

CITY TO HAVE MODERN WATER WORKS SYSTEM

Plans For Adequate Water Supply Are Accepted And Contractors Will Soon Start to Work on New System.

An advertisement in this issue of The News calls for bids on the installation of various equipment at the pumping station of this city that will give Mount Airy adequate water facilities for the next several years.

For some months Mr. Gilbert C. White, hydraulic engineer, of Durham, has been working on the city's water system and making a survey of the local needs. He submitted his report to the Water & Light Commission some time ago and now our authorities are going ahead with the recommendations that he made which will relieve the water shortage here and assure us a pure and palatable supply of water.

To supplement the supply of water that is now secured from the water shed that is owned by the city the plans call for the construction of a 14 inch pipe line to the Banner mill pond above Green Hill and on Lovell's creek. This line will convey the water of Lovell's creek into the reservoir on the water shed. A survey has shown that the water from Banner's pond will flow by gravity into the basin on the water shed. This basin will hold a sufficient supply to enable the water to be taken from the creek only when it is clear. This pipe line will be three miles long and is estimated to cost about \$50,000 alone. Many have suggested that we go to the foot of the mountains for a source of water and pipe it here, but when it is learned that three miles costs \$50,000 then to go to the mountains would prove prohibitive.

At the pumping station practically the entire outfit will be junked, of course excepting the pumps and piping, and the old piston pump and one-cylinder gasoline engine is to be discarded and a new electric pump similar to the one now in use is to be added to the equipment. The present settling basin will be used but a new reservoir will be built to hold the filtered water. The one now in use holds 150,000 gallons while the new basin will hold 500,000 gallons of water ready to be pumped into the tanks on Lebanon Hill.

The present buildings at the pumping station will not be used in the new plant, but an entirely new building erected. The plans call for an up-to-date equipment in every respect and the construction of the building has been given special attention. It will be built on the hill above the filter house, of pressed brick, with Mount Airy granite for trimmings. There will be a basement dug out from the side of the hill and in this basement will be the pumps and filter beds, all in one room. The first floor will contain the laboratory, and a room where the chemicals are mixed and distributed to the filter beds in the basement. All operations of the plant will be controlled from the first floor of the building where the attendants can have ready and easy access to all manipulations of the equipment. The old fresh water well that once furnished the city with its only source of water will be discarded completely and filled up with dirt taken from the basement of the main building.

When completed the plant will give Mount Airy one and a half million gallons of filtered water a day—about three times the present requirements. The work is estimated to cost \$125,000 and will be under the direction and supervision of Mr. White, the engineer who has studied the situation here for the past few months. Bids for the work will be opened on Dec. 14th and the successful contractor will be required to complete the work by July 1st.

Man Is Killed, Driver Fleeing.

Wilmington, Nov. 21.—George W. Smith, R. F. D., No 2, Rocky Point, was instantly killed early tonight when hit by an automobile driven by unidentified person five miles out of Wilmington on highway number 49. The driver of the death car never slackened the speed of his machine as it sped away in the darkness.

Smith had just gotten out of his car at a filling station and had started to walk up the road a short distance. His body was dragged 21 feet by the death car which was said to have been moving at a high rate of speed.

BETTER COUNTY GOVERNMENT McLEAN'S AIM

Commission Form Of Government and Budget System Stressed.

Raleigh, Nov. 20.—County government reform will be one of the major objectives of Governor McLean's program in the next general assembly.

The governor made known today his purpose to actively champion the enactment of legislation to put county government upon the same sound business basis that characterized the government of the state.

He laid the ground work for such an undertaking two years ago when in his first message to the legislature he called attention to the need for a more modern system of county government. Soon afterwards, at the suggestion of the state association of county commissioners, he appointed a commission headed by President E. C. Brooks of State college to make an exhaustive study of county government and to recommend methods of modernizing and improving it.

Governor Reports.

That commission reported a few months ago, first to the 1925 meeting of the association of county commissioners and then to the governor. The report includes an elaborate plan for reorganizing the present system. It probably will be made the basis of the legislation to be sought.

The same energetic effort will be put forth to obtain the necessary machinery for reorganizing the county government system as was devoted to the securing of legislation by which the state's "business system" has been set up, Governor McLean indicated.

While, of course, reserving his definite recommendations for the assembly, the governor pointed to three things primarily needed to insure a more modern and improved system of county government. One is an adequate system of accounting the second is a better government organization and the third is a good "budget plan."

Governor McLean is for the budget first and foremost. He would put it to work not only in the state government, the cities and the counties but he would put it into every household in the state.

As to county government organization, Governor McLean suggested that there should be perhaps three governmental plans from which the people of the counties themselves might choose. He mentioned a managerial system, a commission form and the present system which, if properly improved, is quite desirable.

