

Good Roads Department

Proposed Bond Issue \$750,000 Election to be Held March 30, 1915.

Road Commissioners Provided in Act:

- B. M. Aull, Anderson
- J. S. Fowler, Anderson
- H. M. Broyles, Townsville
- Ross Mitchell, Belton
- H. F. Cely, Piedmont
- C. E. Harper, Honea Path
- Paul R. Earle, Anderson
- R. F. D. Mack King, Supervisor, Belton
- W. Frank McGee, Iva

FROM SEPT'S

Editor Intelligencer:

In this bond question now under discussion, we cannot believe that you intend to be unfair to us and we assure you that we want to be fair to you, however, we cannot understand why you insist on keeping that pretty picture of good roads before your readers in an effort, it seems to us to make believe that we and those who are in this fight with us, are opposing good roads. Here we are, right in the community in which we were born and reared, and where we will very likely spend the remainder of our days. Now, how is it possible for good roads to be of more help to you and why should you be more favorable toward them than we, since some day you may say that Anderson is not "My Town," and cast your lot away with some other people. Now, we would not be true to ourself, our children and future generations if we were not in favor of good roads. So, Mr. Editor, we are agreed on this point and we are only disagreeing as to how to raise the money with which to build good roads.

Now the interest on the proposed bonds with the sinking fund and the pay of that self-appointed commission would be right around \$18,000 per year, now let enough mills be added to our taxable property to raise this amount, let this run for ten years, and we will have expended near one-half million dollars extra of our present road levy, and at the end of the ten years with this great sum of money used, the right way will give us the best road system in the South, and unlike Greenville county with a bonded mortgage still hanging over them, ours will be paid for, is that clear to you Mr. Editor? Well, if not, then we are not responsible for your like of "understanding." Neither are we responsible for your running your head in this hornet's nest, and now that you have it in it don't begin running backwards and dodging, just stand up and fight it out. And now, Mr. Editor, without squirming or twisting, bucking or jumping, side-stepping or running, please come out and tell us why you favor placing a mortgage on Anderson county with which to build good roads on a credit, when they can be built and paid for in cash as they are built. Please tell us why you think it a good proposition for the taxpayers of this county to give to private individuals right at three dollars in order to get one dollar for good roads.

Well sir, we did this very thing in our first article, but in your moving picture show of good roads you ignored it just as you did every other point that we made. But we will give it again, and then if you fail to see the point we must be content with the fact that none are so blind as those who will not see.

Speak right out in the "meeting" now and tell us again, Mr. Editor, please tell us why you are willing to allow our people to raise seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars for good roads by a bond issue and unwilling for them to elect the commission that's to handle and manage it.

Look out! we are going to throw again. Now be a nice Polly and talk some—Don't you think it very unwise for a people to vote a measure on their heads that they can't vote off, and should they vote this bonded indebtedness against themselves and afterwards repent and want their sins forgiven. Wouldn't they be as helpless as a grasshopper with his head and both legs pulled off, and his wings "cropped," in getting rid of the burden, other than to allow it to run its course of forty years, while we would be taxed all of this time to support it. Under our plan of a special tax for roads, should it become a burden or should we find that we did not need it, then we could have it taken off. There's a difference. Now, we don't want to be too inquisitive, but will you tell us, Mr. Editor, that in case the bond issue carries, would you be just as willing for the building of the good roads to begin at one end as at the other? In building a good road from Anderson to Honea Path, how would it do to start at Honea Path and work this way, and building a good road from Anderson to Piedmont, how about starting at Piedmont? Let's start to work at the other end of all roads that's to be made good and work toward Anderson, for since

sinking fund at four per cent, when if Uncle Rube gets any of his own tax money he will be favored to pay whatever Mr. Banker chooses to charge him. Is there no law in this country against "skin games?"

For the sake of peace and unity and another opportunity, please tell us, Mr. Editor, if we should vote this bond issue under the bill as provided, how would we get redress in case that that highway commission should build roads in a way, in a place and in a manner, not consummate as a majority of our people might see it, since the bill provides that they shall hold office for five years and does not provide a way in which we could remove them if matters not how they handle our money.

