

## Highway Commission Pledged Co-operation Of Road Workers

### Group Of Men Now Undertaking Work Of Dragging County Roads Enjoy Banquet At Southern Hotel As Guests Of The County Highway Commission

Full co-operation with the Pasquotank Highway Commission in its road maintenance program for the present year was pledged by the group of men in the County now engaged in dragging the roads in their respective localities, at a luncheon held at the Southern Hotel Saturday at one o'clock. A majority of the nineteen men now using the County drags on roads adjacent to their homes were present at the invitation of the Pasquotank Highway Commission, and other guests included Sheriff Charles Reid and Noah Burfoot, chairman of Board of County Commissioners.

The experience of a traveling salesman on the Woodpecker road, in a nearby county, was the initial topic of an address by A. B. Houtz, chairman of the Highway Commission, and master of ceremonies at the luncheon. "The salesman," declared Mr. Houtz, "was driving along a particularly bad piece of road, picking the best tracks he could find when he noticed a hat apparently floating in a mudhole ahead of him. He stopped his car, climbed out, and fished out the hat with a long stick. Great was his surprise when he found that he had taken it off the head of a man who was up to his ears in mud.

"Hey! What do you mean by taking off my hat?" exclaimed the man. The salesman apologized, saying that he had no idea anybody could be so deeply buried in the mud.

"Shucks, you don't know how bad I am stuck," replied the other. "I'm standing on top of my wagon now!"

### Why The Chain Gang Went

Mr. Houtz went on to explain that the convict force had been turned over to Hertford County because the county road funds do not justify the expense of its maintenance here. He stated that, if the chain gang were retained, there would be no money left for other road needs. The question before the Commission, he declared, was, How can the money for road work be spent to the best advantage?

"The total amount of the road tax," continued the speaker, "is \$18,923.92 for the current year's expenditures. Of this sum, Salem township pays \$1876.20; Nixonton, 2175.68; Mt. Hermon, \$1402.56; Providence, \$861.29; Newland, \$1371.95; and Elizabeth City township, \$11,236.24, or about 60 per cent of the total. Now, it has been suggested that each township spend its proportionate share of the tax; but that is not practicable, first of all because most of the road tax money collected in Elizabeth City township—which is more than half the total for the entire county—is expended outside that township. That is right and proper, inasmuch as Elizabeth City derives much of its income from the County, and is interested in bringing the people to the city.

### Another Reason

"The second reason against the township road-working scheme is that no definite and complete road plan can thereby be followed. It is very necessary that the principal roads be kept up, regardless of their relation to the townships; and only by a centralized plan can the work be carried on to the best advantage.

"To return to the subject of the money we have, I wish the opinion of you who are present as to how it can be best spent," Mr. Houtz continued, and to emphasize the need for co-operation, he told the anecdote of the man who bought a new pair of trousers on Saturday, found them three inches too long, and asked his wife, in the presence of the rest of the family that night, to cut them to the proper length.

The wife replied that she had six children to bathe and get ready for Sunday, and declared that she didn't have time to fix the trousers. A little later in the evening, the man's maiden aunt decided that she would cut down her nephews' pants, so she secured them, and trimmed off the desired three inches, telling nobody about it. Presently, the man's sister concluded that she would save the situation, and make it possible for her brother to go to church the

next day, and she cut three inches off the fated trousers. Then the grandmother, reflecting over the situation, made up her mind to lay aside her knitting and reduce the length of the garment. Finally the wife before going to bed, got her husband's trousers, and chopped off three inches. Instead of the expected extra length, the man found next morning that he had knee breeches to wear to church. The result, pointed out the speaker, showed the need for co-operation and a definite plan of work.

### This Year's Road Plan

A plan whereby the road system of Pasquotank County might be worked effectively was next outlined by Mr. Houtz. Out of the total of \$18,923.92 available in taxes, \$4,000 is allowed for ditching from March 1 to July 1, at \$1.75 a day; figured on the basis of four cents a linear yard, and the average ditcher's day's work. This sum, he said, should ditch forty miles of road. For heavy grading, \$2,400 is allowed, based on an estimated cost of \$15 a day for operations and repairs on the road equipment. This work would be done between March 15 and July 15.

For light grading, to be done after July 15, an appropriation of \$500 is made; and the allowance for dragging, on the basis of 25 quadruple trips over 60 miles of road, is figured at \$1500. Charles Creek Bridge, a necessary time this year, will cost around \$3000; and an additional allowance of \$1500 is made for other bridge material and culverts. Four more miles should be purchased, and the budget provides \$700 for that item. Supervisor Provo's salary is \$2,000, and \$1320 more is allowed for the salary of one bridge man, the secretary of the Commission, and the Commissioners themselves, who get five dollars a month each. Another item of \$1250 is apportioned for the upkeep of the mules, drags, superintendent's car, and other like expenses; and the balance of the \$18,923.92, which amounts to \$753.92, is set aside for miscellaneous expenses.

