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Pickens-North Carolina Road To Be Completed in 1922

That the Pickens-North Carolina highway will be open to the public for travel in 1922 is the opinion expressed by County Supervisor J. T. McKinney. Nine miles of this road—from Pickens to Price's store—has been graded and topped, the work being done by the county chain gang under the direction of Mr. McKinney. Approximately twelve miles of the road remains to be built before it reaches the North Carolina line. The county chain gang will be kept at work on the road, but in order to expedite its completion so that the people may get the benefit of it as early as practicable it is more than likely that part of the work will be let out by contract to some company that can put a steam shovel to work in the mountains.

The State Highway Commission recently appropriated \$40,000 to Pickens county for use on this highway, and the local tax for the road this year will approximate \$45,000. This will give a total of \$85,000 for the completion of the remaining twelve miles of the road.

Several members of the State Highway Commission have inspected the new road route and they are greatly impressed with its importance and the good work being done on it, and this accounts for the second liberal appropriation they have made for it.

The importance of the Pickens-North Carolina highway cannot be estimated. When it is completed there will be a good road from Augusta, Ga., via Pickens into the heart of Western North Carolina, and this will be the most direct route to this famous section for tourists from lower South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. Besides this it will open up for development a fine section of Pickens county which has heretofore been cut off from the rest of the world on account of no way to get in and out.

With the completion of the road the upper section of Pickens county through which it passes will develop at a rapid rate. Summer homes and probably hotels will be built, and the farmer will be afforded a way to get their produce to market. The road will add much wealth to the county, and is undoubtedly the forerunner of a railroad across the mountains.

Information has been received in Pickens that Transylvania county will build a hard surface road from Brevard to Rosman and the contract is ready to be let. This will form a link in the Pickens-Brevard road.

New Pickens-Walhalla Road

Speaking of roads in Pickens county, another important road is proposed and will more than likely be built within the next year. This is a road from Pickens to Walhalla by way of Old Pickens. Oconee county has already let the contract for the building of its part of the road from West Union to Old Pickens and work on it has begun. The length of the Pickens county part of this road will be about fourteen miles, but half of it is already in good condition. Two routes have been suggested for the road, one by way of Gap Hill church which route would require the building of no bridges, and one by way of Six Mile. It has not been definitely decided which route the road will go.

Ravenel's Bridge Road Open

The new Ravenel's bridge road near Clemson College was opened to the public about three weeks ago and is a great improvement over the old low road. The road was raised considerably by filling in and is now passable at all times of the year. Pickens and Oconee counties shared equally the expense of this work, as the road is partly in both counties.

Roads In Good Condition

The year just drawing to a close has seen much work done on the roads of Pickens county. There are about 2,000 miles of road in this county, eighty-five miles being topped. All the roads were worked during the year and practically all are in first class condition.

Twenty years ago it took practically two days to make a trip from Pickens to Greenville and back, and it was a day's drive from here to Holly Springs church and return. Now one may go to Greenville, transact

business and be back in Pickens within three hours, while the trip to Holly Springs and return may be made in little more than an hour with perfect ease and safety.

Thus does Pickens progress in good roads as well as education. In fact, the two go hand in hand.

GOV. COOPER'S ROAD PROGRAM Proposes State Spend \$34,000,000 For Roads In 6 Years

When the General Assembly meets next month Governor Cooper will present for the consideration of the legislators a plan to expend \$34,000,000 in a road building program covering a period of six years. The idea does not contemplate an increase in the state levy. The plan proposed is to build 4,000 miles of improved roads, 600 miles of which will be hard surfaced.

The sources of the revenue to be used in the road building project are: Federal aid for the next six years, \$6,600,000; an increased automobile license so as to produce \$1,300,000 a year, which would be \$7,800,000 in six years; approximately \$6,200,000 from the two-mill property tax already on the tax books; approximately \$3,400,000 from a tax of one cent a gallon on gasoline; and a state bond issue of \$10,000,000.

Details Of Plan.

Under the plan 2,000 miles of soft surfaced roads would be constructed to cost around \$10,000,000, including minor bridges and culverts. 600 miles of hard surfaced roads including grading, minor bridges and culverts, etc., to cost around \$10,000,000; all the state highway bridges not yet provided for would be built at approximately \$5,000,000. The plan would provide a sufficient maintenance fund of about \$5,000,000 for the six year period; provide around \$1,200,000 to maintain the state highway department for six years and interest and sinking fund of \$1,800,000 for the bonds.

