

LENOIR COUNTY VOTES ON TWO-MILLION-DOLLAR BOND ISSUE FOR BETTER ROADS TUESDAY; CAUSE IS EXPECTED WIN OUT

Whole State Interested on Eve of Election—Brick, Asphalt or Other Hard Material to Replace Mud Streaks Over County if Friends of Progress Have Their Way. Big Undertaking Gamely Tackled Wins Admiration of Onlookers From a Distance—Sundown Tuesday to See Biggest Question in County's History Answered, Apparently With Loud "Yes"

On the eve of the county election for improved roads it looks as if the pros have a sure thing of it. Tuesday Lenoir County's voters will ballot on a proposition to issue \$2,000,000 in bonds to pave the main highways of the county and some of the lesser ones.

Friends of the issue are confident every one of the 12 townships will go over the top for roads. By sundown Tuesday evening Lenoir County will have taken the lead over the 99 other counties in the State or will have struck a self-inflicted blow sufficient to cripple its progress for many years to come.

Everywhere Chamber of Commerce workers and enthusiastic planters and others are putting in last-minute efforts to win over antis and doubtfuls.

Everyone in the county is acquainted with the proposition—which is to increase the total tax on the \$100 of property a few cents and reap untold benefits in return.

The eyes of North Carolina are turned toward Lenoir County. Good roads advocates in every section are hoping Lenoir will break out of its mud prison and assume the leadership of the State. Its nerve in undertaking such a big job has won statewide admiration.

Boost From University. The Lenoir Club at the University of North Carolina sent the following fine argument for road improvements, received here late Saturday:

We the Lenoir County Club of the University of North Carolina, having a very deep interest in the success of the coming election, for determining whether Lenoir County shall issue \$2,000,000 in bonds for road improvements, wish to present to the voters of Lenoir County the following facts concerning the coming issue:

In undertaking the presentation of these facts we wish first to review briefly the present system of building and upkeep of roads in Lenoir County. According to statistics furnished by the county treasurer, we have spent about \$60,000 a year for the past five years for the construction of dirt roads which are now practically no better than they were five years ago. This fact is due to several causes, the chief of which were the contracting of the construction and the lack of upkeep; two things which will ultimately cause any roads we can build to be failures. These two defects in road maintenance will be eliminated in the proposed issue by the very nature of the bill. The construction will be conducted by an especially appointed road commission in cooperation with an expert road engineer. The kind of road called for is of a permanent type, but there is no permanent type unless they are made so by a continuous system of repairs. But this item will, after construction, be almost eliminated in our case. The Government estimate and allowance for road upkeep is \$50 per mile per year which would be reduced almost to nothing in our county both by the nature of the construction of the roads and by the regularity of the surface.

Knowing from experience that there is a great and immediate need for road improvements in Lenoir County and having learned that it can be met by the proposed bond issue, as the publicity committee has shown you at great lengths, the next and most important question is whether you can afford. To answer this will require the knowledge of the value of Lenoir County property and the taxes paid at present.

The North Carolina tax commission reports for 1918 that the real and personal property of Lenoir County as listed for taxation was valued at \$7,433,935. This is a noted fact that twenty-nine other North Carolina counties reported higher valuation and several of those counties were mountain counties whose land is very inferior in value to our own. The total valuation of taxable prop-

erty and corporations was \$9,660,697. On this valuation taxes were paid to the total amount of \$140,383, and 34 per cent. of the whole went to road construction and maintenance. Only eleven counties paid more taxes for roads than Lenoir yet dozens have better roads.

The next fact of importance is that the total tax rate of Lenoir County for state and county purposes was \$1.16 2-3. This rate was exceeded by twenty-five other counties of North Carolina. Now the proposed bond issue will raise our tax rate to about \$1.65 which is surpassed by many counties of the State. And after all it is really not a tax on the real valuation of our property. If every one in Lenoir County should list his property at the price for which he would sell, the total valuation would certainly exceed \$25,000,000. Should this valuation be made as it is to be made by the State assessors the coming year the tax rate would be of necessity cut in half and it would then undoubtedly be the lowest in the State. So after all, Mr. Voter, it is only a question of funds sufficient to support county government and to provide the public service required in the county. That and no more is desired. So, finally, it is a matter of true valuation of property and not higher tax rates which will determine whether we can afford this bond issue.

