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No. 12

## GOOD ROADS BILL.

**An Act to Authorize The Commissioners of Person County to Submit to the Voters of the County the Question of Issuing Bonds to Build and Improve the Public Roads of said County.**

**The General Assembly of North Carolina do Enact:**

Sec. 1. That for the purpose of grading, building and constructing of macadam, gravel, soil, sand clay, or other material, and otherwise improving and maintaining the public roads of Person County, the board of commissioners of said county is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to submit to the voters of Person County, as soon after the ratification of this act as practicable, the question of issuing bonds to an amount not exceeding one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, said bonds to be of the denomination of five hundred dollars or one thousand dollars as the board of commissioners may deem best, and bearing interest at a rate not exceeding five per cent per annum, with interest coupons attached, payable semi-annually during the time the bonds shall run, with the principal payable forty years from the date of issue.

That said bonds and coupons shall be payable in standard currency of the United States at the office of the treasurer of Person County, in Roxboro, North Carolina. The bonds shall be numbered consecutively, beginning with number one, and the coupons to each bond shall bear the number of the bond to which it is attached as well as the number of the coupon, and both bonds coupons shall be signed by the chairman of the board of County commissioners and countersigned by its clerk, and each bond shall be authenticated by the seal of the county, and they shall be entitled "Person County Highway Improvement Bonds".

Sec. 2. That the board of county commissioners shall fix the date for the holding of the election for the purpose of voting on said bond issue, and shall name the registrars and judges of election for the various townships of the county, and give notice of said election, for at least thirty days prior to the date of said

election, in some newspaper published in Person County, and that said election, shall be conducted in all respects as is now, or may hereafter be prescribed by law for holding elections for the General Assembly, and said county commissioners may or not order a new registration for said election. The vote shall be counted at the close of the polls and returned to said board of county commissioners on the Thursday next following the election, and said board of county commissioners shall tabulate and declare the result of the election, all of which shall be recorded in the minutes of said board of county commissioners, and no other recording and declaring of the result shall be necessary.

Sec. 3. That at said election or elections as herein provided for, the ballots tendered and cast by the voters shall have written or printed thereon "For Road Improvement Bonds", or "Against Road Improvement Bonds," and all electors who favor the issuing of said bonds shall vote a ballot "For Road Improvement Bonds", and those opposed to issuing said bonds shall vote a ballot "Against Road Improvement Bonds". That if a majority of the votes cast in said election shall be against said bond issue, said board of county commissioners may submit said question to the said voters at any other time or times, as set out in section two of this act.

Sec. 4. That in the event that the majority of the votes cast at any election herein provided for shall be in favor of said bond issue, after the result has been declared and recorded as aforesaid, the board of county commissioners shall have the bonds prepared in accordance with the provisions of section one hereof, and at once proceed to advertise and make sale of said bonds: Provided, however, that none of said bonds shall be sold, exchanged, hypothecated, or otherwise disposed of for a less price than their face value, nor shall the proceeds from the sale of same be used for any other purpose than that declared by this act, provided further, that the purchaser or purchasers of said bonds shall not be required to see to the application of the fund. That all necessary costs and expenses incurred in having said bonds prepared and

the sale of same shall be paid out of the fund arising from the sale thereof.

Sec. 5. The board of county commissioners is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to either loan to or deposit in banks, trust companies, corporations or other financial institutions of good financial standing, at the best rate of interest obtainable, so much of the money derived from the sale of said bonds, as above set out, as is not necessary for immediate use under this act, with the express understanding that said money may be withdrawn at any time upon thirty days notice, and said sum and the interest thereon, when so withdrawn, shall be paid over to the treasurer of Person County and said sums and all other funds received by him, by reason of this act, shall be kept by him separate and distinct from all other funds and accounts, and he shall pay same out only upon orders drawn on him by the said board of county commissioners against said fund. That said treasurer shall give bond payable to Person County for an amount sufficient to cover at all times all amounts that shall come into his hands by virtue of this act, and said bond shall be approved in all respects by said board of county commissioners. That said treasurer shall receive as compensation for said services an amount to be fixed by the board of county commissioners, not to exceed three hundred dollars per annum, to be paid out of said fund, and said annual compensation shall not extend beyond the time when the whole of the money received from the sale of said bonds has been paid out, and he shall receive no other compensation than his regular fixed salary for receiving and disbursing the money from the taxes levied and collected for the purpose of paying the interest on said bonds, maintaining and keeping the roads in repair and creating a sinking fund.

Sec. 6. That the county treasurer shall on the first Monday of each and every month post at the court house door of said county an itemized statement showing in full an account of his receipts and disbursements for the previous month, and said board of county commissioners shall require him to account to it quarterly in each year for the said highway fund.

Sec. 7. In order to pay the interest on said bonds, create a sinking fund for taking up said bonds at maturity, and support a chain gang and convict force, establish, alter, repair and maintain the public roads and highways of said county in good condition, the said board of commissioners for the county of Person shall annually compute and levy, at the time of levying other taxes a sufficient special tax on all polls, all real estate and personal property and other subjects of taxation, which the said commissioners may now or hereafter may be allowed to levy taxes upon for any purpose whatever, always observing the constitutional equation between the taxes on property and the taxes on polls, provided said levy shall not be less than twenty cents on the one hundred dollars worth of property and sixty cents on the poll and shall not exceed thirty-five cents on the one hundred dollars worth of property and one dollar and five cents on the poll, and said taxes so levied shall be collected as other taxes and paid over to the county treasurer and held by

him as a separate fund to be paid out for the purposes mentioned in this section.

