

**Mount Airy News.**

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**THE FIGHT FOR BETTER SCHOOLS**

The registration books are now open for the registration of those who wish to take part in the election in June that would authorize the issuance of forty thousand dollars worth of bonds for school purposes in this city. So far there has not been much said either pro or con about this election, but the people of this town who favor this bond issue must wake up else there is danger of its failing to carry. The election is held against the registration, that is, all who do not vote are counted as against the issue, and it is an exceedingly easy matter for those who are against this bond to register and then stay away from the polls and thus contribute to its defeat. There are those who do not believe any opposition may develop that will be worth noticing but it will be well for the advocates to organize their forces and prepare for any turn that the opposition might take. The opposition, as it appears is composed of two classes, namely: those who are opposed to anything that will make taxes higher, and those who have a grievance against some part of the management of the school and would thus use their vote in the coming election to voice their disapproval of what they have heretofore failed to get a hearing in.

Some years ago, and all of us still remember it clearly, a portion of the citizenship of our town was opposed to a policy that our school board was carrying out. These citizens presented their position in regard to the matter before the board, with the result that, figuratively speaking, these citizens were knocked down dragged out the back door and dumped in the gully. In a few months this same board called upon these same citizens to appropriate more money for school purposes. This time it was the school board that was knocked down and dragged out for at the polls these citizens voiced their protest against what had happened and refused to allow any additional money to be spent by a board who would so ruthlessly, as they thought, trample over their wishes.

Something of this same nature again occurred a few months ago, and now the school board is calling upon these citizens along with the others of the town to appropriate money for school purposes. This second class who oppose the school bonds do not deny but that the money is needed, yet they feel that they have been trampled unmercifully by the hearing received and now are declaring that the only recourse they have to be heard in the matter is at the polls. And so those who do not wish to see our schools hampered by the lack of more money must not think that this opposition will die down and not amount to very much, for the issue at stake is too great to take chances.

There should be a mass meeting of our citizens before the registration books close and some noted speaker should be brought here to convince them that the defeat that they possibly could bring about would do them and their children more harm than the satisfaction they would gain by carrying their point.

As it now is we have the roof on one of the best school buildings in the state and without this bond issue it will be useless to the town in its uncompleted condition. There are teachers in our schools today who are required to handle as many as 50 children, when educational authorities say that a child cannot get the proper attention in the school room when there are more than 20 to the teacher. The present conditions must not exist. Our people have the money to change them and if properly awakened to the facts that are facing our schools we believe that they will unhesitatingly put forth their efforts to see that the means are made available by authorizing the borrowing of this money.

**A Ten Day Revival**

Rev. M. B. Phillips announces that he has bought the seats recently used in the Price union meeting and has rented the Farmers warehouse in this city where he will begin a revival the third Sunday in June, which will continue for ten days. He has secured J. H. East to conduct the song service during the meeting. The following gentlemen of the city compose a committee to assist Mr. Phillips in this meeting: A. E. Tilley, A. E. Steele, Dr. R. J. Banks, J. M. Dix and T. J. Thompson.

**Taxing Surry's Trucks**

An interesting situation has recently developed in Yadkin county and one that has caused some of our Surry citizens much trouble and inconvenience not counting the cost. Some days ago the Mount Airy Bottling Works sent a truck load of their goods to Yadkin county and while there the truck driver was called upon to pay a county road tax of about \$25 for the use of Yadkin's roads. It was explained to the driver by the officer that Yadkin county had a law that required all trucks to pay \$1.00 per horse power per year for the right to travel over Yadkin roads. If a man had occasion to send a truck into Yadkin county just one time during a year under Yadkin's law he would have to pay not less than \$25 for the privilege. The bottling company has since taken the matter up with the Attorney General of the State and he informs them that he knows no law that would allow the collection of this tax. He further advised that the company pay the tax as required by the Sheriff and then sue Yadkin county for its return.

"Uncle Buck" Moore had a similar experience with Yadkin officers when some days ago they called upon him for payment of this tax for this year and also for last year amounting to \$55.00. Uncle Buck hauls his gasoline and oil all over Yadkin county and it was an eye-opener to him when he was called upon to pay this tax, he was furnishing the people of that county a product that they very much wanted and which they could get only by trucks.