In conclusion, gentlemen, "considering the cost of the present system, the cost of the proposed system, and the evident benefits to be derived from the proposed system, you are merely voting on whether you wish to pay \$1,500,000 in the next twenty-five years for roads no better than the present ones or whether you had rather spend \$2,000,000 in the next twenty-five years for roads that you can use the whole year round; roads which will give you inestimable pride as well as pleasure, and savings in time as well as money and trouble.

Find Missing Coins in Mincher Case at Home of a Negress

Sheriff A. W. Taylor Saturday night found the missing coins in the Mincher case. E. W. Mincher, boss of convicts, sentenced to three years Saturday for receiving stolen property from Will Garham, colored trusty and confessed burglar, when arrested gave the officers several gold coins and a list of coins which he said had been in his possession, having come from Gorham. At the trial the absence of a number of the listed coins was discussed by the prosecution.

Sheriff Taylor, learning from Gorham where the coins could be found, went to Goldsboro and got them from a negress. Mincher, it developed, had returned them to Gorham, who had left them with the woman. The majority of them were copper and of small value. Gorham caused Mincher's arrest by declaring he had compelled him to commit the robberies. Afterward he retracted and said Mincher was innocent of any part in them.

CORPSE IS BASIS OF LEGAL FIGHT. Atlanta, Ga., April 12.—A corpse formed the basis of a hotly contested legal battle fought out in the Fulton Superior Court before Judge George L. Bell. Amanda Truitt, a negress, was killed on Monday night and when the police were unable to locate relatives, the remains were taken in charge by the county undertaker. He embalmed the body and the next day the relatives appeared to demand it, refusing to pay the undertaker's fee. Judge Bell ruled that if the relatives took the body, they must also pay the undertaker, which brought the settlement of the litigation.

PARLIAMENT WANTS KNOW WHY GERMANY DOESN'T PAY ALL

Lloyd-George Goes to London to Explain Reparations

WILSON WILL HELP OUT Expected to Make Statement—German Delegates Probably Will Be Called to Versailles by April 25, Said

(By the United Press) Paris, April 14.—President Wilson is expected to make a statement outlining the progress of the peace conference and showing the work completed. The big four met unexpectedly from 6 to 8 o'clock last night for the purpose of reaching an agreement on certain details to enable Lloyd-George to leave for London today. The premier requested information regarding the definite date for inviting the German delegates to Versailles so that he might inform parliament. It is understood he was told April 25.

Lloyd-George will be called upon to explain why the agreement regarding reparation does not include a provision for Germany to pay the entire cost of the war when he faces parliament tomorrow. Mr. Wilson's statement is expected to assist Lloyd-George in showing the futility of trying to revoke the agreement on reparations. Clemenceau regarding the suggested date of April 25 for calling in the Germans today said it had not yet been definitely decided upon and that it might be earlier.

CAN TAKE LIQUOR THRO' DRY STATE (By the United Press) Washington, April 14.—The Reed bone-dry act does not prohibit transportation of liquor through a dry state, the Supreme Court decided today. Homer Gudger, on his way from Baltimore to North Carolina when arrested at Lynchburg, in the dry State of Virginia, had liquor in his possession. The lower courts quashed the indictment on the ground that transportation through a dry state was not contrary to law.

INTERESTING SERMON. One of the best sermons he has ever preached here was delivered by Rev. Bernard P. Smith, the pastor, at Gordon Street Christian Church Sunday. His subject was "The Call of the Hour." A large congregation heard him. At the same subject Mrs. Ted. Shifley rendered a violin solo and Mrs. Frank Lewis sang a solo.