MR. JOHN H. HAGOOD

Mr. John H. Hagood, one of Pickens counties most estimable sons, died at his home at Lima, Greenville county, Wednesday, December 15, in the eighty-third year of his life.

He was a son of the late Col. Benj. Hagood and wife Adaline Ambler, and a brother of Col. James E. Hagood. He was born at the old Hagood estate five miles north of Pickens in 1839 and continued to live there until about 1887 when he moved to Greenville county.

Mr. Hagood was a gallant Confederate soldier, serving throughout the four years of the war with conspicuous bravery. He was a member of Co. H, 4th S. C. Infantry, Capt. R. Y. H. Griffin; this Co. being mustered into service by Col. J. B. E. Stan at Hunter's muster ground near the Jeremiah Looper place.

The story of the struggles of the brave men of Pickens county taking part in many of the most terrible battles of the war from, and including, First Manassas to the surrender, is a story of which any nation would be proud, and their bravery and heroism is a priceless heritage to their descendants.

Mr. Hagood married Miss Lizzie Goodwin, of Greenville county, and is survived by three sons and three daughters.

For many months he was a helpless invalid, but his patience and fortitude and keen interest in everything and every one made a visit to his bedside an inspiration.

Funeral services were conducted by his pastor, Rev. Mr. White of Jackson Grove Methodist church, at the home on Friday, and interment followed in the Lima cemetery.

FEDERAL JURORS

The following Pickens county men have been drawn to serve on the petit jury in Federal court which will convene in Greenville on January 9, 1922:

First week: J. T. Gassaway, Central. Third week: Garrison Wyatt, Easley; John Wilson, Liberty; J. M. Childress, Easley R 6; T. L. Bivens, Pickens; P. O. Wilson, Catechoc.

My Gift

When Santa Claus is hitching up
The reindeers to his sleigh,
I'm going to bring a great big bag
Of love to him and say--

Dear Santa Claus, please take this bag
And on each Christmas tree
Tie just a little bunch of love
Fast with a memory.

O you dear friend I wish the best
Of all good gifts that are,
Good health, and wealth, and fame, and love,
The last more precious far.

So search ye closely every branch
When candles bright the tree,
And you will find my bit of love
Tied with a memory.

W. SNEDDEN, Michigan Farmer.

SCHOOL TRUSTEES ORGANIZE.

County Association Formed At Meeting in Court House Saturday.

School trustees of Pickens county met in the court house last Saturday and organized themselves into an association in order that they might work together and accomplish more good. Following officers were elected: Marcus O. Looper, president; T. A. Stewart, vice president; C. C. Burroughs, secretary. Superintendent Clayton was instructed to appoint a committee of three to draft a constitution for the association and he appointed Messrs. W. L. Matheny, J. R. Martin and H. E. Seaborn. The organization having been completed discussions of some important questions was taken up and much interest manifested by the trustees in their work and the welfare of their schools.

First, the association went on record as favoring a revision of our tax system, and a resolution was drawn to that effect and will be presented to the legislative delegation of Pickens county.

It was also decided to ask the local legislative delegation to have a bill passed requiring all Pickens county teachers to attend the annual teachers' institute and the monthly teachers' meetings.

The delegation will also be asked to have a bill passed requiring all public school teachers in Pickens county to teach or be at the school house not less than seven hours a day.

A resolution of thanks was adopted, thanking our representatives for their past efforts in behalf of the schools not only of Pickens county, but of the state at large.

The meeting was well attended and but for the very inclement weather there would have been a larger attendance. The meeting was enthusiastic and it is evident that the school trustee of Pickens county are determined to make our school system the very best in the state.

Representative J. S. Leopard was present and took part in the discussions.

NORRIS GRADED SCHOOL HONOR ROLL FOR NOVEMBER

First Grade—Sybil Gilstrap, Martha Boroughs, Thelma Garrett, Lloye Gilstrap, Addie Robinson, Isaac Cantrell, Velina Durham.

