

## Do it Now

### ROADS IN POLK COUNTY.

Tells of the Results Accomplished by His Recent Trip to the Tryon-Saluda and Tryon-Lynn Roads to Follow.

County News: regard to the new road commission for our county, and under the which it is operating, there is great public interest, and attention is asked me continually, "What is the commission doing, and is it going to do?" I propose, if you will grant me space, to tell you what it is doing, and what it is going to do. It contains great possibilities of development for our county. The extent to which development will be realized depends partly on the work of the commission, but principally on the cooperation which your county receives from each and every one of the county. Without this cooperation it is powerless to accomplish any

commission has had two meetings, but has been unable to organize, because of Mr. Lancaster's failure to appear. A meeting will be held for permanent organization and business, on the first Monday in May, at which time all township trustees and others having road or bridge work in their charge are called on to settle with the county treasurer and turn over their share of the new treasurer, yet to be elected.

Difficult situation faces us this year. Only three out of the six townships have any road tax last year, and only three townships have money for road maintenance in 1919. The only resource left to the commission in the other three townships is to turn over the free labor which will be done.

Primary idea of our new law is to have a county system of road and maintenance and construction, and of the divided responsibility which has antiquated township plan, and has proved a failure everywhere, and has been abandoned by all progressive counties.

With regard to the construction of Tryon-Saluda highway, and the paving of the macadam road from Tryon to a point beyond Lynn, which projects a bond issue was two years ago, and on which construction has been held up on account of war conditions, the special session, which has charge of this for the county, finds itself in position: The estimate of cost for this work in 1916 was about \$30,000. Under agreement with the road officials, Tryon and Saluda townships were to furnish \$15,000 between them, and the Federal Government was to furnish \$15,000.00 under the changed conditions.

Under the changed conditions, the U. S. road engineers have supervision of this project, estimated the present cost of the road at about \$50,000.00 with an annual amount for bridges, if there were to be included. This would be a deficiency to be made up by the county and Saluda townships of \$10,000 more, to secure a like amount of Federal aid. With the engineer unwilling to permit the road to start till this deficiency was up, the only solution seemed to be to get State aid and then apply for additional Federal aid. The writer just met the State Highway Commission in Raleigh and laid the matter before them with an application for State aid of \$14,000.00, which was granted. This enabled us to start the road at an early date.

The county is very fortunate in being able to secure this State aid, as it is only a small fund available from year to year which State aid applications can be made.

We have the assurance that next year the State and Federal aid will be available for the construction of a road across the county toward Rutherfordton.

G. H. HOLMES Commissioner.

### PEARIDGE.

Arthur A. Thompson, of the 105th Infantry, 30th Division, arrived Saturday. We were all glad to see him home again.

Miss Mattie Phillips spent Saturday with Miss Myrtle Taylor.

E. S. Kibbe visited at Mr. P. G. Thompson's, Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Phillips and Mr. Thompson spent Sunday at E. Thompson's.

Misses Mamie and Alice Wilson, from Mill Spring Route 1, spent Saturday night at Mr. J. L. Jackson's.

Mr. and Mrs. Grover Green were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Thas F. Mills, Sunday.

### FOR THE SOLDIERS' MONUMENT

Interest all over the county appears to have been aroused over the proposition of erecting a monument to our soldier boys in Polk county. There is some misunderstanding as to the object. It is the aim to build a monument to all our soldier boys, not only those who lost their lives in Europe, but to all who donned the uniform and entered the service, whether they got any further than the training camps or not. The intent was the same as though they saw overseas service, and let us not make any difference in that respect.

Every American boy who entered the service during the war is to be commended, and we who were denied that opportunity desire to take this opportunity of showing the boys that we hold them in sacred remembrance. Let every township, next Saturday, select three delegates to attend the meeting at Columbus, the Monday following, and perfect an organization that will force the movement to a speedy and desired end.

Tryon will hold a big public meeting at the school house auditorium on Friday evening at 8:30, and it has been decided to hold the township meeting at the same time, and thus get a fuller expression of the people of the township. A full attendance is looked for.

### SALUDA.

Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Corwith entertained their numerous friends at an afternoon tea, on the 23rd inst. The decorations inside the house, as well as in the orchard, were a profusion of apple blossoms, beautiful to look at, and a fine outlook for a good crop at harvest time. The refreshments served were delicious as the fruit, which has made Overbrook Orchard famous.

