

See But Little Hope for Counties Recovering Road Money

Officials Spending Surplus To Head Off Demand for Refund

Burden for Improved Roads Likely To Remain on Property Owners

Evidently laughing up their sleeves after Martin and at least 43 other counties went ahead 15 or 16 years ago and aided the state highway commission start its road improvement program, some politicians and savers of the state in other counties who held back and drove swift bargains home to gain equally as much for nothing are now explaining why the several million dollars will continue as burdens on real property in the 44 counties.

The so-called reasons given by one correspondent do not deny the justness of the claims made by the counties; in short, the correspondent points out that all the money will be spent before the legislature meets again. Apparently the highway commission will see to it that there will be no money left when the time comes for it to pay honest obligations.

Writing after the pattern of the correspondent, some journalist of great discerning power refers to the county claims as a snowball that grows larger day by day. Regardless of the size of the claims and regardless of the action the highway commission may take in cleaning out its treasury before the legislature meets, those acquainted with the early building of highways in this county know they have just claims to much of what is being asked for.

When the roads were built in this county, the state shared its gasoline tax revenue. This revenue was taken away, and the burden was dumped on real estate, and today Martin property owners are paying close to \$1 on each \$100 property valuation for roads that are used by motorists from Maine to Mexico. Certainly these motorists pay to ride the roads, but the highway commission collects and stuffs the revenue into its pocket. Martin County gets not a cent.

Twenty-five cents was too much for a motorist to pay in crossing over Chowan River when just a few years ago he gladly paid 75 cents or \$1 and lost from 1 to 2 hours crossing the stream on a ferry. The present governor became irritated when he was stopped and hijacked out of a few cents when he was traveling to Raleigh for the inauguration. And then there were those poor travelers who had to pay a few

cents to reach a watering hole; so the governor summed up the situation and did a great thing—he strongly favored the removal of tolls on all bridges. The farmer living 10 to 15 miles from pavement was forgotten, but he is reminded once each year and threatened with the sale of his home to pay taxes that bonds issued to build the Roanoke River bridge and causeway may be paid. These claims may gather in size just as a rolling snowball does, but, regardless of size, it must be admitted that size has nothing to do with what is just or unjust.

No doubt some of the claims are without foundation, for some counties circled their territory with highways. But then there are those counties that lent aid to open the through route, and now they are being belittled by some of the smart boys up Raleigh way.

The highway commission might spend its million bridging the oceans and closing the mountain gaps, but those property owners, living miles from a hard-surfaced road and who pay gas and property taxes will still harbor in their minds a grudge against those who would make little of an honest obligation.

Surely there is some means of effecting a settlement of the claims. Probably highway construction could be concentrated in the 44 counties to offset the claims, but this method is too removed from politics to get anywhere, no doubt.

There are records where business men went into bankruptcy and made money, but if North Carolina finds its necessary to spend its millions and go bankrupt to avoid the payment of its honest debts, then it will be high time for the 44 counties to withdraw their claims.

The opinion of the Raleigh boys is set out in the following recently printed under a Raleigh date line:

"The chances are exceedingly slim that any of the 44 or more counties seeking a refund from the state for roads built by the counties and then donated to the state or taken over by it later, will ever get a penny back from the state, according to most opinion here. There are 15 or 16 reasons for this belief, the first one being that by the time the recently appointed county road debt commission completes its study and submits its findings and recommendations to the general assembly, no money will be left in the highway fund with which to pay these claims even if they are recommended. Many observers are confident the commission will never recommend the payment of any of these claims.

"The second reason for the belief that the claims will never be paid, even if recommended, is the opposition regarded as sure to develop in the general assembly from the counties which are not seeking re-

funds. These counties, or rather the representatives from these counties, are regarded as certain to oppose any refund on the basis that if it is made, it would have to come out of highway maintenance and betterment funds, with the result that the other counties would have to do without some \$8,000,000 worth of new road work so that the other counties could be paid that much for old roads already built, some of which are already worn out.

