

Nearly \$100,000 Was Spent On Roads By County In 1923

Largest Single Item Was \$48,000 Paid to the State as Pasquotank's Part of Cost of Building the Woodville Road, and Next Largest on Mt. Hermon Road

Total road expenditures of approximately \$100,000 were made by the Pasquotank Highway Commission for the year ending November 30, 1923, according to figures gleaned by a reporter for this newspaper from the books of County Auditor Pritchard.

The largest single item was \$48,000, paid to the State on Pasquotank's part of the cost of building the Woodville road. There is some question as to the amount still due the State on this project under Pasquotank's agreement to pay seven-sixteenths of the paving cost of this highway. It seems safe to say, however, that the balance due will be not less than three or four thousand dollars. Possibly it may be very much more.

The money for this \$48,000 item came from the \$212,258.03 paid to the County by the State for the building of the Newland road. The Newland road was begun by the County as a County project, and then taken over by the State, which gave the contract for the completion of the project to the County. The Newland road actually cost Pasquotank County a few dollars in excess of \$355,361.25.

The next largest amount paid out during the year on a single project was \$37,771.05, paid out on the paved highway known as the Mt. Hermon road. This brings the total cost of this four miles of nine-foot road up to about \$80,000. The Mt. Hermon road is strictly a County project and was built by Superintendent Provo. The cost per square yard is apparently the lowest of any paving project ever put through by the County, and to outward appearances the road compares very favorably with any in the County.

Knobs Creek bridge on the Newland road was paid for this year, the cost, with other incidentals of completing the project amounting to \$7,489.06.

In connecting Church street with the State road to Woodville, the amount spent up to November 30 was \$654.53. Thus the total spent on new construction this year runs up to around \$85,000, a little more than \$28,000 of which was spent on County projects.

This still leaves an expenditure of \$13,966 on the dirt roads of the County for the year, which is divided as follows: Supervision, \$958.62; mules' maintenance, \$1,449.63; gas and oil, \$821.47; machinery, \$45; supplies, \$442.00; bridges, \$2,717.97; freight, \$144.66; work, \$6,073.17; repairs to Ford, \$622.42; miscellaneous, including tax refund and \$300 paid to M. C. Stanley, \$820.34.

County Superintendent Provo's salary is \$200 a month; but that part of his time spent on paving projects is charged against these projects.

The only item of considerable importance unaccounted for in the foregoing figures is \$654.53 spent for repairs on the Weeksville road. Of brick construction, this road, though less than five years old, has given way in spots and these are now being repaired with asphalt and crushed rock, such as is used by the State for the surfacing on the State bridge across the Pasquotank River.

Dirt road maintenance costs are paid from the County General Road Fund, and the \$13,966.28 spent last year shows a considerable saving on the \$25,000 to \$35,000 spent annually under the last three years of the chain gang regime. Roads were better kept under the chain gang system; but with an overhead of around \$7,000 a year for operating the chain gang, paid out for supervision, guards, cook, and clothing, and so on, and with receipts from the general fund amounting to only about \$15,000 a year, the County Highway Commission found itself compelled to borrow annually something like \$10,000 or more to meet a deficit.

This situation continued until the system had run the County about \$10,000 in debt and thus practically compelled the abolition of that institution.

The large number of paid employees required to run the chain gang and the relatively small number of prisoners worked on it during its latter years are given as reasons for the prohibitive overhead that compelled the abolition of the system.

It is hoped that with the two tractors recently purchased by the County Highway Commission roads may be maintained with more than the efficiency that obtained under the chain gang regime and that at the same time the expense of the work may be kept within the Commission's income for this object. Both these tractors are equipped with pneumatic tires and are to be used mainly in dragging roads. Another type of tractor may be purchased later to grade roads; but this newspaper was mistaken Tuesday in the statement that the second tractor purchased was equipped with caterpillar drive and would be used with a grader. The tractor bought this month is exactly like the one bought by the Highway Commission at the November meeting.

