

Mount Airy News.

Mount Airy, N. C. March 13, 1924

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ERRATIC STATESMEN NEED RESPONSIBILITY

Who knows but if Robert M. La Follette had been given the responsibility of managing the government of the United States he would have made a President comparable to Theodore Roosevelt? Responsibility given to other men of his radical tendencies, but of marked natural ability, have had a steady influence upon them.

Responsibility tends to cause men of his type to tone down their radicalism. Briand when made premier of France was a loud-mouthed socialist, but the responsibility of the office made him understand that people have to be governed not as one would like to see angels and perfect beings governed but as they are—faults, imperfections and all.

The Republican La Follette and Democratic Walsh in the Senate have been a thorn in the flesh of the Republican party but their constant slashing in an effort to have the unfit pruned from office is the only thing that will save the country from grasping leeches and the Republican party from moral bankruptcy.

MOUNT AIRY ROAD NOT PAYING

The Southern Railway Company says that it is not making expenses in operating the railroad to this city. It has asked the courts to appoint a receiver for the line on the grounds that it has run into debt in operating the road.

We suppose that the editor of a small city newspaper should apologize for making remarks about high finance. Certainly he is not supposed to be authority on such subjects. But a cat may look at a king.

One day a few years ago the road to Mount Airy was for sale and the Southern bought it. Since that time it has operated the line. Now it is a fact that the Southern system of transportation is made up of main lines and branch lines just as a river is made up of its main stream and the many small streams that flow into it as feeders.

Of course we know but little about it, but we suspect that other branch lines would also be found to be an expense to the Southern if they are made to stand on their own business and not given credit for being feeders.

It may be that the Southern can get rid of the Mount Airy road and relieve itself of a responsibility, but it is hardly probable that the road will not be operated. We do not care to even appear to be impertinent, for we have confidence in the honor and good intention of the men who are in charge of the Southern Railway, but to take out court proceedings against a branch line looks to us to be almost a parallel case with the river taking out court proceedings against one of its small streams on the grounds that it furnishes too little water; or of a man taking out court papers against his left hand on the grounds that it is doing too little work and less even than his right hand.

But why should we get serious about the matter, for it is a problem of big business and big business men will find a way to settle it. In the meantime many of our folks are riding the fitness and hauling on trucks which after all, may be partly the cause of the road not paying.

Disabled Ex-Service Men Get Busy

Disabled veterans of the late unpleasantness with Germany are being warned by members of the Legion that unless their claim for compensation is filed within five years from the date of their discharge from the army, that the law provides they shall forever be ineligible for receiving compensation. All ex-service men who sustained injuries are therefore being urged to file their applications before the expiration of the time limit.

WANTS ROADS COMPLETED

J. F. Spainhour, of Morganton, is one of the leaders of the Democratic party in the state. It is very well known that a very few men control the policies of any political party and determine what shall be done. If a dozen men prominent in the public mind of the state should be selected as the ones who shape the policies of the government at this time we suspect that J. F. Spainhour would be one of the number. It is for this reason that what Mr. Spainhour has just said is worthy of note.

Now, Mr. Spainhour argues and gives his reasons, that the state has nothing to gain by deferring this work and much to gain by completing it at the earliest possible moment consistent with good business methods.

The fact that a man of Mr. Spainhour's prominence will take this position is good reason for thinking that others will see as he does, and that this may yet prove to be the policy of the state. We suspect that most folks who own an automobile and do much driving will endorse the position taken by Mr. Spainhour. He argues that the increase of taxable property and the value to the state will more than offset the increase in tax that would be made.

WHAT TO CULTIVATE

Every thinking man these days is planning for the future. He has already made his plans for the year in many instances. The far-sighted man makes his plans far in advance. But we are not in mind just now to tell what crops to cultivate but rather what habits. Habits are formed as the result of action and develop much like a crop develops.