Perhaps the Yadkin officials have overlooked the fact that the Surry commissioners might also become progressive to the extent that Yadkin has become and proceed to levy a truck tax on all trucks coming into Surry county. To do this would require all those trucks hauling lumber, produce, etc., to the railroad stations on the Surry side to pay a like tax and would no doubt bring considerable revenue into the coffers of this county.

If, as the Attorney General says, there is no law that justifies the action of Yadkin officials then it seems that some of our county officials should look into the matter and see what can be done to relieve our people of this tax. Possibly there is some misunderstanding of a law some where that might be found and the confusion remedied.

**R. D. Clarke Passes**

Richard D. Clarke died at his home on Franklin street last Thursday morning after an illness of several months. The funeral was held Friday afternoon at Central Methodist church by Rev. W. B. West, assisted by Rev. Mallett of the Episcopal church. After the service at the church the Masonic order assumed charge and conveyed the body of their departed member to Oakdale cemetery where the last sad rites of the order he so much loved were carried out. The deceased was buried in the uniform of a Knight Templar with the scabbard and sword of his order by his side. Six Knight Templars dressed in full uniform acted as pall bearers.

Mr. Clarke came to this town many years ago and for some time was connected with the management of the quarry business. He afterwards engaged in the stone contracting business and many beautiful granite structures in our northern cities, for which he superintended the cutting of the stone, stand today as monuments to his work on this earth. For the past four or five years Mr. Clarke was owner and proprietor of The Motor Co., of this city, which business he had active management of until the time of his sickness.

Mr. Clarke was best known in Masonic circles for it was in the halls of Masonic orders that he appeared most at home. He was one of the highest degree Masons of this section, having reached the 32nd degree in the Scottish Rite and also having received all the degrees at the hand of York Masonry. All during his sickness he expressed the desire that the "boys," as he called them, should see that he received a Masonic burial. In both public life and in the halls of his order he will be missed for there is no one who will be able to supply the wit and humor and good cheer that accompanied the appearance of Mr. Clarke on any occasion. He was also a faithful member of Central Methodist church.

The deceased is survived by three daughters and his wife, who was formerly Mrs. Gates, of The Hollow, Va.

**In The Recorders Court**

Next week promises to be a busy one with those connected with the Recorders court. There are several liquor cases to be heard, and a jury has been called for to pass upon them. The following men of Mount Airy township have been summoned as jurors to try any case that may come before the court next week: S. W. Hutchens, J. W. Alred, G. T. A. Key, Cleve McKinney, H. J. Mosley, E. C. Foy, Sr., B. W. Lineback, C. A. Peele, J. R. Gwyn, S. W. Atkins, W. C. Hiatt, R. J. Moody.

**Dobson Court**

Surry Superior court adjourned at Dobson last Saturday after a two week's term spent in trying criminal cases. Civil cases usually come up the second week but the criminal docket was so heavy that very few others were reached.

There were a number of convictions and submissions to charges of violating the liquor laws and in all these cases the men were required to pay a fine and give a bond for their good behavior. Six were sent to the roads or penitentiary.

Everett Marion entered a plea of guilty to the charge of arson in trying to burn Prather Martin's house in the Round Peak section some weeks ago. He was given five years at hard labor in the penitentiary.

Will Cowan, the negro road hand who killed a negro cook at the camp when he and another negro were quarreling, plead guilty to second degree murder and was sent to the penitentiary for five years.

Bess Gwyn, a noted colored character of Mount Airy, was sent to the roads for two years for waylaying and attempting to rob. Nations on the public highway near this town some months ago.

Hugh Bowman was called to receive his sentence for the assault he made upon a negro boy near the quarry last winter and failed to answer. Bowman was under a bond of \$1000 and unless he is found the school fund will be increased this amount.

Ernest Allen, colored, was sent to the roads for eight months for dealing in liquor. Ernest was caught during court week, the officers finding the liquor buried in his garden.

