

Says County Commissioners Have Neglected Their Duty In Reference Wenona Road

Wenona, N. C.
Jan. 27, 1930

Beacon & News,
Plymouth, N. C.

Dear Sir;
Your issue of the Beacon and News of Jan. 24th 1930 showing that it cost Washington county \$19,325.60 to prepare for pupils failing work.

I notice that Supt. J. W. Norman says if the parents who are tax payers would realize how much they were handicapping their children and how much it is costing them to allow their children to stay at home, the attendance would be nearly perfect.

The children of Wenona has been out of school a week today, not the fault of the children or their parents who are tax payers either, but the fault of the County Officials.

If the school officials are as auxiliary for the children to go to school every day as it appears they are by reading this article it seems to me that when the truck was broken down they would be offered to pay what it cost to operate the truck for the time it was broken down in paying the board of these children in Plymouth. I am sure we could of gotten places for every one that wanted to without much trouble.

The writer has before him a letter from Supt. J. W. Norman, dated Jan. 22nd in reply to one written him same date stating that he does not feel that he has left a single thing undone that he could have done to keep the children in school.

I feel that the majority of the blame for these children being out of school all this time is due to the County Commissioners not keeping the Turnpike road in better shape.

I understand that the county has around \$22,000.00 for road work this year and a man in Wenona offered to take the Turnpike and keep it up for \$1000.00 per year and was refused. Now according to the number of miles of road in Wenona and out to the highway 97 that would have been \$71.43 per mile and at the same rate Washington county could have kept 308 miles of road for the year, still we were refused.

I will be glad if some one will show me where Washington county has got 308 miles of road after taking the State highways out.

Their excuse was that Wenona did not pay that much tax, even though we do not, what about the money that the county gets from the State for road work?

If the money that has been spent on these roads had been spent properly the roads would not have been in the shape they are now.

Several times there has been a bunch of prisoners in on the Turnpike road shoveling soft mud in the holes and tracks, just blindfolding the holes so people would just naturally not know where the best place was. Also there was one time they put small pieces of wood into these holes just about right for a cook stove of ordinary size.

I feel that the county officials are as much to blame for the children being absent from school if not more than the average parent.

A TAX PAYER

HASSELL BROTHERS ANNOUNCE NEW LOAF

The first of the year it is customary for all automobile manufacturers to change the model or make of their product. It is not customary for bakers to change the model of their bread, but Hassell Brothers are announcing their new and larger, 20 ounces loaf of bread. See page three for their announcement.

FORTY-SECOND MAN SENT TO COUNTY ROADS; CAME TO COURT ON CRUTCHES

Recorder's Judge Jerry A. Sawyer sent Mr. Basnight one new helper Tuesday morning when he gave Willie Downing 90 days the county roads for vagrancy. This makes 42 people working out sentences on the county roads of Washington county and is the largest number that has ever been on the roads at any one time in many years.

Other defendants coming before Judge Sawyer Tuesday morning were: D. C. Boyd who plead guilty to a charge of operating a car under the influence of whiskey. He was fined \$50 and cost, E. S. Blount, who Boyd ran into, stated that he had been satisfied as to the damages done his car.

The case of State against J. C. Cogins for giving Van B. Martin a bad check was not pressed. This case brought out the fact that the Recorder's court is being used as a collection bureau for bad checks as the case was not pressed at the suggestion of Mr. Martin, he having admitted that he merely got out the warrant in order to force Mr. Cogins to pay the check which has been paid.

O. H. Cooper of Edenton who was represented by Atty. Griffin, of Edenton, was brought in the courtroom, supported by two men and crutches his right leg having been crushed in an accident when he ran into the Norfolk Southern freight train some time ago. Cooper surrendered to Sheriff Read Tuesday and asked that he be tried. He was confined to a hospital for eight weeks, lost his car and 20 gallons of whiskey in the wreck. It came out that he was running whiskey from a landing on this side of the Albemarle Sound to Edenton. He stated that the whiskey came from East Lake. Realizing that Cooper had suffered lots, Judge Sawyer only imposed a small fine of \$25 and costs on the defendant. Cooper Jewel Ayers was ordered to pay to his former wife, Doris Owens, \$20 Tuesday and required to not only keep up the payment of \$25 per month for the support of his child, but was ordered to pay up the three months back moneys due.

FARM AND HOME NEWS

Schedule for week beginning Feb. 3rd Monday, Plymouth; Tuesday, Creawell and Cherry Girl's Club. Hoke Woman's Club; Wednesday, Plymouth Girl's Club Roper Woman's Club. Thursday, Roper Girl's Club, Chapel Hill Club. Friday, Cherry Woman's Club. Saturday Curb Market.