AMERICA'S IMMORTALS BEDFORD B. LUNSFORD, Corporal, Company M, 117th Infantry. Corp. Lunsford (deceased) was decorated for extraordinary heroism in action near Bellecourt, France, October 7, 1918. When the line was held up by enemy machine gun fire Corporal Lunsford strapped an automatic rifle to his shoulder and advanced in the face of machine gun fire. Firing as he went forward, he killed four of the enemy before he fell dead, riddled with bullets. Thomas Lunsford, his father, lives in Mount Vernon, Tenn.

BULLETINS

(By the United Press) RAINBOWS TO PORT. Brest, April 14.—The entire Rainbow Division is expected to arrive at the American camp here from the front today.

MARTIAL LAW IN SAXONY. Copenhagen, April 14.—Martial law has been proclaimed throughout Saxony, according to a dispatch from Dresden.

HANG TURK FOR CRIMES. London, April 14.—Miamit Mahand Pasha, former governor of Diarbekr, has been publicly hanged as instigator of the Armenian massacres at Lzghad.

MANGIN REVIEWS 32ND. Coblenz, April 14.—General Mangin and Major-General Dickman today reviewed the 32nd Division, which served under Mangin in the Soissons offensive.

DRY LAW UPHELD. Washington, April 14.—The Supreme Court today affirmed the lower court's decision on Georgia's law prohibiting possession of over one gallon of liquor as being constitutional. Andrew D. Barbour attacked the law on the ground that it could not be made to apply to liquor in his possession before the law was passed.

WANTS GERMAN MONARCHY. Basle, April 14.—Count von Reventlow, former military expert of the Berliner Tageblatt, in an interview telegraphed here today declared he favors restoration of a liberalized monarchy. The militarist spirit does not exist in Germany, he said. The spirit of defense is natural everywhere. If we had a national spirit as strong as the French we would have won the first battle of the Marne, he asserted.

FOUR AND ONE-HALF BILLIONS 5TH LOAN (By the United Press) Washington, April 14.—Uncle Sam wants less money for the Victory Loan than had been expected. All apparently needed will be \$4,500,000,000. He is ready to pay 4 3-4 per cent. in partially exempt four-year treasury notes to get it. This was revealed by Secretary of the Treasury Glass today in announcing the details of the Victory Loan. The popular subscription campaign will open a week from today. All over-subscriptions will be rejected.

Pastor Craig Says Day of Good Roads at Hand in America

Rev. W. Marshall Craig, pastor of the First Baptist Church, preached good roads among other things in a stirring sermon Sunday night. He said: "I am a great believer in the good roads movement which is now on. I wish I could do something for that movement. Somehow I feel that my part is very little. I feel that any words I might say might not bear much weight. Somehow I think that it is a proposition for our businessmen, but it is a proposition for all of us after all. I want to add my testimony right here that I am a great believer in the good roads movement, and I should like to see every road in Lenoir County, every town in the Nation, paved with asphalt—something that will give us ideal roads and will give to us one of the finest road systems in all the world. I see the day is coming when our great states of the Nation are demanding these things, and North Carolina will not be in the background; and Lenoir County will not be in the background, because she has always been in the forefront and will continue to be in all these upward movements that move on to progress and to greater achievement."

LOCAL QUINT LOSES STATE CHAMPIONSHIP. Saturday afternoon at the New Brick Warehouse the girls' basketball team of the Grainger High School played the last game of the season, contesting the State championship with Wilson. Wilson won by a narrow margin of 30 to 26, but the local team played a star game and gave Wilson the hardest fight they have had this season. It was decidedly the best game played here yet and was marked by clean playing and the absence of fouls. Kinston's team work was fine and they did the proudest piece of passing seen on the court this year. At the end of the first half the score was 20 to 10 in favor of Wilson. In the second half Kinston woke up and got within two points of Wilson at one time. The visiting team, which has not lost a game this season, was heavier than the locals, and had the advantage in having had a team every year. Kinston had no team last year on account of having no place to play and most of the team have never played before this year. Alma Gray Deans, center, was Wilson's star player. Eleanor Hill, center, starred for Kinston, doing the best team work of all the players. Although Deans outmatched her in weight she stuck to her and put up a game fight. The lineup for Kinston was as follows: Eleanor Hill, center; Hilda Randolph and Gladys Newborn, forwards; Lucille Faulkner and Margaret Whitaker, guards. Miss Essie Williams refereed the first half and Miss Mabel Cooper the second. This was the last game of the season, as the weather is getting too hot for such strenuous exercise. The High School is justly proud of the girls' team and they are to be congratulated on their excellent showing this season. Next year they are going in for the State championship again and they hope to win.