Second Grade—Harold Gaines, Clyde Owens, James Whiten, Mckler Whiten, Mattie Jo McWhorter, Frances Bolding, Elza Johnson, Flora Glover, May Gillespie, Roy Entreklin, Choice Gilstrap.

Third Grade—Furman Billingsley, Clemson Billingsley, Robert Johnson, Bertie Pilgram, Irene Gilstrap, Irene Cantrell.

Fourth Grade—Carlyle Clayton. Sixth Grade—Willie Grace Mullinax, Addie Lee Johnston.

BOYS HAD GREAT MEETING

County Corn Club Boys Enjoy Day At Pickens

Forty members of the Pickens county corn clubs of Pickens, accompanied by eight of the boys' fathers, attended the annual corn club meeting in Pickens on December 10 and enjoyed the day immensely.

The day's program consisted of the corn exhibits, free picture show, free dinner at the Pickens Inn and talks by Mr. B. O. Williams, assistant state agent for boys' club work, and Prof. L. M. Bauknight of Easley. Milton Sutherland, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Sutherland of Pumpkintown, won first prize of \$5.00 in gold for best ten-car exhibit. Young Sutherland also won two first prizes on his corn at the recent Easley fair. He is said to be an ideal club member, not only working hard, but attending all his club meetings.

Walter Williams, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Williams of the Mica section, won second prize of \$2.00.

Perry Nix, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Nix of the Long Branch community, won third prize of \$1.00.

The boys' club work in Pickens county was unusually successful this year, many of the parents are co-operating with the boys, and prospects for the work in 1922 are brightest since organization. At present there are five clubs in this county with seventy-five members.

County Agent Bowen wishes to thank the bankers and merchants of Pickens who furnished the money for prizes and entertainment of the boys and parents while here.

PICKENS COUNTY GETS NORMAL TRAINING TEACHER

A normal training teacher was obtained for Pickens county last Thursday when Superintendent of Education Clayton appeared before the State Board of Education in Columbia and presented his claims in person.

The normal training teacher will be located at the Easley high school and will give her service to the entire county the year round. Her duties will be to train teachers and prospective teachers so that they may be more efficient in their work. Besides her regular class at the Easley high school she will organize spring and fall classes in the county for any who wish to improve themselves in teaching, as well as those who anticipate teaching. This teacher's salary will be paid by the state.

As yet no teacher has been employed, but several applications are being considered and it is hoped that the work may begin by the first of the year.

Will pay 20c for cotton on buggies, two-horse Mogul wagons and one-horse Hickory wagons. Bivens & Co., Pickens.

Pickens Leads In Law Enforcement As Well As Education

A record for the prosecution of crime, regarded by authorities as distinctly unusual and successful, is disclosed in the annual report of David W. Smoak, solicitor of the Thirteenth Circuit, embracing Greenville and Pickens counties, says the Greenville Piedmont.

The report which was finished last week and mailed to the attorney general, shows that during the year 1921 Solicitor Smoak had disposed of 240 cases on the circuit. Of these 214 have been convicted and 26 have been acquitted by a jury.

Of the 26 acquitted a few were found not guilty by consent of the Solicitor, several by the direction of the court the Solicitor not contesting, and others were tried with co-defendants who were convicted.

One hundred and seventy-six of the 240 cases disposed of belong to Greenville county. Of these 154 were found guilty and 22 were acquitted.

Pickens' Unusual Record

This is undoubtedly one of the best records for conviction in the State, but it was surpassed in Pickens County, the other county of Solicitor's Smoak's circuit. In this county 64 cases were disposed of, 60 were convicted, and only four were turned loose by the jury, and of these four, two were tried along with co-defendants who were convicted.

Pickens county already leading the state in education, probably leads it in law enforcement, with but two outright acquittals during the year.

Twenty-Seven for Murder

Twenty-seven of the cases disposed of in Greenville County were for murder. All of these defendants were males, 18 were white, 9 black. Two were found guilty of murder without recommendation and were sentenced to death by electrocution, both staying the sentence of the court by appealing to the Supreme Court. Two others drew life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary, and are their now doing time. Thirteen were found guilty of manslaughter and got various terms in the State Penitentiary or upon the county chain gang. Ten were acquitted.

