

ROAD COMMISSION SHOWS LEVY TO BE LESS WITH BONDS

Will Cut Out Immense Cost of Bridge Repair and Annual Upkeep.

LETTER FROM STATE HIGHWAY OFFICIAL

We take this method of correcting false reports that are being circulated by those opposed to the proposed bond issue.

They claim that road taxes cannot be lower if the bond issue passes because it will still be necessary to make a levy of 30 cents on the hundred for maintenance purposes, as against a former levy of 12 cents, regardless of whether or not the bonds carry for the reason that bond money cannot be used for maintenance purposes and it will be necessary to make a 30 cents levy to take care of existing roads. They contend that a bond issue will cost nine and a half cents, for \$250,000.00, and this added to the proposed levy of 30 cents for maintenance will cause a levy of thirty nine and one half cents, which will be an increase of nine and one half cents over the present and absolutely necessary taxes for roads. This argument is answered by the fact that the county commissioners, including Sheriff Griffith, agreed to make a tax levy of 30 cents in case the bonds did not pass but they expressly stated that if the bonds did pass there would be no increase in the levy for maintenance purposes, that is, it would remain at 12 cents.

Last year the roads of Union county were maintained on a levy of 12 cents and they can be kept up again on the same levy, provided the bonds pass, for the reason that it is one of the main purposes of the road commission to replace practically all small wooden bridges with culverts and concrete pipe. Heretofore the biggest item in maintenance has been the buying of lumber for the replacement and repair of these small bridges. Bond money can certainly be used for this purpose for such work is permanent construction. Lumber only last year for maintenance purposes cost the county approximately \$10,000.00 and this added to the cost of labor for bridge repair, which was approximately \$5,000.00, makes a total of \$15,000.00. This cost can be eliminated entirely by the construction of culverts and the replacement of small wooden bridges with concrete pipe. It has always been the idea of the county engineer to eliminate the maintenance costs by this method. The bond issue should appeal to all tax payers for this reason if for no other. It will naturally reduce the cost of maintenance in the years to come, as well as this and next year. In addition, it costs considerably less to maintain roads that have been built than those that have not been.

Opponents of the bond issue are also advancing the argument, wherever they deem it good politics, that practically all money will be spent in maintenance and no roads partially built will be extended. This argument is false on its face for the very simple reason that bond money must be used principally in road construction, and it is the avowed purpose of the road commission to complete these roads that have already been started.

The third argument, recently advanced, principally by those interested in the hard surfacing of the one mile stretch of the Jackson Highway, is that the statement by the road commission that the state expects to pay only \$3,000.00 to the county's \$8750.00 or \$12,000.00. This letter is answered by the letter from the State Highway Commission appended hereto. According to the county engineer's figures it will take at least 4,000 cubic yards of stone that the county is required to furnish, this valued at \$3 per cubic yard makes the cost to the county of \$12,000.00 as against the state's \$3,000.00. At their own figures of 2500 cubic yards the cost to the county will be \$8750.00 to the state's \$3,000.00.

J. D. McRAE, Chairman T. G. COLLINS, Secretary J. F. THOMPSON, Third Member.

Letter From State Highway Commission.

Mr. J. D. McRAE, Chairman, Union County Road Commission, Monroe, N. C.

Dear Sir:—I wish to advise that I have today received authority from Mr. Page allowing me to expend an amount not to exceed \$3,000.00 in the construction of one mile of road west of Monroe on Route No. 25, which has recently been under discussion.

Therefore, under this condition, you may proceed with the crushing and placing of stone on this road in accordance with our discussion and your recent letter. I am assuming that the town of Monroe will furnish us water for binding the waterbound macadam. A large amount of water will be needed and our water wagon can be used, however, on account of the small amount of work, we could not lay a water line for this purpose as it would not be economical.

We will be in position to start this work sometime during the coming week and shall expect to complete it within a period of approximately 30 days, provided we can get stone within that time.

