

# THE COMMONWEALTH

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TELEGRAPHIC SERVICE

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## Chamber of Commerce Is Formally Organized

Yesterday afternoon at four o'clock a meeting of business men was held at the Directors Room of the Scotland Neck Bank for the purpose of organizing a Chamber of Commerce. Meeting was called to order by Mr. J. H. Alexander, who requested Mr. Norfleet S. Smith to take the chair, explaining that from former experience the latter was more familiar with such an organization. After considerable frank discussion of the merits and demerits of various gentlemen nominated to fill the offices, the following were selected to carry forward the work of this body: Mr. J. H. Alexander, Cashier of the Scotland Neck Bank, as President, Norfleet S. Smith, Editor of the Commonwealth as Vice-President, B. F. Bracy, Supt., National Spanish Peanut Co., Secretary and Treasurer. Five directors were chosen, as follows: N. A. Riddick, Riddick Motor Car Company, T. B. Wheeler of firm of Burroughs-Pittman-Wheeler Co., H. T. Clark, Secretary and Treasurer of Scotland Neck Cotton Mills, S. A. Dunn, Attorney and large planter, Bernard Allsbrook, President and Owner of Dixie Furniture Company, who with the President and Vice President will compose the board of directors.

Messrs. R. P. Byrd, owner of Bowers & Co., C. S. Alexander, Alexander Assurance Agency and L. M. Pittman, President Crescent Hosiery Company were named on the membership committee.

After thorough discussion the membership dues were placed at \$10.00 per annum, payable quarterly in advance.

The first business brought before the Chamber was the question of revaluation of property in Halifax County for purposes of taxation, and the following resolution was passed:

Resolved, That this meeting go on record as being absolutely opposed to any reduction in values of any one class of property, but that if there is any reduction at this time all property, both real and personal be included.

This meeting endorses the action of the Hon. Board of Appraisers, and believes that their valuations were made

fairly and equitably and, it wishes to congratulate them on the uniform fairness and justness rendered the whole people of the County.

This meeting would suggest to your Hon. Board that no action be taken at this time, but that you defer action until the Hon. Board of County Commissioners shall have made their budget for the coming year, at which time you will be in position to know exactly what taxes shall have to raise and can act accordingly.

Messrs. S. A. Dunn, G. Hoffman and T. B. Wheeler were appointed as a committee to appear before the Board of County Commissioners Tuesday and present the foregoing resolution.

It was decided to have regular monthly meetings on the second Tuesday afternoon at four-thirty in the Directors Room of the Scotland Neck Bank.

It is recognized by the organizers of the Chamber of Commerce that its success depends upon the hearty support and co-operation of the business men of the town and community and it is urged that every business man in town immediately become a member. The membership committee will begin soliciting at once, but if they should fail to call on any particular person, it will be simply an oversight and not an intention. This is the most forward step Scotland Neck has taken for some time and it is only an indication of what the future holds for this town and community.

The membership of the Chamber of Commerce stands at present as follows:

W. C. Dickerson, Jr., R. C. Josey, J. B. Boyette, C. J. Shields, A. McDowell, H. T. Clark, J. D. Hall, L. M. Pittan, D. E. Josey, C. S. Alexander, R. L. Hardy, J. H. Alexander, Jr., Ennis Bryan, G. Hoffman, Bernard Allsbrook, N. A. Riddick, J. C. Riddick, Dr. C. E. Jenkins, T. B. Wheeler, Robert Johnson, R. D. Harreell, L. L. Cherry, Julian A. Pittman, S. A. Dunn, R. P. Byrd, J. B. Edwards, Cleve Vaughan, Norfleet S. Smith, B. F. Bracy, O. F. Smith, M. D. W. O. McDowell, J. A. McDowell, W. T. Pendleton.

the district is quiet. The chief reason, they say, is that the people have been living in a state of semi-poverty for so many years that they are easily cowed by repressive measures. Second, having lacked educational facilities, the young manhood of the country doesn't develop leaders of the ability required to carry out the work of the Irish Republican Army. Third, the topography of the country is unsuited for guerrilla warfare.

Most of the roads radiating from Galway traverse a flat desolate country whose main features are rocks and bogs. The roads are like bridges built over a marsh, and if the pedestrian leaves them he finds himself floundering ankle-deep in a bog. Such terrain is useless for ambushes.

Outside of Dublin and Belfast, newspaper correspondents usually have difficulty in seeing high police officials. But Richard Cruise, district commissioner of police here, has a cheery welcome for them. At the railway station the correspondent encountered half a dozen young London ex-soldiers, cockneys all, going home to "Blighty" after a year's service. One said he had been stationed for three months in Connemara, resting from strenuous duty in the Dublin district. All was peaceful, he said, in Connemara.

