

# RACE TO GET POWER TO YANCEYVILLE IS ON AS RIVAL CONCERNS BEGIN

C. W. Coppersmith and Carolina Power Company  
Planting Poles—War Memorial Dedicated—At-  
tempted Bank Robbery Last Night—First Chain  
Gang in 30 Years—Dowdytown Gets a Blow

(Special to The Bee)

YANCEYVILLE, N. C., Feb. 7.—Caswell county was pushing the front page for space today with a variety of happenings ranging from an attempted bank robbery to a power war which griped the attention of the local people. The chronicle of the day also told of a severe judicial visitation on Dowdytown and the spectacle of the first chain gang in thirty years sauntering off to work and finally the dedication this afternoon of the memorial in the public square to the 18 Caswell county men who fell in the world war.

The power war seemed to claim the chief interest. C. W. Coppersmith of Hillsboro, recently announced that he had made arrangements with the city authorities in Danville to get electric energy at the state line and that he would build a line at a cost of \$12,000 to provide current in the Caswell county seat and intermediate points. No sooner had this announcement filtered through the Old North State when Carolina Power company surveyors came up on the run and began getting rights of way. Coppersmith did too and each side has been hard at work securing easements, nearly two hundred in number all of which were recorded.

Today it looked as though the race was on. A gang of thirty men with trucks and other equipment began planting poles around Yanceyville just as fast as the dirt would fly and reports came from the Virginia line that Coppersmith had a big force at work putting up poles between the border and White's store. Both sides seem determined to get their lines up and it looks as though Yanceyville will have more power to it than it bargained for. The odds seem to favor Coppersmith for he has a shorter line to build it is said.

Efforts to get statements failed. No-body is saying anything and action

is regarded as having greater force than words. If both lines are put up it is expected that there will be an immediate rate war, to gain a foothold.

There were only 5 men on Caswell county's first chain gang in thirty years which left the town prison this morning. Caswell for years has been farming out her prisoners to other counties but recently there has been no demand for the Caswell offerings and the prisoners have been idle. The county authorities lost no time in going down to Raleigh and there secured a special enactment by the legislature providing for the re-institution of the Caswell county chain gang. The small group was at work working on road shoulders and other similar pursuits.

During last night an unknown person removed the glass panel from the door leading into the Bank of Yanceyville and went in. No damage was done inside and no money was taken.

The safe was not even tampered with but there had been a search for money and the cashier's six shooter is missing.

Judge Winstead has sent a message to Dowdytown. A group of men reported as living there or in the immediate environs have been fined heavily for alleged violations of the prohibition law. Buddy Haymes drew a fine of \$100. Walter Dryman took the count for the same amount while Herbert Fields also was assessed \$100. Conway Packler was fined \$200 and a youth docketed as Otis Bradley and living near Dowdytown was fined \$25. Costs were added in each instance.

A large number of people gathered in the public square at 3 o'clock to pay a permanent tribute to the Caswell men who while bearing arms for the nation died during the World

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war. A granite rock has been placed in the square and on it is a copper plate bearing the names of 16 men who gave their lives. There was a large turnout for the event and the ceremony was impressive. Allen Gwynn of Reidsville, himself a service man making the address. The memorial is not far from another, commemorating Caswell's part in the Civil war and it is near the German machine gun which Caswell secured as a war trophy.

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