I shall either visit you myself or send a representative from this office to see you in the course of a few days in regard to hauling and placing this stone.

Yours very truly, J. B. PRIDGEN Dist. Engineer.

MISS STALLINGS HEADS THE CAMP FIRE GIRLS

By Martha E. Crowell Indian Trail, June 4.—The Camp Fire Girls club held a meeting at the home of Miss Kate Crowell last Tuesday afternoon. This meeting wasn't so pleasant as our meetings usually are, for we only had a business meeting. Miss Crowell gave us enough work to do to keep us busy for two months. No wonder we did not enjoy this meeting—it is hot enough these June days without racing about doing so many unnecessary (?) things. We hiked to Stallings last Thursday afternoon to organize a club for the girls there. Eight of the girls joined the club Thursday and many more are intending to join in a few days. Miss Myrtle Stallings was appointed guardian of this new organization.

Messrs. Senard and Boyce Bailey and Edward Griffith of Pineville were visitors here last Wednesday afternoon.

Miss Sarah Crowell was the weekend guest of Misses Vivian and Vera Parker of Charlotte.

Miss Kathryn Morris visited her sister, Mrs. John W. Moore of Charlotte last week.

The Reverend M. F. Daniels of Charlotte preached an unusually good sermon at the Presbyterian church here last Sunday. His text was taken from John 10-28 and 29. Mr. Daniels stated that if he should take a subject it would be "The Good Shepherd." His sermon was very accurate and very forcibly presented in the following heads, through which Mr. Daniels showed the three-fold care of the Good Shepherd for his sheep: "They shall never perish; neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand." The audience was not so large as it should have been, and I wish to urge that not only the members of that church be present on the third Sunday morning, but that all the people of this place go and fill the church to overflowing.

Although there is no pastor for that church at present, Mr. Daniels has been kind enough to fill this vacancy every first and third Sunday until a pastor has been called. So please remember this and be at church every Sunday. If Mr. Daniels is unable to be here at any time he will see to sending another man. There will be services on the regular Sundays and at the usual hours. The Reverend Mr. Warren of Monroe made an interesting as well as helpful talk at this same church on last Sunday afternoon at 8 o'clock. His subject was "Temperance and Good Citizenship."

Miss Allen Crowell visited friends in the Griffith community last week-end.

Miss Katherine Farmer gave quite an instructive talk at the school building last Wednesday afternoon. Miss Farmer will be with us every Wednesday afternoon for a short while, and she wishes that all the girls from ten to fourteen years of age be at the school building every Wednesday afternoon at two o'clock. The young girls and the ladies are requested to be present at three o'clock.

Many of the Indian Trail people attended the Stallings children's exercises last Sunday evening. These children are to be congratulated for giving such an interesting program. It was obvious that the children had been well trained, and I think that the instructors, Mrs. P. S. Garmon, Miss Lillian Noles, and Miss Ethel Furr, should be congratulated also.

Oakboro Has Two Mayors

Stanly county can always be depended upon not to drag behind any section of the world, says the Stanly News-Herald. China may have it on us a little in bandit gangs but Mexico and Russia have nothing on the town of Oakboro, in this county, when it comes to having two separate and distinct governments. Yes, it is a fact that Oakboro actually has two mayors. That is, Oakboro has two if we believe what both of the mayors say. Mr. C. P. Hartsell is one of these mayors. He has served for the past two years and claims that he was re-elected by plurality vote at the last election. He has, therefore, again taken the oath of office and is exercising the prerogatives of Chief executive of Oakboro. On the other hand, Mr. Solomon Huneycutt says he is mayor of Oakboro, and we understand that he has taken the oath of office and that the only reason that he has not tried some one is because no one has dared to violate the law of his town since he was sworn in. What the situation will terminate in remains to be seen, but each mayor swears that he is going to put the other one in jail if he violates the law. The board of aldermen is mixed, too, so we suppose that they will shortly have a separate police force, unless the matter is amicably settled shortly.

