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VOLUME XVI. NO. 27.

MONROE, N. C., TUESDAY AUGUST 3, 1909.

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TO RAISE FUNDS BY COUNTY BONDS.

Counties Which Are Prepared to Spend Money for Road Building and Road Maintaining Should First Learn What Types of Traffic and Climatic Conditions—When Money is Wasted—The Immense Value of Properly Invested Funds.

Logan Waller Page, director of the office of public roads of the United States Department of Agriculture, has appeared before State legislatures and county boards in various sections of the country during the past few months in response to invitations to tell what methods are best for obtaining funds for road construction and how the roads should be maintained after they have once been secured.

At the present time there are two principal methods of raising funds for these purposes, but Director Page believes that before plans are set on foot for raising funds, much should be said regarding the manner in which such funds should be expended. If the voters of a county show a readiness to spend a generous sum in improving their roads, it is of paramount importance to them to first ascertain what class of roads should be constructed.

It should not be assumed that simply because a county owns quarries from which trap or limestone rock can be secured that the expensive macadam road must necessarily be built. The qualifications of any rock cannot be definitely decided upon until laboratory tests have been held. Much money has been almost thrown away in this country, however, on the construction of rock-surfaced roads, those having the construction in charge neglecting to call in the services of expert chemists, and using rock totally unsuited to their traffic or climatic conditions. In many, many cases, the results were disastrous, the roads quickly raveling and going to pieces because the cementing value was lacking.

A county which shows sufficient progress to bond itself in a liberal amount for the purpose of securing improved roads should keep its money intact until its officers have learned exactly what class of roads will best meet its requirements; what type of road it is best qualified to construct and what it can best afford. Those facts can be secured through the aid of the National Government, the Office of Public Roads standing ready to give gratuitous advice and to supply skilled highway engineers who are qualified to tell what type of highway would best meet that county's requirements and to demonstrate those decisions by supervising the building of stretches of model highways, after which local officials may take pattern.

Wide awake State and county officials are now showing the liveliest appreciation of the results which follow a visit by these skillful men, and the demands for their services are so heavy that it is impossible for Director Page to meet more than 20 per cent. of the requests being filed in his office.

When county officers learn to appreciate the fact that road building is an art, they rely more and more upon expert advice and scientific demonstration, and when they have learned what class of roads is desirable, they will construct them and then guard them.

Therein lies one of the most important of all American highway questions. Americans build as good roads as Englishmen or Frenchmen, but having done so, they rest contented with their efforts and let each passing breath of air, speeding automobile, or drenching rain blow or wash the road surface away.

In the countries of Europe, where the well-nigh perfect roads are the pride of the citizens and the envy and admiration of visiting Americans, most jealous care is constantly given; a careful day-by-day inspection is made and every depression is quickly filled and all inequalities rolled or tamped.

Two requisites, therefore, confront the county supervisors at the outset—first to ascertain what roads would be most suitable to that particular section, and to provide for funds to expend in their maintenance after completion.

Those are vastly important and the nation's very small percentage of improved roads is due largely to a failure to give consideration to them. Millions of money have been wasted in building roads which local conditions made impracticable and out of all cost proportion to the county's revenue.

There are exceptions to all rules, however, and a glittering exception to the usual construction blunder. There the county officials had planned to expend a large sum in the building of gravel roads.

W. L. Spoon, United States superintendent of road construction, being sent to make an inspection of the county's road possibilities, learned that 700 miles of important routes needed improvement. He figured that the cost of gravel roads would be \$5,000 a mile—plainly a sum greater than the county could be bonded for. Conditions, however, were ideal for sand-clay construction and he strongly urged its adoption. By a legal proviso the county could be bonded for only 25 per centum of the assessed value of the road and personal property. The plan was decided upon and an

WRONG THINGS AT FUNERALS

Preachers Severely Criticized for Long Funerals and Indiscriminate Eulogies.

Recently a prominent minister, Rev. J. Lawrie Wilson, died at Abbeville, S. C., and the local paper, the Abbeville Press and Banner, contained a rather unusual and stinging criticism of the manner in which the funeral was conducted. Said the Press and Banner:

"Every seat was occupied. Standing room was all taken, and many who came late lingered about the door without coming in. The weather was warm, but it is presumed that those who had seats were comfortable enough. Those who had standing seats were tired out long before the expiration of the hour and a half, to which time the services were prolonged."

"The Rev. Mr. Law read the scriptures and delivered a talk which had not been carefully digested or reasonably well prepared."

"Rev. Mr. Gregg talked for a long time in commonplace."

"Our own judgment is that the funeral services were not up to what might have been expected of so good a man as Dr. Wilson, while they were cruelly long."

"Even in the prayers there was a dearth of thankfulness for the life of the good man who had so long labored among us, and who so lately entered upon that great sleep which men call death."

"We are inclined to think that on occasions of this kind it may reasonably be assumed that the Lord knows a little of us, and for this reason the speaker need not bore an awaiting audience with a commonplace recital of facts that are known to us all."

"It is simply next to unpardonable to keep an audience waiting an hour and a half that the speaker may talk themselves instead of eulogizing or portraying the character of the dead."

Commenting upon these remarks, the Greenville (S. C.) News says:

"This is a remarkable piece of writing, but it deals with a practice that is too common in the clergy and one about which we have often given serious reflection. Our contemporary has no doubt hurt some feelings and wounded pride, but it hit the nail on the head just the same. What occurred at the funeral of Dr. Wilson, as described by the Press and Banner, is by no means an exceptional case. Many funeral services are too long and one of the main causes of this is just what our Abbeville contemporary points out: preachers too frequently fail to assume that the Lord knows a little about us."