Miss Jean Simpson, for a short time a resident of Saluda, has been spending a week here, as agent of Mrs. H. McKee. Miss Simpson will shortly return to her old home in Dundee, Scotland, for the summer.

Mrs. Oehler has returned to her home for the season.

Mrs. J. T. Coates has returned to Saluda, after spending the winter in St. Petersburg, Fla. Her daughter, Miss Mary Coates, stopped on the way to visit friends in Macon, Ga.

Mr. Ed Schafer and family are up for the summer, and are occupying their cottage near Esseola Inn.

Major Powell and wife spent a few days her last week, stopping at Mrs. Locke's.

Mr. Holmes, of South Carolina, spent the week-end at Mrs. Locke's.

Col. Slaughter and daughter went to Asheville on the 23rd, for the day. Mrs. Sonner spent last Wednesday in Hendersonville.

The material for a new bungalow is being assembled on the fine site chosen by Mrs. Morrison, a few years ago, on Duncan hill.

Thompson & Pace have torn away some old frame buildings, preparatory to the erection of three stores of brick, to be used, one for a garage, one for a meat market, the third not yet appropriated.

A new street has been opened between the property of Mr. Simpson and that of Mr. Pace, which will be a great improvement to that part of the town, making the summer homes on the hill much more accessible.

Dr. E. M. Salley has taken a patient to Asheville, to be operated on for appendicitis.

Old Mr. Meeser, who has been very feeble for a long time, passed away last Wednesday, and his remains were interred at Friendship church yard.

Mr. W. H. Pace and wife and daughter are spending a few days in Charlotte, N. C., with relatives and friends.

Mrs. H. B. Lane is visiting relatives in Charleston, S. C., but expects to return to Saluda early in May.

### MILL SPRING ROUTE 2.

Mr. Enoch Ruff is home on a furlough.

Misses Grace and Oma Gibbs took dinner at Mr. T. N. Wilson's, on last Sunday.

Mr. Willie B. McGuinn and sister, Mrs. Lela Gibbs, visited their sister, Mrs. Lillie Melton.

Several from this section went to Rutherfordton last Saturday, to have dental work done.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Pitts made a business trip to Spartanburg, S. C., last Saturday.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Gilbert, on April 22nd, a boy.

Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Coggins spent Saturday with Mrs. Robert Melton.

Miss Myrtle Whiteside and little sister were visitors on the route Sunday afternoon.

Some one from this section had the misfortune to lose a bee swarm last Sunday.

Mr. T. E. Bailey is very low with fever.

Misses Mamie and Alice Wilson, from Mill Spring Route 1, spent Saturday night at Mr. J. L. Jackson's.

## LEST WE FORGET



(Posed by Mary Pickford)

## Which Road Are You Traveling?

There are two roads in life. One leads to a quagmire of nothingness. The other leads to success. Both are lined with sign posts to show the weary traveler in which direction he is moving. But many people go along, their eyes on the skies, on the ground, or unseeing in dreamland, never noticing that they are advancing on the wrong highway. Do you know which road you are traveling? Here are the sign posts. The end of one will find you empty-handed; The end of the other will find you with funds for a sunny opportunity—with War Savings Stamps and Liberty Bonds working for you at over 4% interest.

### Spendthrift Road.

"This is on me."  
"One more of the same."  
"Lend me five."  
"Charge this."  
"Here, boy."  
"Where do we go from here?"  
"Let's have another round."  
"You can go home any time."  
"Your money's no good."  
"I can't be bothered with small change."  
"The sky's the limit."  
"I'm paying for this."  
"Don't be a piker."  
"It's all in a lifetime."  
"More where this came from."  
"Easy come, easy go."  
"Eat, drink and be merry."

### Thrift Road.

"What is the price of this?"  
"One will do."  
"The walk will do me good."  
"No, thank you."  
"I can't afford that."  
"Give me your best price."  
"I'll carry this."  
"I promised my wife."  
"I need the money."  
"Let me pay my share."  
"I can get along without this."  
"I'll get it as I need it."  
"Is it worth seeing?"  
"A penny is as good in my pocket."  
"This is what I've gotten for my money."  
"I could, but there are more necessary things to be taken care of first."



