

The Mount Airy Daily News

A WEEKLY JOURNAL OF AUTHENTIC NEWS DEVOTED TO THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMUNITY

ESTABLISHED 1880

MOUNT AIRY, NORTH CAROLINA,

MAY 27, 1926

\$1.50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

County Contracts for Five New School Buildings

D. H. Cooke, Mount Airy Contractor, Awarded Entire Job—Buildings to Be Flat Rock, White Plains, Dobson, Flat Branch and Little Richmond.

At a meeting held Monday in Dobson the County Board of Education awarded a contract to D. H. Cooke, of Mount Airy, for the erection of five new modern school buildings in Surry County. At a previous meeting the board had rejected all bids for the reason that they were considered too high, but the meeting held Monday resulted in the decision of the board to start the work at once. Two other buildings that were also on the program to be constructed were Beulah and Ararat, but restraining orders have been served on the board as a result of a dispute at these two places over the location. The board therefore decided to let contracts for the other buildings and to leave off the two in dispute until the litigation is settled.

Bidding on the buildings was very spirited between a large number of contractors. The following contractors were present with new bids with suggestions for reducing the cost of the buildings without impairing their durability: C. A. Foster, Elkin; C. D. Darnell & Co., Winston-Salem; Beasley Lumber Co., Mount Airy; Matt Hines, Mount Airy; D. H. Cooke, Mount Airy; O. T. Fowler, Pilot Mountain.

When the bids were opened it was found that the suggestions for reducing the cost of the entire work were so varied that it was impossible to reach a fair basis upon which to consider the various bids. The board then submitted a list of suggestions to the contractors so that all could bid on the same basis of changes from the original plans. The following changes from the original plans were allowed to be made in bidding on the work:

Omit color from the mortar.

Use No. 1 common pine rift flooring instead of oak or gum.

Omit operating device for auditorium windows, substituting hook and pole.

Use 7-16 inch ceiling for cloak rooms instead of plaster.

Reduce the amount of blackboard from 40 lineal feet to 30 feet.

Use 24 lb. composition shingles on 7-room buildings instead of asbestos shingles.

When the bids were returned based on the above modifications it was found that O. T. Fowler and D. H. Cooke were very close together. Mr. Cooke was slightly lower than Mr. Fowler on all the projects except the Flat Rock job in which case Mr. Fowler was \$285 below Mr. Cooke. Each of these contractors had indicated a willingness to allow a one per cent discount if given the entire job. Mr. Cooke's total bid for all the work was \$79,143.00, Mr. Fowler's total was \$80,378.50. Mr. Cooke's bid was therefore accepted, the board taking advantage of the one per cent reduction for giving him the entire job. This discount amounted to \$791.43 reducing his bid to \$78,351.57. This work includes the following buildings: Flat Rock east of Mount Airy, White Plains, Dobson, Flat Branch in the western part of the county, Little Richmond, and an addition to Copeland. Enough money will be left to put steam heat in all these buildings and in some cases to buy the seats necessary for the auditorium.

All the above work is supposed to be rushed to completion so that the buildings can be used when school opens in the county next fall. The successful contractor, D. H. Cooke, has had much experience in the construction of school buildings, among those he having already erected in this county being the North Main building in this city, the Franklin School, Rockford, Salem and Pilot Mountain buildings.

Overcome by Gas Well Digger Drops to Death.

Winston-Salem, May 20.—Old Bowman, a young white man, veteran of the World War, was overcome by gas in a well a mile east of this city this afternoon, and two colored helpers were taking turns in working in the well in which gas had generated as a result of using dynamite earlier in the day. He was being drawn up and when nearly to the top of the well he lost consciousness and pitched headlong to the bottom a distance of 80 feet.

SECOND EXECUTION BY GAS IN NEVADA.

Killer of Girl, 16, Pronounced Dead 2 1-2 Minutes After Hydrocyanic Exposure

State Prison, Carson City, Nev., May 21.—Stanko Jukich, murderer of a sixteen-year-old girl, was executed this morning by lethal gas, the second time this form of capital punishment has been used since it was legalized in 1921.

He entered the cell at 10:55, the gas was turned on a minute later and he was unconscious in half a minute, although his head continued to move. He was pronounced dead two and a half minutes after the gas was turned on.

