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## THE CLINTON CHRONICLE. CLINTON. S. C.

try sections.

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1929

J. F. JACOBS.

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## LAURENS COUNTY

and enter Greenville county.

Should the election be held and prove successful, Laurens county will lose upwards of a quarter of a million dollars of assessed value of property, about 400 voters, a population of upwards of 2,000, several school districts and several churches.

Some years ago Newberry officials opposed to building the Calhoun highway through Whitmire - the northwith a proposition by the Whitmire county.

A little later the people resident on supplied with roads. the ridge between Bush river and Little unless they were given a good road. ton highway, between the Pabuns, to dissatisfied. Even Laurens, Clinton, before the necessity of scession comes The supervisor built a ridge road down that ridge to connect from state route 56 to a Newberry county highway running down by Bush river church and Helena to Newberry. This Bedenbaugh ridge is still in Laurens county.

However, the Northwestern portion of Youngs township, though they begged for roads enabling them to go to market at Fountain Inn and to send their children in by bus lines to Fountain Inn, were only heard. Nothing was done. Now they are to determine whether they shall be citizens of Greenville county or citizens of Laurens county. They have the right to determine the matter for themselves.

The writer would dislike extremely seeing any part of Laurens county cut off from the county, but the people

Iu the November 14th issue of The of good roads? The answer is the re-Laurens Advertiser the first article actionary spirit, the defect in the on the front page, headed "Commis- \$500,000 good roads bond issue bill, sion Now Shaping Report," gave the which presented that bill for referenstory of the progress of the secession dum to the Democratic primary where movement, which proposes to put to an it was successful, instead of to a genelection the question of whether the eral election, where it would probably northwestern corner of Youngs town- have been successful. Result: Re-ac- gineer in charge, as is done in many tionaries attacked the act after suc- progressive counties, then we would cessful referendum, and secured the have a reduced taxation for county Supreme court ruling that the act was unconstitutional, because presented to but we would have very much better the wrong kind of an election.

That is the reason why these and house anywhere in Laurens county other sections of Laurens county are more than two miles from a highway. without good roads today. That \$500,- These two bills have been present-000 bond issue would have prevented ed to the members of the delegation. this secession threat of the northwest- They have not, however, had the supern corner of the county. and would port of the county commissioners and Should the upper part of Youngs west corner of Newberry-were met have satisfied many other sections supervisor; nor have they had the uni- township secede before that time, the which are not now satisfied. There fied support of all members of the county highway system and county section to secede from Newberry are dissatisfatied sections in every delegation. They have not been passed. road and bridge maintenance question, county, and the road was promptly township in Laurens county, even in- As a result, we spend a great deal of and the economical and efficient exbuilt. Whitmire is still in Newberry cluding Laurens township and Hunter money each year (upwards of \$100,000 penditure of county taxes for road and township, which townships are best a year in recent years) for county bridge maintenance, and the making

road and bridge maintenance, while of the best use of the chaingang forc-There was a very much dissatisfied many of the roads are deserted and es, will become red-hot questions the river, lying south of Kinards and ridge between the two Rabuns, until are washed into gullies; bridges un- county over. Candidates will probably Goldville, becoming discouraged in at the last election their demands were built where they ought to be built, a be called upon to announce their attitheir continual application for a bet- met with a promise by the county little new highway building done, but tude towards these red-hot questions. ter highway down the ridge, threaten- delegation that a ridge road should precious little; and the people, at least If the people wake up to the point ed to secede from Laurens county be built up from the Laurens-Prince- a large percentage of them, extremely where they will express "hemselves

the Greenville line. That road has been Cross Hill and the other towns of the ; on, they may get results, not on one erned by a non-political commission, built, or almost finished. Why not solve all of this discontent

at one time, by passing a county-wide good roads bond issue of \$500,000 as originally proposed and approved by the people? If such a bill were passed, and if another bill were passed 1eforming the county chain gang control, and road and bridge maintenance, by putting the entire business under a commission control, with a county enroad maintenance in a very short time, roads; and there would not be a farm

most nothing.

