

THE BREVARD NEWS

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Bank Situation Far From Any Practical Settlement

NEW BANK MAY OPEN CHARTER ISSUED OR BREVARD BANK MAY BE RE-OPENED TO NEW BANK HERE

Shift in Plans for New Bank May Avert Its Final Organization

SENTIMENT SEEMS TO LEAN TO OLD BANK

Support of New Bank Withdrawn Because of Injection of Question

In again, out again, gone again! Such, in short, could well describe the situation in Brevard concerning the banking business.

One time it is a new bank that is to do business here. Next, the Brevard Banking company is to re-open, and resume business. Then, the Pisgah Industrial Bank is to be converted into a commercial institution, and fill the town's needs, and this is followed immediately with assertion that a national bank is the one certain bet.

Charter has been issued to the Transylvania Banking company, by the North Carolina Corporation Commission, and this charter is said to be in Brevard now. Some reports are to the effect that this organization will begin business at once. No confirmation of this report has been made, however, to the press.

Many conferences are said to have been held, seeking basis upon which the Brevard Banking company can be re-opened, as many of the closed banks in other towns and cities are doing. This plan has the support of some of the leading business men of the community, and its advocates seem to outnumber by far the number of people who favor the establishment of the new bank.

A week ago it was different, as sentiment seemed almost solid for establishment of a new bank, to be a real community institution, with banking as its only purpose. This sentiment seems to have been crystallized at the mass meeting held in the county court house Friday evening December 19. At this meeting Oliver H. Orr was named to appoint a committee for the purpose of organizing the bank and obtaining applications for stock in the institution. Mr. Orr named J. H. Pickelsimer, C. R. McNeely, Frank D. Clement, W. W. Croushorn, J. W. Glazener, H. A. Plummer and Roy Long as constituting the committee.

In the progress of the work of this

SERVICE MEN WANT CASH SETTLEMENT

More Than 100 Men in County Would Draw This Much Needed Money

Word has been received in North Carolina that members of congress from North Carolina unqualifiedly favor cash payment of veterans adjusted compensation.

The statements issued by the two senators and eight of the ten members of the house of representatives come on the heels of a resolution asking congress to enact legislation providing for the immediate payment in cash of former soldiers' adjusted compensation certificates and addressed to the North Carolina congressmen by the Charlotte Hornets' Nest post of American Legion that has taken the initiative among Carolina Legion posts in a campaign for the enactment of the resolution in the state legislature.

Ex-service men in Transylvania county are said to be unanimously in favor of the cash plan of settlement now for all adjusted compensation certificates held by the men who were in the war. Officers of the Monroe Wilson Post, of the American Legion, are most emphatic in their advocacy of the proposed cash settlement plan. There are 52 members of the Legion in this county, and the officers could speak only for those who are members. They did not hesitate, however, in asserting that they knew, through conversation with ex-service men not affiliated with the Legion, that all these are in favor of the cash settlement. There are more than one hundred ex-service men in the county.

Officers of the Legion here assert that the plan would not only relieve the terrible situation confronting many ex-service men, but would go farther and do more in relieving general business depression than any other plan known. These certificates must be paid by the government within the next few years, anyway, it is pointed out, and the payment now would mean so much more than it could ever mean in the future. The money would be scattered in every

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STRONG MESSAGE OF THE GOVERNOR URGES ECONOMIES

Calls for Lower Taxes on Real Estate and Higher on Gasoline

10 PER CENT CUT IN SALARIES OF OFFICERS

Consolidation of Counties One Question of Interest to Small Counties

Brevard News Bureau

Raleigh, Jan. 14.

A reduction of 10 per cent in the salaries, wages and fees of all employees of the state and its divisions, the counties and the cities and the institutions maintained by them, applying to all who have not been cut that much since December 1929, and exclusive of those receiving less than \$50 a month, effective July 1, 1931, and for two years only, was asked by Governor Gardner in his message to the Legislature Friday last.

Governor Gardner pointed out that practically all citizens are now on reduced incomes, that the employees of the state and its units get their pay regularly and that 85 cents will buy as much now as did \$1 in 1928. He estimates that \$4,000,000 annually will be saved and demands that this saving be reflected in the taxpayers' bill.

