found consisting of a man and wife, nine children and two illegitimate grandchildren. The two latter are the offsprings of a woman apparently about twenty years of age. The oldest of these is about three old and the youngest three months. The latter is said to have a negro

FREE SUBSCRIPTIONS GIVEN BY THE BEAUFORT NEWS

On account of its healthful climate, abundant food or for some other reason, there are many large folks in Carteret county. Readers of the News probably would like to know who some of the large ones are and how much they weigh. In order to get this information the News will offer a prize in the way of a year's subscription to this newspaper. A free subscription will be given to the largest man and also the largest woman. Contestants must give their names and addresses and have their weight attested by two reliable witnesses. The contest will close Tuesday night, November 30th. It costs nothing to enter the contest so send in your weight and take a chance on getting a year's subscription free. For the two second largest a six months subscription will be given free. Contestants must live in Carteret county. The proposition is open to any citizen who desires to enter. If the winners approve we will publish their pictures in the News.

QUIET ELECTION IS OUTLOOK NOW

Under Current of Interest Though May Bring Some Surprising Results

Upon the surface at least the indications are that the election to be held next Tuesday will be one of the quietest that ever took place in Carteret county. Neither Democrats nor Republicans have made a very active canvass although some of the candidates have been going around the county endeavoring to raise some interest. Although there has not been the usual speech-making and other campaign activities there does appear to be a good deal of interest among the voters as to the outcome of the election. Some folks predict that the vote will be about as large as usual and that there will be a good many surprises in it. The prediction is freely made that party lines will be broken more than ever and that a lot of scratching is going to be done by both Democrats and Republicans. They say it is a case of voting for the man this time and not so much for the party.

The only national contest involved this year is that of a member for the lower house of Congress and a United States Senator. Congressman Charles L. Abernethy who is running to succeed himself is opposed by Roscoe Butler of Sampson county. Senator Lee S. Oyerman the Democratic candidate is opposed by Johnson J. Hayes on the Republican side. A referendum ballot on the question of issuing loan bonds for world war veterans is to be voted upon again. A constitutional amendment is to be submitted to the people. It relates to election returns for officers of the executive department.

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FINANCIERS PLAN TO HELP COTTON GET ON ITS FEET

Will Organize Large Corporation to Hold Cotton off The Market

POLITICAL SPEAKERS BUSY

(By M. L. SHIPMAN)

Raleigh, N. C. Oct. 25—With the Governor thundering Democracy in Western North Carolina and former Governor Morrison thundering the same song in Eastern North Carolina, Raleighites had a rather quiet week, spending their time reading of the work which the party has done in the past. At the same time there were matters of interest apart from politics which held some attention. Among these was a meeting of the cotton forces to lay plans for handling the crop without loss to the growers, interest in the financial condition of the State and other matters.

Gov. McLean invaded western North Carolina going for the most part into territory which went Republican the last election. He told of the Executive Budget system which his administration had developed and in short related with pride the carrying out of promises by the Democrats in state government and gave these as reasons for a handsome majority for Democracy on November 2. At the same time former Governor Morrison was invading Eastern and Central Carolina preaching the virtues of the Democratic party nationally as reasons for returning the Congressmen to office.

There was one noticeable feature about the addresses of Morrison and McLean. The present Governor devoted his talks to the state administration and what it has done; the former governor devoted his talks for the most part to national Democracy. The question arises here the two buried the "deficit" hatchet for purposes of political expediency and until after the election? The financial issue has separated the two in the past it is known but both are now preaching a common cause from different angles.

The Grand Old Republican Party was by no means inactive during the week. Brownlow Jackson and Johnston Hayes were touring the state preaching Republicanism. They have concentrated on the counties where they polled heavy Republican votes last term and while they have done little talking, it is known that they have laid extensive plans for bringing out a heavy vote and are sanguine of results.

Eugene Meyer, representing President Coolidge was in Raleigh during the week and plans were laid for formation of a one million dollar corporation to retire from the market 300,000 bales of the present cotton crop. This is to be arranged in a similar manner in each cotton state in order to relieve the low price of the product and the cotton will be held off the market until the price is higher. The N. C. Cotton Co-operative Marketing Association has tendered its full facilities in handling the matter and the N. C. Bankers Association is to decide this week just how far it will cooperate.

The announcement of Governor McLean that a huge radio station would be established at Raleigh for state purposes interested the citizens. It has been known for some time the Governor had such a plan. Word comes from Washington there will be no opposition to such a station. The surplus in state funds continuing to grow and Governor McLean is justified in his budgetary plans. Another \$200,000 increase was recorded in September. This brings the total surplus of the general fund to \$1,766,000. The state board of elections has made all plans for the issuing of ballots for the election next week and as far as possible everything is ready for the battle of ballot.