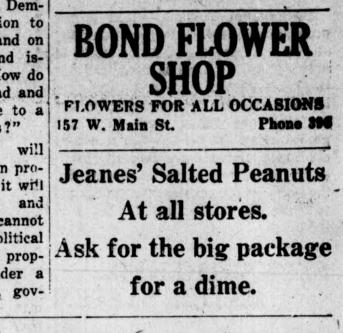
the delegation to answer, and a ques- be built or maintained by a political tion for the county commissioners and organization. They can only be prop- Ask for the big package the supervisor to answer. Thus far erly built and maintained under a the answer has been in favor of al- competent engineer's direction, gov-

Next year there will be an election.

county are dissatisfied because they ridge or another, but the county over. as in Newberry county, and other have not complete touch with all coun- Every precinct which fails to get sat- nearby counties. isfactory bills passed at the next leg-

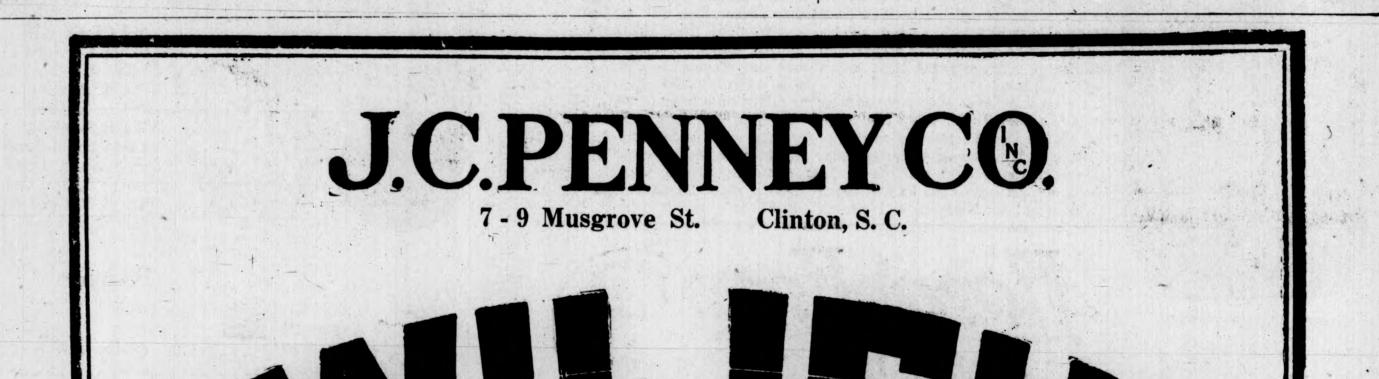
Will the delegation leave it this islature, should at the following Demway, and run the risk or losing not ocratic primary put the question to only the northwestern corner of the all candidates, "How do you stand on county, but ultimately other sections a county-wide good roads bond isof the county? Will they let Laurens sue?" and also the question, "How do county dwindle, or will they give us a you stand on reforming our road and progressive and necessary policy of bridge maintenance expenditure to a ample funds for a county highway scientific and non-political basis?"

system, and scientific and business-Ultimately Laurens county will like control of the expenditure of all wake up and enforce its views on profunds devoted to road and bridge gressiveism in road building, or it will maitenance and construction in Lau- disintegrate, growing poorer and rens county? That is a question for weaker year by year. Roads cannot



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have a right to go into any county they can get into, where the conditions of living will be better than where they are.

Youngs township has only one m le of state highway in it, and only seven miles of county highway, from Gray Court to Woodruff bridge. Their case is paralleled by Jacks township, which, while it has state highway route 7 diagonalizing the township, and one mile of state route 56, it has not a single mile of county highway in it. The northeastern part of Jacks township has talked of seceding and joining Newberry county. They may, if the Youngs township secession succeeds, develop a second secession. Newberry county has developed a number of highways, state and county, just across the line from these Jacks township people. The temptation will be strong.

Similarly, the southeastern section of Cross Hill township will be tempted, for lack of good roads, to join Greenwood county. The remainder of Youngs township, if they continue to be neglected, may join Spartanburg county. Princeton, if it doesn't get a paved road on the Dixie highway, may secede and join Greenville or Anderson county. The entire ridge between the Reedy and the Saluda rivers. southeast of Ware Shoals, sadly needs a ridge road, and has asked for it time and again. If they don't get it, they may secede into Greenwood county.

So Laurens county may continue to dwindle, and what is the complaint? Lack of good roads. And why the lack



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