

Mr. E. L. Shuford on Road Bonds

He is heartily in favor of the \$50,000 Issue

"Say, Mr. Shuford, what is the date for the election, and what of the outlook?"

"The election on the \$50,000 bond issue in Hickory was ordered for April 15th, and, in my opinion, the good people of this township will take a step forward. There is opposition, but our folks will stand by the bonds when the proposition is put up to them."

"What is one of the main issues?" "Bond without a raise in the present tax rate, and no debt on our children; one of the fairest and most attractive business measures ever presented to a community."

"What about the registration?" "A new one has been ordered commencing 20 days previous to the election with L. S. Shuford registrar for North Hickory and Dan Whitener for South Hickory."

"What will be the benefits, if we carry the bonds?" "I am not too busy for an argument, but no better argument is wanted than the roads this winter, they are so very, very bad. Every one, like the good, has already voted, so far as the benefits and necessity of the roads are concerned; and it is also clearly demonstrated that a permanent road can be built out of the present road tax, unless the funds are differently applied, just as a man can never own a home by paying rent on it; I am thankful to say the many homes in Hickory are built out of rent money, and many more are on the road through the Building and Loan."

"Is the plan similar?" "I can't say that, but the same principle is involved, and like results will accrue to this township."

"What is the plan?" "The plan is to build fifty or sixty miles of natural gravel top soil or sand clay roads out of the \$50,000 bond issue, at once, so to speak, and without paying more road tax than 20c; we are now paying which amounts to over \$600.00 annually, and will increase as our township values grow, but right now we can pay the interest on the bonds [\$3000.] carrying 150 shares through the Building and Loan for less than \$2,000, which will absorb the bonds at their maturity."

"Will this leave any fund for the repair of the roads?" "Yes, sir; over \$1,000 on this year's tax basis, and the township is growing and will go forward by leaps and bounds, with good roads giving more money each year for repairs. Newton township has voted these bonds, and the County is watching us. Was Hickory ever left behind?"

"Have we got the material to build the roads?" "Yes, we are particularly fortunate in this township. Mr. Eddleman of Cleveland county, who is building the road from Brookford, says: We have an abundance of top soil exactly adapted to building roads, that will make a road as good as the paved streets of Hickory and that for less than \$500 per mile, where there is no grading, for instance, on the road from Hickory to Catawba Springs. Just think of it, and one almost becomes a good roads crank."

"How does the top soil compare with the macadam?" "Mr. John W. Robinson and Mr. Henry Holbrook made a trip to Cleveland county, and Mr. Robinson also inspected similar roads in other counties, and their reports substantiate all that Mr. Eddleman, who built the roads, claim for them. They cost much less to repair, and also very much less to build than the macadam, and while our roads are impassable, and our farmers are creeping and floundering in the mud, these gentlemen report a double team hauling all the wagon would hold up, and with more ease than half a load formerly."

"What reasons appeal to you strongest in favor of the road bonds for Hickory?" "1st. We have got to pay the 20c. road tax, bonds, or no bonds, with no results but mud. 2nd. We can build good roads and enjoy them now with the bond issue, and without increase in the present rate of tax. 3rd. And, really, the gist of the whole question with our

STATE NEWS

Mrs. W. M. Nolen died Friday at her home in Gastonia.

Vernon Simms, a young man shot himself to death at Lenoir March 17. He was sick and despondent.

Mrs. Ann C. Patterson, of Centre Grove, Rowan county, who gave to the Lutheran church Rev. Dr. R. L. Patterson, of Charlotte and Rev. S. R. Patterson, of Coatesville, Pa., died March 9. Her first husband was a Mr. Rsoe, and the late Rev. C. A. Rase was a son by that marriage.

Col. Mose Harshaw, of Lenoir, is out in an interview for Roosevelt, who, indeed, has the support of the great bulk of the North Carolina Republicans. Harshaw says both Morhead and Duncan should retire as state chairman and national committee man, and be succeeded by two men in the interest of party harmony.

