

MR. OLIVER IN ERROR

Editor Statesville Landmark Says Promises Will Be Carried Out Fully

IN IREDELL COUNTY

No More Bonds Are Necessary To Build Roads Promised the People --Excellent Roads Are Penetrating Every Section of the County and the People Are Well Pleased.

To the Editor of the Reporter:

I have a clipping from your paper containing a communication from Rev. P. Oliver in opposition to the road bond issue in your county, in which he says that Iredell county has spent about half of its \$400,000 of road bond money, about \$40,000 being spent for mules and machinery; that the chairman of the Iredell commissioners says that to do as much work as promised it will be necessary to vote another bond issue of \$300,000, and Mr. Oliver says this will have to be done in face of the fact that Iredell has spent more than \$200,000 on macadam roads which the chairman now states are so worn as to be only a waste of money.

If Mr. Oliver intends, as is apparent, to hold up Iredell's bond issue for road work as a failure, he is very much mistaken as to the facts. The report of the engineer (which I am sending you) shows that up to the last day of November, 1912, there had been expended for road work a total of \$157,810.18 and that about eighty miles of new road had been built. The expenditure mentioned includes all cost of road work, one item of which was \$19,255.36 for bridges. It also included the cost of repairs on old roads made by township overseers, and it included the depreciation of the equipment of mules, machinery, etc. There was originally expended for mules and machinery \$38,364.25 and after deducting the cost of depreciation, which is included in the cost of road building, as stated, the value of the present outfit is \$31,645.92. This last item is in addition to \$157,810.18 expended for roads and represents that much to be used for future road work. It is not a loss.

I have no knowledge of the statement attributed to the chairman of the county commissioners, that it will take \$300,000 more to do as much work as was promised when the bonds were voted. That statement is news to me. The people were promised that the main thoroughfares of the county would be built, and considering the progress made and the money yet to be expended I believe that this promise will or can be carried out in full. There was no promise by any responsible party that every road in the county would be built out of the bond money, for it was realized by all that this could not be done. But with our bond money a system of excellent top-soil roads is penetrating every section of the county. Where the roads have been built the people are well pleased. The work is attracting attention all over the county, is bringing investors to Iredell county and has put the county in the first rank of the progressive counties of the State. I believe that when our road work is completed the people will realize that it is the best investment the county could have made, and that the advertising received by the county will be worth half the money spent on the roads.

Prior to the bond issue the county, by the chain gang system, had built several miles of macadam roads, but it has been found that macadam roads are too expensive for the life of the road, as they soon wear out. But our expenditure for macadam roads was by no means a total loss. The roads were serviceable but no system of up-keep was provided and they were allowed to fall into bad repair. Under our present system all the roads are worked by taxation and a regular system of up-keep will be maintained. Any road will soon fall into bad repair unless it is given attention. So will a house. But because it is necessary to spend money to repair buildings none of us have concluded to live out doors.

Having made answer to Mr. Oliver's reference to Iredell, which was called to my attention, my work is done. But I cannot conclude without saying that Stokes county will make a great mistake if it fails to vote the bond issue for roads. That good roads are necessary cannot be denied, and a good system of roads can be secured in no other way than by a bond issue. The saving in the wear and tear of vehicles and the increased comfort of travel will more than pay the cost, while the gain in increased values, saving in cost of transportation, etc., will pay for them many times over.

The \$400,000 bond issue for Iredell was voted by a majority of more than 1,200. Leaving out the townships in which are located the towns of the county-- Mooresville and Statesville--the rural townships gave about 300 majority for the bonds.

We of Iredell county believe in good roads. They are worth all they cost, and we would not repudiate our bond issue if we could.

R. R. CLARK,
Editor of the Statesville Landmark.
Statesville, N. C., March 3, 1913.

FORSYTH MAN WRITES

On the Bond Issue For Roads In Stokes County.

Winston, March 1.

Editor Reporter:

I notice that the Rev. P. Oliver writes against the proposed bond issue for good roads in the last issue of the Reporter. Although a citizen of Forsyth I was born and raised in Stokes county and feel much interested in the future growth and prosperity of my native county.

I would like to say to the good people of Stokes that Mr. Oliver's figures are calculated to scare only unthinking people. He has bunched the whole debt and shows it with 30 years of accumulated interest, possibly with the idea of intimidation. If all business men were of the same mind as Mr. Oliver, very little would be accomplished in the world.

I would like to call the attention of the farmers to one little item of cost in their living (having been a farmer myself). Here is a farmer who buys a \$500.00 pair of mules, and does not pay for them in ten years. What is his expense bill, counting interest and feed bill, at the end of ten years? It is \$3,525.00. And in 30 years it would be about \$12,000.00.

So it is only the way you look at Mr. Oliver's figures that makes them dreadful.

It is nothing but a common business proposition.

I hope Stokes will vote the bonds. She will never regret it. It will be a start towards great prosperity.

F. S. SMITH.

Where Have They Been Working?

Editor Reporter:

In passing around I find that there are a few men who oppose the bond issue for roads because they claim that they have "worked their time out" on the roads, as they say, and they want the other fellow to do the same. Now, most of the fellows who claim this are old men and have had time to do lots of work somewhere, and I want you to tell me where they did all this work they talk about. They certainly didn't do it here in Stokes for there is not a road in the county worthy of the name. We are all ashamed of the things they call roads in Stokes. They must have "worked their time out" in Forsyth county or somewhere where they have good roads. If they put in all the time they talk about here in Stokes they certainly have made a poor showing. I wouldn't mention it if I had been working the roads all this time and couldn't show a single road in the county yet.

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IN YADKIN TOWNSHIP

Speaker From Chapel Hill To Address the People On the Bond Issue.

King Route 2, March 10.--A speaker from Chapel Hill will address the people of Yadkin township on the question of a bond issue for roads at the following times and places:

Pinnacle, March 20, at 12 o'clock.

King, March 20, at 3 o'clock.

Boyles' Store, March 21, at 10:30 o'clock.

Capella, March 21, at 2:30 o'clock.

Mt. View, March 21, at night, 7:00 o'clock.

It is hoped that all the people will come out and hear the question fully explained, whether they oppose it or not.

Fellow citizens, this is probably the last chance Yadkin township will have to vote a road tax

with the privilege of using its own money in its own township. Consider the matter before you vote against it.

Mr. W. H. Overby of Meadows Route 1 was in town Tuesday. Mr. Overby is strongly in favor of good roads.

The Forty Year Test.

An article must have exceptional merit to survive for a period of forty years. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy was first offered to the public in 1872. From a small beginning it has grown in favor and popularity until it has attained a world wide reputation. You will find nothing better for a cough or cold. Try it and you will understand why it is a favorite after a period of more than forty years. It not only gives relief--it cures. For sale by all dealers.

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