VOTE OPEN NEW INLET

Raleigh, Jan. 3.—(Special.)—The North Carolina Fisheries Commission in session here today passed a resolution to open New Inlet. Dr. L. C. Baum of Poplar Branch, one of the members of the Commission, was largely instrumental in securing the passage of this resolution.

FOREIGN CLOVER SEED WORTHLESS

Secretary of Agriculture Warns American Farmers Against Use of Such Seed in Year 1924.

Urbana, Ill., Jan. 3.—Warning that foreign clover seed that is pouring into this country in unusually large quantities, is worthless and that the American farmer will be made to suffer enormous and unnecessary losses, and the clover crop of the nation be greatly injured if steps are not taken to protect him, is contained in a letter written to Henry C. Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture, by J. C. Hackleman of the University of Illinois, secretary of the International Crop Improvement Association.

According to Mr. Hackleman, the red clover seed crop in the United States does not exceed 45 per cent of normal this year and for this reason there is a threatened importation of 30,000,000 pounds of red clover seed, enough to plant 3,000,000 acres, from France, Italy, Argentina and Africa. This seed, Mr. Hackleman said, has been tested in all portions of the United States.

"Comparative tests of clover seed from various sources, native and foreign, conducted by experiment stations in the majority of clover growing states," his letter says, "show conclusively the worthlessness of imported European seed, particularly that of Italian and French origin, which represents the bulk of the importations."

The letter is the result of the fourth annual meeting of the International Crop Improvement Association, at which the situation was discussed and a resolution adopted placing the association on record against such importation. Mr. Hackleman's letter was approved and signed by the "clover seed situation" committee of the association which consists of H. D. Hughes, Iowa State College; S. C. Salmon, Kansas Agricultural College, and J. F. Cox of the Michigan Agricultural College.

Issues Call to Banks

Washington, January 3.—The comptroller of currency today issued a call for the condition of all National banks at the close of business Monday, December 31.

MRS. HARDING RETURNS TO NATIONAL CAPITAL

Washington, Jan. 3.—Mrs. Florence King Harding arrived at Washington today from Marion, Ohio to spend the remainder of the winter.

YEGGMEN GOT LITTLE FROM BANK VAULT

Richmond, Jan. 3.—Yeggmen blew open the vault of the Farmers Bank of Wakefield, Sussex County, at 4 o'clock this morning and escaped in an automobile, according to a telegram received here by W. F. Augustine, secretary of the Virginia Bankers' Association this afternoon. The yeggmen obtained very little money, it was reported.

RUSSIAN PRINCESS ARRESTED FOR THEFT

Copenhagen, Jan. 3.—The Russian princess, Olga Kholovskoy, daughter of the late General Kholovskoy, is under arrest here, charged with stealing jewelry from the country where she was a guest.

Congress Gets Back From Holiday Recess

Washington, Jan. 3.—Congress will come back today from its Christmas recess ready to begin its serious work of the session.

Joy V. Sykes returned Tuesday night to the University of North Carolina after spending the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Sykes.



WILLIE BURGESS HEATH.

of Old Trap, who enlisted in the Navy at the Navy Recruiting Station, Norfolk, on October 9, 1923, has been chosen honor man in his company at the Naval Training Station, Hampton Roads. He deserves credit for this early achievement in the Navy. From Norfolk he was at once sent to the Naval Training Station, Hampton Roads, for a short course of recruit training. Arriving at the training station Heath was enrolled in Platoon 23 and started upon a course of training which covers a period of eight weeks, and includes such naval subjects as infantry, artillery, signals, seamanship, boat drills, swimming, gas mask instruction and lectures. During this course of training he paid strict attention to all of his drills with the result that when his platoon completed its recruit training he was chosen as the honor man of the platoon.

Before enlisting in the Navy Heath was employed as a mechanic. He states that having desired to travel and not having the means to do so, he decided to enlist in the Navy where he could see much of the world and also learn a trade. Being a very studious young man he has decided to further his education by taking a course of instruction in the radio school. When he completes this course of training his wish for travel will undoubtedly be gratified.