"It was this development which blacked the enactment of the bills introduced in the 1935 general assembly to refund some \$8,000,000 to 44 counties and prevented the bills ever getting out of the committees on roads. The bill to create the commission to study the road debt claims was brought out as a substitute and compromise bill to prevent these counties from getting mad, or as mad as they would have become if their claims had been turned down cold, especially since there was enough money in the highway fund in 1935 to pay these claims.

"But all of the highway surplus is going to be expended or pledged for expenditure by the time the 1937 general assembly gets here, so that there will be nothing left from which to pay these claims except current revenue, even if they should be approved."

September Is Best Time For Planting Hairy Vetch

Hairy vetch may be sown from August 15 to December 1, but September planting usually gives best results. The crop will grow on practically all soils in North Carolina from heavy clays to coarse sands but the soil must be inoculated. When used for hay, vetch should be planted with oats, barley, or wheat. For soil improvement, it is often planted with rye. Use about 25 pounds of vetch seed to the acre.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF SALE
Under and by virtue of a judgment of the Superior Court Martin County in an action entitled "Federal Land Bank of Columbia vs. Jesse (Emma) L. Lilley et al." the undersigned commissioner will, on Monday, September 28th, 1936, in front of the courthouse door in Williamston, N. C., at 12 o'clock noon, offer for sale to the highest bidder, for cash, the following described land:
All that certain piece, parcel or tract of land, containing 75 acres, more or less, situate, lying and being on the road from Jamesville to Washington, about seven miles from Jamesville, Griffins Township, County of Martin, state of North Carolina, having such shapes, metes courses and distances as will more fully appear by reference to plat thereof made by Sylvester Peel, surveyor, March 25, 1919, on file with the Federal Land Bank of Columbia; and being bounded on the north by the lands of Henry Roberson and L. E. Corey, on the east by Jamesville and Washington road, and Beaver Dam Branch; on the south by the lands of Claudius Roberson, and on the west by the lands of A. F. Manning and A. D. Griffin; this being the same tract of land heretofore conveyed to the said Mrs. Jesse L. Lilley by Ephraim Peel, trustee, by deed dated March 15, 1919, recorded in the office of the Regis-

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try of Deeds for Martin County. This 24th day of August, 1936.
B. A. CRITCHER,
Commissioner.

NOTICE OF SALE

Under and by virtue of an order made by L. Bruce Wynne, clerk of the superior court, and under the authority contained in that certain deed of trust executed by Isaac Hopkins and wife, Susan Hopkins, on the 19th day of January, 1935, to John Hill Paylor, trustee, and recorded in book M-3, page 340, in the office of the register of deeds for Martin County, default having been made in the payment of notes secured in said deed of trust, the undersigned trustee will, on Friday, August 28th, at 12 o'clock noon, at

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the courthouse door of Martin County, in Williamston, North Carolina, offer at public sale to the highest bidder, for cash, the following described real estate:

Lying and being in the town of Robersonville, County of Martin, State of North Carolina, being situated on Academy Street (formerly Outerbridge Street, adjoining the lands of Spencer Williams, Leis White James, Outerbridge Street, now Academy Street, and ditch, and being the same house and lot in the said town of Robersonville formerly owned by Lucy Thompson Briley at the time of her death. Being the identical property conveyed December 23, 1929, by Lucy Thompson Briley to Susan Hopkins, deed duly recorded in book A-3, page 298, of

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Martin County registry. Said tract of land containing one-half acre, more or less.

This the 27th day of July, 1936.
JOHN HILL PAYLOR,
Trustee.