In response to a question from Mr. Houtz, M. B. Sample and O. L. Bundy immediately declared that they favored the plan, and that they thought the road-drag work now in progress was of value, though Mr. Bundy inclined to the opinion that the price of a dollar a four-trip mile is somewhat low. R. D. Raper stated that he thought dragging was a good thing as could be done to the roads here; and J. M. Wilson declared that he believed in the good results to be accomplished by it.

### Tough On The Dragger

"Dragging is all right," asserted W. C. Morse Sr., who lives below Weeksville, "but it's tough on the man who does it all, when the other man gets the benefit just the same. I am in favor of all the farmers doing their part in the work, alternately taking turns at it."

Commissioner O. L. Bundy then suggested that a prize of fifty dollars be awarded at the end of the year to the man who kept the best road, conditions considered; but this proposal was not favored by Mr. Houtz, who stated that road conditions vary too much in different sections of the County.

The weight of the type of road drag now used was mentioned as an objection to this method of working the roads. Several of the men present offered comments upon the strain it imposes on the team, and Mr. Houtz announced that Superintendent Provo is now working on a road plan of much lighter construction, which may do as good or better work, at less hardship to the mules pulling it. This, he said, will be adopted if it proves practicable.

### The Spizerinctum Defined

For the benefit of all present, O. F. Gilbert, member of the Highway Commission, gave a definition of the term Spizerinctum—spelling not guaranteed. "A Spizerinctum," he said, is a man who puts as much into his County as he gets out of it. A man who takes out more than he put in is a Sucker."

In a final appeal to all for the continuance of the road dragging recently begun, Mr. Houtz stated that the farmers themselves can do the work cheaper than the county can; and they are thereby saving themselves money, since the County money is contributed in taxes by them. He said, however, that it is

## Uncle Joe Cannon Is Ready To Quit

Washington, Feb. 13 (By The Associated Press)—Joe Cannon, oldest member of the House, announced today that he will not be a candidate for re-election as representative of the Eighth Illinois district.

## TONG WAR RAGES IN THE WEST

San Francisco, Feb. 13 (By The Associated Press)—Chinese tongmen throughout the West are reported on guard today as the result of an outbreak of tong war last night. Two Chinese were killed and one wounded in Seattle; one was slain in Butte, Montana; one was shot and probably fatally wounded at San Jose, Cal. The shooting was done in the characteristic tong war fashion.

## CAN'T GIVE TITLE FOR WARRIOR POWER PLANT

Washington, Feb. 13 (By The Associated Press)—Existing contracts between the government and the Alabama Power Company make it impossible to give the title for the Warrior Alabama Power Plant to Henry Ford should Congress direct the acceptance of Ford's offer for Muscle Shoals, Major J. H. Burns, of the Ordnance Department told the House Military Committee today.

## JANUARY EXPORTS REPORTED LOWEST IN SEVEN MONTHS

Washington, Feb. 13 (By The Associated Press)—January exports aggregated \$279,000,000, the lowest in seven months. Imports fell off \$21,000,000.

## Series of Lectures Begins on Tuesday

There will begin at 3:30 tomorrow afternoon in Christ church one of the most important series of lectures ever given in Elizabeth City. They will be given for the benefit of all persons interested in children, either as parents, day or Sunday school teachers, guardians or friends. The lecturer, Miss Mabel Lee Cooper of Memphis, Tenn., is an expert on her subject, and not only knows the whole scientific view of her work but as holding the chair of education in the Tennessee State Normal she acquired experience invaluable. Then again her experience has been most practical, having raised three children, her nephews and nieces, their mother having died when they were very young. She has also had official and practical experience with juvenile courts and followed out the work with children of all classes of mentality from the genius through all the grades of the moron to the vicious insane.

One does not realize the value of such lectures until they are heard and then the expression is unanimous that they would not have missed it for the world.

The public of Elizabeth City is cordially invited to hear these lectures at Christ church Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, each day at 3:30 and 7:30 p. m. All six of the lectures will form a perfect whole, no one of them being separate from the rest, each linking to the one before and the one after. To miss one lecture will cause a break in the sequence and hinder a full appreciation of the subject as a whole. The men of the city are especially invited.

The intention of the Commission to pay a fair price for the work; and that if a majority of the nineteen men now engaged in road dragging ask for an increase, it will be granted.

### Says Roads Designed Wrong

County Engineer Higgs, who had said nothing from the beginning of the discussion, then announced that a most important phase of the road problem had not been mentioned. "The design of your roads," he declared, "should have careful consideration. At present there isn't a dirt road in Pasquotank County that is shaped right. A thirty foot road should have a raise, or crown, of twelve inches from the sides to the center. Indeed, you have three canals, one on each side, and one in the center of the road.