The recruiting officer at Norfolk states that the Navy is very proud to have men like Heath on its rolls and that his success is assured if he continues his good work. It is possible for enlisted men to enter the Naval Academy at Annapolis and become commissioned officers, and also possible for them to become commissioned officers without entering the Naval Academy.

GIRLS SEEK HONORS IN ENGLISH ATHLETICS

Philadelphia, Jan. 3.—Fifteen American girls will sail from New York January 12 to seek field hockey honors in England. They are members of the All-United States team selected at the recent intercity tournament in this city to represent America at the international competition in London in March. Prior to the international tournament they will tour England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales, playing a series of matches with the leading eleven.

These young women have booked passage on the Steamship Majestic. Because of the scarcity of funds in the treasury of the National Girls' Field Hockey Association, each member of the team will pay her own expenses to and from England. While abroad they will be entertained by the British teams. They plan to return to America shortly after the close of the international tournament March 8.

The schedule of matches follows: January 26, All-England Touring Team at London; 30th, West at Cheltenham; February 2, Midlands at Nottingham; 6th, North at Southampton; 9th, match at Glasgow; 10th, match at Dundee; 16th, Ulster at Belfast; 20th, match at Cork; 23rd, South Wales at Cardiff; 29th, Cambridge University at Cambridge; March 3rd, Oxford University at Oxford; 6th, 7th and 8th, international tournament at London.

POSTOFFICE NAMED IN HONOR ALVIN YORK

Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 3.—Pall Mall postoffice, in Fentress County, the home of Alvin York, hero of the World War, has been named "Alvin York" by the postoffice department at Washington in honor of the soldier, said to be one of the greatest of the war.

KIYOURA RECONSIDERS REQUEST OF PRINCE

Tokyo, Jan. 3.—After announcing earlier his inability to complete the ministry, Viscount Kiezo Kiyoura today reconsidered at the further request of Prince Regent Hirohito and accepted the task of forming the cabinet.

MUSIC LOVERS TO MEET MONDAY

With Urner G. Davis as Chairman, Aided by Competent Committee, Success Seems Assured for Club.

"Do you sing? Are you interested in good music? If so, you are invited to be present next Monday night at 7:30 at the Elks Club, where the new choral club will hold its first meeting," says the committee. "This club will not be a money-making society, but strictly for the pleasure of the music lovers of Elizabeth City. An entrance fee will be paid, and every member will pay for his own music, in this way avoiding financial difficulties."

At the first meeting officers will be elected and a name will be decided upon, and plans perfected for the coming year.

At the meeting held in conjunction with the practice for the Elks Memorial service, the following committee was elected with Urner G. Davis as chairman: Mrs. W. P. Duff from Christ Church, Mrs. I. M. Meekins from First Baptist Church, Mrs. L. S. Blades from Cann Memorial Church, H. C. Foreman from First Methodist Church, Mrs. George Bell from City Road Church, and L. E. Skinner from Blackwell Memorial Church.

ADVANCE ON PUEBLA AND MEXICO CITY

Vera Cruz, Jan. 3.—A general advance of rebels on Puebla and Mexico City began today, according to insurgent headquarters. General Guadalupe Sanchez, military leader of the rebellion, in conjunction with General Maycotte, are directing the movement.

CONCERT ARTISTS HERE NEXT WEEK

High Class Musical Attraction Secured by Music Department of Elizabeth City Woman's Club.

The Cambrea Concert Artists are coming to Elizabeth City on Wednesday evening, January 9.

This high class musical attraction has been secured by the music department of the Woman's Club of which Mrs. I. M. Meekins is chairman, and this department asks for the co-operation of the club and the entire community in making the event a success.

The Cambrea Concert Artists have had extensive experience in church, operatic and concert work both throughout America and abroad, and their program will be so good and of such variety as to please everybody except those—if there be such—who are absolutely immune to the appeal and influence of music.

The music department will appreciate the help of any persons who will sell tickets or in any way contribute to putting over this event, for if this can be successfully put over, it is hoped that other musical evenings can be provided for the community from time to time.