Tom Benton, the colored porter at the Blue Ridge hotel, this city, was sent to the roads six months for shooting the hotel's negro cook. Tom was on a spree at the time his trouble commenced and aimlessly emptied his pistol in the backyard of the hotel, one ball striking the hotel cook in the hip which put him out of business for several weeks.

The court sentenced Barney Key to the roads for two years for perjury. Key plead guilty to the charge and implicated J. S. Campbell, claiming that Campbell paid him a sum of money to swear falsely in order that Campbell might secure a divorce. It was mostly on Key's testimony that Campbell was also convicted. The court took into consideration the recommendation for mercy that the jury asked in regard to Campbell by requiring him to pay a \$100 fine and the cost, and to pay his wife \$1000, and to pay into the Clerk's office \$500 for the benefit of Key's wife and children while he is serving his time on the roads.

Several liquor violations, convictions of which were secured under a Mount Airy town ordinance in the Recorder's court, were sustained by the Judge. Attorneys for the defense in these cases contended that the ordinance was unconstitutional, but the Court did not so hold, and an appeal to the Supreme Court was announced.

**Base Ball**

The Surry Sluggers will open the 1921 season Saturday May 14th with the fast Liberty Piedmont Institute as the visitors, playing at Community Park.

Arrangements were completed Saturday whereby O'Quinn comes to Mt. Airy from Greensboro. This pitcher comes highly recommended, and will share the pitching with Pettitt of Pinnacle. The team has been completed and looks as if it should be one of the fastest amateur teams in the state.

It is the intention of the management to play two games each week during the season taking on all "Branch Line and Main Line" teams that wish to come.

With the completion of the new park we have one of the best fields in the state.

Let every fan lend his or her support to a championship team by their presence at the opening game.

**Beamer-Lovill**

A very quiet marriage took place last Thursday at 2 P. M. at the home of Dr. and Mrs. H. B. Rowe when Miss Ada Beamer of route 3 became the bride of William Lovill a brother of Mrs. Rowe. The ceremony was performed by Rev. D. Vance Price and was witnessed only by a few relatives of the contracting parties.

The happy couple will reside at the Lovill farm on route 3.

**Numbers Of Tar Heels Classed As Deserters**

Washington, May 2.—More than 4,000 North Carolinians are listed as deserters by the war department and within a few days their names will be made public.

In a final appeal to-day the secretary of war asked all who have any reason to believe that they were put down as in that category by mistake to report so they will escape the disgrace of being published with the real article.

**Bivens for School Bonds**

Within a short time the citizens of our town will be called upon to vote bonds for school purposes. The registration books are now open and all persons must register in order to vote in the election. This will be a vote against the registered voters and that means that a person must not only register but must vote in the election or the vote will be counted against the bond issue.

This election is vital to the interest of our town. We are fortunate in having perhaps more children in our town than in any town of equal size in North Carolina and the day has passed when the education of the children is debatable. I know that we have some people who think more of the dollar in taxes than the youth of the land but happily they are in the minority. We must take care of the child in order to have good citizens in the future. I do not mean that an uneducated person is not a good citizen but I do mean to say that an educated person is a better citizen by reason of his or her education.

No town can expect to rank with the other towns of North Carolina unless the citizenship is willing to pay for the privileges of being the best. We can exist on a low tax rate but we can not expect progress. Our schools are not in keeping with other towns unless we have the money to equip them. We need buildings, we need the best trained teachers—and it takes money to get buildings and teachers. The State has recognized the fact that teachers were underpaid and has accordingly made a fair salary schedule. Our buildings need repairs and the new building must be completed.

This is no time for us to quibble over the personnel of the teaching force. This is a matter to be left entirely to the good judgement of the men on the school board. I believe we have an excellent board and that this board has the interest of the school at heart. We have had a good school for several years and with a more sympathetic interest on the part of citizens the school can be made better. A small amount of unjust criticism will cause damage that cannot be overcome in several years.

I appeal to the men and women of the town who only have an opportunity of educating their children in the public schools to rally to this bond issue, register and vote for the bonds. If you have been blessed with property the matter of the small amount of increase in taxes will not affect you; if you have but a small amount of property then it is to your interest to get this bond issue because it will cost you according to your worth—about four cents on the one hundred dollar valuation—and yet your children will share the benefits of a splendid school.