STRONG ARGUMENT FOR 8-MONTH SCHOOL

Says Child Is Better Equipped To Learn After Six Months.

Franklin, Nov. 20.—What was declared by Dr. H. T. Hunter, president of Cullowhee Normal School, to be one of the strongest arguments yet advanced in favor of the proposed eight months minimum school term was voiced here Thursday by a school committeeman, D. P. Caba.

"After a child has been in school six months, he is equipped to learn more in the next two months than he was in the first two months of the school year," was his argument.

Mr. Caba's comment was made at a meeting of 150 teachers, school committeemen, and citizens from every part of Macon county. The meeting was held by Mrs. E. L. McKee, of Sylva, president of the North Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs, and Dr. Fred Morrison, of North Carolina College for Women, assisted by County Superintendent M. D. Billings, of Franklin.

More Truth Than Poetry.

European countries get out a full vote by holding their elections on Sunday, but that plan would never work in this country unless the polling were done in filling stations.

Happenings Twenty-one Years Ago

Interesting Items Gleaned From the Files of The Mount Airy News 21 Years Ago This Week

The Panama Canal Commission has asked Congress for sixteen million dollars to complete the big ditch. There is still much discussion over whether to make it a sea level or a lock canal. The majority of the commission favor a sea level canal, but the final decision of the question rests with the president who will announce his decision in a short time. (Note—President Roosevelt finally decided upon a lock canal.)

Post-election investigations in New York have revealed the fact that an agent of Tammany Hall on the day before the November election went to a large bank and cashed a check for \$50,000 taking all of it in one dollar bills.

"No people can ever amount to much without good roads, good churches and good school houses."

—Judge E. R. Jones to the grand jury at Dobson.

Surry County has been released from the quarantine laws after Dec. 15th. This ruling of the officers allows cattle to be driven from this county to other parts of the country.

On last Saturday the Hanks Hotel situated on the top of the Blue Ridge at Pipers Gap was burned to the ground. The fire originated in the roof and almost nothing was saved from the building. The loss was \$5,000 with \$2,000 insurance. Mr. C. S. Hanks has made this a popular summer resort for several years.

Messrs. R. L. Dean, J. A. Tesh and Caleb Mitchell are serving on the grand jury at Dobson this week.

Last Friday afternoon Columbus Atkins was killed near Copeland by a big tree falling on him. He was sawing the tree down at the time of the accident. The deceased was about 45 years old and leaves a wife and six children.

Statements of the three banks of the city: First National Bank, total resources \$291,785.96, deposits \$180,000; Geo. D. Fawcett, cashier, Wm. C. Moore, notary public, Thos. Fawcett, A. G. Trotter, M. L. F. Armfield, directors.

OTTO WOOD ESCAPES FROM PENITENTIARY

Got Out Gate, Springing Iron Gratings at Bottom Enough To Get Through.

Raleigh, N. C., Nov. 22.—One-handed Otto Wood, convicted second-degree murderer, who escaped early this morning from the State Prison here, for the third time since he was committed in 1923 on a sentence of 22 to 30 years for the slaying of A. W. Kaplan, Greensboro pawnbroker, is still at large tonight, a free but hunted man.

George Ross Fou, superintendent of the prison, has broadcast several hundred photographs of Wood, and a reward of \$250 is offered for his capture.

Sheriff Bryant Harrison, of Wake County, the Raleigh police, and law enforcement officials within a radius of many miles are exerting effort toward his capture.

The escape was effected through the rear prison gate, from which a supporting pin had been removed. The iron grating at the bottom had been sprung, it was discovered at dawn, sufficiently to allow passage of a man's body.

Wood was last seen by prison officials when he was turned out of his cell at 6:30 o'clock this morning, and started toward the boiler house to relieve the fireman then on duty.

A check of prisoners at breakfast disclosed his absence. He had not relieved the fireman. The guard on duty had not seen him.

Joe Hux, the guard who was on duty last night, when the prison gate is believed to have been tampered with in advance of Wood's escape, has been discharged by the prison superintendent, who accuses Hux of "gross negligence."

Later today, Sterling Hux, his brother, who was on guard after 6 o'clock, and at the time Wood is believed to have escaped, also was discharged by Superintendent Fou, who said that Hux was "very careless" to let a prisoner escape through a gate he was supposed to be guarding.