Robey Montgomery, a flagman on the Carolina & North-Western Railway, was instantly killed at Lenoir March 17 in the attempt to adjust a knuckle on an automatic coupler. He had signed the engineer to back the train to couple up the caboose and the caboose failed to catch, knocking the caboose some distance up the track. Montgomery stooped to adjust the coupling and without warning the caboose rolled down on him, catching him between the two couplings midway between his chest and back, crushing him to death.

debt paying and debt fearing people is how are the bonds to be paid in twenty years, which has been answered, in as much as two thousand set aside from our present annual road tax, and compounded will pay the bonds in less than twenty years; and we have a practical plan at hand through our Building and Loan to do this. No theory, but a cold business fact. These bonds at six percent, of course, will bring over par, but even the interest at three thousand dollars with the sinking fund makes less than five thousand, when actually figured, leaving more than one thousand for repairs out of the present road tax annually.

"So the proposition is just for a different application, and distribution of the present road fund. No argument can be successfully made against it."

"How does this election differ from an ordinary election?" "It is different from a political election, if that is what you mean, for on April 15th you will vote against the registration. Those opposed vote when they register, and if you favor bonds and register, you will also vote against them, if you stay away from the polls on election day."

"So the conclusion of the whole matter leaves nothing for you to do if you favor good roads in Hickory township, but to work, register and vote for these bonds."

"If we fail to carry these bonds, what effect will it have on Hickory," considering that Newton township has already voted for good roads?" "If you will pardon a poetical answer. Good roads are bound to tell the farmers, to Hickory not to sell, and trade will be as dull-well.

The columns of the Democrat are doubly enriched this week by contributions from Mrs. Watson's pen. That is a splendid tribute she pays to the assassinated hero, Wm. Foster, commonwealth's attorney, for whom she was once stenographer, and the other victims.

Glorious News

comes from Dr. J. T. Curtiss, Dwight, Kan. He writes: "I not only have cured bad cases of eczema in my patients with Electric Bitters, but also cured myself by them of the same disease. I feel sure they benefit any case of eczema." This shows what thousands have proved, that Electric Bitters is a most effective blood purifier. Its an excellent remedy for eczema, tetter, salt rheum, ulcers, boils, zema, tetter, salt rheum, ulcers, boils, and running sores. It stimulates liver, kidney and bowels, expels poison, helps digestion, builds up the strength. Price 50 cents. Satisfaction guaranteed by C. M. Shuford, Moser & Lutz, Walter S. Martin.

GENERAL NEWS

The free sugar bill passed the House by a vote of 193 to 103.

Dr. Harvey W. Wiley has resigned from the bureau of chemistry at Washington, because, he says, old Secretary Wilson would not let him administer the pure food and drug act in the interest of the people but wants him to favor mercenary dealers.

Senator Percy, of Mississippi, refuses to resign at the request of the Legislature, not the one which elected him, however. He offered in 1910 to resign if a primary then chose a successor to him. He did this as an inducement to have a primary held. But his offer did not hold good till 1911, when a primary was held which selected Vardaman.

Lawyer T. L. Kirkpatrick in Charlotte drew a small knife on Alderman Wincate and called him a "dirty, stinking liar." The attorney was representing the Olympia club, which wanted a license as a social club. The men wrangled over this matter. Two men caught and held Mr. Kirkpatrick, and the matter was postponed by the board.

At Indianapolis 46 union labor leaders charged with unlawful interstate transportation of explosive alleged to have been used in a campaign of terrorism against the "open shop" in the structural iron industry, were indicted in the Federal court March 12. One hundred explosions destroyed or damaged property of employees of non-union labor in cities from Massachusetts to California between 1905 and 1911. The most disastrous wrecked the Los Angeles Times building October 1, 1910, and killed 21 men.

