

# THE SYLVA HERALD

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## Our County School Program

The people of Jackson county are faced with three alternatives in regard to the county school system which are: 1. approval of a bond issue through a county-wide election; 2. a larger tax levy by Commissioners to raise the money all at one time; 3. or in event neither of the first two plans is provided, suffer a complete paralysis of the school system. These cold facts were learned by The Herald this week in a lengthy conversation with a member of the County Board of Education, some of which are published in detail elsewhere in this issue of The Herald.

When the new board took office last year they realized that the county school buildings were most inadequate. They set out at once to make a survey to determine the line of action to take in making necessary improvements. A State school planning engineer was called in to help with the survey which showed that practically every school building in the county needed certain repairs and in a number of cases complete new buildings or additions to present buildings. Estimated cost by the State official to carry out such a program was around \$600,000.00; others figured the cost would be nearer \$1,000,000.00. The schools this would affect will be found in the article referred to above. With this information in hand the board sought authority from the local government commission in Raleigh to call an election for a bond issue of \$600,000.00 and were informed that all the county could possibly legally raise thru a bond issue would be \$480,000.00 which would not be enough money with which to carry out the program proposed. Then came the condemnation of the Sylva elementary building which further upset the program.

It is the plan of the board now to go ahead and call the bond election for the \$480,000.00 and if authorized to go ahead and to spend half of this amount on certain schools at once and hold the balance with which to match state funds if and when such funds are available.

It all boils down to this: It is almost a

foregone conclusion that the next General Assembly will enact legislation providing state aid to counties for school building purposes. The bill, as proposed will provide up to 50 per cent and in some cases 60 per cent state aid. In other words all money the county puts up the State will match dollar for dollar, and in some cases, like Jackson for instance, it is hoped that the county can put up 40 cents and the State 60 cents. It is also possible that this fund may be made retroactive and if so it would provide Jackson County with an additional \$125,000.00 to \$130,000.00. BUT Jackson county will be unable to participate in one cent of the State aid fund unless the county has funds with which to match State funds. The only way Jackson county can get this fund is through the proposed bond issue. This is the reason the Board of Education has decided to go ahead and call the bond election for the \$480,000.00. If the bonds are authorized the board can go ahead with certain building projects up to half of this amount, holding the balance, as stated before, to match the State aid fund when this is available, and by spending the \$240,000.00, half of the bonds; and if the State is made retroactive, half of this, or \$120,000.00, would be paid back to the county. To sum up just how much money the county could figure on would be this: \$480,000.00 from the bond issue and at least \$250,000.00 from the State—if the county has the money to match State funds and if the State funds are made retroactive. This would then give the board some \$720,000.00, possibly enough money with which to carry out its original plan of a county-wide school improvement program.

The Board member stated that if the bond election does not carry, then and in that event, with the schools already condemned and the possibility of several others being condemned at any time, the court will probably direct the Board of County Commissioners to provide necessary funds through a direct tax levy which would provide less money and be far more burdensome to the taxpayers than if the bonds are authorized.

Jackson county cannot afford to do other than authorize the bond issue when called.

## "Never Too Old for Church School" Says North Carolina Title-holder



LEXINGTON, N. C.—Mrs. Eliza Jane Sink, nearly 94, the oldest Methodist Sunday school attendant to be nominated in a state-wide inquiry, is shown receiving recognition for her distinction. She attends the Cotton Grove Church near here.

Shown with her is the Rev. Carl H. King of Salisbury, executive secretary of the Western North Carolina Conference, who represents denominational headquarters officials in presenting a copy of Sallman's

"Head of Christ," gift of the Methodist Publishing House.

Similar awards are being made in other states in connection with the Methodist April-May "Crusade for Christ" stress on the values and importance of adult attendance.

"Your life-long loyalty will inspire the 37,450 schools of our Church in their efforts to interest older people," Mrs. Sink was told in an informal citation from the director of the Department of Christian Education of Adults, Dr. M. Leo Rippy of Nashville, Tenn.

## The Everyday Counsellor

By REV. HERBERT SPAUGH, D. D.

Empty barrels give out only noise. Don't forget that when you are listening to abusive language or administering it.

A letter from a disturbed correspondent presents a familiar picture. She has been married for more than 25 years. Her husband is irreligious, "cannot stand to hear the name of God mentioned; curses until it is almost unbearable to hear, and when I tell him to please stop, he tells that it is his own home and he will curse in it all he wants to." In addition to this he has for years had periodic affairs with other women. This correspondent wants some sort of an answer to her problem.

The answer is, "empty barrels."

Just how empty barrels are involved, I don't know. Quite evidently the husband is one, being empty of happiness, and is fighting against the inner call of Almighty God to lead a good life.



How some men and women fight that call! Created in the image of God, every man has within him a divine spark which reaches out to contact its Creator. The only way to overcome that upward urge is to fight against it with a downward urge.

The home itself may be another

## QUESTIONNAIRE

### STATE EDUCATION COMMISSION SEEKS CITIZENS OPINIONS

The North Carolina State Education Commission was authorized by the Legislature and appointed by the Governor to make a study of all phases of education in the state as a means of determining problems and recommending improvements. As one aspect of the study which is now under way the Commission believes it would be helpful to obtain opinions and suggestions from representative citizens of the State. The blank printed below may be used for submitting your suggestions and comments in a brief form. Please do this now while you are thinking about the matter. It will take only a few minutes of your time. The names of the individuals who submit suggestions will not be made public.

Occupation .....County .....Town .....