"Did I hear that your mule was struck by lightning, Eph?" "Ya-as, sah; dat was a powerful bolt hit de mule right behind his eahs."

"Did it kill him?" "No, sah, but it done broke up the st'm."

days, provided we can get stone within that time.

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We will be in position to start this work sometime during the coming week and shall expect to complete it within a period of approximately 30 days, provided we can get stone within that time.

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Called for Villifying Monroe People, Kluxer Burns Wind

Summoned to a man-to-man account for his numerous conversations villifying Monroe officials and people, a Ku Kluxer who has been making himself offensive around town, yesterday left hurriedly and unceremoniously by the back door route, leaving no address. In the famous words of Chief Justice Flow describing such a going away, the Kluxer "burnt the wind." The bird's name is Felder and Monroe has probably seen the last of him. He was supposed to be an agent for a fertilizer concern, and has been around for some weeks, but his principal business seems to have been parading as a representative of the Ku Klux or a special spokesman for them.

When he left town yesterday morning he went by way of the back door of Mrs. Griffin's boarding house, and Mrs. Griffin was glad to see him go away, for she had been trying to get rid of him and had ordered him to leave before his final departure took place.

Felder had been telling around town that the police department of the town was dirty and crooked, and that the Sheriff was the same way, that the Masons were no account, that the Shriners were a bunch of polka players and drunkards and instead of wearing Shrine pins they ought to be wearing dog collars. He also intimated that he proposed to see that the Ku Kluxers cleared up this town.

One of Felder's intimates let it out that Felder didn't intend for the officials or the others to hear what he had been saying, but they heard it.

Coster Wright, a Seaboard flagman, heard him talking and told Chief Spoon what he said.

"Now, I ain't got nothing to do with the Ku Klux, and have not been taking any part for or against them, but when any man comes here and talks that way about the police department he has got to face somebody," said the Chief, "will you face him?"

"Find him, and I'll show you," said the flagman. But they could not find him and Wright had to take his run out before they did, and the matter was supposed to wait till Wright came back.

But Spoon told Sheriff Fowler how he had been complimented also and the sheriff thought they ought to ask the Kluxer what he meant by his remarks and give him a chance to explain or deny. "But you must talk to him," said the sheriff, "for I might get mad."

They found Felder and he promptly denied the whole matter. "Alright," said Spoon, "the man who told me is out of town now, but when he comes back I'm going to see who lied about it and I don't believe he did."

That was Wednesday and Felder went away for a season. One Spivey, his friend, told Mrs. Griffin he was coming back Saturday night and Mrs. Griffin warned him not to bring the man back to her house as she had already been put to trouble and damage by him and had no use for him and did not want him about. Felder turned up at the boarding house for breakfast Sunday morning. Mrs. Griffin did not know he was there and believes that he spent Saturday and Sunday nights in the room with another man. He did not register.

Yesterday morning Chief Spoon got Flagman Wright and went to the boarding house where Felder was sitting on the porch. The chief asked for a private conversation, saying that the gentleman with him was the one who had given him the information about the conversation and he wished to straighten it up.

"Come to my room," said Felder, "and I'll talk about it, but I will not talk here." He thereupon darted into the house and when they looked into the front door they saw him scotching out through the back way. They have not seen him since.

They did not follow him, or attempt to follow him to a room, and did not know then that he had no room, for a number of men had gathered around and Mr. Spoon said that he did not wish to have the appearance of having a crowd after the man. They wanted him to come out and talk private.

"What would have happened, Chief, if he had come out and talked?" the reporter asked Mr. Spoon.

"Well, we had not talked about that, but I sorter believe that if he had denied saying it Wright would have knocked him down, and I know that if he had admitted it that I would."