Nineteen miles a second

without a jar, shock or disturbance, is the awful speed of our earth through space. We wonder at such ease of nature's movement, and so do those who take Dr. King's New Life Pills. No gripping, no distress, just tough work that brings good health and fine feelings. 25 cents at C. M. Shuford, Moser & Lutz, Walter S. Martin.

COMMENT

THE OBSERVER'S CONDONING OF ASSASSINATION.

The editor of the Charlotte Observer is too able and good to allow his prejudice for conservatism to carry him so far as to half way excuse the awful assassination in that Virginia court room, which shocked America, on the ground that it was attributable to the agitation for the recall of judges. The Observer lacked its long-maintained poise of judgment and sense of good taste when it wrote this:

It is not at all like y that the Allens had anything against Judge Massie and the officers of the Court personally, in other conditions they would doubtless have befriended them; but it was the law against which they revolted and they sought to make an end of the law by killing the officers of the law. The Allens are, in all probability, plain ignorant men into whose minds has filtered the anarchistic spirit of these times as taught by sundry kid-gloved statesmen who have been exciting popular distrust of the Courts and declaring that human rights are greater than property rights, that the people must take the law into their own hands if they would save themselves from the penalties of the law. In their ignorance the Allens could not clearly distinguish between the fine theories of the academicians and what they regarded as their rights, and, having the courage of their convictions, they chose to do murder rather than to yield to the judgment of the law. They had heard in some way that the Courts are corrupt, that the law is tyrannous, that it is not the defence of the weak but the opportunity of the strong, that it was made for the rich and not for the poor, that "the people must take the law into their own hands," and when the time came for them to meet the issue, with a certain sort of brute courage they stood against the law. Of course, there is no de-

fence for their bloody work and they should be shot down now whenever they are found as enemies of society but it must not be forgotten that in the fearful tragedy at Hillsville yesterday there was an extreme illustration of the recall of the judges; a practical application of the teachings of our leaders who would set up the Mob against the Law.

To use an incident of horror like this as water on its wheel of argument against the recall, is astonishing and terrible. Such an argument is loaded with deadly boomerang quality, too. The Allens and their ilk will take such talk as justification of their lawlessness, and it will rebound against papers like the Observer some day, when the bomb begins to fall under the fabric of American robber tariff built wealth. To quote a word from the late Senator Hawley, of Connecticut, the Observer's utterance is "loaded with the germs and bacilli of anarchy."

Good men, as good as the editor of the Observer, favor the recall. Maybe they are wrong, maybe not. All such were horrified by the Hillsville slaughter. We appeal from Philip drunk to Philip sober.

A PRETTY POEM.

We take great delight this week in publishing a poem from our friend Mrs. Sallie Floyd Watson, of this city, in appreciation of the trained nurse, to whom this modern age is in hopeless debt. Mrs. Watson has experienced the tender touch of this ministering good angel both in Hickory's splendid hospital, the Richard Baker, (given to humanity by Dr. J. H. Shuford,) and elsewhere. Her verses are of a bit sweetest out of the lion's carcass of pain.

Accident will happen, but the blessed regulated families keep Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil for such emergencies. Two sizes 25 and 50 c at all stores.

Mrs. Watson Knew Hillsville Heroes Assassination In Court Room

Hickory Lady was Stenographer to Assassinated Solicitor

To the Editor of the Democrat:

A little over three years ago, the writer spent a pleasant summer in the beautiful little mountain town of Hillsville, Va. Here my father, the late William H. Cook, began life as a young lawyer; here he held his first office, that of district attorney; here, with his first savings, he built, for his own mother, the old brick House on the Hill; here he brought his fair young bride; here my grandmother and great-grandmother died; from here men went out to follow their leader to the Civil War. For Hillsville's peace and prosperity, I have offered many a prayer, and seldom have I had such a shock as when I read of the fearful scene in that courthouse, where I spent many quiet, busy, cheerful hours, as stenographer for that martyred hero, Wm. M. Foster. Before going to Carroll county, we had corresponded. He held the office formerly held by my father, and no man could have been kinder or more courteous to an employee.