Jukich went to his death without a tremor. Coming out of his cell shortly before 11 o'clock, he was escorted down the corridor and across the prison yard 100 feet to the death chamber, a little concrete building.

Smiles on Way to Death. Two guards held either arm lightly. But the assistance was not needed. The blond giant, marked only by prison pallor, strode along, eyes up and a smile on his lips.

As he neared the group of spectators he called out cheerily, "Goodby, boys. I haven't lost my nerve. I'll save a place for you there."

The guards hurried him into the vault and strapped him to a wooden chair in the center of the room, directly facing one of the three windows. The door was shut fast and a charge of hydrocyanic acid sprayed in the room from the rear part of the inclosure.

"Goodbye, Girls," Last Words. Jukich looked up and saw a woman newspaper correspondent peering through the window. He smiled and said, "Goodbye, girls." They were his last words.

A hissing noise at his back announced entry of the gas, and a startled look appeared in his eyes. As the first fumes floated around his head he took a deep breath and ten seconds later sank into a coma. In just a few seconds he was totally unconscious.

The first execution in this State by lethal gas was two years ago, when Gee Jon, a Chinese, paid for a murder.

Killed in Drunken Rage. Jukich, a 28-year-old copper miner, was convicted of first degree murder for killing Jennie Madek in Ruth, Nev. Jukich lived with the Madek family and fell in love with the girl when she was only thirteen. Soon her family had betrothed her to him, and he turned over much of his earnings to purchase clothes and finery for the girl. Their marriage was to take place when she grew older. Three years later, Jukich asked Jennie for her hand and she refused him. He killed her in a drunken rage.

Hydrocyanic acid is one of the deadliest poisons known to science. It is a colorless, volatile liquid, which under the stimulus of heat turns into an inflammable gas with an odor of peach pits. Persons inhaling the fumes are stricken almost instantly.

Nevada is the only state in the Union that uses lethal gas as the means of executing its condemned criminals. Utah penalty for condemned prisoners, to choose between hanging and shooting.

In twenty-one states and two territories hanging is the means of inflicting the death penalty. In thirteen states the electric chair is used. Seven states do not inflict capital punishment.

The Federal penalty for murder is death by hanging. Connecticut's method of hanging is different from that employed in any other state. Instead of dropping through a trap, the prisoner is jerked into the air by a machine with a counter-weight.

MADE HASTE SLOWLY. "My boss says he can't come after all," said the plumber's boy. "But as it was a hurry call, he sent me."

"But I never sent for anyone," said the mistress of the house, rather puzzled.

"Oh, then," the boy concluded, "it must have been the folks as was here before you moved in."

SURRY REVENUE OFFICER MUST STAND TRIAL

Wright Ashburn and Two Other Deputies to Be Tried in Federal Court For Death of Negro Blockader.

Attorney A. E. Tilley, of this city, attended Federal Court in Raleigh the first of the week where he went to appear in the defense of his client, Revenue Officer, W. H. (Wright) Ashburn, of Siloam, who with two other revenue officers must answer in the Federal Court for the death of a negro blockader who was found dead near a still place in Jones County some months ago. For some reason the case did not come up and was continued until another term of court to be held later.

While a grand jury in the Federal Court has returned true bills against the officers their friends have no fears that they will be embarrassed by the prosecution and are confident that they will be vindicated. Besides private attorneys that are appearing for the defense, the United States attorney in cases of this nature also becomes attorney for the officers. This is somewhat of a strange procedure that does not occur in the state courts; that is when an officer is indicted for an alleged crime while in the performance of his duty the prosecuting attorney becomes an attorney for the accused officer and the prosecution must rely upon private counsel.

Some time last fall Mr. Ashburn and his two officer friends were ordered to visit a certain locality in Jones County and make search for a still. They found the outfit, destroyed it and returned to headquarters. Three days later the dead body of a well known negro of the neighborhood was found in a branch near the still place, with a pistol bullet in his back, which caused almost instant death. It is said that the negro was a wealthy person as wealth goes among the colored race and was closely connected in his liquor dealings with a large number of prominent people of his section who used him as a tool in the manufacture and sale of liquor.