Some new and important changes, others expected, are included in the recommendations made by Governor Gardner. Some of the important ones follow:

Abolishing the present Highway Commission as constituted by districts, making it a state-wide body of a chairman and four commissioners at large.

Increasing the gasoline tax to six cents, two cents of which, with an additional \$500,000 a year, to be devoted to county roads, which the state commission should take over for maintenance.

Erection of a new Central Prison on Cary Farm, near Raleigh, increasing agricultural and industrial activities among prisoners, taking over county prison camps and handling all prisoners in the state system.

Authorizing no additional bonds for permanent improvements this session.

Reduction of taxes on property to reflect the appropriations made to the counties by the state.

Remove the tax free gasoline exemptions, requiring tax from all users of gasoline, including counties, which will receive their pro rata portion of the refund in maintenance of county roads.

Establish a central purchasing agency for all state departments, institutions and agencies, saving, he predicts, \$400,000 a year.

Consolidation of administration of three higher institutions of learning, University, State College and N. C. College for Women into a State University.

Introduction of "short ballot" to apply to all offices created by statute, thus leaving the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Auditor, Treasurer, Attorney General and Superintendent of Public Instruction to be elected by the people.

Concentration of county authority in one responsible agency, board of county commissioners, proper supervision by the state of public money, accounting methods and settlements of officers handling public funds.

Mandatory consolidation of some of the 100 counties and an act permitting counties to consolidate in operation of common jails, county homes, health departments and convict camps.

Enact the bill drawn by the Educational Commission, providing for a uniform eight months school term, eliminating expensive and arbitrary district lines and decreasing spending

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HIGHWAY WORK IS PROVING BOON TO THE COMMUNITY

Many Men Employed by State Highway Commission in This County

\$30,000 TO BE SPENT FOR LABOR IN FOREST

Horseshoe Project Employing Many Men—New Bridge Under Construction

Brevard News Bureau

Raleigh, Jan. 14.

Highway construction in this immediate section is proving a great boon to the laboring people, this work being carried on at present on all sides of the town.

The State Highway forces, under Ernest Webb, are making fine progress on 284, where sixty men are employed in quarry and on road work. This work is on the eastern division of 284, with the project of hard-surfacing this highway from the South Carolina line to Brevard.

The Federal government is planning the employment of several men on road work and building trails through Pisgah National Forest. C. S. Dunn, forest ranger, in charge of the government's activities under Mr. Mattoon, Asheville, has announced that \$30,000 will be spent for labor alone on these projects. R. L. Cansler is in charge of the road work, and announces the government's policy of employing only married men or men with dependents, providing capable help of this kind is available. The wage rate is 25 cents the hour, minimum, eight hours a day. The policy of the government in giving preference to men with families in employing labor has brought forth much favorable comment here.

Down at Horseshoe bend, the State Highway forces are at work, rebuilding a portion of the highway and building a new bridge far below the present structure. The work there will result in elimination of a bad curve leading onto the bridge on the Hendersonville side. About seventy-five men and several teams and trucks are employed on that job.

Then to the south of Brevard, on Highway 28, work has been going on for some time, relocating the highway in many places, and hard-surfacing the entire stretch from the Jackson county line toward Cashiers. Large forces it is said will soon be given employment on that work.

The Carr Lumber company, running five days a week, eight hours a day, is maintaining its large force that went to work the first of November, after a complete shut-down. Men are employed both in the mills, yards and in the woods.

The tanneries here and at Rosman are giving part time employment to a number of men.

The cotton mill is still idle, although plans have been in the making for the past two weeks for reopening that plant. Work at the mill would result in great relief to the unemployment situation here, as the plant has been down more than a year now, the employees, unable to find work elsewhere, have endured the hardest part of the period of depression. If present plans are realized, the cotton mill will soon be in operation.

Work on the highways, however, is proving the real boon now, because it is giving employment to men who had no work at all in other lines of industry.