But a few months before, the trial of the notorious desperado and blockader, Peters, for the murder, in his own home and before his own family, of a peaceful and inoffending Methodist minister, had convulsed the county. Against the united strength of the evil element and under hourly threat of death, Judge Jackson and Attorney Foster fearlessly did their duty and the cold-blooded murderer was hung. When it became known that Judge Jackson would sentence him to death, some assassin fired at the judge while sitting at his brother-in-law's table, missing him, but grazing him and very nearly killing the mother of the family and the infant she held in her arms. The stenographer of the county clerk was attacked from behind and terribly injured in mistake for Mr. Foster, his scalp being cut open by some heavy instrument. The family of Judge Jackson were wild with terror, and he finally exchanged courts with Judge Massie, the unfortunate gentleman whose courageous fidelity to duty has just cost him his life. I met him while acting as Mr. Foster's stenographer. He was a genial, refined, kindly Virginian, I thought to be, if anything, too lenient with the men brought before him for blockading and other lawless acts. He having given these desperados no such cause for hatred as Judge Jackson it was the best thing, all aound, for them to exchange. The late Mr. Foster spoke of the matter in that way to me.

I do not know if the present sheriff be the same who was in office when I was there. The gentleman who held the office then was beloved by everybody in the county who had one spark of decency in him. The good man was never so happy as when he was doing a kindness for someone, and I said that I didn't see how he could ever have the heart to arrest anyone; yet I was told that he was a fine officer and absolutely, it seemed without fear. In my duty to my employer, I had sometime to read letters written to Mr. Foster, and I saw one or two that contained ferocious threats. I asked him if he thought the writers were in earnest, and he assured me there was no doubt of it. I said, "but, Mr. Foster, are you not afraid, when you go constantly under these threats?" He smiled and quoted, "threatened men live long," recalling to me how the same element had threatened my father the same way; then, "I suppose one grows used to anything. I've heard so and I've about come to believe it."

In many things, he was one of the finest characters I have ever known. Born in poverty, he, for the most part educated himself. A truly "self made man," he was, in the best sense of the term. Brave, talented, honest, truthful, kind, intelligent—my heart sinks, my eyes fill, when I remember that his splendid form, his noble intellect, his good true heart shall, in this world, be helpful no more to this State, his friends, his family. For, and there lies the worst sting, he was father and husband. He married a lovely little lady, a daughter of one of the best Virginia families,

Judge, Solicitor and Sheriff Shot By Outlaws at Hillsville, Va.

Shooting down Judge Massie on the bench, the prosecuting lawyer, Wm. Foster, and Sheriff Lewis Webb in the court room at Hillsville, Carroll county, Va., 16 mountain desperados then made their escape to the Blue Ridge.

There is no railroad to the town, and it was 24 hours before the machinery of the law could institute pursuit. The next day the gang rode into Mt. Airy, N. C., and raided a hardware store of all its guns and ammunition, escaping again towards the mountains of Alleghany county.

Judge Massie was just in the act of sentencing Floyd Allen to one year in the pen for taking a prisoner away from a deputy sheriff, when Sidna Allen killed him, and he fell dead over the bench. The sheriff was drawing his pistol when he was shot. The Commonwealth Attorney crumpled down in the floor with his brain full of lead. The clerk was wounded, as were also three jurors.

The town was terrorized. Floyd Allen, who was wounded in the melee, escaped with his brothers and their friends. Troops are ready to go if needed.

The Democrat got a meagre report of the shooting in its last Thursday's issue, as it was flashed over the wires.

Sidna Allen was captured, half dead, on March 14 after a battle from his cabin. His wife who was helping him to load was shot dead. Allen was jailed at Hillsville.

Judge Staples reorganized the court and drew a grand jury to indict the outlaws.