There is much truth in what is herein said, but the criticism could have been made more effective had it been written in a different spirit. The tone would indicate that the writer was in bad humor, possibly because he was one of those who had to stand during the service; and being in bad humor his remarks are rather bitter and personal. The friends of the preachers criticized will certainly resent the remarks and harm instead of good will be the result. Had the remarks been general and impersonal, without citing any particular case, they would have been effective and helped to correct a custom that needs correction.

There is no question that many reforms are needed in our manner of conducting funerals. First, the practice of preaching funeral sermons or delivering eulogies needs to be abandoned in most cases, and it is gratifying to note that many preachers of all denominations now confine themselves to a simple burial service. In some cases the eulogy is permissible, but it should be simple and brief. A good many people have an idea that an elaborate funeral service must be held; a biographical sketch read; an eulogy pronounced reciting all the good deeds of the deceased, carefully omitting the faults and praising all the virtues; and then a long obituary and a card of thanks printed in the papers, before one can be properly laid away. It is proper to honor the dead, but in most cases our faults surpass our virtues, and it is hardly proper to magnify the latter and leave off the former. Certainly the practice will not create respect for the dead; on the contrary when one is eulogized whose faults were conspicuous—and this is often the case in indiscriminate eulogies—that very fact will make his faults shine in contrast and set all who hear to thinking about them if not talking about them. It used to be that almost all ministers thought it necessary to preach the dead into heaven to avoid offense, regardless of the character in life. But most of them have reformed in this respect.

Two Young Women Drowned.

Local Special, 28th, to Charlotte Observer.

The news reached here tonight of the death by drowning at Mortimer of two popular young women of that village, Miss Nanette Bailey and Miss Jett. The tragedy occurred late this afternoon in the pond adjacent to the mill of the Bitter Lumber Company at that place. The bodies were recovered shortly afterward and the funeral will take place some time tomorrow.

The details of the accident which has enshrouded the little town of Mortimer in gloom are meagre and it is impossible to obtain further information tonight. Whether the young women were boating or bathing and just how they met their untimely end has not been ascertained. Mortimer is an obscure mountain village, eighteen miles from Lenoir and the telephone connection is poor.

Miss Bailey was a daughter of Mr. William Bailey, manager of the Bitter Lumber Company, and a student at Davenport College at the past session. Miss Jett was a daughter of Mr. Jett, the saw filer of the lumber company. Miss Bailey had many friends in Lenoir.

The best remedy we know of in all cases of kidney and bladder trouble and the one we always can recommend is Dr. Witt's Kidney and Bladder Pills. They are antiseptic and at once assist the kidneys to perform their important work. But when you ask for these pills be positive that you get Dr. Witt's Kidney and Bladder Pills. There are imitations placed upon sale to deceive you. Get Dr. Witt's. Insist upon them, and if your dealer cannot supply you refuse anything else in place of them. Sold by English Drug Company.

MISS PULLEY A HEROINE.

Treated Brutally All Her Life. She Deserves Better Things Now that She Killed the Old Man.

It will be remembered by many in the county that there once lived near the mouth of Burgaw creek a notorious character named Jo Pulley, who was arrested for illicit distilling. Pulley left the county about two years ago and went to Smithfield and from there moved to Selma. He took with him his wife and little girl, Mary. Mary had been in a convent but had been taken out by Pulley. His treatment of this little girl is the most inhuman ever heard of in a civilized land. The way he beat her, the hard work he made her do, the work too heavy for her strength, and the way she was deprived of the necessities of life, read more like savagery and cannibalism than the history of a North Carolinian.

Saturday night Pulley decided he would make this child leave home and told her if she was there next morning he would beat her and if she didn't leave then he would kill her. She knew he meant what he said, for old Pulley was known to do what he said even to meeting his obligations. She went to sleep dreading to see the dawn of next day which was to bring her such trouble. Just at the break of day the whistles of the mills woke her and she faced a crisis. She would have left home but knew no one, never having been anywhere in the neighborhood. She then went to the yard, got the axe and going in the room where Pulley lay sleeping, struck him on the head several times. She never left the house but remained for the officers to come and get her. She was placed in jail to await the action of the grand jury which meets in September. When arrested she had nothing but a dirty cotton dress; she worked in, slept in and wore all the time. When taken and dressed she was found to have a number of bad sores on her back with bruises and other signs of ill treatment.

She was taken from jail by Mr. M. C. Winstead, president of the Selma Bank and of the Lizzie and Effie cotton mills there. When released from jail she was asked what she was going to do and said she was going to do anything Mr. Winstead wanted her to. She is very appreciative and the people of Selma have given her a great quantity of clothing, etc.

Mr. Winstead was here Monday looking for evidence in the case and secured a watch and chain and pair of eye glasses old Pulley had stolen from Prof. Turlington's home in Smithfield. Pulley's father came up to the burial of his notorious son and stated that Pulley had killed four men and two women in his life and had been a criminal ever since he was 14 years old. He killed one of his wives when living in Pender but stated to parties at Selma that the people here were afraid to prosecute him.

National Ginners' Report Shows Bad Condition.

Memphis Dispatch, 26th.

The report made on cotton condition up to July 25 by the National Ginners' Association this afternoon, gives the general average as 71.7. The average by States follows: Alabama, 70; Arkansas, 76; Florida, 85; Georgia, 79; Louisiana, 62; Mississippi, 64; Missouri, 81; North Carolina, 73; South Carolina, 77; Oklahoma, 79; Tennessee, 77; Texas, 66. The report says:

"This is the lowest condition ever known at this season of the year and indicates a crop of around 11,000,000, and unless good rains fall in the next week throughout almost the entire belt, but more especially in Texas, southern and western Oklahoma and Mississippi, the crop will be under that figure."

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