VANDERBILT TO AID SALVATION ARMY DRIVE. Atlanta, April 12.—As an example of the calibre of men behind the coming Salvation Army Home Service Fund drive those in charge of the national drive announce that Brig. Gen. Cornelius Vanderbilt will serve as chairman of the Greater New York district in the campaign from May 19 to 26.

BERLIN THREATENS TO SEND TROOPS TO BAVARIAN CAPITAL

Situation at Munich Confusing — Not Known Whether Soviet Outfit is in Charge or Not—Revolt at Brunswick?

Berne, April 14.—War Minister Noske has threatened to send a military expedition against Munich, according to advices received here. The situation at Munich is confusing. Reports of the overthrow of the soviet government have not been confirmed, nor have later reports of a second coup restoring the soviet power. A soviet republic is said to have been proclaimed in Brunswick. The change in government there was accomplished without bloodshed.

Confusion. Berlin, April 12 (Delayed).—Kaleidoscopic events at Munich have rendered the situation unintelligible to anyone not actually within the city. It is doubtful even if the people of Munich themselves understand what is going on about them. A rapid succession of reports received today said the soviet republic had been overthrown, that the soviet republic had been restored, that both the bolsheviks and socialists were conducting their respective governments side by side. Latest dispatches said street fighting was underway at Munich, without reference to who was fighting or who was winning. Fighting at Dresden.

Copenhagen, April 14.—Bitter fighting has broken out at Dresden following the murder of the war minister, according to dispatches received here. Government troops are being rushed from Berlin to repress the radicals, who are fighting under communist leadership.

BOLSHEVIKI NOW AT WORK SOUTH EUROPE (By the United Press) Washington, April 14.—Bolshevik propaganda is being spread broadcast in certain Italian cities, creating a situation of grave possibilities, a message to the State Department announced. Extra police are patrolling the streets of Turin, big industrial center. Five hundred cavalry troops are reported to have been quartered there to suppress a possible uprising. The troubles are officially spoken of as an impending strike. The Italian authorities have the situation under control.

Attorney Says Preacher Attempted Jury Packing

Quotes Reports in Court—Colonel Shaw Creates Something of Sensation—Not Becoming to Use Rumors, Says Judge—Lawyer an Elder, Says He Had Been Criticized for Defending Case—Mincher Gets Three Years, Appeals—Woman Sentenced to 30 Days—Mistrial in Case Against Men Charged With Assaulting Young Girls—Woman Insists Upon Telling Everything

The April criminal term of Superior Court closed a rather remarkable week Saturday night, in which some of the ugliest cases heard in sometime were disposed of. Pathetic, dramatic and almost tragic were the closing scenes.

The court was somewhat startled at the broadcast hurled at the moral element of the community for its manifest interest in securing convictions in vice cases. Attorney Henry E. Shaw, counsel for a woman of the segregated district who was convicted of statutory vagrancy, and a former solicitor of the district, charged that "A rumor had reached his ears that a certain minister of Jesus Christ had used the 'phone to urge certain people to attend the sessions of court in order that they might be drawn as jurors."

It looked like an attempt at "jury racking" to him. Mr. N. J. Rouse of counsel for the prosecution, responded to the charge and said that he could not bring himself to believe that Mr. Shaw really meant to charge the good ministers of the city with jury packing. Judge Daniels attempted to throw oil on the troubled waters and suggested that it was not exactly becoming for rumors to be quoted in the court room. Mr. Shaw got up the second time and reiterated his remarks, in the course of which he spoke of himself as an elder in the Presbyterian Church and that some criticism had been made of him because he had taken the case. He defended his course by saying that the woman had been unable to get other legal advice in the city and he felt it his professional duty, etc.