PROGRAM ARRANGED FOR LEE-JACKSON CELEBRATION

Lee-Jackson Day will be observed next Monday with a most appropriate program, to be presented at the High School building. The public is invited to attend. Exercises will start at 10:15 o'clock Monday morning. Members of the U. D. C. are requested to meet at the school building at 10 o'clock.

General County Court Is Abolished By Legislature

COURT ABOLISHED ON LAST SATURDAY

Rep. W. M. Henry Presents Bill to Kill the General County Court

Brevard News Bureau

Raleigh, Jan. 14.

Transylvania county's general county court was abolished in short order by the North Carolina General Assembly Saturday morning, not more than an hour having elapsed from the time Representative W. M. Henry, of Brevard, introduced the bill in the House before it became a law, enacted by both houses and reached the enrolling office.

It is considered likely that other county courts, particularly the one in Buncombe county, which, in 1928, was placed under the general act permitting county commissioners to create county courts, will be abolished by this General Assembly. The Buncombe court, although apparently functioning satisfactorily, was provided by including Buncombe county under the general act by Republican legislators, while the county was in charge of Republican commissioners and the officials named were Republicans.

Representative Ed S. Loven, of Avery, introduced a bill which repeals Chapter 376, Public Local Laws of 1929, the new bill preventing the Avery board of education from leasing school property, which the previous act permitted.

TAMPERING WITH FIRE TRUCK SAID TO BE DANGEROUS

Some One Exposed Town to Great Danger by Malicious Damage to Engine

Tampering with the fire truck by some one some time last Saturday night or Sunday morning, which resulted in putting Brevard's big defense completely out of business for more than an hour, has caused much speculation among fire company officials, town officials and the public. Dan W. Merrill, who has charge of the truck, goes by the station twice each day, starts the motor in the truck and tests it out, as a precaution, so he will know that the big fellow is always ready to go when the alarm is sounded.

Last Sunday morning Mr. Merrill went to the station, as was his custom, and tried the truck. There was nothing doing. Mr. Merrill began a search for the trouble, resulting in finding that the gas had been removed from the tank, wires disconnected in the engine and the rotary arm taken from the distributor. It took the popular foreman more than an hour to locate the trouble and make repairs.

One theory is that some property owner intended to have himself a first class fire. The Brevard Fire Department has a habit of extinguishing fires in rapid manner. This man wanted his fire to be a real fire, unmolested by the activities of the Brevard bunch of fire-fighters, hence, the thing to do was to cripple the truck and make it impossible for the fighting boys to reach the fire until its consuming flames had made his insurance policy a thing certain and sure.

Firemen and many citizens have been heard to express the belief that this act is the most dangerous and malicious thing ever done in Brevard. With recent high winds half the business section of the town could have been destroyed before the engine could have been put in commission for fighting the flames.

W. W. WOODLEY, JR., LIQUIDATING AGENT

Mr. W. W. Woodley, Jr., of Elizabeth City, has been named as liquidating agent for the Brevard Banking company, and arrived in Brevard Tuesday, entering upon his new duties Wednesday morning. Mr. Woodley is a man of wide experience in financial affairs, of pleasing appearance, and possessed of peculiar ability to handle the aggravating situation now facing him.

It is likely that Mr. Woodley will move his family to Brevard. He is at present living at Pierce-Moore Hotel. There is but little work that Mr. Woodley can do until the report of the bank examiners has been submitted to officials at Raleigh, inspected there and returned to the agent here. This report is expected to be completed within a few days, and submitted to the authorities at Raleigh. A copy of the report, it is said, will be filed with the clerk of the court.

LOCAL TRIBUNAL TOSSED ABOUT BY VARIOUS FORCES

Climax Is Reached Wednesday When Judge Declared the Act Unconstitutional

ADJOURNED TO MEET UPON CALL OF JUDGE

Was Campaign Issue, Abolished by New Board, Now by Law

General county court of Transylvania county is abolished, says Representative Henry, now in the legislature from this county.

The county court cannot be abolished by special local legislative enactment, says Judge English, without violation of Article 2, Section 29, of the State Constitution.