Just ask the man who comes to you to influence you to register and vote against the bonds what interest he has in having you vote against progress and civilization; does he propose to tell you that his dollar is worth more than the education of your child?

E. C. Bivens.

**Ex-Service Men.**

Meeting of Ex-Service men in City Hall Tuesday night May 17th at 7:30 for the purpose of organizing a post of the American Legion at Mount Airy. R. E. Denny, 5th District Committeeman of the American Legion of North Carolina will be there to assist in the organization. Tell your comrades about the meeting and bring them with you.

Friends and relatives of Ex-Service men read the preamble to the constitution of the American Legion and if you like its principles boost the meeting to be held in the City Hall Tuesday night at 7:30.

**Preamble to Constitution of American Legion.**

The purpose of the American Legion is to uphold and defend the constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred per cent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our association in the Great War; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, State and Nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and masses; to make right and master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

The purpose of the American Legion is thus two fold: service to ex-service persons and service to the country.

**Methodist Church**

Walter B. West, Pastor.  
 Dr. T. F. Marr educational secretary of our conference, will fill the pulpit at the morning hour.  
 Dr. Marr or Rev. W. F. Womble will preach at the 7:30 hour. Every member is urged to be present at these services. Friends and visitors will receive a cordial welcome.

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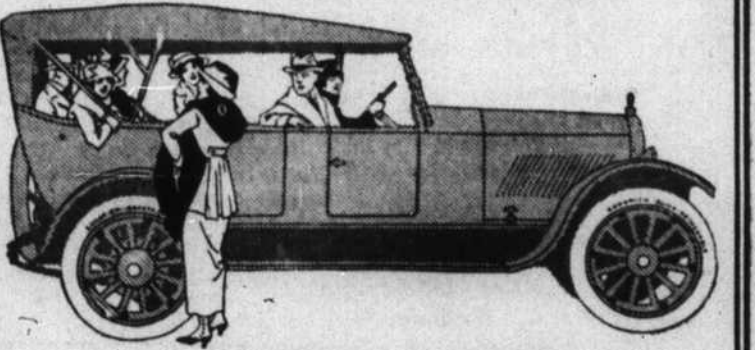
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**Report of Work Done by Surry County Nurse**

Infant Welfare—visits to babies under two years, 13.  
 Individual instruction in care and feeding, 6.  
 Babies registered with State Board of Health, 15.  
 Demonstrations in baby feeding, 4.  
 Schools visited, 10.  
 Children examined, 88.  
 Defects found including adenoids, tonsils, weak eyes, enlarged glands, malnutrition and hookworm, 156. Two correction have been secured.  
 Health talks to schools, 7.  
 Home visits in venereal diseases, 2.  
 Instructive home visits in tuberculosis, 15.  
 Specimens of sputum sent to State laboratory for examination for T. B. 6.  
 During tuberculosis clinic in March nurse assisted health officer in examining 157 patients.  
 Bed side nursing care given measles patients in cases of extreme poverty, 51.  
 Other nursing visits, 6.  
 Sanitary inspections, 6.  
 Hook worm specimens obtained, 2.  
 Assisting Health Officer in vaccinating against typhoid in Elkin, 93, smallpox, 5, physical examinations in the office, 13.  
 Public Health education—Home hygiene and care of sick, 1 class, attendance 20.  
 Instruction of mid-wives, 5.  
 Conferences and interviews, 15.  
 Individual instruction in prenatal care, 31.  
 Prenatal visits, 20.  
 Cases registered with State Board of Health, 64. When the names of infants, children and prenatal cases are registered with the State Board of Health literature is sent to them concerning the care of children and proper feeding. Letters of advice and encouragement are sent to the expectant mothers, also a book on infant care.  
 Ada E. Jones, County Health Nurse  
 Gilmer Wolfe and Eugene Epperson of Winston-Salem spent the past week end with Mrs. F. T. Wolfe in this city.  
 Mrs. George W. Sparger has returned to this city after spending the winter in Greensboro, she is stopping with her son G. W. Sparger, Jr. on Pine street.

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