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Citizens' Meeting Asks
Board To Take 3 Steps**

am not here to commit myself." At this point the group was told by Mr. Jones that he has a letter from the state superintendent's office saying that the present salary is \$4,200 a year. Further discussion brought out the fact that the superintendent also is furnished an office and a secretary, and that he has an allowance for traveling expenses.

It was agreed that this remuneration is sufficient to enable a man to devote his full time to the work, and on motion of Mrs. Jones, seconded by Mr. Cook, the group went on record as recommending that the office be made a full-time position.

Mr. Sloan announced that, if appointed by the general assembly, he will vote to make the superintendent's office a full-time job.

How Superintendent Is Named

The procedure by which a county superintendent is elected then came up. It was brought out that, under the law, members of the county board of education are nominated in the Democratic primary in the spring prior to the biennial meeting of the general assembly; that the law provides no penalty to prevent the county's representative from submitting to the general assembly an entirely different list of men, if he chooses, when that body gets around to appointing school boards, early the following spring; that it is even possible for the general assembly to ignore the recommendations both of the voters in the primary and of the representative; and, finally, that members of the board are not officially appointed by the general assembly until sometime in March—less than a month before the first Monday in April, the time fixed for the new board to meet, and the time at which it ordinarily elects a county superintendent for a two-year term. (The superintendent's term expires June 30 of each odd year.)

Chairman Moore, citing this situation, remarked that he will not know until the general assembly acts whether he will be a member of the board or not.

To this, Mr. Angel inquired: "But we have a board until the new board is appointed? And the present board can act until the new board takes office? And you are on the present board?"

The present board is made up

of Mr. Moore, Mr. Browning, Ed Byrd, C. J. Anderson, and John Cabe. They will serve until members of the new board are appointed and qualify. In last spring's Democratic primary, Mr. Moore, Mr. Browning, and Mr. Byrd were renominated, and Mr. Sloan and Mr. Gibson were nominated as new members. Shortly before the general assembly opened, Rep. McGlamery announced that he would appoint the five nominated.

System Awkward

Citizens attending the conference were emphatic in expressing the view that this system is both awkward and undemocratic; furthermore, it was pointed out that, under this system, the new board will be made up of three members from one section of the county and two from Franklin, while the other sections will be unrepresented. While there was agreement that election of board members, by townships, would be a vast improvement, it was recognized that the system is something about which nothing can be done locally—it is set up by state law.

As a result of the system, however, the new board will have little time, after its official appointment by the general assembly, in which to consider whom it will elect as superintendent.

In view of that fact, the group went on record as urging the board members—even if they have to act unofficially—to learn from the present superintendent his plans, so that information can be obtained in advance about other available men.

Men Available

Finding another man, the board chairman remarked, is the problem, and he indicated that he felt it is an almost hopeless one.

Mr. Sloan, however, commented that he had interested himself in the situation, and has learned of at least three men, all recommended by the state department, who might be available. He added that he knows that at least two of the three would be interested in the position, if it becomes open. If the board is interested, he said, he will submit the names.

After frequent reference had been made, during this discussion, to reports that the present superintendent plans to retire from the position, Mr. Moore expressed surprise at the reports, stating that he knew nothing about them.

Turning to another topic, Mr. Morgan suggested that, if he

were a member of the board, he would want to hold frequent meetings, so as to keep informed on the school business, and that he would want the public to know what the board was doing, and would want to know what the public wanted the board to do. He added that he was sure members of the board feel the same way.

Meeting Dates

At this point, the board members were asked how often the board is required to meet. Chairman Moore replied that the law provides for meetings the first Monday in April, July, October, and January. Mr. Sloan interposed the information that while the law requires meetings on those dates, it authorizes meetings (with pay) monthly, or even more frequently, in the discretion of the board.

"When did the Macon County board last meet?" was the next question.

"In October", Mr. Moore replied.

And that was five months ago, someone commented.

It was at this point that the motion was made and carried that the board be asked to hold regular meetings, at stated times and at a stated place, not less than eight times a year; and that the meetings be public.

Asks For Suggestions

The chairman next asked for suggestions as to ways in which the local schools are deficient, and how they can be improved. It was pointed out that many counties have courses in public school music, in public speaking, and vocational home economics—a course for girls similar to the vocational agriculture now offered boys at the Franklin High school; and have supervisors to improve the methods of teachers. Motions were made and carried recommending each of these projects to the board.

Mr. Sloan, however, called attention to the fact that these things cost money; that the funds might have to come from the county; and that that might necessitate a raise in the tax rate. Would those present favor raising the taxes? he asked. Every hand was raised in assent.

In the discussion of this topic, two points were made:

It was brought out that the Highlands high school has no vocational courses of any kind, no public school music, and no organized athletics.

And the Rev. C. E. Parker told how a family—a millionaire family, and highly desirable citizens otherwise—seeking a home in the mountains, recently selected Franklin. After

**National Forest Timber
For Sale**

Sealed bids will be received by the Forest Supervisor, Franklin, North Carolina up to and not later than 2:00 p. m. April 7, 1947 and opened immediately thereafter for all live timber marked or designated for cutting and all merchantable dead timber located on an area embracing about 75 acres within the Hoopers Bald Unit on the north prong of Squally Creek, Cheoah River watershed, Graham County, Nantahala National Forest, North Carolina, estimated to be 170,000 feet B. M. more or less of hardwoods. No bid of less than \$10.00 per M for sugar maple; \$12.50 per M for black cherry; \$9.50 per M for northern red oak and basswood; \$8.00 per M for birch; \$4.50 per M for red maple; \$1.50 per M for chestnut; \$5.50 per M for beech; \$3.00 per M for silverbell and \$1.00 per M for buckeye will be considered. In addition to prices bid for stumpage, a deposit of \$1.00 per M feet for all timber cut will be required for sale area betterment work. \$500 must be deposited with each bid, to be applied on the purchase price, refunded, or retained in part as liquidated damages, according to conditions of sale. The right to reject any and all bids reserved. Before bids are submitted,

a personal inspection of the school situation here, however, he said, they dismissed this community. The family located in another Western North Carolina county where school conditions were different, he added. The discussion, held at the Agricultural building, opened at 3 p. m. and lasted until nearly 5.

ted, full information concerning the timber, the conditions of sale and the submission of bids should be obtained from the Forest Supervisor, Franklin, North Carolina, M6 and M20—2tc

mented by the club members. All students who are to enter the spring competitive festival of junior music clubs for the western half of the state, to be held in Asheville March 22, will play their numbers on the club program Friday. Mrs. Weimar Jones, counselor of the club, will be in charge of the meeting. All interested parents and friends are invited. A total of 120 projects were completed by 4-H club girls in Stokes county in 1946.

**JUNIOR MUSIC CLUB TO
HOLD MEETING SATURDAY**

The Franklin Junior Music club will meet Saturday at 3 p. m. at the home of Martha Ann Stockton. A miscellaneous program of music will be pre-

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