While the officers stoutly deny that they had any occasion to shoot at anyone, yet it is reported that one of them knew the negro had been shot. Report has it that one of the officers lost his hat during the raid on the still and in going back to find it saw the body of the negro man in the branch, and told his friends of his discovery but made no report of the matter and did not return to see what condition the man was in. It is said that this circumstance, when it was discovered, caused friends of the negro to start an investigation which has culminated in an indictment being brought against the officers.

Pythians Attend State Meeting—Mount Airy to Have Ceremonial.

A large delegation of local Knights of Pythias attended the State meeting in Winston-Salem last Friday afternoon and evening put on by the Rathbone Bible Class, The Winston-Salem Pythian lodges entertained in great style having the streets decorated with flags; a street parade with band concert and drill and barbecue were among the outside attractions.

The D. O. K. K. band of Winston-Salem furnished the music and D. O. K. K. drill team of Greensboro had charge of the parade formation.

Mount Airy furnished a larger delegation than any other city except Winston-Salem thirty three members being present and of the 159 candidates presenting themselves for initiation eleven were from Mount Airy.

About 750 attended the barbecue which was prepared at the fair grounds.

The secret work of the order was put on by the Grand Lodge officers of the Domain of North Carolina assisted by Mr. Harry Love of Minneapolis, Minn., Supreme Keeper of Records and Seals.

Our people will be interested in the announcement that July 15 has been selected as a tentative date for a D. O. K. K. ceremonial to be held in this city when the lodges of Winston-Salem and Greensboro will bring candidates and the Bagdad Temple Lodge of Asheville will put on the degree work. The local Pythians and residents will no doubt make it a great day in Mount Airy.

THE WELFARE WORK IN SURRY COUNTY

Office Calls for the Solution of Many perplexing Problems Affecting Humanity.

BETTER CARE FOR WAYWARD YOUTHS NEEDED

The work of the county welfare officer is new to many people, for it has not been established but a few years. Many are just now beginning to see the great good that comes from this service to the people. Many have never acquainted themselves with the work.

It was our privilege this week to be with the welfare officer for Surry county, Mr. Fred Armfield, and learn something of the details of his work. We think it well worth while to give our readers an account of what is being done in the county by this officer. The average citizen, we suspect, hardly realizes how many children there are in the county who have no parent, father or mother, to take care of them. There are many wayward children who are so bad that the law must step in and try to control them, and then there are many children who need attention for the simple reason that their parents neglect them for some cause. All this is the work of the welfare officer, and there is enough of it to take up the entire time of one man.

It is surprising how many men are neglecting their families in these modern days. Here in our own town at a recent term of our local court four men were up for non-support of their families. Cases like this develop in all parts of the country. The law can punish the man but the state, under the law, must care for the neglected children.

It is good news to know that many splendid citizens of the county are willing to take a child and rear it, send it to school and give it the same treatment as their own children. Many citizens of the county are now caring for children placed with them by the welfare officer. But to place a child in a home is no small matter. There are many mistakes. The child may not be satisfied. The citizen may not find the child one that he cares to keep. In one case a little boy of ten years was placed in a home and he cried his eyes out day after day until the citizen returned him to the county home. Then the welfare officer found another home for the child and again he cried until his presence could not be endured and he was again returned to the county home. The third attempt at placing the little fellow proved successful and he is now in a good home where he is happy and contented and may grow up into a normal citizen. But all this required time, effort and judgment.

The biggest problem of the welfare officer is the wayward boy who is really bad. There are many of these. Boys who steal and run away and do all kinds of dirty things that can not be endured. The law must step in and check them. But when the law takes them in hand we have provided no way to care for them. The Jackson Training school can care for only 400 and Surry is allowed only four. Surry could easily send up twenty-five who should be in some institution where they would have the right training. There are many boys in the county now who are at large for the simple reason that we have no place to send them, young criminals in the making with no restraining influence over them.

The most trying work that the officer has is placing children who are neglected. Right now there are many children in the county home for the simple reason that no home has been found for them. There is nothing that can be done but care for them at the home until some citizen will take them. Some of these children have already been placed out and returned.

To give the reader some definite idea of how all this becomes a big problem for the welfare officer and for the county we give the following case. During the last winter a man deserted his family and loafed about the neighborhood. He was able to work, but would not work. His wife was soon to become the mother of a new babe and she already had seven. The family lived in a tenant home on a farm and the landlord had them ejected from his premises. Winter was here and the woman and seven

Tobacco Co-ops Report 1925-26 Season Not Successful

Plan Seems to Have Failed in the State and No One Appears To Expect Deliveries This Year—Directors Make Report on Affairs of Association.