Wood, since December 8, 1925, when he was recognized following the removal of his teeth except from the prison, was kept in solitary confinement, until last September, when

refused. Surry County Loan & Trust Co., total resources \$99,448.55, deposits \$14,300, Geo. D. Fawcett, Sec. & Treas., Wm. C. Moore, notary public, J. D. Smith, E. H. Wrenn, W. W. Burks, directors. The Bank of Mount Airy, total resources \$150,335.45, deposits \$95,500, W. J. Byrley, cashier, E. B. Ashby, notary public, J. H. Frasier, T. B. McCargo, G. C. Welch, directors.

Dobson Court News—One interesting event of the court was that of detective Haynes becoming entangled with the town authorities at Dobson. Haynes, in company with some friends, went bird-hunting Tuesday afternoon and came back with four birds which they promptly delivered to the hotel keeper. It seems that all parties were under the impression that the game law expired Nov. 15th, while Dec. 1st is the date. The hotel man prepared the birds and served them in his best style, and the Judge, the Solicitor, W. F. Carter and Geo. W. Sparger, of this city ate them at supper. But the story doesn't end here. In some way or other game warden W. J. York, who happened to be in Dobson, got wind of the performance and yanked the detective before a magistrate. The law says that any man found in possession of a bird is guilty and the magistrate was puzzled to know how many in the case should be punished. It seems that he was laboring under the impression that the Judge, the Solicitor and the two prominent attorneys from Mount Airy "being in possession" each of a bird were equally guilty with the detective, so he suspended judgment until he could investigate the case. Wednesday morning he rendered his decision and let Haynes go by paying a small fine and the costs all of which amounted to \$2.85. All the hotels of Dobson are crowded with people this week.

The News office is in receipt of a beautiful calendar gotten out by E. W. Paddison, popular groceryman of this city.

the board of the directors of the prison gave him the liberty of the back yard of the institution, over the protest of the superintendent and Chief Clerk Love.

The latter were absolved of responsibility for the escape in a statement issued today by James A. Leake, chairman of the board, who assumes for himself and fellow board members full blame.

425 Grade Crossings Eliminated Since Road Work Started.

Raleigh, Nov. 19.—Four hundred and twenty-five grade crossings have been eliminated in North Carolina since the state highway commission began its elimination operations in January, 1921, it was announced here today. This leaves only 351 such crossings in the state.

A larger percentage of crossings have been done away with in the central and western parts of the state than on the coastal plains. This was explained by the difficulty of providing ways to avoid them in flat country. There were also a larger number of crossings to begin with in the east because of the larger number of rail lines.

Elimination of the crossings have been accomplished by the following means:

Forty-two overpasses; fifty-nine underpasses and 224 by re-location of the road.

First Presbyterian Church.

Bible School 9:45 A. M.
Morning Worship 11 A. M.
Evening Worship 7:30 P. M.
Junior C. E. 6:30 P. M.
Senior C. E. 6:45 P. M.

Prayer service Wednesday night was suspended on account of Thanksgiving service which will be held Thursday morning at 10 o'clock. All members of the congregation are requested to be present in person to thank God for His wonderful goodness to us during the past year. An offering will be taken for Bazium Springs Orphanage.

Sunday service was in charge of the South Christian Endeavor society. They presented an interesting program, the church is proud of its young people.

MOUNT AIRY TO DECORATE HER STREETS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Movement Started To Make This City A Picture of Splendor and Dazzling Beauty During the Christmas Season Colored Lights and Christmas trees to Decorate Streets.

PINNACLE MAN KILLED AT GREENSBORO

Falls Beneath Train While Coupling Cars Terribly Mangled.

Greensboro, Nov. 19.—Archie William Brown, 25, formerly of Pinnacle, brakeman for the A. and Y. railroad, who was terribly mangled Wednesday afternoon about 5 o'clock in an accident at Vandalla and was brought to this city in a dying condition Thursday morning at 12:30 o'clock, in Wesley Long hospital.

According to the story told by railroad men, Brown was working in the yards at Vandalla, on the work train. Some cars had been cut loose from the train and had been shunted to a side track with several left standing on the main line track. When the engine tried to couple up with these cars on the main line, the coupling failed to hold and Brown hopped the rear car and attempted to stop the cars, which were rolling and gained headway. He found the hand brake would not work and climbed back to the ground. When he attempted to board the second car of the string, he fell in some way under the moving cars and was terribly mangled.

He was picked up, placed on the train and brought to this city in a very serious condition. At the local hospital, his right arm was amputated at the shoulder and the left hand removed. His right leg was terribly crushed above the knee and mid-way from the knee to the body and a deep scalp wound of six or eight inches in length was also treated. There were many other lacerations and cuts on various parts of his body. Little hope was held out for his recovery, after his injuries had been examined.