Miss Nancy Ayres, a 19-year old girl, died two days after the tragedy. She was shot but didn't know it, thinking she had been only bruised in the court room.

The outlaws are fortified in a mountain pass, with ample provisions for a siege. Dynamite may be used to dislodge them.

South Hickory Registration Place.

All parties from South Hickory precinct, who wish to register in the bond election, will find D. E. Whitener, registrar, at the old Marshall building on the following Saturdays: March 23 and 30 and April 6 and 13. 3 21 31

he had sweet little daughters and a baby boy who was his idol. When I think of him, as I have seen him, on the green terrace before the temple of that law he died to defend, his boy in his arms, his little daughters around him, his wife watching them from his window, it seems to me that, could I have the power to strike down these creatures, lower than the beasts, who slew him, verily, I think I could do it, even with my weak woman's hand, and ask no other reward than that the earth was rid of one who should no more pollute it than a dog. Judge Massie's death will be deplored wherever he was known. Bench and bar are bereaved. Virginia mourns two of her best known and most gifted sons. May He unto Whom vengeance beloneth arise and do justice for this innocent blood shed in His cause, which crieth mightily unto Him!

I thank you, Mr. Editor, for allowing me space to express the grief and indignation which the terrible news of the tragic deaths of these who were "good men and true," in their dealings with me has caused me to feel. Virginia will award the extreme penalty to their murderers, whenever they are found, but not even our mother, Virginia, can cause them to look once more upon the glorious hills, the the sweet valleys of the land they loved and in whose service they died. It was well with them, but oh, the aching hearts that are left.

In grief for living and dead, yours, SALLIE FLOYD WATSON.

Some Facts About A Bond Issue For Road Improvement in Hickory Township

Read, Not to Believe, Nor to Contradict, But to Understand

- (1) The special tax of 20 cents that you are now paying amounts to a little over \$6000.00 per year.
(2) \$3000.00 per year will pay the interest on the \$50000.00 bonds.
(3) \$1950.00 per year will carry 150 shares of Building & Loan stock that will mature and meet the bonds when due, between 18 and 19 years.
(4) \$1050.00 per year will be available for road repairs. This estimate is based on present values.

You know that Hickory Township is neither going backward nor standing still; it is progressive, increasing in value every year.

This will mean, of course, increased revenue from the same 20 cent tax than is estimated above.

You will note that the present tax rate will pay the interest on the bonds, supplying a sinking fund for meeting the indebtedness when due and still leave ample funds for road repair and additional improvement.

These are facts that need no argument to convince the intelligent voter, that it is to his interest to vote in favor of this bond issue.

Instead of frittering away the 20 cent road tax every year in makeshift repairs, you will have permanent road improvement that can be kept up at a minimum cost. It is estimated that this \$50000.00 will build from 50 to 60 miles of top-soil or sand clay road at an average cost of \$800.00 per mile.

WE, the undersigned, believe the above statement to be a clean cut, fair representation of the question of a \$50,000.00 bond issue for Hickory township road improvement. The estimate has been carefully and conscientiously made, without effort at concealment of any facts, or padding figures to make a good showing:

- G. R. Wooten, H. H. Abbe, M. H. Young, J. D. Elliott, S. L. Whitener, W. H. Nicholson, J. A. Bowles, S. M. Hamrick, W. J. Shuford, Jno. W. Robinson, A. P. Whitener, N. S. Dasher, W. S. Stroup, J. W. Shuford, J. E. Barb, W. X. Keid, A. C. Link, Geo. E. Bisanar, E. L. Shuford, C. C. Bost, G. P. Deal, J. S. Leonard, A. S. Miller, Q. O. Smith, C. E. Bumgarner, S. R. Dietz, Q. E. Herman, N. W. Clark, A. A. Shuford, W. B. Menzies, J. W. Starnes, J. J. Hefner, T. C. Blackburn.