Six of the ten acquitted were passengers in an automobile which killed a boy upon a motorcycle, and were acquitted as a matter of course, by direction of the court, the solicitor consenting, when it appeared that they had absolutely nothing to do with the control of the car. The driver of the car received a mistrial. This direction of verdict, and the fact that some of the others acquitted of murder were tried along with other defendants who were convicted, pulls down to some extent the percentage of murder convictions, but the fact remains that only five or six were acquitted for murder during the course of the year, where the solicitor contested the case.

In Pickens only one case of murder was finally disposed of, resulting in one of the defendants getting manslaughter, and the other an acquittal. The Jake Gosnell case was also tried there but the jury failed to agree.

Important Cases.

The figures hardly tell all of the truth of Solicitor Smoak's record for the year. The fact is that he went into office facing the most congested docket probably ever seen in the circuit. The newly established county court took off his hands the minor trials, but left him with the most important ones, which were fiercely contested. These include some of the most interesting cases ever tried in the circuit. The State against Tom Harrison, Jake Gosnell, the two Bowers men, Batson, Barlowe, Charley Smart, Gibbs, Barton, Coggins, Stokes Brown, Salmon, and other white men, all of them charged with murder, and all of them ably defended by some of the best criminal lawyers of the state.

Bad Year For Criminals

In spite of this it has been a bad year in the thirteenth circuit for criminals, few of those who have elected to stand trial, making good their various pleas. Probably not over seven or eight cases submitted to a jury during the entire course

of the year have resulted in a verdict carrying no conviction whatsoever; whereas 214 men and women charged with crime have drawn from the lottery of justice punishment ranging from death by electrocution to fines with the alternative of chain-gang terms.

FARMERS MAY BORROW MONEY

Such Money Available For Loans On Cotton, State Commissioner Says.

Unlimited funds are now available through the United States war finance corporation to the farmers of South Carolina, according to information received from J. Clifton Rivers, state warehouse commissioner, by R. S. Long, cotton grader for the counties of Greenville, Anderson, Pickens and Oconee.

Mr. Long, who makes his home in Easley, believes that hundreds of farmers in the above named counties, as well as throughout the state, will avail themselves of the opportunity to store their cotton in a state warehouse, at the same time borrowing money to meet emergency expenses.

In the counties over which Mr. Long has jurisdiction there are 87 warehouses, which are members of the state warehouse system. These range in size from 100 bales to more than 1,200 bales, the warehouse at Conestee in Greenville county being the largest in the district. Mr. Long estimates that about 10,000 bales of cotton are stored in the various warehouses in this district.

According to the information obtained from the state warehouse commissioner by Mr. Long the money to be loaned through the banks of this state by the war finance corporation, can be secured at 5-1-2 per cent interest, plus a fee of two per cent which is charged by the banks handling the loan. The money can be secured by putting up the negotiable warehouse receipt.

Of the 87 warehouses in this district, eight have been erected during the present year. The state was divided into districts in August, Anderson, Greenville, Pickens and Oconee counties forming one of the 12 districts in the state.

OOLENOY NEWS ITEMS

Tolliver Powell, a veteran of the World War, who has been at the hospital at Camp Sevier for several months, has been discharged and is now at the home of his parents.

Mr. and Mrs. John Rop of Gainsville, Ga., are spending some time with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Roper.

Blease, the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Keith, who suffered a badly broken jaw bone two weeks ago, is now getting along as well as could be expected.

H. E. Hamilton of near Pickens has recently purchased a part of the Mark Jones farm here and has moved here to make his home. Such men are a valuable addition to any community.

J. W. Riddle, a brother-in-law of Mr. Hamilton has also moved here. He has rented the Mrs. Jamie Welborn place.

Ryan Keith has accepted work with a mercantile company at Woodside, Greenville. He is especially missed by the young people of this community.

Silas Simmons of near Twelve Mile has recently purchased the old Simmons homestead and will move to it soon.

SINGING CONVENTION

The Hurricane Township Singing convention will meet with Mountain View church the first Sunday afternoon in January at 2 o'clock.

The Central Township Singing convention will meet with Camp Creek church the fourth Sunday in December. All singing leaders invited.

MARRIAGE

Married, Sunday, December 18, Mr. J. W. Turner and Mrs. Daily Jones, both of Pickens county. W. S. Gantt, N. P., performed the ceremony. The happy couple have the best wishes of many friends.