No doubt many folks think their happiness and success this year will depend largely on how much they can make by their daily calling or occupation. And in a large way this is true. But a man can make a bumper crop and yet the end of the year find him a discontented and miserable man. The ledger may show a big balance for the business man and yet life looks dismal. Every one knows this to be the truth.

If we may be pardoned for suggestions along this line we suggest that every one of our readers cultivate a great, big crop of consideration for the other man's rights and feelings. Many people get it into their heads that they are too busy to be a good citizen. The paper just must come out on time or the plow must run or the store door must stay open.

Some of the happiest men we have known have been men who always had time to assist a neighbor when assistance was needed. No, they did not die rich enough for it to be a news item as to what they left, but the neighbors would sit about and talk by the hour of their kindly deeds and unselfish life. We suspect they got a mighty warm welcome when they knocked at the peary gates and were asked no questions about the amount of worldly goods left behind.

And so we are suggesting that during the coming year which will be a busy one with most folks, that time be taken to cultivate the friendly spirit with the neighbors. Take time to make a call if there is sickness in the home or distress of any nature. Get it out of your head that you must be forever minding your own business. It is minding your own business when you weep with those who weep and rejoice with those who rejoice. The fellow who fails to do this is not a good neighbor. Happiness, if you believe what we say, during the coming year will depend more upon your relation to the neighbors and your family than it will on the success you have with the farm or the store. And happiness is what we are all seeking.

Dentist Making Rounds of Schools

Dr. N. Sheffield, who is visiting Surry schools in the interest of better care of the teeth and who is doing about \$70 worth of dental work a day free for the children, is this week at Pilot Mountain. Friday he will work the school at Dunningan and Saturday is his regular consultation day in the office of the County Health Officer Williams in Mount Airy. March 10th to 19th will be spent with the Elkin schools. He will visit all the schools before April 11th when his work will cease.

WHAT? "The Deestrick Skule". When? Friday night March 21. Where? Rockford school auditorium. Who? Prominent citizens.

MAY DEMAND VOTE ON STREET BONDS

Petitions Being Circulated to Force City Council to Call Election

MEANS USELESS EXPENSE AND LOSS OF TIME,

A sizable monkey wrench is being forged this week for the purpose of dropping it right in the middle of Mount Airy's machinery for selling \$60,000 street improvement bonds. The implement is in the form of eight duplicate sheets of a petition calling upon the city council to call a bond election for the purpose of permitting the voters to say whether such bonds shall be sold or not.

The utmost secrecy is being observed by the party or parties sponsoring the movement. In a telephone conversation with R. A. Jarvis Wednesday noon just before going to press it was learned that the following men are carrying around the petitions: R. A. Jarvis, Mal Davis, S. C. Freeman, C. A. Lawson, W. T. Robertson, A. D. Wagoner, J. F. Booker and J. C. Rose. Mr. Jarvis could not say as to how many signatures were on the petitions of the other men but said that on his he had between 175 and 200 names.

Specific information as to the success of the venture is extremely difficult to obtain, as no one will give first-hand information. It is pretty generally believed around town that two prominent men are fathering the movement, but when questioned by The News they both gave evasive answers, signifying that they were unwilling to admit the child as being their own.

The municipal finance act of the state provides that the council of a chartered town or city may issue bonds for public improvements without an election unless 25 per cent of the registered voters file a petition for an election within 30 days of the publication of the notice of intention on the part of the authorities to sell such proposed bonds. This whole movement is an effort to secure sufficient names to a petition so as to force the city council to call an election. At the school election in April 1923, there were 1,072 registered voters and in order to force an election on the proposed bond issue opponents of the measure will have to secure the signatures of 268 registered voters.

It is learned on the street that many persons have signed the petitions who claim they did not understand the proposition. Some of them thought it was a petition to put an end to further bond issues after this one is carried out. Some claim that they signed the petition because they believe that the city council had not taken the public fully into its confidence, and they wished to permit the people to have a voice in the matter. It is conceded by members of the council that this is a laudable but expensive way of showing their public interest. It is a well known fact that The News carried a story about the proposed bond issue immediately after the city council had acted upon the petitions asking that the paving work be done. Of course the city council might have written a personal letter to each of the 1,072 registered voters in the city asking their opinion of the proposed bond issue, but it is extremely doubtful if by so doing that any concerted action on any proposition could be had.