The court, which has been the most widely discussed phase of county activity since its creation on July 1, 1929, was a major issue in the recent political campaign, and was one of the first objects of attack by the new county commissioners when the board assumed power on December first, 1930. The county commissioners abolished the county court by resolution, to become effective on January 1, 1931. Then, at the same meeting, the commissioners, again by resolution, set the salary of the judge of the county court and the solicitor at \$5 a month, effective January 1, 1931.

Again it was abolished by legislative enactment, as above stated, on last Saturday.

Yet Judge English adjourned court Wednesday morning, subject to the call of the judge when, and if, such call is made, the jurors then serving must return for jury duty.

The attorney general of North Carolina assisted Representative Henry in drawing the bill that was to abolish the court, according to word received here from Wm. E. Breese. This act would of course preclude settlement of the matter by opinion from the attorney general, since it is believed that the Supreme court of North Carolina will finally say whether or not the county court is abolished.

County courts are created under state law providing for such courts. Many counties in the state have long had these and similar county courts. The old board of county commissioners created the court under the law of

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BARREL SYSTEM IS ADOPTED BY BOARD

Many People Suffering—All Churches to Help in Great Work

Rev. R. L. Alexander, of The Associated Churches, announces that the organization, assisted by the churches and other groups, are planning to place barrels about the town for the purpose of receiving whatever articles of food and clothing any one will donate for the relief of the needy of town and county. This plan is bringing splendid results in other towns and cities, and it is believed will result in great benefit to this community.

Need for immediate action is great, for there is acute suffering among the poor just now. It is believed that many people of the town and county would make donations of food and clothing if they knew just where to place such articles. This plan of placing barrels about the town solves this problem, as well as being constant reminders of the need felt in the town and county.

Mr. Bob Kilpatrick is preparing the barrels, which will be placed at the grocery stores and meat markets of the town. Placards will be tacked to the barrels, urging people while making purchases to buy some article of food for the poor and place same in the barrel. Mayor Whitmire has announced that the town forces will gather the food from the barrels, and take it to the central point at the Chamber of Commerce rooms, from which place distribution will be made to the needy.

The Ministerial Association, in session Wednesday, voted hearty approval of the plan, pledging fullest measure of co-operation of the churches. All ministers of the town will explain the dire need of hasty action in their Sunday messages to their congregations.

Not only is food needed, but there is great demand for clothing, shoes and bed clothing. These articles are to be assembled at the Chamber of Commerce rooms, and distributed from that place, as is the case with the food. Distribution will be made

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Mass Meeting Called for Tuesday Night by Ministers of the Town

Brevard Ministerial association issued a call Wednesday for a mass meeting to be held in the county court house Tuesday night of next week, at 7 o'clock, for the purpose of discussing plans for adoption of "The Golden Rule Debt Paying Plan." By request of the association, Mayor Whitmire attended the session, and was asked to preside at the meeting next Tuesday evening. Rev. J. H. West, Rev. R. L. Alexander, Rev. Paul Hartsell, Mayor Whitmire and James F. Barrett were named on the program committee to arrange details of the mass meeting.

The purpose of "The Golden Rule Debt Paying Plan" is to enable the people of Transylvania county to pay one another and each other accounts due in checks that are not to be deposited until a certain number of endorsements appear on the check, and is not to be used for any other purpose than the paying of debts. Other towns and cities are using this and similar methods, and results obtained have been most satisfactory. Hendersonville has long been using

this plan, which was made necessary through closing of all the banks in the sister city. The committee on arrangements for the mass meeting here Tuesday will have men who are familiar with the plan on the program to explain its workings.

Roger Babson, statistician and noted writer, was the originator of the idea, which has been adopted throughout the country. Babson declares the present crisis appealing to the spiritual, inasmuch as anything that causes human suffering is a matter calling for the best efforts of the church. Hence the fact that the call for this mass meeting here is at direction of the Ministerial association.

All people of the county are urged to attend the mass meeting, and it is especially desired that each community in the county have representatives at the gathering here next Tuesday evening.

It is believed that great relief can be obtained through adoption of "The Golden Rule Debt Paying Plan," and the very best thought and support of interested citizens should be given to the movement.