First American Flag to Enter Germany With Our Army of Occupation.

The Victory Liberty Loan will pay the bills for maintaining our Expeditionary Forces overseas. (Illustration copyrighted by Committee on Public Information from Underwood & Underwood, N. Y.)

### LYNN.

Mr. W. T. Hammett has been nursing a very bad cold for several days. The Ballard brothers, Jay and Earnest, both have positions in Spartanburg. Jay only took about ten days' rest after his return from 'over there' doffed his uniform and went to work.

Mr. West Gray, of Rutherfordton Route 2, was a visitor in our town last week.

We have not heard of any damage being done to fruit and gardens from the recent cold spell.

R. Brayan Cannon and little son, Harold, of Spartanburg, ran up last Sunday and spent the day with home folks, returning on the evening train.

Keep the boys' monument on your mind. Don't forget time, place, day and date.

Mr. S. F. Fowler has purchased a Ford.

Mr. R. D. Gray left for his home Saturday morning.

Mr. W. F. Swann, representing the Asheville Times, left for Rutherfordton, last Monday.

Miss Emma Hicks is visiting the family of her brother, Mr. G. M. Hicks, at New Prospect, S. C.

Mrs. E. E. Bennett, of Greenville, S. C., is visiting Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Swann.

Mrs. F. B. Bradley, of Raleigh, N. C., is nursing her sick father, Mr. Page Rollins. Mrs. Bradley's services are very much appreciated by her many relatives and friends.

There seemed to be some misunderstanding about Rev. Mr. Black's services, last Sunday. The notice appeared under Lynn correspondence, but we didn't know anything of it. It was intended to be the anniversary of the I. O. O. F., of this place.

Cupid bent his bow and his arrow went direct to the hearts of Miss Hattie B. Rhodes and Mr. Kilpatrick of Spartanburg, and they were made husband and wife by a few official remarks by Rev. R. N. Pratt, in the presence of friends at the home of her uncle, Mr. V. G. Rhodes, last Sunday, at 3 p. m. After the ceremony the newly married pair departed by auto for Spartanburg. No cards.

The Lynn community club met at the school house last Thursday night. Those present seemed to be very much interested. Mr. W. T. Hammett, president of the club being absent, Mr. W. F. Swann presided. The club appointed a committee to circulate a petition to the Secretary of State, asking for a charter for Lynn special school district, and to make their report at the next meeting of club, May 22nd. Thursday, May 8th, was set for clean-up day of the school grounds. It is to be hoped that the grounds may be well set in order.

The school at this place closed last Friday night. During this term the school suffered from unforeseen difficulties. Suspension, change of teachers on account of sickness. While we believe it would have been good for the children to have had a little closing exhibition, those in charge thought otherwise, so there was nothing done at the close except the Tryon Lodge of the Jr. O. U. A. M., donated to the school a nice flag and Bible. Mr. A. L. Hill, of Tryon, in his pleasant and affable way, and in behalf of the Jr. order, made a speech of donation and Mr. W. F. Swann, of Lynn, in his easy and pleasant way, and in behalf of the school, made the speech of acceptance.

Mr. Gray, principal, and Miss Hattie Rhodes, his assistant, deserve very much credit for having the house so nicely cleaned and decorated.

### MELVIN HILL.

Mrs. Emma Shehan, of Clifton, is spending some time with her mother, Mrs. Morris, who has been sick for some time.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Johnson attended a family reunion at the home of the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sump Jackson, last Sunday. The occasion was in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Jackson's son, who had recently returned from overseas.

Mrs. Etta Branscom is still very poorly in health.

It is reported that there are a few cases of flu around again.

Word has been received here from Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Kilpatrick who went to Texas some time ago, that they were intending to come back to Melvin Hill in the near future.

Mr. Ike Kimbrell has been quite sick for some time.

Mr. Reed and family have gone on their long contemplated visit to their kinspeople in Allegheny, N. C.

armers are done planting cotton in this vicinity.

Miss Jennie Robb called on Mrs. Morris, Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. O. R. Steadman's baby that was sick, is much better.

Mr. Walter Westbrook is home from Pomaria, S. C., on account of the illness of his wife, who, it is reported, has the flu.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Burnett took Mrs. Branscom for a car ride, Sunday afternoon, thinking the air and sunshine would be beneficial to her.