Brown had been working for the A. and Y. as brakeman for the past two years and lived at 309 Gorrell street, this city. His old home was at Pinnacle, where he is survived by his father, H. H. Brown. Three brothers also survive him: O. N. Brown, of this city and also employed by the A. and Y.; Kenneth E. Brown and Woodrow W. Brown, both of Pinnacle. He leaves four sisters: Mesdames Gladys Wall and H. F. Westmoreland and Misses Edith and Rebecca Brown, all of Pinnacle.

The body was taken to Pinnacle at 8:15 Thursday morning and the funeral held Friday afternoon at 1 o'clock from the Methodist Protestant church of Pinnacle, conducted by Rev. A. L. Hunter, pastor.

Brown, it is believed, realized that he was most seriously injured and that he had only a small chance of life. On the ambulance he complained of the pain caused him by his injuries and wanted to reach the hospital quickly. At the hospital he continued to request something to stop the pain and also the flow of blood. The loss of blood and shock to his constitution caused by the loss of limbs and the terrible mangling were too much for him. He was unconscious for several hours before he passed on to the great beyond.

This Woman Running Large Poultry Farm.

Kinston, Nov. 21.—A woman is managing the most successful poultry farm in the country between this city and Trenton. Mrs. Joseph Westbrook has 800 fowls. She made a handsome profit from a much smaller number of birds last year. The profit was probably \$150 for each fowl.

The business had an humble beginning. Mrs. Westbrook, the wife of the Jones county sheriff, lives on a large farm near the line between that county and Lenoir. She fenced a small area to serve as a chicken yard. The yard has been enlarged and a still larger area will soon be needed. Last year there were 600 White Leghorns in the poultry lot. The 800 in the flock now will be increased before next year.

Before marrying the sheriff Mrs. Westbrook was a newspaper circulation worker. "Poultrying is a science as well as a business," she states. "By combining a little science, a measure of sanitation and a medium of business sense one can make a success of it."

Plans that have been put into effect by the merchants manufacturing enterprises and business men of this city this week assure a real decoration of Mount Airy during the Christmas season that will be suitable for the occasion. Committees have been assigned to various duties and the work is being carried forward with speed and enthusiasm. A team has already made a canvass of the city and secured subscriptions to assure the success of the plan, and the purchase of decorative materials and electric lighting equipment is now being made.

Many of our citizens were deeply impressed with the beautiful and inspiring effect of the decorations that were carried out by others places last Christmas and it has been in the minds of many of our citizens to so decorate the streets of Mount Airy during the coming holidays.

Nearly a thousand electric light bulbs—colored bulbs—green, red, pink, yellow, all colors will be strung across the streets of the city and along the sidewalks Christmas trees will be erected and these will be lighted with a dozen or more colored bulbs. In all about 50 trees will be distributed in the business district of the city. To add to the effect of the streamers of light and the Christmas trees the committee will use two thousand yards of Laurel Festooning, a product of Low Gap. This festooning will be entwined about the trees and swung across the streets beneath the streamers of electric bulbs.

The officials of the Southern Public Utilities Company have evinced a most cooperative spirit in this movement and will furnish its engineers and workmen in aiding the committee to put the decorations and lights up to the best advantage.

It is estimated to cost around a thousand dollars to light the city and put up the decorations, but after this year the cost will be nominal as all the equipment will then be on hand and can be used from year to year, the only expense being putting it up and paying for the electricity used.

The equipment will be installed ready for use by Dec. 15th and will burn for six hours every night until Jan. 1st. The scene that will greet one on entering the city during that period will bring a thrill of the Christmas spirit into every one's heart and the people from the country district and adjoining towns will be drawn here by the splendor and dazzling appearance of our streets.

While the movement is being fostered by the Merchants Association of this city all the manufacturing enterprises, professional men, and others who are not connected with association, have heartily joined in with the movement with the result that the feature is an assured fact and visitors can look forward to a gala city when they arrive for the Christmas season, either for shopping or on a visit.

Already the merchants are receiving shipment of goods for the Christmas trade; larger preparations than ever before are being made to supply the needs of the public; and in a short time the windows of our stores will begin to display these articles. Another plan of interest that is being worked out is to offer prizes to the best decorated show window in the city that is dressed up in Christmas fashion during the holidays. All of which will make Mount Airy the most attractive place in this section during the coming happy season.

Sanford To Install Signals For Traffic.

Sanford, Nov. 21.—Another evidence that Sanford has reached the stage of a city is the action of the board of aldermen in installing electric traffic signals on five of the prominent corners. These have been purchased and will soon be in use. They will relieve the situation now prevailing at the street intersections and will be a great help to pedestrians as well as automobile drivers. Sanford has state highways in seven directions and there is a large volume of traffic through the city as well as that of a local nature. The coming of an automobile for every 4.5 inhabitants, and the of course makes local traffic heavy.