Saturday afternoon was largely taken up with the hearing of a case against John Gregg, mill worker, and Beeton Sparrow, taxi-driver, who faced the technical charge of assault on a female. The evidence showed that two young girls 15 or 16 years of age who were being annoyed at a circus ground by some of the show men, appealed to Gregg, a young married man to get a taxi for them; he offered to walk part of the way home but hailed Sparrow's car and he and the two girls got in on the back seat; they started in a direction that caused the girls, according to their statements, to think that there was some evil design and that they were being carried to the woods, whereupon they endeavored to get out of the car. One of the girls claimed that Gregg tried to embrace her and she screamed, the car was stopped beyond the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad on the Grifton road and the girls got out. There was no evidence that Sparrow tried to put his hands on either of the girls. Gregg explained that he was simply trying to prevent the girl from jumping out of the car. Character witnesses examined failed to establish the best characters for the men. The girls were shown to be well behaved. The mother of the girls created considerable merriment on the stand in her persistent effort to "Tell all she knew and the truth about the matter." The court was convulsed on several occasions during her presence on the stand and attorneys found it difficult to interject a question while the old lady was talking. She testified that Sparrow had endeavored to compromise the case. The jury after spending several hours on the case failed to agree and a mistrial was ordered.

E. W. Mincher, convicted road boss, was sentenced to three years in the penitentiary. His counsel appealed and he was admitted to bail in the sum of \$1,050, which was given by Dr. Ira M. Hardy.

Florence Gully, the woman from the segregated district, was sentenced to 30 days in jail after a vain attempt to get her to consent to go to the rescue home at Samarcand and turn over a new leaf. Judge Daniels spoke very kindly to her and pleaded with her to save him the disagreeable task of sending her to jail; her counsel had endeavored to persuade her to go to the home and counsel for the prosecution urged her to take that course. She protested that she had property interests which would be jeopardized and

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Alumni Local Negro College in Exercises at St. John's Church

The alumni association of Kinston College, a young but meritorious negro college of this city, entertained a large audience at St. John's Free Will Baptist Church Sunday night. The association rendered an elaborate literary program, correlated with many facts in reconstruction.

Starr Hicks of St. John's Church introduced Prof. L. E. Rasbury, president of the association, who in a short but pointed address outlined the object of the meeting and introduced the mistress of ceremonies, Mrs. J. W. Clark, an alumnus of Virginia Female Seminary, who proceeded with the program. There were graduates from all parts of the State present and each one that performed proved himself a credit to the efficient institution. They pointed back to their school days with pleasure and eloquently advised the people of Kinston to educate themselves. The principal address of the meeting was made by Prof. L. E. Rasbury, president of the association and also president of Kinston College. Professor Rasbury in his address pointed to the success that the graduates and former students of the school were making in more than 20 vocations.

THE WEATHER. For North Carolina: Cloudy tonight and Tuesday; probably local rains in central and west portions. Slightly warmer tonight in central portion. Moderate east and south-east winds.

CRAVEN TO WASHINGTON. Bruce Craven, at one time superintendent of schools here, of late years a lawyer practicing at Trinity, N. C., has been appointed for special work in the office of the judge-advocate-general at Washington with the rank of major. He left for the capital Sunday night.

BACK FROM OVERSEAS. A message from W. G. Wetherington, 120th Infantry, to his mother, Mrs. Emma Price, 909 Chestnut Street, announces his arrival at Charleston.

MEETING FIRE COMPANY. There will be an important meeting of the Caswell Fire Company at the City Hall tonight at 8.

"Hero of Circumstances." Aley Parker, 119th Infantry, was wounded three times in one battle in Flanders. Still he kept going. But Parker was a hero through necessity. It was safer to keep going ahead with wounds in one hand and one thigh than risk a heavy Jerry barrage over the back areas and possibly have his head blown off.