

Mount Airy News.

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A MUCH NEEDED HIGHWAY

Our friends in Galax and vicinity have decided they must have an outlet to connect with Surry's modern highway now nearing completion to the top of the mountain above Lowgap.

It is understood in this office that certain communities in the district oppose the voting of the bonds. One objection raised is that the merchants of Galax wish to saddle upon the district the cost of a road which is designed to benefit the town only.

No one road can pass every man's door and if some communities oppose the bond issue because the proposed highway does not pass directly thru that community, it shows very poor judgment indeed.

MORE ABOUT THE TELEPHONE

A few weeks ago we stressed in this newspaper the great need for a better telephone system for the rural sections about this city. It is encouraging that reports come in that what we said was a good effect and that efforts are on foot to make improvements in some sections.

Ten years ago almost every family in this section had a phone line into the home. Now the phones are there and out of commission. There are exceptions to this we find, and many exceptions.

We inquired of a telephone man in this city as to what his opinion is as to the failure of the service about here. He placed all the blame on the faulty material that was used in doing what should have been permanent work.

Once a phone is in a home and an installed as to give prompt and satisfactory service we hardly see how a family can dispense with it.

OUR RAILROAD BROKE

If we are to believe the reports, our railroad is a financial failure and in the hands of receivers, who will try to operate it now that the great Southern Railway company has tried and failed to make a success of the business.

We are not supposing that the average reader of this newspaper is bothering his mind or going to bother it in the future with any little problem like operating a great railroad. We suppose that the average citizen will never know the difference now that the road is a failure, financially.

But we do suppose that many of our readers would like to get some comprehensive idea as to what all this talk of a failure of our railroad is about and why. Here is the truth as it appears to us, and yet we lay no claim to any inside information.

After a time the road was sold by the receivers and passed into the hands of the Southern Railway company. That is, this part of the road from Mount Airy to Sanford, making a line of 130 miles.

The man who lives about this town and sees the train loads of produce and granite and furniture going out daily, and much of this business so heavy and rushing that special freight trains are operated almost daily, he wonders why the failure.

It may be that this will throw some light on the subject. They tell us that freight leaving this town for points north is carried to Rural Hall, a distance of 30 miles, and there taken over the Southern lines by way of Winston-Salem.

Now, no one will charge that this was unfair or not good business, but it would be unthinkable to try to operate a road and take all freight away from it. To be successful the road must be used, of course, and it seems that the Southern had other lines that it has used rather than the Mount Airy line.

We are expecting that the road will be a paying business now that it is in the hands of men who will feel that it is their business to make a financial success of the enterprise, which it seems has never been the case up to this time.

REV. EUGENE OLIVE LEAVES

Next Sunday will mark the close of the pastorate of Rev. Eugene Olive of the First Baptist Church, Mount Airy. Mr. Olive came to this city three years ago from Dunn.

While this move can but be taken in the light of a promotion for Mr. Olive—a promotion richly deserved—still it is with the greatest reluctance that local church people give him up. And when we say "local church people" we by no means restrict our thought to the people of Mr. Olive's denomination, for since coming amongst us Mr. Olive has endeared himself to all classes and faiths of our town.

We believe Mr. Olive represents the type of minister the world wants and will respond to. The opinionated, denunciatory, combative, "arguifing" preacher has just about run his course. When the precepts of Jesus can not be inculcated by gentlemen of persuasive character and culture, represented by the Olive type, Christianity is in a bad way and sinners are extremely adamant.

"CAUGHT ON THE FLY"

Would Attend High School.

There are 18 children in the Lowgap section who have passed the seventh grade and are desirous of attending high school. The completion of the bridges on the Hill's Hill section of the Fish river highway will enable the County School Board to put on another motor bus for the purpose of taking these and other children to the high school at Dobson.

Rooster Pot-Pie

Several young lads about town look dyspeptic as a result, it is said of partaking too freely of a rooster pot pie. No one seems to know the whyfores of the slaughter of so many roofers, but there is no suspicion that they were lifted from the roosts of peaceable citizens.

Operation Proves Successful.

Wm. Short, for a long time engineer for the Southern railway and living in Greensboro, last week underwent an operation in a Richmond hospital. For some years Mr. Short has been crippled in one leg from an injury. The operation was for the purpose of restoring the member to usefulness.

Brock and Haymore Catch 'em

T. N. Brock, tobacco buyer for Reynolds, and R. L. Haymore, familiarly known as "Uncle Rufe," are sneaking off from town every day or two and going fishing down on the Ararat. Tuesday the News man caught Brock slipping into town and accused him of the deed over the phone.

Veteran Clergyman Calls.

Rev. A. Jackson Williams of Zephyr, veteran Baptist minister of Surry county, paid The News a call Tuesday. He is 67 years old, has been preaching the Gospel 45 years and has probably conducted more funerals, married more couples and baptized more converts than any ministers now living in the county.

Juniors Attend Funeral.

The funeral of J. W. Fowler, aged 59 and brother of W. O. Fowler of this city, was attended by 230 members of the Junior Order last Sunday 38 being from Mount Airy. The deceased was buried at Mt. Zion church near Pinnacle and the services were conducted by Rev. A. L. Hunter, assisted by the Juniors.

Johnson's Bees Sold.

Fred L. Johnson, who for eight years has been engaged in the business of producing sourwood honey in Surry county, last week sold his entire bee outfit, consisting of about 650 colonies to Eli Winesett recently of Washington state.

Mockins to Speak in Surry

Ira Mockins, Republican candidate for Governor and known as the silver-tongued orator of the Pasquotank has promised County Chairman, O. B. Webb, to make two or three speeches in Surry county next summer.

Bob Short Sells Out

B. B. Short last week sold his interest in the lumber business of the firm of Tesh & Short to his partner, J. A. Tesh. Mr. Short will devote all his time in future to the Mount Airy Furniture company, in whose employ he has served more years than he is willing to admit.

Addition to Furniture Co.'s Office.

A 20-by 30-foot addition of granite is to be made to the Mount Airy Furniture Co.'s office building. This improvement is made necessary by the rapid growth in the company's business, which necessitates larger office facilities.

Galax Wants Outlet

When the citizens of Galax recently went to Richmond to beg for an appropriation out of the five or six millions available in the state for highways, they received, it is said, only a thousand dollars. They are anxious to build a hard surface road from that town to connect with Surry's road at the top of the Lowgap grade.

South Street Gets Sidewalks.

The Board of Town Commissioners held a call meeting Monday night to consider a petition from the residents on South street asking for the construction of sidewalks. The Commissioners acted favorably upon the petition and will put a surveyor to work Thursday making the proper preliminary surveys.

J. D. Smith Out Again

J. D. Smith, clothing, automobile and fertilizer dealer, after a month's siege of aggravated indigestion, is again able to get down town to his many business interests.

Club Women Visit Jail and County Home

A delegation of club women, filling three cars, motored to the County Home and jail Tuesday afternoon carrying good cheer to the inmates and leaving with them gifts of oranges, apples and candy.

Boy Hit by Big Car

Blanche Reynolds, colored, driving his Packard Twelve Monday about 11:30 A. M. struck the five-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Hatcher on Rockford street, bruising his foot and inflicting severe abrasions of the skin on his knee and shoulder.

Chautauqua Week June 19 to 24

Headquarters of the Swarthmore Chautauqua circuit this week wrote D. E. Hoffman, secretary of the local Chautauqua Committee, that the Mount Airy Chautauqua this year would be held during the week of June 19th to 24th.

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