Among the things that Felder had been spilling around the boarding house was the statement that he had a thousand men to his back, and intimated that if he should blow a whistle he could summon them all to his aid. But in the wind up he did not take time to blow his whistle. He just burnt the wind.

Old man Gibson, the Ku Klux organizer who staid here so long, went away some time ago. It is not known whether Felder had any official connection with the Klan or not.

RURAL CARRIERS HAD VERY GOOD MEETING

The boys who go day by day, hot and cold, rain or shine, and carry the mail over the country, had their annual meeting the other day, and they had a good time. A. C. Penegar, one of the oldest in years and service, and one of the youngest in spirit, presided.

One feature very much enjoyed was the reading of a letter from Mr. O. E. Cunningham, retired carrier at Waxhaw, still with his old comrades in spirit.

The carriers discussed many subjects pertaining to the improvement of the service and methods of bringing the carrier and patron to a fuller realization of their duty to one another.

The Association then listened with great pleasure to splendid addresses by E. C. Winchester, P. M., Monroe; W. J. Hardage, P. M., Waxhaw; T. V. Howell, Carrier, Peachland, and Dr. Burrell, pastor of the First Baptist church, Monroe.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: A. C. Penegar, President, Monroe; C. M. Griffin, Vice President, Marshville; J. H. Mills, Secretary, Monroe; Chaplain, A. B. Helms, Monroe.

Delegates were then elected as follows: C. M. Griffin, Marshville; W. B. Presson, Unionville; H. C. Nisbet, Waxhaw; J. H. Mills and W. L. Bell, Monroe, with all other members of the Association as alternates to attend the State Convention which meets at Wrightville Beach, N. C., July 3rd and 4th.

The President then appointed a resolution committee composed of P. B. McNeely, C. M. Griffin and J. H. Mills, to draft a set of resolutions and present them to the association at its next meeting.

The Convention then retired to the serving room of the post office where Mrs. E. C. Winchester had prepared a sumptuous luncheon, which was greatly enjoyed by all.

Local resolutions were then adopted thanking the entertainment committee for their splendid efforts; also thanking Brother Cunningham for his letter of fatherly advice; also the speakers for their words of encouragement and sympathy.

The convention then adjourned to meet with the Service Council June 14th, 2:30 p. m., at the post office, Monroe, N. C.

Every one felt that they had been benefited and that it was the best meeting in the history of the association.

Boas: "Sir, what does this mean? Some one just called up and said that you were sick and could not come to work today."

Clerk: "Ha! ha! The police on him. He wasn't supposed to call until tomorrow."—Showme.

FAULKS CELEBRATES BUILDING COMPLETION

The congregation of the Faulks Baptist church in Marshville township celebrated the completion of their church building Sunday by holding the first service in it. The building is perhaps the largest church auditorium in the county, situated in the country. It is the third building that the congregation has used since its organization long before the Civil War. The new building has three large rooms which, put together, constitute one auditorium. The building is an excellent wood structure and will hold something like a thousand people. It was full on Sunday and the service was an inspiring one. A new piano has been purchased and the choir, under the direction of the leader, Mr. Rommie Pierce, rendered with fine spirit and effort many of the old time hymns that moved the congregations of former ages.

The pastor, Rev. B. H. Hester, and the congregation have worked with a zeal and vim which characterizes them, in the construction of the building, which is situated on spacious, shade cooled grounds. They have spent about three thousand dollars on the addition to the building, in carpentering and furnishing it. Faulks has been a Baptist stronghold for many years. It was the home community of the late Rev. D. A. Snider, who served the church as pastor for forty years in all, though not continuously.

Others of the old Baptist preachers, A. C. Davis, Reuben James, J. A. Bivens and J. L. Bennett, all served as pastors. Mr. Snider preached his first and last sermon there and lies buried in the churchyard. His three sons who are ministers made their first efforts there. The community is one of the most progressive in the county. The Haneys, Rosses, Colinses, Bivenses, Griffins, Pierces, Braswells, Smiths, Parkers, Deeses, Nashes, Outens, and others, make up the neighborhood and they have within the last few years made a wonderfully prosperous and happy community. One of the best public school buildings is in the neighborhood. The farmers diversify their crops, live at home, own their lands, and are citizens of the best class.