CO-OP FORCE SEEMS FAILED

Raleigh, May 20.—With the spectre of dissolution held in the background both the membership and directors meetings of Tri-State Tobacco Growers' Co-operative Association held Tuesday avoided any mention of 1926 deliveries or sign-up of a new contract to begin with the 1927 season. With no one apparently expecting any effort to be made to secure 1926 deliveries under the terms of the five-year contract which has one more year to run, the actual decision in the matter was left by the membership to the directors and by them was passed over to the June meeting.

With an attendance of less than 100 furnishing a striking contrast to last year's annual meeting, when over 2,000 growers filled Pullen Hall at State College beyond its capacity the membership meeting confined itself to routine business except for one sharp passage arising over the question of whether the Eastern Carolina Warehousing Corporation which is in worse debt than any of the other four, will be required to bear its own burdens or whether they will be borne by the association as a whole.

The directors in their meeting enlarged the board of managers, which has run the affairs of the association since the forced resignation of R. R. Patterson a few months ago so as to include a representative of the creditors and former appraiser. The board also appointed a business and financial adviser.

The report of the three former managers, which was made to the meeting yesterday, follows in part:

"Since your last meeting, which occurred one year ago today, your institution has undergone many and rapid changes which were not for its advantage and changes which have brought about a condition which we as a committee feel should be brought

children wandered about the neighborhood and put up at any home where they were welcomed. After a few days a citizen permitted them to occupy an old abandoned tenant house that was no fit place for any human, but they made it their home and the neighbors carried in provisions for two months. The father in the meantime had been indicted for non-support of his family and sentenced to jail, the sentence to take effect if he did not go to work. Weeks went by and he ignored the order of the court and continued to loaf about the neighborhood. Then he was arrested and sent to jail. The neighbors got tired of supporting the family and they were sent to the county home where the mother gave birth to the eighth child and is now a county charge. Three of her children have been placed in homes of good citizens and two others have been placed, but they proved to be so objectionable that they were returned to the county home. And so, as we write, the woman and five children are county charges, the woman strong and healthy and plenty able to work, not much past thirty years of age, but with no way to make a living and with a babe only a few weeks old in her arms. There is nothing that the county can do but care for her and her children. The man has served out his jail term and is supposed to be yet in the county. The probability is that the whole set are feeble minded. This case is one of the extreme ones, there are many others of a like nature. The above case has taken up as much as a week of the time of the welfare officer and has cost the county and private citizens much money, and the end is not yet.

We are a civilized and enlightened people and have reached that point of development where we are not willing to see people suffer, especially little children. The welfare officer is the legal way of doing this work, and it is of such great importance that the wonder is that it is only in recent years that we worked out a state system of caring for the unfortunate.