"Your ditchers are permitted to leave the dirt at the sides of the road, and when the material is spread, some is left behind. The result, whether or not the road is dragged, is that the sides are higher than the center; and until this condition is done away with, you cannot hope to have your highways come up to a reasonable standard of excellence."

Following a unanimous vote of co-operation, the luncheon ended.

## Charter Authorized For Farm Loan Association

The issuance of a charter for the Pasquotank National Farm Loan Association, organized last August, was authorized by the Federal Farm Loan Board last Wednesday, according to advices reaching this city today. Loans for the association have been approved in the amount of \$68,000, and local bankers think that the money will be available within the next thirty days. A charter was also authorized for a like association at Greenville, Pitt County, with loans approved to the extent of \$67,100.

Under the Federal Farm Loan plan, loans are made only to bona fide farmers, and for purposes of development, improvement and the payment of indebtedness. A farmer wishing a loan must first fill out a very complete application form, and this is passed upon by the board of directors of the local association. Next, a board of appraisers here examines the security offered, and makes recommendation accordingly. The borrower must become a member of the association, and the advisability of taking him in also is considered.

If the application is passed locally, it then goes to the Federal Land Bank at Columbia, and when a number of applications have been filed, an appraiser from that institution passes upon the loans applied for. Usually his endorsement that a loan will be granted, though the application must also meet the approval of the Federal Farm Loan Board.

The officers of the Pasquotank National Farm Loan Association are: M. B. Sawyer, president; R. H. Welch, vice president, and W. G. Gaither, secretary-treasurer. The directors are: M. B. Sawyer, R. H. Welch, Herman Newbern, Frank Cuthrell and H. C. Meads. The appraisers are: J. G. Hollowell, J. J. Morris and John T. Brothers.

## IRISH SITUATION IS AGAIN ACUTE

London, Feb. 13 (By The Associated Press)—The Irish situation which seemed to be improving under the apparent effort of Arthur Griffith and Michael Collins to obtain the release of the kidnapped Ulstermen has become acute as the result of the Cleones affray Saturday. Developments are awaited with the utmost anxiety.

## Fire Drives Guests From Dinner Table

Washington, Feb. 13 (By The Associated Press)—Fire originating in the basement of the home of Senator Swanson of Virginia last night drove the guests from the dinner table into the street and did \$1,000 damage.

## Denby Recommends Naval Reductions

Washington, Feb. 13 (By The Associated Press)—Secretary Denby before the House Naval Committee today recommended that the navy personnel for the fiscal year be fixed at 90,000 men and 6,000 apprentices compared with 100,000 and 6,000 respectively now authorized. He asked no reduction of the existing strength line of officers of first class at Annapolis to be graduated and commissioned and appointments to the Academy were reduced to three for each member of Congress. He also recommended that a hundred destroyers be placed out of commission and estimated a \$70,000,000 saving in next year's budget.

### BANDITS GET JEWELRY

St. Louis, Feb. 13 (By The Associated Press)—Jewelry valued at \$100,000 was obtained by bandits today who looted the safety deposit boxes of the Washington Hotel.

### MARY MILES MINTER ISSUES A STATEMENT

Los Angeles, Feb. 13 (By The Associated Press)—Mary Miles Minter today issued a statement declaring that she told the investigators all she knew of Taylor's life and could not conceive of how any one could voluntarily wrong the director.

### MRS. McADAMS PREACHES AT E. CITY BUGGY CO. TUESDAY

At ten o'clock Tuesday morning Mrs. McAdams will preach at the Elizabeth City Buggy Company and the public is cordially invited to hear her.

### NEW BARBER SHOP OPENS

A new barber shop opened next door to the Western Union Saturday in the former quarters of the Linotype Printery. J. T. Benton and R. E. Berton are owners of the business.

## Four Power Pacific Treaty Will Be Considered Last

### Pact Which Puts End To Anglo-Japanese Alliance Will Be Most Debated In Senate—Democrats Feel That They Perhaps Ought Not To Ratify It

By DAVID LAWRENCE  
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Washington, Feb. 11.—The first impulse of the Democrats in the United States Senate is to ratify the group of treaties submitted by President Harding though in so doing they have in their hearts an unmistakable feeling that they ought to make an exception of the four-power Pacific treaty.

This treaty which puts an end to the Anglo-Japanese alliance will be considered last and will be debated more than the others.

President Harding's address to the Senate is the subject of much discussion in Congressional circles. Its general effect was beneficial. But several Senators are suggesting that Mr. Harding who from the start has shown little desire to use his address to the Senate for partisan rebukes permitted himself to be drawn into unnecessary expression of disdain for the League of Nations. One Senator suggested that Henry Cabot Lodge contributed liberally to the President's manuscript and that these portions are the authorship of Mr. Lodge who has not forgotten the League of Nations fight.