NOTICE OF SALE

North Carolina, Martin County. Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain deed of trust executed to the undersigned trustee by Mack Williams and wife, Maggie Williams, on the 14th day of February, 1931, and of record in the public registry of Martin County in Book E-3, at page 156, said deed of trust having been given for the purpose of securing a certain note of even date and tenor therewith, and the stipulations contained in the said

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deed of trust not having been completed with, and at the request of the holder of the said note, the undersigned trustee will, on Monday, the 21st day of September, 1936, at 12 o'clock noon, in front of the courthouse door in the town of Williamston, N. C., offer for sale to the highest bidder, for cash, at public auction the following described real estate, to wit:

All our undivided interest in and to a certain tract of land situated in Goose Nest Township, on the Hamilton-Pabnya road, and formerly owned by General Williams, and more fully described by reference to Martin County records.
This the 19th day of August, 1936.
J. B. EVERETT,
Trustee.

Williamston, N. C.,
August 27, 1936.

To the Tobacco Farmers of Martin and Adjoining Counties:

The 1936 tobacco marketing season gets underway next Tuesday morning, and it is with pleasure that we announce the Old Reliable Roanoke-Dixie Tobacco Warehouse will again figure prominently in the handling of the crop.

Upon a long record of service, fair and square dealings, S. Claude Griffin and Jule T. James, proprietors of the Roanoke-Dixie, cordially urge you to give them an opportunity to serve you this season. We do not promise anyone the impossible, but we do promise every facility in the marketing of tobacco with the double assurance that your tobacco will be handled properly and that the price will be at the top figure. We are hopeful that prices will be good this year, but regardless of what they are, Griffin and James never let a pile go by until the top price has been reached. Our years of experience in the tobacco business enables us to handle tobacco to the advantage of our patrons, and toward this end we pledge our untiring efforts that when you have sold your crop you can have the satisfaction of knowing that you got the highest possible prices.

Our house has made, and will continue to make, an enviable record in the tobacco business. It has sold more tobacco than any one other house with one set of buyers in the world. In addition to this it has afforded general satisfaction, each patron receiving every consideration humanly possible for one to give.

We have efficient employees in every department, making it possible to sell your tobacco, get your check and return home when you want to. We are large enough to give you every marketing advantage, and yet small enough to give our personal attention to every customer, assuring him that the patronage accorded us will be appreciated at all times. Our personnel is not to be equalled in the business, and we want you to meet them. Carlyle Langley will be our assistant sales manager, and Norman Harrison, Roy Griffin, Luther Peel, Sammy Taylor, and John D. Lilley will handle the book and office work.

Thousands of farmers sell with us every year. Ask any of them if the Old Reliable Roanoke-Dixie Warehouse in Williamston isn't the best place in the belt to sell tobacco.

We have first sale on opening day, September 1, and we will be looking for you then and often thereafter.

Remember Griffin and James are at your service with a guarantee that they will get you the most for your tobacco.

Very truly yours,

ROANOKE-DIXIE WAREHOUSE,

S. CLAUDE GRIFFIN and JULE JAMES,

Proprietors.

Notice to All Delinquent Taxpayers

On or about the first of October the delinquent tax list will be advertised. Please arrange to pay your taxes this month, as it will save you extra expense and embarrassment.

With the opening of the tobacco market next week, many people will come into the possession of a few dollars for the first time in several months. Apply part of this money to your taxes.

Sell your tobacco in Williamston or Robersonville, and by all means pay yours taxes during September.

C. B. Roebuck
SHERIFF, MARTIN COUNTY

SELL YOUR TOBACCO IN WILLIAMSTON

An Unusually Good Town With a Good Tobacco Market

THE TRUE VALUE

Of Any Merchandise You Buy Is Indicated by Quality and Style of the Product and the Price You Pay for It

Barnhill Brothers strive to maintain standards of true values by selling you quality products at the lowest prices possible. Our buyers are constantly on the alert for the best values on the large markets, and we pass these values on to our customers. No matter what your needs are, come to Barnhill's and you'll find the latest styles for men, women, and children. When selling tobacco in Williamston make our store your shopping quarters. The guiding principle of our clerks is to see that every customer is well served and completely satisfied in every way.

Barnhill Bros. & Co.

WILLIAMSTON, N. C.