Further announcement of prices and program will be made in Friday's Advance. The date is Wednesday evening, January 9, and the music department hopes that everybody will remember to make no engagements for that evening.

OPERATED TOURING CAR WITH LICENSE FOR TRUCK

Milton B. Sample, Mt. Hermon Township farmer, was the only defendant before the recorder in Thursday's session of police court. Mr. Sample was taxed with costs for operating a motor without displaying the proper license number. The evidence indicated that Mr. Sample was operating a touring car with a truck license tag.

Judge Burrows Vacates Decree for Divorce

Providence, R. I., Jan. 3.—Judge Chester W. Burrows of superior court today entered an order vacating the divorce granted yesterday to Nina Wilcox Putnam Sanderson from Robert J. Sanderson until such time as she appears in person to satisfy the court that she has been a resident of the state more than two years prior to October 16 last.

BLANTON WANTS A DRY COUNTRY

Washington, Jan. 3.—A series of resolutions were presented today by Representative Blanton of Texas to provide for the removal of all Government officials who violate the prohibition amendment, and to return to their countries all foreign diplomats who transport, possess, or dispense liquor in defiance of the law, and to use the Army, Navy, and National Guard for enforcement of the amendment.

TOOK BOLL WEEVIL TO TEACH LESSON

Atlanta, Jan. 3.—"It has taken the boll weevil to blast into the minds of the Southern farmer that it does not pay to swap cotton dollars for bread and meat from the West," former Governor Manning of South Carolina stated here today, speaking in opposition to lower grain rates from the West at the Interstate Commerce Commission hearing.

SEINE WATERS RISE RAPIDLY

Paris Fast Being Flooded, Including Many Public Buildings—Railway Stations are Closed.

(By The Associated Press.)
Paris, Jan. 3.—The flood from the Seine river is today assuming proportions of disaster to sections of Paris and its environs.

The river is still rising fast and it is raining intermittently. Many buildings, notably that of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Finance, have had their cellars flooded. Infiltration into the subways has begun and at some places the railway stations have been closed.

Paris, Jan. 3.—Paris is threatened with a serious situation as a result of the steadily rising waters of the Seine.

Some sections of the city near the river were under water yesterday.

CYCLONE STRIKES MISSISSIPPI TOWN

Meridian, Miss., Jan. 3.—A cyclone today struck Causeville, four miles south of here, shortly after midnight, and injured several negroes. Property damage was heavy and many families are homeless.

COSTA RICA LEADS IN PHONE ETIQUETTE

Chicago, January 3.—Costa Rica is setting the telephone etiquette of the world, according to Frank M. Kenney Company, just back from after a visit of seven months to San Jose. He says the Costa Rican gentleman or lady never answers the telephone—that duty is left to a servant.

"Costa Rica has absolutely no use for telephone numbers," said Mr. Kenney. "All calls are made by asking the operator for the other subscriber. Consequently, putting through a call is sometimes a long process—something like diplomatic negotiations, particularly if the servant happens to be out of sorts or the telephone operator is not up on all the social registers of the community. Virtually all telephone calls in Costa Rica are put through between three and five in the afternoon and very few at night. The Costa Rica business day begins at seven. Eight in the morning is late. Then at ten-thirty the shops close for breakfast, to reopen again at twelve-thirty."

Last January, fire destroyed the exchange at San Jose and put all the lines out of commission. Mr. Kenney superintended the rebuilding of the entire communication system of the city.

ARTHUR WEIGALL PREDICTED LORD CARNARVON'S DEATH

New York, Jan. 3.—Arthur Weigall, the eminent Egyptologist who has spent over twenty years discovering and describing Egyptian antiquities, is now on a tour of the United States. In a recent interview published in The Mentor for January he describes his feelings when Lord Carnarvon entered the tomb of Tut-ankh-amen which had been sealed for 33 centuries.

He said that the uppermost feeling was that of pity and compassion for the Pharaoh who was about to be awakened and brought from his own world into one of electric lights, X-Rays and movie cameras.