Ida Ball Warren who, with Sam Christy, was convicted eleven years ago of murdering her husband and sentenced to be electrocuted and whose sentence Governor Craig commuted to life imprisonment is applying for a parole. She has made a model prisoner but it is mighty seldom prisoners with life sentences ranging over them are given their freedom and Mrs. Warren may not be made an exception to the rule. Her paramour is serving time on the Calcedonia Farm where he is likely to spend the remainder of his life.

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BEAUFORT IS COMPLIMENTED

University News Letter Reprints Editorial. Experts Study Carteret County Affairs

(By Ralph Noe)

Chapel Hill, N. C. Oct. 26—Advance copies of the University News-Letter which will be released under date of October 27th., reveal the fact that this publication has signally honored the Beaufort News by reprinting in full its editorial of September 23rd, entitled, "Publicity is Good for County Affairs." This is indeed a worthy recognition of the role that the Beaufort News is playing in the intelligent reform of municipal and county governments.

For the last two years if not longer, excerpts from the Beaufort News have been kept in Dr. Branson's work shop, where they can be consulted by the research assistants who come here from all over the United States to study rural social economics under Dr. Branson and Professor S. H. Hobbs, and in that work-shop the Beaufort News has come to be called on for its presentation of accurate facts and intelligent opinion in regards to county administration and the expenditures of public money. Paul W. Wagner came to the department two years ago from New York, with the idea of getting at the roots of county administration in North Carolina. The measure of success with which he and Dr. Branson and others have done this is attested by a wealth of first-hand work done with the counties themselves. When questioned about his impression of Carteret County, Mr. Wagner spoke in extravagant terms of the beauty of the court-house square at Beaufort. He is interested in the County from an objective viewpoint, in its wealth of resources, and in the rapid changes that are taking place here.

Facts are always difficult things to uncover, so difficult, in fact, that the average human being is loath to undertake the job unless his curiosity is prompted by some independent source. Largely through the instrumentality of the Beaufort News, has the spotlight of inquiry in recent years been turned towards Carteret County. The County now occupies a place of importance second to none as a laboratory for the observation of practices, some of which are quite outworn, and some of which are more modern and up-to-date.

A case in point: Last year there came to the University a man unique in the academic and political life of the county. Professor Edward J. Woodhouse is a teacher and orator of the old school. He has been active as a politician in Massachusetts, mayor of Northampton, Mass. (the home of Calvin Coolidge), practicing lawyer, and professor of government at Smith College. He came to teach American and European municipal government, a very popular study. Someone turned over to Mr. Woodhouse the newspaper records concerning the "ultra vires" action of the Beaufort City Fathers in attempting to spend one hundred thousand dollars to improve real estate, and he was greatly amused Mr. Woodhouse's class makes intimate studies into the motives and purposes behind the flagrant use of public funds, taking actual cases for study, and not abstract examples. When asked for his opinion of the editorial policy of the Beaufort News, he answered in the terse manner characteristic of the New Englander: "Socially he (the editor) is very sound."

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PROGRESS SAYS DR. MASON

Well Known Physician Says Debt Burden on County Is Great Disaster

Editor Beaufort News:

I wish to heartily commend you for your recent editorial headed "Make Haste Slowly" It is timely and to the point, and I hope every paper having considerable circulation in the county will copy it.

I do not know that we have any "ultra conservatives"—not many could be found who would be too careful, and over close with the people's money. But the other class, "the ultra progressive," so called, is very much in evidence in Carteret County. Those who endorse the policy of the present managers of the county burdening the taxpayers with a debt of near two and a half million dollars, and proceeding with projects, never adjudged by any court to be "necessary," borrowing as you say, "to the last cent that can be borrowed with no more thought than that of a child, as to how the money is to be paid back," are of the "ultra" very much "ultra" class.

But this, they say, is "progress" yes it is progress very much like that of the foolhardy man who got in a small boat on the Niagara river, a little above the falls. He made progress all right, but soon he was in the power of the terrible current, and his destruction was sure. The "ultra progressives" have placed the people of Carteret County in a similar condition, and that without their consent, the irresistible current of ever increasing debt carrying them towards the great and terrible FALLS.

Carteret County has suffered many disasters in her history. She has experienced the terrible effects of wars; she has suffered quite a number of very severe and disastrous storms, carrying away hotel, destroying crops and damaging property thousands of dollars. Epidemics of small pox, yellow fever, diphtheria, influenza etc. have taken heavy toll of her young citizens; but more of these disasters is to be compared with that is now upon us by the present arbitrary, and reckless administration of the county's affairs. This is by far the greatest calamity that ever befell the county, because of the fact that it is on us to stay. There is no way out of it. The tax burden cannot get less, but must necessarily increase to the breaking point. Bonds must be issued to pay interest and sinking fund on bonds now outstanding and to be issued.

The calamities above mentioned, while very great and distressing, were nevertheless of such nature that they were after a while recovered from. Time cured them, and they were almost forgotten. Not so with our present burden and calamity. Time lags the burden on heavier, and harder. Is anyone wise enough to advise what can be done to relieve our helpless, heavily burdened people, and avert the impending disaster?