Last Saturday one, women on the Curb Market Sold \$22.78 worth of farm produce. Now is the time for every person on the farm to start on that "Live at Home" program.

The women of the Home Dem. Clubs are being urged to start lettuce, onions, tomatoes, and cabbage now.

NOT A FISH STORY

Tuesday morning a snake one yard and 13 inches long was killed behind the front counter of T. C. Burgess's stor. Many people were called in and asked what kind of snake it was and nearly as many names were given the snake. Some said that it was a King snake, some a Rock and others a chicken eater. "Maybe he was coming to our sale," said Mr. Burgess.

JUDGE SAWYER FAVORS REDUCTION IN PROPERTY TAX; FAVORS SALES TAX

Mr. Editor;
Your paper has quoted Mr. H. S. Ward at length on his proposition to reduce land valuations 50 per cent, but I have failed to find any specifications submitted by him or anyone else that the average voter can rely upon for the relief we need, that is a healthy reduction of the figures we now observe on our tax receipts. I am in favor of a 50 per cent reduction in land valuation, but I do not want to see the tax rate greatly increased, as would be the natural consequence of a reduction of values. Personally I had rather see the tax rate go on an eighteen-day reducing diet so that the figures on our tax receipts will be more charming and slender. And in this respect my opinion is that the problem resolves itself into a task of providing more tax sources. This is a legislative problem of course, and I would like to see the following suggestions put squarely before the next General Assembly:

(1) A continuation of the present Highway Program and gasoline tax for road building and bonds for road building, as is.

(2) An eight-months term of school for every child in North Carolina to be provided, managed and financed by State administration and taxation from sources other than land.

(3) A general sales tax to finance suggestion No. (2.) And by a general sales tax, I mean just that. I would graduate the tax rate so as to levy the highest rate upon articles classed as luxuries or pleasures, such as beverages, tobaccos amusements, etc., and place the lowest rate upon foodstuffs and clothing. Electrical current would come in for a share of this.

(4) Taxation of foreign stocks and bonds until prohibited by the United States-Court.

(5) I would scuttle every real estate tax law that has ever been written in North Carolina and write a new chapter that would make the land tax burden equal and certain. The present land tax laws have been patched until they resemble the trousers some of us will soon have to wear if "Hoover Prosperity" continues. And instead of improving matters these patches have complicated, confused and increased the burden.

JERRY A. SAWYER

MISS ZELMA RUSS STUDYING IN BALTIMORE

Miss Zelma Russ, director of the Studio of Fine Arts in Washington and Plymouth contributed one the best parts of the Legion Follies-Rueve and Minstrels, staged in Washington last week, when her classes in aesthetic dancing were programmed in a 'studio' number.

The class of tots, ranging from three to five years of age, gave the allways impressive "The Parade of the Wooden Soldiers," in a manner that elicited tremendous applause from the audience. The "Sun Dance," was interpreted, amid a realistic setting, by a class of twenty-two young ladies in a manner never before witnessed in this section.

In addition to the showing of her pupils Miss Russ sang three number during the show and also gave her interpretation of the "Scarf Dance" as a sequel to the 'Studio' number.

Miss Russ was in Plymouth on Wednesday of this week instead of the usual Thursday as she left North Carolina on Thursday for Baltimore where she is planning on taking a number of both vocal and dancing lessons from her former instructors in the Peabody Conservatory of Music. Miss Russ will be in Plymouth on next Thursday.

Washington County Leads State In Output Of Food Fish; Area 209,280 Acres



Plymouth and Washington county is rapidly becoming an industrial center with the smaller mills building around the Chicago Mill and Lumber Corporation and the National Handle Company.

Washington county is in the Northeast Central section and has a population of 11,700 which covers an area of 209,280 acres composed of sandy and fertile black lands. The forest area is approximately 171,587 acres or 81 per cent of the total land area. More than 20 per cent of the forest area is farm woodland, including 743 acres of woodland pasture. The principal merchantable species are loblolly pine 65 per cent, gum 25 per cent, oak, poplar, ash and cypress. The estimated present stand of 80,000-000 board feet of saw timber is fairly accessible by water, roads and rail. Swamp lands constitute 65 per cent of the forest area. The estimated stumpage value cut annually is around \$75,000.

Washington county leads the State in herring production, which in 1927 was 1,197,250 pounds. In 1927 the food fish output was 1,232,357 pounds valued at \$38,310.

The water resources of Washington county are Roanoke and Scuppernon rivers, Welsh and Hendrick's creeks, besides many smaller creeks, Phelps and Pungo Lakes and the Albemarle Sound. The Virginia Electric and Power Company contemplates having their lines in Plymouth by the first of March. This company also plans to furnish Roper and Creswell with power.