Mr. Ben Morris went to Spartanburg, and Clifton, last Saturday.

Two little girls of Melvin Hill went fishing the other day, and had many adventures. Saw six snakes, heard mad dogs barking, etc., and had it not been for a big brother who went along, and who could throw stones, as all boys can, and drive away the reptiles, which by the way were nothing more than black snakes and water moccasins; these two little girls would have been gobbled up no doubt.

### CONDITION OF OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Statement as to Amount of Revenue Needed to Run the Kind of School Tryon is Entitled to. What Must Be Done if Voters Fail to Do Duty.

Editor Polk County News: Last week there was published in the NEWS a proposed budget of the Tryon Graded School for the coming year, in the event the voters authorized the tax increase. You will note it was based on employing seven teachers of the first-class. Now let us look at an alternative budget the one the new board must make up in case the voters do not authorize a tax increase.

The receipts will be From State and county.....\$2,650.00 From special tax.....2,300.00

Total.....\$4,950.00 First the board would have to face these expenses:

Bond interest.....\$600.00 Coal.....75.00 Janitor.....125.00 Incidentals.....200.00 Insurance.....75.00 Borrowed money, unpaid.....600.00 Colored school.....100.00

Total.....\$1,775.00 Deducting this from receipts leaves \$3,175.00 for teachers salaries.

Principal.....\$1,000.00 1 teachers at \$65.....2,080.00 Total.....\$3,080.00

And thus you will get (1) A cheaper and inferior principal. (2) A cheaper and inferior primary teacher.

(3) No high school teacher. (4) Nothing in the sinking fund.

To have no high school teacher means the work must stop at the 9th grade and more families move away, while Tryon would lose the best opportunity likely to come of establishing an efficient high school. To put nothing in the sinking fund simply means that you are piling up the burden that has to be met later.

Further the teaching force of five would hardly be apt to keep the attendance to the point necessary to secure \$2,650.00 from the county, and a reduction in revenue would come from that source, while the faculty of seven, under efficient management and energetic enforcement of attendance law can bring about such an increase in attendance that a very substantial increase would come from the State and county.

The two propositions have now been placed before you. It is for you to decide.

Gone are the days when Tryon can get along with a make-believe school of three teachers at \$36.00 to \$40.00 a month for five months, and with bond interest in default and an annual deficit. Yet that was the condition four years ago. No matter what the Tryon voters say, our law makers at Raleigh have said that a qualified teacher in North Carolina shall receive during the months she teaches something like the store clerk gets, even tho' she earns very little the rest of the year.

If you care nothing for the welfare of the community, if you care not for the growth of the town if you can only measure a proposition by its effect on yourself in dollars and cents, then get down your tax receipt, see what your special school tax is now, and ask yourself, "Is not a really good public school going to be worth this much more to me?" and vote accordingly.

The School Finances.

In order to take the public into the fullest confidence and answer the oft-asked question, "Where does the money go?" I am giving a preliminary financial report for the current year, of course partly estimated, both as to receipts and expenditures. A complete report can not be made until the end of the year, which is June 30. At that time a detailed report will be published in the NEWS as required by law. In addition to the amounts as given below, there has been received in donations about \$200.00 or more all of which has been on its being expended on the building and grounds, but which is not handled by the treasurer. There has also been donated for the sewer fund the sum of \$55.30, of which there is on hand \$29.86, with the sewer pipe to be paid for.

Receipts From the county.....\$ 800.00 From special tax.....2,350.00

Total.....\$3,150.00

Expenditures Teachers' salaries.....\$2,331.00 Bond interest.....600.00 Janitor.....97.00 Coal.....97.00 Expended on windows.....250.00 Other repairs.....25.00 Incidentals.....52.00 Interest on borrowed money.....52.00 Probable bills payable.....150.00

Total.....\$3,652.00 Deficit.....502.00 Net deficit July 1, 1919.....90.00

Total debt July 1, 1919.....\$592.00 C. P. MARRIOTT Secretary-Treasurer.

Literature.

Everyone knows what books are. But what is literature? It is the ark on the flood. It is the light on the candlestick. It is the flower among the leaves; the consummation of the plant's vitality, the crown of its beauty, and the treasure house of its seeds.

PEARL J. VAN DYKE