Sunday was a peculiarly happy day with this homogeneous congregation. The pastor was at his best under the inspiration of the occasion and preached from the theme, "Right Thinking." Action follows thought, he said, and hence, as a man thinks, so he is. Every undertaking should be preceded by the most careful thought of the process and outcome, and there are two great lines of thought that should engage the attention of every man. One is upward and the other is outward. One to seek to know the will of God and the other to know the good of one's fellowman. He plead with the congregation to devote their thoughts to these objects and to keep self in the background. He pointed to the constructive things of life and cautioned against falling into the habit of looking for the selfish and base and ignoring the nobler things of life. Sympathy and regard and help for the less fortunate in life, good will and helpfulness and friendliness are the expressions towards our fellowmen that show how we seek to follow the will of God. Mr. Snyder has been pastor for more than ten years and his sermon of Sunday found a ready response in the hearts of the congregation.

"We are asking you, therefore, to co-operate with us in this enterprise and whatever board of education is designated will be held responsible, of course, for the books purchased. I believe a number of counties will take advantage of this the first year, and if the pupils can secure the books at the wholesale prices and the counties will distribute the same and become responsible for all settlements, this will, in my judgment, be of great advantage to the schools, a great financial saving to the patrons and at the same time the publishers will be protected."

"In order that the county boards of education may be encouraged to secure the books direct from the publishers and obtain the publishers' discount, the State Board of Education will designate any such county a depository, and under the terms of section 1 of the contract such a depository should have all the rights and privileges of the central depository.

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COUNTY BOARDS TO HANDLE THEIR OWN TEXT BOOKS

Supt. Brooks Advises Them That They May Save Twenty Per Cent to Patrons. FOURTH OF COUNTIES PLAN TO SO OPERATE

More than a fourth of the counties in the State have laid plans to take advantage of the recently enacted free text book laws passed by the General Assembly, and will deal directly with the publishers of text books to be used in the schools during the coming year, according to the statement given out by the State Department of Public Instruction at Raleigh yesterday.

In accordance with the request of the counties State Superintendent E. C. Brooks yesterday wrote the publishers having contracts with the State to authorize them to negotiate with the counties as the depository, and to allow the county authorities the 20 per cent discount authorized to dealers in school books. Counties not wishing to deal directly will still use the depository system.

Half dozen bills offered at the last session of the General Assembly provided for free text books by the State, but all of them were defeated. The most novel of them was by Representative Deaton, providing for a tax on soft drinks to provide text books. The re-coded school law provided that any county might include free text books in its annual budget if it so desired, and it is under that law that Dr. Brooks writes the publishers as follows:

"Since the price of school books has increased materially within the past few years, the State Board of Education deems it necessary to make such arrangements as may be possible to supply text books to the pupils at the lowest obtainable cost. As a result certain county boards of education have expressed the desire of handling the text books themselves and supplying pupils at wholesale cost, thus making a saving of about 20 per cent to the pupils.

"In order that the county boards of education may be encouraged to secure the books direct from the publishers and obtain the publishers' discount, the State Board of Education will designate any such county a depository, and under the terms of section 1 of the contract such a depository should have all the rights and privileges of the central depository.

"We are asking you, therefore, to co-operate with us in this enterprise and whatever board of education is designated will be held responsible, of course, for the books purchased. I believe a number of counties will take advantage of this the first year, and if the pupils can secure the books at the wholesale prices and the counties will distribute the same and become responsible for all settlements, this will, in my judgment, be of great advantage to the schools, a great financial saving to the patrons and at the same time the publishers will be protected."

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