### COTTON MARKET

May	11.72
July	12.23
October	12.79
December	13.19
January	13.19

## CITIZENS ENDORSE MOVEMENT PROPOSING TO PAVE STREETS

The following citizens, on being interviewed, endorsed the movement on foot for paving at this time:

You ask my reason for favoring paving our streets. If it is ever going to be done now is the time. The money spent at this time will be worth to the community all it costs. It is desperately needed by every individual and every firm, and will be a blessing to every one beyond our wildest hopes.

A. McDowell. I heartily endorse the present movement to pave the streets of Scotland Neck now.

R. L. Hardy. I am heartily in favor of present movement to pave the streets of Scotland Neck at this time.

O. F. Smith, M. D. I heartily endorse the movement to pave the streets of Scotland Neck now.

J. B. Edwards. If you contemplated moving to another town would you consider a town that didn't have good churches, schools, water works, lights and pavement. We have them all except pavement. Let's get that.

I heartily endorse movement to pave now. W. T. Pendleton

I heartily endorse the movement to pave the streets of Scotland Neck. J. D. Hall

I heartily endorse the paving proposition, and think the earlier it is begun the better. Bernard Allsbrook

I heartily endorse the present movement to pave the streets of Scotland Neck now. C. F. Burroughs

I am in favor of the movement on foot to pave now. R. F. Coleman.

I heartily endorse the present movement to pave the streets of Scotland Neck now. D. E. Josey

I think our streets should be paved now because the work can be done cheaper perhaps than some other time, and it will be a wonderful benefit to the laborer as well as a blessing to every man doing any kind of business including the merchant, the professional man, manufacturer and the farmer. W. H. McDowell.

Other endorsements will follow from day to day, as received. N. A. Riddick

## IMMEDIATE ACTION ON BRIDGE ACROSS ROANOKE RIVER URGED

REPRESENTATIVES FROM SCOTLAND NECK CALL UPON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN INTEREST OF IMMEDIATE CONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGE AT EDWARDE FERRY. HEADED BY MR. A. McDOWELL. OTHER PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

(By Luther Purrington, Jr.) In appointing Mr. A. P. Kitchin and Mr. G. Hoffman to cooperate with G. E. Griffin and W. H. S. Burgwyn of Northampton County in urging immediate action by the State Highway Commission in Raleigh, the County Commissioners yesterday made the first decisive step in building the bridge across Roanoke River at Edward's Ferry which was first proposed in October, 1920.

A committee composed of J. H. Alexander, Jr., R. C. Josey, Jr., N. A. Riddick, Charles J. Shields and A. McDowell drove to Halifax yesterday morning and presented the case to the Commissioners.

The action taken by the board is the direct result of the work of this committee. Mr. A. McDowell acting as spokesman, declared that he expressed the sentiment of his community when he advocated the immediate construction of a bridge across Roanoke River connecting Halifax and Northampton counties.

"Since the state is taking steps toward highway building, 'the time is propitious' said Mr. McDowell. He ended his discussion by urging the Board of Commissioners to pass resolutions counseling immediate action on the proposition.

In response to the request of this committee for some constructive action the Board passed a motion appointing Mr. G. Hoffman and Mr. Paul Kitchin on a committee cooperating with the Northampton Committee to urge the immediate construction of the Edward's Ferry bridge across Roanoke River. No question of the location of the bridge is involved since the details were worked out when the matter was first proposed last October.

Under the agreement reached last fall by the County boards in joint session, 100,000 dollars is to be raised by the two counties. Two sevenths of the amount is to be paid by Northampton while the other five sevenths is to be raised by Halifax county. This division was made in proportion to the wealth of the counties. Bonds are to be sold to raise the necessary money but unless Federal aid can be secured the action of the Boards is to be considered null and void.

At the Road Commissioners meeting held yesterday at Halifax the commission authorized the building of a bridge over Looking Glass Swamp between Spring Hill and Scotland Neck. Other road projects authorized by the commission yesterday were the advertisement of bids for a road between Halifax and Tillery and the authorization of the road engineer to make a survey for a contemplated road between Roseneath and King White's Fork.

Practically the same salary schedule for teachers in rural schools will hold for next year, Mr. Akers, County Superintendent of Public Instruction, announced today. The County Board of Education authorized such a budget at its reorganization meeting yesterday. Recommendations for a tax levy on rural and incorporated communities to support a six months instead of three months school system are under consideration now.

At the reorganization of the Board yesterday, Mr. W. E. Daniels of Weldon qualified as a member of the Board. He was elected chairman. Mr. Daniels had just filled one term as a member and was reappointed for a term of six years by the legislature at its last session.

### WEATHER REPORT

Mrs. F. F. Bradley, of Portsmouth, Va., is visiting her brother, Mr. J. G. Moore.

For North Carolina: Generally fair tonight and Wednesday. Little change in temperature. Moderate northeast and east winds.

## Former Members of Nobility Work as Trades People

Paris, March 23.—An interesting glimpse of the present horrible existence of former Russian noblemen is given in a story from the Warsaw correspondent of the New York Herald, who presents a vivid picture of erstwhile aristocrats who are now cooking, chopping wood and doing other menial labor to earn a bare living.