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take off more. That's the hammer "that killed Juss Henry."

It's very strange that since that reginal bank act went into effect that this bond issue pain for good roads should have struck the whole country at the same time. We see that they have the same pain in Texas and in Grayson county, where we lived for four years and where they have the finest roads we ever saw, they are trying to get the people there to vote a nine hundred thousand dollar bond issue for good roads, and so you see, Uncle Rube, there are hogs there that's trying to get in the trough with all of their feet, just as there are here, and every where else. The only way to keep them out is to knock them senseless with the ballot box.

And now, Mr. Editor, till you meet our points of objection to the bond issue, and show us that we are wrong, we will never believe that you are right, and in the mean time, we will fight you till that place that we all hope to escape after death, freezes a 2r.

Some of our friends have asked us to reply to the ladies who have taken the opposite, side of this question, but will just say that we were born with enough sense not to argue with a woman and in order to save her the trouble of taking the last word, we just give it to her at the beginning. Of course, in drawing pretty pictures of good roads, we know that this bond question offers an inviting field for those inclined, to show that they have swallowed at least one copy of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, regardless of whether they can digest it or not.

Uncle Rube is not looking at this pretty picture of good roads, but the cast of building them under a bond issue is the thing that's got his attention.

they will be of so much help to the "issued tax" payers, we think they should have first consideration and should the money give out before reaching Anderson, the "issued tax" payers would still have the better of the bargain, which, of course, they are entitled to, judging from the sympathy that's manifested for them. Without regard as to what the commissioners might do, we want an expression from you, Mr. Editor, as to the above idea.

Now don't take us for an inter-rogation point, Mr. Editor, but can you tell us how it so happened that this bond election was set with a 30 day limit, thereby disfranchising many from voting, while they could not registered on the first Monday in this month? Quite a coincident you know. Let our legislative delegation have this one Brother Smoak.

Gentlemen, will you please tell us, while having so much sympathy for your Uncle Rube under his heavy burden of "taxation," why you would have him lose a day in going after the voting boxes, then coming out, and still another day in taking the boxes back to town, all without any pay? Was this done through excitement, if so, guess the commission is glad that it got in before the excitement started.

We may be barking up the wrong tree," still we believe that we are on the right trail in believing that you perhaps thought that Uncle Rube being busy plowing, would not lose three days from his work without pay, and there being no Uncle Rubes to manage the election, the other Uncle Rubes could not vote—hence the result.

But Uncle Rube will be there with the goods and help with the most high-handed piece of robbery ever attempted to be pulled off in this county, for since he worked last year on nothing he will not kick and is working three days now without any pay, not in such a crisis as this.

We want to assure you, Mr. Editor, that we fully agree with you in what you had to say a few days ago against some people using false statements in trying to get the other fellow to vote with them on this bond question. Believing that what's fair to the planter is also fair to the gander will you please tell us, Mr. Editor, what you think of a leading banker of Anderson standing up and telling an old farmer that the bond issue is alright and that it is all right for him to vote for it and should it be voted on, then all he would have to do to escape the extra raise in taxes would be to refuse to have the good roads built or reaching the edge of his plantation. Mr. Editor, this is an actual fact and you want the proof it would tickle us to the end of our toes at having the pleasure of furnishing it. Of course, that banker may have sense enough to run a bank, but if that was his honest opinion as to what that old farmer could do in this case, then he hasn't enough common sense to pour peas out of a bootleg without the directions on the heel.

Don't that banker know full well that the old farmer can no more stop work on the public roads running through his lands than a Jay bird can stop the great European war?

Mr. Editor, we are living in an enlightened age, and at last the common people are catching on to this rotten legislation, both State and national, and we care well aware of the fact that the purchaser of these Anderson county bonds would under that reginal bank act, get a clean, clear cut rake off of one hundred and eighty seven thousand five hundred dollars. Oh! no wonder the big rich bond purchaser is inquiring after those Greenville county bonds and assuring the people of that county that it will be no trouble to fear them. No wonder rich men are through certain channels trying to get us to vote bonds over our heads when their hellish purpose is to make the rich richer and the poor poorer.