As I see it, the approaching election promises no relief. No important change. The Board of Commissioners, soon to be elected, whether Democratic or Republican, will doubtless endeavor to carry out the same wasteful and destructive policies of the present board. If there are as many as three candidates on the combined tickets for County Commissioners who would stand firmly against the further issue of notes or bonds against the county, they should be elected, re-

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INDEBTEDNESS OF COUNTY LARGER THAN LAW ALLOWS

Dr. George Davis Writes Open Letter To County Board

About Debts

OVER THE LIMIT NOW

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The following, a copy of the letter sent to the Chairman, and Board of County Commissioners explains itself:

Beaufort, N. C.

Oct. 23, 1926.

Messrs. J. E. Woodland, Chairman, and Huntley, Hall, Taylor and Whitehurst, Commissioners for Carteret County, Beaufort, N. C.

Gentlemen:—

The case of the Town of Newton vs the State Highway Commission, has been settled by the Supreme Court, and such decree establishes the map of the roads as part of the Road Law of 1921. The map as included in the Road Law of 1921 outlines the road from the Craven County line to Beaufort via Harlowe, and this road was designated and is known as Route No. 10.

The bridge has no connection with the contract for the road and is not under discussion.

The \$150,000 advanced by Carteret County as the part necessary for the completion of the road via Harlowe was included in and part of the indebtedness incurred prior to the validation of other bonds and permit for \$700,000 by the Legislature of 1925, and such increase in the indebtedness must be in accord with the law and would require validation by the Legislature of 1927.

Therefore the \$150,000 advanced by Carteret county being the part agreed upon and set aside to be used by the State Highway Commission for the completion of the roads in Carteret county which includes—"That certain road from the Craven county line to Beaufort via Harlowe, in the contract signed March 1922 cannot be used for other purpose, and if used such contract takes precedence over all other funds for road building et cetera, as indebtedness to be validated by the Legislature of 1927.

The request to validate the notes authorized in July and September for \$350,000 and \$475,000 respectively, or a total of \$825,00 beyond the permit of the Legislature of 1925, including any other indebtedness should be carefully considered, and in this connection I respectfully refer you to the N. C. Consolidated Statute 1925 page 190 Chapter 24 1291 (a) for Counties and County Commissioners, as to limitation on county indebtedness, to wit:

"No county in this State shall incur bonded indebtedness in amounts exceeding 5 per cent of the assessed valuation of taxable property in the county as ascertained by the last assessment; previous to the incurring of any new bonded indebtedness." Provided as amended, extra session 1924—"if valuation is in excess of 10 millions, may issue bonds in an amount not exceeding 7 per cent of said assessed valuation."

I have been informed by a prominent Lawyer in the following words: "Without Special authority from the Legislature your board of County Commissioners could not issue an indebtedness in excess of seven per cent of this amount."

I had estimated the assessed valuation less than 16 millions, on account of much inflation, and he continued, "Seven per cent of the amount would be \$1,120,000. That sort of situation works out its own solution because no bond attorney will pass on a bond issue where the amount of such bond issue added to previous indebtedness would be more than seven per cent of the taxable valuation of the property in the county."

In the issue of the Beaufort News, of Oct. 14 over the name of Mr. U. E. Swann, signed as chairman Board of Trustees, in reference to school you will note the following:

"It will be necessary to have bonds validated by an Act of the Legislature before they can be sold. In the mean time we have been trying to borrow enough money on short time notes to proceed with the buildings but so far have been unsuccessful."

He attributes the failure to secure the money in his opening paragraph

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Five Divorces Were Granted Last Week In Superior Court

The criminal docket of Superior Court was finished on Thursday about midday after which some civil cases were tried. On Friday afternoon court adjourned. Five divorces were granted. The following civil matters were disposed of:

Julia Monroe (colored) against Dewey Monroe suit for divorce on ground of five years separation. The divorce was granted.

The Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association against J. E. Hill, case dismissed, each party to pay its own costs.

Clarence Madden against J. F. Mulligan and J. F. Mulligan Co. a suit for personal injury plaintiff having been hurt by a truck. The court held the plaintiff was not negligent and non-suited the case.

Lois Mason against Clyde Mason, divorce granted on statutory grounds Defendant must pay \$10 a month for support of Clyde Mason Jr.

Mattie E. Respass against E. J.

Respass. A divorce was granted because of five years separation. The Defendant is to pay \$40 a month for the support of two children.

Iva Bailey against Carl G. Bailey. Divorce on the ground of five years separation. The plaintiff is to have custody of the child.

Annie E. Gaskill against James E. Gaskill. Divorce granted on account of five years separation.

Annie D. Gillikin against M. J. Willis. This was a suit about entering some land. Court held that the entry was inoperative and of no effect.

I. E. Ramsey against Laura G. Davis. Suit as to land title. The court's judgment was that the deed conveys the title to the said land to Laura G. Davis. The petitioner excepted and took an appeal.

Emma Wheaton Guthrie against Charles B. Daniels suit for personal injury done with an automobile. The

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