The passage of the Municipal Improvement Act was passed by the legislature for the purpose of enabling towns and cities to issue improvement bonds without the expense and hard feelings incident to an election every time that money was needed for public improvements. If the people who are signing these petitions to call an election knew the full meaning of what they are doing, they would, it is firmly believe by business men, rescind their actions. This city is governed by five councilmen, two from each ward and one elected at large. These men are elected for the purpose of carrying on the city's business according to law, the wish of the people and the growing demands of the city itself.

There is no question but that a bond issue covering the re-surfacing of Main and Franklin streets and possibly Lebanon street would carry by a large majority at any election. All thoughtful people know that it is folly for the city to permit Main and Franklin streets to remain in their present condition and to patch them in but a useless waste of the people's money. Lebanon street is the only unpaved street connecting with a main highway that is not hard-surfaced, and it looks like folly to permit that street to remain in a condition such that country people after reaching the corporate limits over improved country roads cannot get into town for the lack of paving on that street. It is conceded that possibly Church and Wilson streets might be left for a time before they are hard-surfaced. But that Mount Airy peo-

ple are with the council in their effort to pave Main and Franklin and Lebanon there is not the shadow of a doubt and an election can only prove that assertion. But it will be an expensive proof.

In the first place granting that sufficient signatures can be secured to the petition to call an election, the cost of the election will be a considerable item. The delay in selling the bonds while waiting for an election will delay the ultimate paving of the streets in question for at least 60 days. That will mean that the bonds will have to be sold not now, when bonds are bringing a fine price, but next summer when bond buyers are off on their vacations and when bonds always go begging. The difference in selling the bonds now as against selling them next summer will cost the city not less than \$2,000.

If a delay is brought about and an election held and in the event that the people decide to pave Main and Franklin, it will throw the work so late that it will have to be done late in the summer and early fall when the streets are congested with tobacco and produce haulers. This alone will cost the city from \$2,900 to \$3,000 more than if the work could be done earlier in the season. The city council want to carry out the people's wish in the matter but they fear that the present movement, while destined to fail in its ultimate object, will cost the city several thousand dollars that should be saved the taxpayers.

Many business men are free to prophesy that the petitions, even tho the requisite number of signatures are secured, will never be presented to the city council. They give as their reason for this assertion the fact that it is known that two prominent men of Mount Airy, both of whom

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seek public positions of trust are sponsoring the movement. They are convinced that these men can not afford to antagonize the public in this matter and thereby jeopardize their success in their public ambitions.

Late Snowstorm Cripples Traffic and Communication

More than 1,400 telegraph and telephone poles were thrown across the Southern railway's main line track between Washington and the Virginia-Carolina line by the snow and sleet and high wind of the past few days. Every train was running behind schedule, some of them as much as 15 hours late. Telephone and telegraph communication was practically cut off for a time by reason of broken wires and fallen poles. The storm center seems to have been in or near Charlottesville, Va.

Wednesday morning, when the clouds had blown away the Blue Ridge mountains revealed a blanket of pure white. Belated travellers reaching Mount Airy report that the snow on the mountain is eight inches deep. Inquiries brought forth the information that as the snow was quite damp little or no drifting had taken place. Much damage to roofs, chimneys and frail buildings is thought to have occurred as a result of the high wind of Monday and Tuesday nights.

E. G. Badgett Quits Pepsi-Cola Business

E. G. Badgett this week sold his interest in the Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co. to his partner, Geo. N. Slaughter. This is an old established business which has enjoyed a large patronage in the soft drink line, and will be continued under the ownership and management of Mr. Slaughter at the same stand on Needmore street. Mr. Badgett has not decided what business he will enter but says he will continue to make Mount Airy his home.