The Agricultural products of Washington county are varied. In the northern portion of the county near the Albemarle sound, 306 carloads of truck crops were shipped last year, including 117 cars of peas and 185 of Irish potatoes. This is also quite a corn county, with some peanuts, soy beans and tobacco grown. Tobacco is rapidly becoming a leader as to a money crop. There has been enough seed cleaned by County Agent Dunning to plant 1500 acres of the bright leaf.

Special Session Of Legislature Will Probably Be Had To Relieve Property

MAN WHO ADVERTISED FOR WIFE GETTING RESULTS

In a recent issue of the Beacon and News, an advertisement was run by Willie T. Jethrow, R. F. D. No. 1, Plymouth, stating that he wanted a wife. The first real results was a couple of boys dressing up as girls and going to Mr. Jethrow's home. Later letters began to come in. The want advertisement was clipped from the Beacon and News and published in many papers throughout the State. As a result of this advertisement, Mr. Jethrow is getting mail from all sections of the State from young women who wish to become the wife of the kind and gentle farmer.

Bring your eggs to the curb market every Saturday.

All eggs not sold on the curb market will be crated and shipped through the Home Agent. Price 40 cent less express to Norfolk which will make the price a small bit more than 35 cent per doz.

First crate shipped last Saturday.

Considerable agitation is going on throughout the State for a special meeting of the Legislature to provide for some immediate relief from the present property tax. Recently there was held in Buncombe county a meeting of the tax payers to formulate a petition to the Governor asking for a special session so that the property-owners will be assured of some relief in 1930.

Representative John W. Darden is in receipt of a letter asking his attitude in the matter and the substance of his reply is that he is in favor of some means being devised whereby the advalorum property tax be reduced. "I am in favor of a general sales tax and relief of all property from tax, except special tax. I am of the opinion that the people would welcome such a move," said Representative Darden. He would like to hear from the people of Washington county as to their attitude in this matter.

POET AND PEASANT

"The water supply in Plymouth is certainly becoming a nuisance" said the Peasant.

"It isn't becoming a nuisance," said the Poet. "It has been a nuisance for some time and something should be done about it."

"Eventually," said the Peasant, "and it won't be long; before the town officials will have to install some kind of a reservoir system to get any water at all. The present supply, I understand is nearly gone."

"I know that," said the Poet, but what are we going to do about our present supply. Some sort of a filtering system should be installed. It is costing the people who use water as much to keep their fixtures up as it is to pay the water bill. Our present water will eat up the best fixtures that can be bought in a very short time. No one can put clothes of any kind in it and not ruin the material. It is useless to try and keep the fixtures half way decent for what isn't eaten up is ruined. It will turn as brown as rust."

"What can be done?" asked the Peasant.

"The city fathers can put in some kind of a filtering system whereby the water will be purified to a certain extent," said the Poet.

"Well," said the Peasant. "It seems to me that the only thing and the cheapest thing for the city

council to do is to put in this system. The people who would have to pay for the system are the tax payers of Plymouth and these same tax payers are paying out more every year than it would cost yet they are not doing anything permanent. By the way, I understand that the City council are asking for bids on the ice plant and it seems that they are only expecting some \$10,000 for it, is this true?"

"I don't know whether it is true or not," said the Poet, "but I think that it is."

"Well I will be darned," said the Peasant, "I thought that they said all of the time that they had been offered already \$30,000 for the plant when they were agitating the sale of the lighting system."

"I think that can be easily explained," said the Poet.

"Then why the heck don't you explain it," said the Peasant.

"I don't know the exact reason now," said the Poet, "but I am sure that it is all very simple."

"Well I ain't," said the Peasant.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to thank our many faithful and loving friends for their kindly attendance, during the illness and death of our mother Mrs. M. E. Tarkenton and for the beautiful floral offerings.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Tarkenton and Family.

PIKE ROAD CAUSES FAMILY TO CHANGE MIND

Last Monday Washington County lost another family and tax payer when the Hudson family of Hickory, Virginia, who had made arrangements to make their home in the Wenona section turned around at the foot of the Pike Road and went back where they come from.

This family had moved the furniture from Hickory and planned unloading at the foot of Pike road and get wagons to carry it on. On seeing the actual condition of the road, they decided that they did not wish to live in a place that was isolated from the rest of the world so turned the trucks around and returned.

PERMANENT PASTOR CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The Rev. Conley Greer and family of Greenville, South Carolina arrived Wednesday afternoon, to take charge of the affairs of the local Christian Church. He will preach his first regular sermon Sunday morning at 11 o'clock.

The Rev. Mr. Greer and family useare living in the Dr. Davis ho on Jefferson Street.

ALMO THEATRE

Friday & Saturday
Billie Dove
IN
"Careers"
Third Episode
THE BLACK BOOK