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TO THE TAXPAYERS OF TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY

I am very glad that our Road Supervisor has entitled his Article by calling on the taxpayers of Transylvania County, for they are the ones who pay the taxes to keep up the roads, and expect results, and if our Supervisor cannot give results, he should step out and let some one have the job who can, or go to F. Henderson or Carr Glazener and be taught how to make a dirt road or keep it up, as they kept their roads passable during the winter.

The Supervisor says the figures as to the money spent during the months of Nov., Dec., Jan., and Feb., are not correct, I only ask the taxpayers to go the County Commissioners Office and see for themselves what the Supervisor received each month, then they will know. The money he received in Jan. was not published, which was, \$1,609.36 I suppose this was for work done in December when it was too cold to work. According to the Supervisors own admission the fire felt better than the cold air, but he should be excused as it was during the Holidays and we all are liberal spenders at that time. He accuses me of living in Brevard Township and wanting all the work done here. I as well as other Doctors travel the roads in every Township until they become impassable. Our Supervisor would have the people believe that the roads in the outlying Townships are Boulevards, but a very prominent man in Gloucester Township, where the roads were also impassable, said he wanted the Supervisor to send his Photograph up there so they could see how he looked as they had not seen him in that Township since he had been appointed Supervisor.

I will state here for the taxpayers benefit, that the bill when introduced in the last General Assembly was to give the Supervisor \$1,800.00 a year, but our Honorable Representative, W. H. Duckworth, would not agree to give but \$1,500. thereby saving three hundred a year to the county, and I am confident if he had it to do over he would cut the salary to less than one thousand Dollars a year.

Mr. taxpayer if you will look at these figures you can readily see how some of our road money is going. Our Supervisor admits having two or three men hired all the time. We will give him only two at Seventy Five Dollars per month and expenses, which would at least make it One Hundred Dollars a month each; in twelve months this would be \$2,400.00. Six horses at six dollars a day for 365 days for feed will be \$2,190.00 and the Supervisor's salary \$1,500.00; total of \$6,090.00, and a tractor recently purchased for about \$900.00 will make \$6,990.00 which taken from \$8,000.00 road money will leave \$1010.00 to be spent on the roads.

Our Supervisor also admits that there are some bad places in some roads, but has the audacity to make the assertion that the roads are in better shape than they have been for many years, he surely means the hard surface roads which the State has made and maintains.

As for our dirt roads for which he is responsible it would take \$5,000.00 to put them in as good condition as they were when he took charge. Anyone who has to travel them knows that the side ditches are full of leaves, sticks, dirt and mud, to above the level of the road bed, and which has not been removed since he took charge, also culverts broken in, drains stopped up etc. The Supervisor says that there are three causes for the bad condition of our roads. First, Cold bad winter. We have had winters since the beginning of time. The road overseers prepared their roads for winter by draining and crowning them, which the Supervisor did not do. Second; Mileage. Our roads have not grown any longer about 3 ft. narrower, fifty miles shorter, and those are the leading highways, which the State has taken over. Both the foregoing excuses are very flimsy. Third; Short Funds; if you will only look over the way the funds are spent, you can see why they are short. We pay more road tax than ever before, but get poor results.

The teams when kept in Brevard go out about 7:28 a. m. and walk from one to eight miles to work, walking about 3 miles per hour, and must quit in time to be in the barn by 6 p. m., one hour for dinner. You see we have only had about 5 and 1-2 hours road work. Can any farmer pay his taxes and make a living on his farm and work 5 1-2 hours a day? Another trouble, Our Supervisor does not know the condition of the roads, for the road over which he drives mostly is from Brevard to Rosman and Lake Toxaway, the one the State Highway maintains, and which Mr. Carr Glazener keeps in good condition, yet it is a newly graded road.

Our Supervisor says there are about 200 miles or so of roads,



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2tpd.

Why do you not drive over your roads and find out what is needed at least once a week? For same reason I don't. Cannot get over them. If you will ditch, drain and crown them and then employ some one on each Section to drag them when in proper condition and keep them passable the year round, and we taxpayers are not going to be satisfied unless they are kept in better repair than they have been for the past year.

E. S. English.