- How good do you think the schools of North Carolina should be?
  - .....Among the best in the nation
  - .....About as good as the national average
  - .....About the average of the Southern States (that is, below the national average)
- If you believe the schools should be at least equal to the average for the nation would you be willing to pay the taxes necessary to reach this goal.
  - .....Yes
  - .....No
- What do you think about salaries now being paid teachers in North Carolina?
  - .....About right
  - .....Should be raised slightly
  - .....Should be raised considerably
- For what purposes should school facilities be used?
  - .....For school purposes only
  - .....For both school and community purposes during the regular school year only
  - .....For both school and community purposes on a year-round basis as needed
- Which should receive more emphasis in the schools of North Carolina? (check none, one, or more)
  - .....The fundamental skills (reading, writing, arithmetic and spelling)
  - .....Education for citizenship
  - .....Education for earning a living
  - .....The development and use of the resources of the state
- In your opinion what are the two or three most serious weaknesses or handicaps of the schools of the state?
  - .....
  - .....
  - .....
- In your opinion what are the two or three strongest or best features of the schools of the state?
  - .....
  - .....
  - .....

Please complete and return to:  
The State Education Commission  
W. H. Plemmons, Executive Secretary  
Senate Chamber, Capitol Building  
Raleigh, N. C.

empty barrel. The husband may not find happiness and contentment there, and may be seeking it elsewhere. He may be craving attention, and getting it by heaping abuse on his wife. Both husbands and wives try this trick in the home to get attention when it is not given to them voluntarily.

The wife herself evidently has some emptiness of spirit. If she was in full contact with the Lord, she would be able to work the prayer lever on her husband. There is nothing like bringing God's power to bear, by remote control, upon one whom we desire to help, but to whom we dare not speak about spiritual things.

I would say that this home needed some spiritual housecleaning. The place to begin is for the wife to start on herself. She may think she does not need it, but the fact that she admits that she can do nothing for the profane husband, indicates that she does need something. Even if she does not lecture him, nag at him, she is not bringing a positive influence for good to bear upon him. Evil can be overcome with good. Let her establish close communion with her Lord, give herself to heart-searching prayer for herself and her husband, try letting her actions speak louder than her words. Then let her work the prayer lever, and the work it hard.

It was Archimedes who said that if he had a lever long enough and fulcrum, he could move the earth. There is tremendous power in the prayer lever when the fulcrum is a life fully yielded to God. The length of the lever and the size of the fulcrum determine the effect of the power. The length of our prayer lever is determined by the size of our faith, while the fulcrum is determined by the fullness of our lives yielded to God.

## TIMBER TALKS

By W. C. HENNESSEE

I am writing this column as a means of bringing the people of Jackson County some information and experiences I have learned thru many years of working with the lumber industry. This experience was gained both in cutting and moving timber and in working with foresters.

Jackson County has 28 sawmills cutting annually 17 Million Bd. Ft. of lumber. A large part of our county's income is derived from forest products which give the farmer and woodland owners a steady income if looked after and taken care of. Timber is a crop, give it the same care that you give other crops on your farm.

LET'S KEEP JACKSON COUNTY GREEN.

that if he had a lever long enough and fulcrum, he could move the earth. There is tremendous power in the prayer lever when the fulcrum is a life fully yielded to God. The length of the lever and the size of the fulcrum determine the effect of the power. The length of our prayer lever is determined by the size of our faith, while the fulcrum is determined by the fullness of our lives yielded to God.

# Announcing - - - The Opening of Our GLASS SHOP

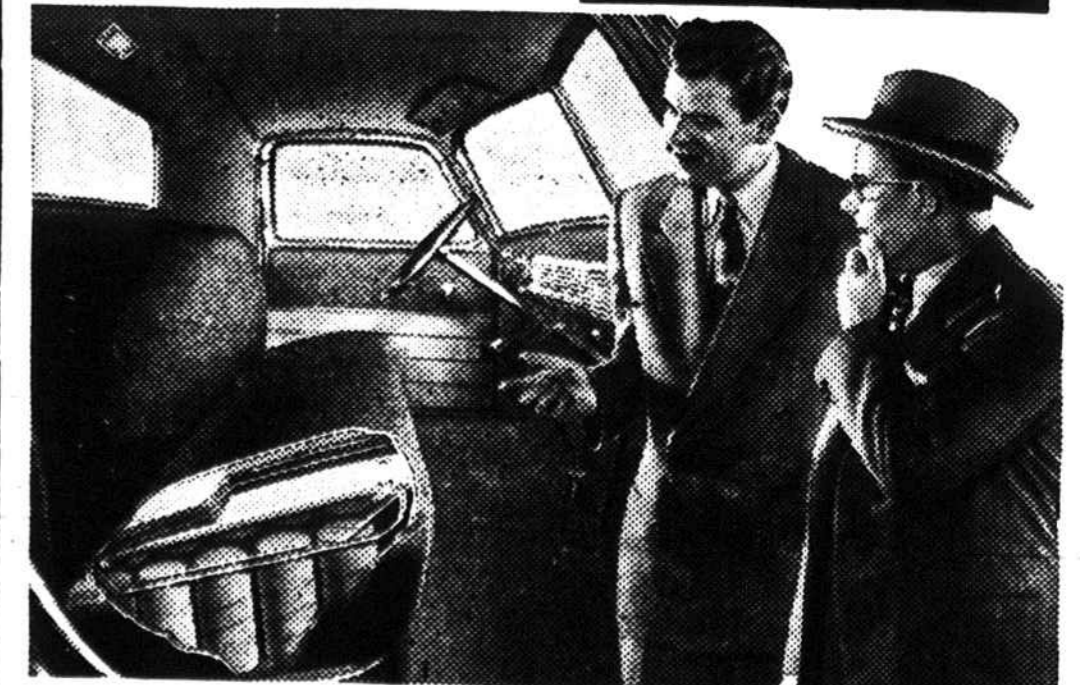
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