Tribors of Anderson county, it matters not what your work may be, go to the polls on the 30th day of March, and by your vote show to the world that without compulsion and without the knowledge and consent of your children, you will place a debt on its head that will perhaps be a burden to it through the greater part of its life, for if by your vote you put this debt on it, then you are unfaithful and regard to your duty to that child as regards to its future welfare and you are to be gilded for your unfaithfulness or for your infernal ignorance. Talk to us about the bonds only raising the farmers taxes so little, when if it only raises our little cents, we don't proposed to give some round drel ten cents of that in order to get a nickel for good roads. No, Uncle Rube, it's not that they have no holes less, but that they have the

W. L. CASEY

P. S. In order to eliminate all doubt as to how we stand on good roads, we have just found that our daddy and his daddy's daddy, great-grand daddy's grand daddy, were all in favor of good roads, so that we have just naturally inherited a love for good roads.

W. L. C.

A STATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM

Up to January 1, 1914, the State of Maryland had issued \$9,170,000 worth of bonds for highway improvement, and the total amount of such bonds issued by the State, counties and districts, and not including those issued by Baltimore city for highway improvement was \$9,920,500, or something more than one-tenth of the total of \$93,005,207 issued by the South. Other highway bonds to the amount of several million dollars were issued by the State of Maryland in 1914. The proceeds of the bonds have been used in bringing to completion a well-conceived, comprehensive plan of State trunk highways, thereby giving ready access to Baltimore, the metropolis, and to Annapolis, the capital, from the

met in the court house at a given date to discuss the advisability of asking the delegation to pass a bill authorizing the election on this question. Now, in all fairness to everybody connected with the movement, I think the delegation did the wise thing in not putting these bonds over on the people (as was done by the Greenville County delegation) without first referring the matter to the people, as far as I have acquainted myself with this "good roads" question, and that is a matter of near two years experience as supervisor, I am convinced that we can never improve our roads or do anything tending toward permanency until we get more money and my plan would raise annually to meet the interest on the said \$750,000 bond issue and the 1 per cent to be placed in the redemption fund, and if this was kept up for a period of ten or twenty years would put the roads of Anderson County in good shape and there would be no outstanding bonds, which to speak plainly, is nothing less than a mortgage on the property of the county. And it might be that after a few years the people seeing the good results accruing to them from improved roads might demand bonds. If so it would come as a demand from the people and not as a demand to the people. The object lesson would be a daily reminder to the people of the need of better roads and I believe would eventually lead to bonds or more liberal appropriations for good road purposes. We could easily distribute this money for a number of years in putting in permanent water ways or as near permanent as can be obtained, as nothing is permanent for all time, not even iron or rock, for one rusts out and the other wears out, but this would be the best possible investment as this water way question is one source of continual drain on the county's fund and when stopped for any length of time would give more money to be expended on improving the road beds, and if at any time the people desired to cut out this direct method of application they would only have to elect men who would cut off this levy for permanent improvements. But once you bonds

Editor The Intelligencer:

At this time while the people are discussing the "pro and con" of the bond issue, I desire to set forth my views concerning this measure, and will say that I am uninfused by politics, as I may or may not ever again ask the people for office.

In the outset, I think this question should have been agitated long ago and thoroughly gone into by calling a mass meeting of the citizens of the county after due notice—to have

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is

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25c Imitation Chamois Gloves, 5 pairs	\$1.00
75c Niagara Maid Silk Gloves, 2 pair	\$1.00
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25c Beauty Pin, guaranteed top, 5 sets	\$1.00
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\$2.50 Ladies' Silk Petticoats, all colors	\$1.00
\$2.00 Ladies' White Linen Skirts	\$1.00
75c Ladies' House Dresses, 2 for	\$1.00
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10c Curtain Goods, large variety, 15 yards for	\$1.00
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50c Mikado Silk, beautiful colors, 3 yards	\$1.00
75c English Tipperary Serge, 54-inch, 2 yards	\$1.00
50c Table Linen, 3 yards	\$1.00
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\$1.50 Oxfords or Ties	\$1.00
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