Except for the reference to the league which stirred up the applause of the anti-leaguers and provoked a resentful silence on the part of the Democrats, the speech was regarded by Senators generally as a splendid argument for ratification.

It was pointed out that President Harding used language almost identical with that of President Wilson in submitting the Versailles treaty and covenant. Mr. Wilson declared that there was no compulsion "except the compulsion of our good conscience and judgment" in the league covenant and in the article which pledged a respect for territorial integrity. Mr. Harding declares that there is "no commitment to armed forces; no alliance, no written or moral obligation to join in defense, no expressed or implied commitment to arrive at any agreement" and he adds "except in accordance with our constitutional methods."

Mr. Wilson pointed out that the Council of the league "advises" what should be done to enforce respect for the covenant and said "if in the judgment of the people of the United States, the Council adjudged wrong and this was not a case for the use of force, there would be no necessity on the part of the Congress of the United States to vote the use of force . . . but there could be no advice of the council on any subject without a unanimous vote and the unanimous vote includes our own, and if we accepted the advice we would be accepting our own advice."

Mr. Harding further supports a Wilson viewpoint on the idea of reciprocal engagements to respect territorial integrity. The President asks "why should we not make reciprocal engagements to respect the territory of others and contract their respect of ours?" Another passage which was marked as inviting comparison with the Wilson utterances in favor of the league is this paragraph in Mr. Harding's address:

"If nations may not safely agree to respect each others rights and may not agree to confer if one to the compact threatens trespass, or may not agree to advise if one party to the pact is threatened by an outside power, then all concerted efforts to tranquillize the world and stabilize peace must be flung into the winds."

And here is what Mr. Wilson supported in the famous Article X:

"The members of the league undertake to respect and preserve against external aggression the territorial integrity and existing political independence of all members of the league. In case of any such aggression or in case of any threat or danger of such aggression the council shall advise upon the means by which the obligation shall be fulfilled."

The Republicans in the Senate

## Eagle Pulled Trigger And Killed Soldier

Santiago, Feb. 13 (By The Associated Press)—The story of a soldier's struggle with a huge eagle in the mountains in which the soldier shot the bird and thinking it dead approached only to be furiously attacked was told here today. The eagle's claws clutched the trigger discharging the gun and killing the soldier.

## NOT YET MADE PUBLIC AMOUNT OF SHORTAGE

### Now Believed That Banking Bond And Assets Cashier Sullivan Sufficient To Cover Alleged Loss

Investigation into the affairs of the Farmers Banking & Trust Company, of Hertford, which was taken in charge by Chief State Banking Examiner Latham on Friday, still is continuing. The doors of the institution had not been closed Monday and business was going on as usual. The actual amount of the shortage is not yet known, and street rumors in Hertford regarding it are widely contradictory, ranging from around \$40,000 to more than \$75,000.

It is believed at Hertford that H. C. Sullivan, the accused cashier, will be able personally to meet the full amount of the alleged delinquencies. His banking bond is \$12,000 to \$15,000, and he is declared to be the principal stockholder in the Eastern Peanut Company. This, of course, will not relieve him of the legal consequences of the affair.

Further assurance is given that the depositors of the Farmers Banking & Trust Company will suffer no financial loss. It is indicated that the institution will merge with the Hertford Banking Company, and that the latter bank will take over all the business of the Farmers Banking & Trust Company.

### CONGOLEUM ART RUG SALE TO LAST ANOTHER WEEK

Quinn Furniture Company announce in this issue that they will continue their special sale on Gold Seal Congoleum Art Rugs and Yard Goods for another week. "Last week's sales," Mr. Twiford says, "were very satisfactory but we realize that on account of the unsettled weather many thus far have not been able to attend and we are going to offer these goods at the special prices for the rest of the week."

### FOOD PRICES LOWER

Washington, Feb. 13 (By The Associated Press)—Further decreases in retail food prices are shown by figures for the month ending January 15 issued today, by the Department of Labor for twenty-seven of the larger cities.

It didn't accept Mr. Wilson's interpretation of what the word "advise" meant. They said it meant "fight." Will the Democrats now accept Mr. Harding's interpretation—his denial that the four power pact contains any obligation to fight and his promise that the words "advise and confer" do not mean a conference hostile to the power or powers who threaten to violate the new treaties?

Senator Borah of Idaho already differs in his construction of the meaning of the treaties. Senator Johnson objects on more or less the same ground. An entire Presidential campaign was fought on implied meanings of words. The disposition of the majority in Congress today is to accept the Harding interpretation. The Democratic ranks are divided by the conversion of Senator Underwood, Democrat, to the Republican viewpoint. The weapons of ambiguous words are there for both sides just the same as, in the League of Nations fight but at present writing the Democrats are not sufficiently cohesive to defeat the Harding-Hughes treaties.