*BEST TUNE-TRIED REMEDY FOR GALLS STRAINS LAMENESS and all diseases of Horses and Cattle
Says Dr. R. Hutchings, Durham, N. C.: "For 15 years I have used this medicine and I consider it the best I ever used. I am never without it. I recently used it on a bad gill on my horse's neck and it cured it in three days."

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Notice of Execution Sale.
By virtue of an execution issued by the Clerk of the Superior Court of Forsyth county in the case of T. W. Kallam, attorney, vs. H. E. Wall, I will sell to the highest bidder, for cash at the court house door in Dobson on the 7th day of April, 1924, at 12 o'clock noon the following described real estate, to-wit:

A tract of land in Rockford township adjoining the lands of Rufus Shinalt, W. F. Whitaker and others, and bounded as follows: Beginning on a pine in Whitaker's line and runs west 22 chs. and 75 links to the old Moore line, now Rufus Shinalt's line, to some poplar sprouts; thence south 11 chs. with Shinalt's to his corner, a stake; thence west 15 chs. to a stake, formerly a post oak; thence south with James Holyfield's line 10.5 chs. to a stake, formerly a white oak, known as the Lester corner; thence east with T. J. Williams' line, now Glenn Holyfield's, 12 chs. to a hickory; thence north with Williams' line, now Rufus Shinalt's, 3 chs. to a persimmon tree, east 35 chs. and 25 links to a tall white oak in W. F. Whitaker's line; thence north with Whitaker's line 9 chs. to a stake, now the north corner of an old pine field; thence west 9.5 chs. to a dead chestnut; thence north 11 chs. and 25 links to the beginning containing 69 acres more or less.—Except the following boudry which comprises the homestead of H. E. Wall, and which is exempt from execution and sale. The land excepted is bounded as follows: Beginning at the southwest corner of H. E. Wall's land in Shinalt's line and runs up the creek to a point from which a due east line from said point to Whitaker's line would leave twenty acres of land including the dwelling house where H. E. Wall formerly resided.

Sale made to satisfy a debt of \$500 due plaintiff with interest and cost to add.
This March 3, 1924.
C. H. Haynes, Sheriff Surry Co.

TRUSTEE'S SALE
By virtue of a deed of trust executed by J. H. Norman and wife to the undersigned trustee on the 9th day of January, 1922, and recorded in Book 66, page 296 of the Record of Deeds of Trust of Surry County, I will sell to the highest bidder, for cash on the

15th day of March, 1924 at one o'clock P. M. in front of the First National Bank of Mount Airy the following described real estate to-wit:
Beginning at a White Oak on the East bank of the Dobson and Crutchfield road and runs with said road as it now meanders North 39 deg. West 2 chs. North 35 deg. West 10 chs. North 15 deg. West 1 ch. 55 links to Wilmoth's line; thence with said line South 86 deg. East 13 1-2 chs. to a rock in the hollow; thence South 14 1-2 deg. E 4 chs. and 15 links to a rock; thence South 4 1-2 deg. West 3 chs 75 links to the beginning containing 10 acres, more or less.
Sale made to satisfy debt of \$1000. with interest and cost to be added.
This 11th day of February, 1924.
J. F. Hendren, Trustee.



Upper illustration shows an ordinary oxford—unfashioned. Lower illustration shows an Ankle fashioning—The Nunn-Bush way.

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From the hands of the Nunn-Bush craftsman comes a new Ankle-Neatness in oxfords—No gaping, no slipping. After you have purchased your first pair your foot-wear will no longer be a source of discomfort. For through ankle-fashioning, the pliable upper is permanently shaped in the making, so that it hugs the ankle. It is this lasting trimness of fit, that commends Nunn-Bush oxfords to most men.

You will surely enjoy an examination of these moderately priced oxfords at our store. Let us put your name on our list of satisfied customers.

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