One of the most interesting women in Poland to-day is Mme. Ludmila Lubimoff, wife of the former Civil Governor of Warsaw, who is running soup kitchens, sewing-rooms and workshops for the five thousand of that unhappy class, the aristocracy of Russia fleeing before the Bolsheviks. Her husband is her secretary, a colonel of the Imperial Guards is her messenger boy and she has admirals, generals, governors, mayors and members of the old Petrograd court holding jobs as cooks, waiters, clerks and woodchoppers.

Mme. Lubimoff is a beautiful woman who hides the tragedy of her life under a buoyant nature and whose cheerfulness is a source of hope and inspiration to the unhappy people to whom she ministers daily. She escaped from Petrograd with her two handsome boys, after freeing her husband from the fortress of Saint Peter and supplying him with a fictitious passport which enabled him to reach Warsaw.

The Lubimoffs were welcomed by the Poles because they were kind and considerate during the Tsarist regime. They now live in humble quarters in a hotel across the street from the place which was their home in happier days. It is now the residence of the peasant Premier, M. Witos.

Mme. Lubimoff, a princess by birth, heaved a sigh as she glanced out of her window over the snow-covered street at her former home.

"You know," she said to the Herald correspondent, "I do not miss that beautiful place. True, it was gorgeous and we had brilliant times there, meeting the most interesting people from all parts of the world. But those days are gone from us and I have no regrets. It was to be so. I am an optimist. All I care about now is to get enough food, clothing and work for my fellow countrymen, thousands of whom are so much worse off than I am."

One of the first things that remarkable woman did after securing the reunion of her family was to organize the Warsaw branch of the Russian Red Cross and to provide shelter food and work for the host of human derelicts she found streaming in from all parts of Russia. In this task she

has sacrificed all that was left of her fortune until a beautiful fur coat is the last vestige of her wealth.

Mme. Lubimoff's most interesting place is a soup kitchen and woodyard. There she provides a hot meal a day for 5,000 men, women and children who are reduced to the breadline after having known the best things in life. Grown-ups pay 10 Polish marks now worth one cent, for their which consists of soup and boiled rice. The refugee children pay one mark for the food being supplied by the American Relief Administration. All the work of preparing and serving is done by former members of the Russian aristocracy.

In the dingy little courtyard General Obolensky chops wood for a living with several officers of the Imperial Guards, one of whom has lost his reason and must be watched. In an outhouse, Prince Meschersky, who was Master of Ceremonies at the Imperial Court, peels potatoes for his daily bread. In the crowded rooms the meals are served by women of the Russian nobility—Princess Rukoff, widow of the Admiral executed by the Bolsheviks; Princess Oushtomsky, whose husband at one time one of the richest men in Petrograd, is now cashier in the next room at 4,000 Polish marks per month, the equivalent of \$4.00 to-day, and the widow of a deputy-mayor of Petrograd who was put to death by the revolutionaries.

Colonel Kesseloff, of the Imperial Guards, runs errands for Mme. Lubimoff, and there is a Red Cross nurse who gives first aid to refugees who keep over from exhaustion while waiting for their food.

The American Red Cross is helping to provide employment for Mme. Lubimoff's colony by giving wool, yarn and linen to be made into useful garments. Baroness Stael von Holsetin runs one of her sewing rooms, a tiny affair about ten feet square at the top of a six-story tenement into which are crowded seven antiquated American sewing machines and the Russian women who operate them. Baroness Korff, an aged lady of delicate health, worked herself ill in this room and is now in hospital.

Mme. Lubimoff boasts a storehouse about the size of an American housewife's pantry, which is in charge of M. Michael Shramchenko, son of the Governor of Chernijoff, who was killed by the Bolsheviks. The assistant storekeeper is M. Victor Borsenko, who was governor of Novgorod.

## Approves U. S. STAND PLANS EXPANSION AMERICAN TRADE

(By Associated Press) Paris, April 5th.—Newspapers in France expressed great satisfaction at communication of Secretary of State Hughes to Germany relative to Germany's responsibility for the war and reparations.

Berlin, April 5.—German newspapers commenting upon Secretary of State Hughes' communication regarding reparations, are almost a unit in expressing disappointment. They find not a basis for optimism.

PRESIDENT INSISTS ON DILIGENT INQUIRY INTO CONDITIONS DISABLED SOLDIERS

(By Associated Press) Washington, April 5.—President Harding asked the special commission

(By Associated Press) Washington, April 5.—Secretary of Commerce Hoover begins to-day a series of conferences with a committee of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States for close cooperation between government and business in the development and expansion of American trade.

headed by Charles G. Dawes to make diligent inquiry of government department heads in effort to ascertain just where government agencies have been lacking in authority, in neglectful or failing in caring for disabled service men.

The President has accepted an invitation to attend the opening game of baseball between Washington and Boston here April 13.