

## Road Building Day

Something New in North Carolina Will Be Practiced Next Week Between Rutherfordton and Chimney Rock.

ACCORDING to a special in the Charlotte Observer, one of the most unique and public-spirited things in the way of good roads building will take place on Friday and Saturday, July 11 and 12, in the section of Chimney Rock, when about 1,000 mountain people will assemble and work for two days on the Charlotte-Asheville automobile highway from Bat Cave to Rutherfordton, a distance of twenty miles. These people will make no charge for their labors. Their act is only an expression of their desire and determination for good roads in their midst. They will come from every direction over the mountains within a radius of from twenty to thirty miles bringing their axes, well sharpened, with them and give their services for two days as a free-will offering.

### Rutherford Voted Bonds.

Some time ago the county of Rutherford carried a \$250,000 bond election for good roads, and these bonds will be sold as soon as possible. The survey of the automobile highway has already been made, and most of the distance it follows the old road leading from Asheville to Rutherfordton through Hickory Nut Gap. On last Friday Messrs. C. F. Watson, C. M. Golland, and W. G. Harris, commissioners of Rutherford County, together with Mr. J. C. M. Valentine, chief engineer, and Mr. C. H. Moore, assistant engineer, went over the survey before giving their final approval. The road is to be built on a four per cent grade. It is understood that the contract will be let sometime this week.

When the commissioners and engineers reached the gap and learned the intention of the mountaineers, they agreed to furnish all their road plows, drags and picks, together with dynamite which will be sufficient to remove the rocks and heavy obstructions in the road. They also agreed to be present and give any assistance that they could in the work, and to start in at once with their plows and drags all along the road so that it will be ready for the people to work upon.

### Colonel Patrick Promoter.

This movement has been started and promoted by Col. John T. Patrick, of Wadesboro, who recently moved to Chimney Rock for his health, and is living among the mountain people as if he had always been one. He talks good roads to them all the time and has them talking; in fact, if one wants to see a community alive on the subject of good roads, Chimney Rock is the place to go. The women discuss it as much as the men and with as much intelligence as if they were road engineers. They know the value of good roads and that is sufficient.

Last Sunday Colonel Patrick made a twenty-mile tramp over the mountains stopping every person he saw and visiting every house telling them about the road-working picnic they are going to have and telling them to come. That is the way he does things. He never asks a man to do a thing, he simply tells them he wants to do it, and he does it. One of his visits was to a Sunday-school. He went in, took charge of it, and preached a sermon. His text was "Love thy neighbor as thyself." He told them that if they loved their neighbor they would want to do things for him, and that one of the best things they could do was to build a good road in their midst. While there he organized the meet-

ing by appointing a colonel and five captains to go out and work for the good roads working-meeting.

### Divided in Sections.

The twenty miles of road will be divided into five divisions of about four miles each. These divisions will be as follows: First division will be from Bat Cave to the bridge across the Broad River at the Chimney Rock school-house. The second division will extend to the Edgerton bridge, the third to the Cole Creek bridge, the fourth to Knal Creek, and the fifth to Rutherfordton.

A colonel and five captains will be appointed for each division. The colonel will look after his men and division and the captains will solicit help among the mountain people. Some honorary prize will be given to the captain who gets the most help. The colonel for each division will appoint a major and quartermaster and five commissaries. The major and quartermaster will look after the grounds and see that the proper amount of utensils are brought.

### Carnival of Fun.

The idea of fun, which is Mr. Patrick's favorite word, will be carried out. Every two miles along the route there will be a barbecue and picnic, and it will be the duty of the commissaries to look after this, together with the assistance of a delegation of ladies that will be appointed along the route on entertainment. Prominent speakers will be there to give talks to the people on good roads. An invitation will be extended to Governor Craig, Dr. Joseph Hyde Pratt and many others. Some representative of the United States Government will be there to deliver a talk. "Everybody is invited to attend this picnic," said Colonel Patrick, "either to work or look pretty." Those who want to work will get their dinner free, and those who want to wear diamonds and do nothing will be charged a small amount for tickets which will entitle them to help eat the dinner and witness the fun-making.

The amount is charged the visitors to help defray the expense of the barbecues and dinners that will be served. If there is a surplus, it will be turned over to a good roads fund.

### Speech-Making and Races.

The crowds will begin to assemble Friday morning, and work will start in as soon as they come. On account of the fact that many will come several miles over the mountains, the full crowd will not get together until Friday evening. They will camp along the side of the road Friday night, rising early Saturday morning and starting to work at 4 o'clock and continue until 11 o'clock when there will be four hours of rest and fun. There will be speech-making from prominent men of the State, sack races, egg races and potato races by the mountain people and almost every form of amusement. "We expect to pull off one of the biggest things ever done in North Carolina," said Colonel Patrick, "and all we want is for the people to come to see us work and have fun." After the four hours' sport they will start in to work again and continue until 6 o'clock.

These two days' work will make a good road from Rutherfordton to Asheville by July 13. Already there is a good automobile highway from Charlotte to Rutherfordton going by way of Kings Mountain and Shelby, and this small connecting link will make a good passable road from Charlotte straight through to Asheville.

An effort will be made to get the Seaboard Air Line to run an excursion to Rutherfordton July 12 for the purpose of carrying people to the

good roads meeting and picnic. An invitation will be given to the Charlotte and Asheville automobile clubs and also to the Greater Charlotte Club to come with large delegations.

### Tar Heels at Gettysburg.

A special to the News and Observer from Gettysburg under date of July 1 said:

"About one thousand North Carolina Confederate Veterans have arrived to attend the semi-centennial celebration. They came in on special trains yesterday and to-day, and it is said others are on the way. They stood the trip very well and all are well. There are, on an average, about eight to a tent and the accommodations are very good, taking everything into consideration. The State Historical Commission, appointed by the Governor, yesterday marked the different places on the

battlefield which the North Carolina troops occupied and which will probably result in the erection of monuments in the different places. The commission, all of which are here, is composed of the following:

"Judge Walter Clark, Judge W. A. Montgomery, Hon. W. J. Peele, Hon. J. Bryan Grimes, Secretary of State, and son, and J. A. Long.

"Miss Nannie Randolph Heath, of Washington, daughter of General Harry Heath, will be the guest of Colonel Benehan Cameron and General Julian S. Carr, who is in command of the State veterans, to-morrow.

"The chief surgeon of the camp, an army surgeon, is a native North Carolinian, Dr. Van Poole, of Rowan County. His assistant, Dr. Fitz, is also a North Carolinian."

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| Greenville..... N. C.     | 3 75                       | 2 25          | 4 50                         | 2 65          |
| Chocowinity..... N. C.    | 3 75                       | 2 25          | 4 50                         | 2 65          |
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| Vanceboro..... N. C.      | 4 75                       | 2 25          | 5 50                         | 2 65          |
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| Plymouth..... N. C.       | 3 00                       | 2 25          | 3 75                         | 2 65          |
| MacKeys..... N. C.        | 2 75                       | .....         | 3 50                         | .....         |
| Columbia..... N. C.       | 3 50                       | .....         | 4 25                         | .....         |
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