fully and sharply to your attention for your advice and consideration and after you have had time to consider it, take such action as in your opinion may be wise. Reporting on the stocks and value of tobacco now held by the association, President Norwood in his message to the members stated: "The 1925-1926 season has not been a successful one. The association has received about 83,000,000 pounds of a total production of 550,000,000 pounds, which means that the association received 14 1-2 per cent of the tobacco produced in this area. "The association had on hand as of May 1 approximately 75,000,000 pounds of tobacco with a bankers' valuation of \$16,908,360.99. On this tobacco the association owes to its creditors \$8,660,689.72. The association has deducted from tobacco delivered by members of the association for guarantees given to the five warehousing corporations \$1,182,686.36. The association has advanced to the five warehousing corporations for obligations maturing against these five warehousing corporations \$1,151,859.32. Taking care of these advances and all obligations of the association other than the 1925 crop's deductions for warehouses and for commercial reserve, the members have an equity in the present stock of tobacco of \$9,597,843.36. The balance due on the five warehousing corporations is \$946,976.15. "Decreased deliveries to the Tobacco Growers' Co-operative association for the season 1925-1926, the suits for receivership which have been brought by the members of the association, the report of the Federal Trade Commission and the complications caused by the redrying policy of the association have brought about conditions which have necessitated that the management of the association eliminate every expense possible, retaining only in its employ sufficient men to handle the sale of tobacco and sufficient men to handle its warehouse properties. "The committee appointed at the meeting of the board of directors which accepted the resignation of Mr. Patterson as general manager of the association was to serve in the capacity of general manager of the association. "Immediately upon the appointment of this committee, the committee looked into the affairs of the association. It found as follows: (1) That no sale or practically no sales of tobacco were being made; that those who were purchasers of tobacco apparently were not interested in buying our tobacco at this time; (2) that it was necessary to greatly reduce the number of employees of the association so as to conserve the assets of the association, retaining only those men who were used in the sale of tobacco and a force to look after the physical properties of the association; (3) the board and the committee acting in conference with the directors of the several warehousing corporations have offered to sell or lease any or all property of the several warehousing corporations except enough to handle such tobacco as may be delivered so as to relieve the expenditures to be made from the treasury of the association and so as to conserve as far as possible the assets of the several warehousing corporations; (4) owing to the decreased deliveries by members of the association and owing to the difficulties above referred to, the committee felt that it would not be wise for them to lay plans or to employ men for the handling of the 1926 crop; (5) the committee in conference with the officers of the Baltimore Federal Intermediate Credit Bank find they are sympathetic with an orderly marketing of the tobacco now held by the association. "As to arrangements for handling the 1926 crop, your committee has made none, feeling that newly elected directors and the advice to be obtained from today's meeting would be of value in determining a future policy for the association."

fully and sharply to your attention for your advice and consideration and after you have had time to consider it, take such action as in your opinion may be wise.

Reporting on the stocks and value of tobacco now held by the association, President Norwood in his message to the members stated:

"The 1925-1926 season has not been a successful one. The association has received about 83,000,000 pounds of a total production of 550,000,000 pounds, which means that the association received 14 1-2 per cent of the tobacco produced in this area.

"The association had on hand as of May 1 approximately 75,000,000 pounds of tobacco with a bankers' valuation of \$16,908,360.99. On this tobacco the association owes to its creditors \$8,660,689.72. The association has deducted from tobacco delivered by members of the association for guarantees given to the five warehousing corporations \$1,182,686.36. The association has advanced to the five warehousing corporations for obligations maturing against these five warehousing corporations \$1,151,859.32. Taking care of these advances and all obligations of the association other than the 1925 crop's deductions for warehouses and for commercial reserve, the members have an equity in the present stock of tobacco of \$9,597,843.36. The balance due on the five warehousing corporations is \$946,976.15.

"Decreased deliveries to the Tobacco Growers' Co-operative association for the season 1925-1926, the suits for receivership which have been brought by the members of the association, the report of the Federal Trade Commission and the complications caused by the redrying policy of the association have brought about conditions which have necessitated that the management of the association eliminate every expense possible, retaining only in its employ sufficient men to handle the sale of tobacco and sufficient men to handle its warehouse properties.

"The committee appointed at the meeting of the board of directors which accepted the resignation of Mr. Patterson as general manager of the association was to serve in the capacity of general manager of the association.

"Immediately upon the appointment of this committee, the committee looked into the affairs of the association. It found as follows:

(1) That no sale or practically no sales of tobacco were being made; that those who were purchasers of tobacco apparently were not interested in buying our tobacco at this time; (2) that it was necessary to greatly reduce the number of employees of the association so as to conserve the assets of the association, retaining only those men who were used in the sale of tobacco and a force to look after the physical properties of the association; (3) the board and the committee acting in conference with the directors of the several warehousing corporations have offered to sell or lease any or all property of the several warehousing corporations except enough to handle such tobacco as may be delivered so as to relieve the expenditures to be made from the treasury of the association and so as to conserve as far as possible the assets of the several warehousing corporations; (4) owing to the decreased deliveries by members of the association and owing to the difficulties above referred to, the committee felt that it would not be wise for them to lay plans or to employ men for the handling of the 1926 crop; (5) the committee in conference with the officers of the Baltimore Federal Intermediate Credit Bank find they are sympathetic with an orderly marketing of the tobacco now held by the association.

"As to arrangements for handling the 1926 crop, your committee has made none, feeling that newly elected directors and the advice to be obtained from today's meeting would be of value in determining a future policy for the association."