Sec. 8. The sinking fund shall be held by said board of county commissioners on special trust for the payment of the bonds issued under the provisions of this act, and neither the principal thereof nor the interest thereon shall be used for any other purpose. The board of county commissioners shall manage and invest the sinking fund at its discretion until paid out for the redemption of bonds in the manner set out in this act, provided, however, the said board, may in its discretion, from time to time, use any of said sinking fund for the purchase in open market of any bonds issued under the provisions of this act, and provided further, it shall be the duty of said commissioners to set apart annually to the sinking fund at least one per cent of the total bond issue of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Sec. 9. In the event that a majority of the votes cast at any election held under this act shall be in favor of said bond issue as provided herein, a highway commission is hereby created, same to be composed of three freeholders and voters of said county, only two of whom shall belong to the same political party, and A. M. Burns, R. B. Holeman and G. D. Neal are hereby constituted such commissioners, and they shall hold office until January 1st, 1915, and said highway commission shall meet as soon after said election at which said bonds are voted as practicable, and after being duly sworn by some person authorized to administer oaths, to faithfully and honestly perform the duties required and prescribed by this act, shall proceed to organize by electing one of their number chairman and another secretary. In case of vacancy in said commission prior to January first nineteen hundred and fifteen, any two members of said commission are hereby empowered to fill said vacancy. That it shall be the duty of the board of county commissioners, at its first regular meeting in January nineteen hundred and fifteen, and every two years thereafter to elect a highway commission and fill all vacancies occurring therein. That said commission shall meet not oftener than twice in each month, and each member thereof shall receive two dollars per day and mileage for each and every day that such members attend, and said sum shall be paid by the county commissioners out of the road fund of said county.

Sec. 10. That said highway commission is hereby vested with authority and power to construct and improve the public highways in said county and shall purchase and hold or contract for the use of such tools, machinery, implements and stock, and elect a superintendent, and employ overseers, foreman and laborers as they may deem necessary for said purpose, and fix the compensation for all such employees. And said highway commission shall take over the tools, machinery, stock and any and all equipment now owned and used by said county in the working of public roads.

Sec. 11. And said superintendent shall take and subscribe an oath for the faithful performance of his duties as such highway superintendent, and shall execute an official bond in the sum of two thousand dollars for the faithful

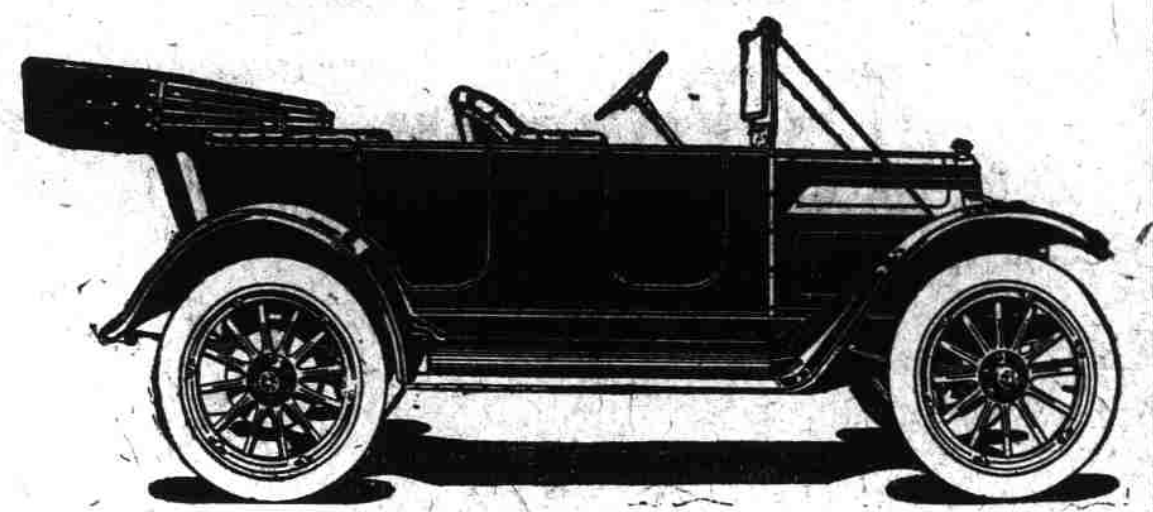
performance of his duties and for accounting for all money and property which may come into his hands as such officer. Said superintendent shall hold his office for two years and until his successor qualifies, except, that the highway commission may for good cause remove him from said office and elect his successor for the unexpired term. He shall enter upon his duties and work when and where directed by said highway commission, and shall

have such authority and perform such duties as may be from time to time determined by said highway commission.

Sec. 12. That the judges holding the Superior Courts of Person County, justices of the peace, and mayor of any incorporated town in said county, may may sentence to the common jail of Person County any and all persons convicted in their respective Courts to be assigned by the

Continued on Editorial Page.

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