Exactly six weeks after breaking into the tomb, Lord Carnarvon died. On the day of his death one of Weigall's colleagues asked him if he remembered what he said when Carnarvon entered the tomb. Weigall had forgotten. His friend reminded him of his statement: "If he goes in there in that light-hearted frame of mind, I give him six weeks to live."

WORLD'S SULPHUR SUPPLY COMES FROM SICILY

New York, Jan. 3.—Sicily is the chief source of the world's sulphur supply. Over three million tons were mined in last year says a writer in The Mentor for January.

COTTON MARKET

New York, January 3.—Cotton futures opened this morning at the following levels: January 34.00; March 34.45; May 34.60; July 33.65; October 28.15.

MANY KILLED IN DUST EXPLOSION

Starch Plant of Corn Products Scene of Great Calamity, With Fire Breaking Out After Explosion.

(By The Associated Press.)
Peoria, Ill., Jan. 3.—Between 20 and 35 persons were killed, it is believed, and more than a hundred injured, in the terrific dust explosion in the starch plant of the Corn Products Company at Pekin, Illinois today.

Fire broke out after the explosion. Rescuers could see the bodies of victims lying in the ruins but the flames prevented them from reaching them.

It is estimated that it will be several hours before the bodies can be removed. Eighty injured, badly mangled, had been removed at 8 o'clock this morning.

Two hundred were working in the plant at the time of the explosion. At ten o'clock it was estimated that the dead ran as high as 35. Seven bodies had been removed and six identified. It is feared that many bodies are entirely consumed by the flames.

More than 100 were injured, and doctors say a score will probably die before night. The victims are horribly burned.

COUNSEL TRYING TO SET HARRY THAW FREE

New York, Jan. 3.—Counsel for Harry K. Thaw, slayer of Stanford White, and since 1917 confined in a sanatorium at Philadelphia, are seeking to have him adjudged legally competent, according to a copyrighted story which appeared yesterday in the New York Sun.

If freed, Thaw's counsel hope to obtain the restoration of his fortune, estimated at a million dollars, according to the story.

Then Thaw would surrender in New York to charges of beating a boy, charges of which his counsel hope to clear him.

New York, Jan. 3.—Bartholemew B. Coyne, New York lawyer who for a number of years has represented Harry K. Thaw, today definitely confirmed the reports that his client, slayer of Stanford White, now in a Philadelphia asylum, will soon seek his freedom.

RUM ROW TURNS TO OTHER LINES

Flood of Liquor Reduced, but Diamonds, Narcotics and Aliens are Now Being Smuggled Ashore.

Atlantic Highlands, N. J., Jan. 3.—State authorities claiming to have reduced to a thin trickle the flood of holiday liquor which has been pouring ashore from Rum Row, have set about checking the smuggling of diamonds, narcotics and aliens, in which the rum fleet and bottle fishermen are reported by residents to be actively engaged.

Colonel H. Norman Schwartzkopf, head of the New Jersey state police, and Major Kimberling of the Trenton headquarters, declared that these complaints have become so numerous that they have planned to station state troopers here permanently.

Several Chinese are known to have been smuggled in at Perth Amboy recently. The authorities asserted also that many shore runners were transporting narcotics to New York, Philadelphia, Jersey City, Trenton, Newark and other centers.

"We know diamonds are being smuggled into Highlands, Waterwitch and Atlantic Highlands," said Sergeant Tighe, assigned to this phase of the troopers' activities. "They are too cheap there. Persons suspected of being in the rum business are offering diamonds at ridiculous prices, and one of the biggest men in the trade is reported to have boasted—even to the police—that he can get diamonds duty free."

NEW DISCOVERIES IN KING TUT'S TOMB

(By The Associated Press.)
Luxor, Jan. 3.—When the doors of the second shrine of Tutankhamen's tomb was opened this morning a third brilliantly colored gilded shrine was disclosed.

Paris, Jan. 3.—The gasoline tank belonging to the Dixmude has been found at sea, according to a wireless from Bizerta, Tunis, naval station, picked up at Toulons, says the correspondent to the Echo de Paris.