

MAYOR ASSAILS COUNTY BOARD FOR HIGH TAX

**DECLARES THAT SUPERVISORS
HAVE GONE CRAZY OVER GOOD
ROADS WHICH IS CAUSE OF
HIGH TAXES AND DISCONTENT**

In his talk on the high taxes at the Chamber of Commerce meeting Mayor Charles E. Briere took the County Board of Supervisors to task for the big expenditures in good road and bridge building, which he explained was the reason for the high taxes for this city. The meeting was the result of the agitation prevalent thruout the city caused by property holders grumbling over the tax rate, the assessed valuations and high taxes in general. The mayor was invited to attend the meeting to explain the tax situation, which he did along with the attack on the zealousness of the county supervisors for their big expenditures in road building.

Names Huge Sums

Mayor Briere substantiated his claims that the county and state were responsible for the high taxes by reading the figures from the county board budgets for road and bridge work. "Besides the million and a half bond issue which has been voted to the county for good road work, the county board has levied another assessment of nearly a quarter of a million dollars for this year alone to do road and bridge work." Then the Mayor read off a series of figures which totaled \$215,000 which he said were split up in various sized items of improvement work in such a way as to "camouflage" the real sums being appropriated and he claimed that it was misleading to even the majority of the supervisors.

County Gets \$103,000

The Mayor in quoting from the figures stated that the County will get \$103,000 from the money raised by this city by taxation this year. He explained how \$26,000 of that amount was a charge for the keeping of the insane people, the poor and other items of expense of legitimate nature and then charged that the \$67,446 of that total was a surcharge on the good road work. "I have worked for good roads and want them, but there is a limit to the distance we should go as a county. The County Board has gone crazy over good roads," he said.

Tell Of City

The city will get only \$30,000 for general operation expenses such as building water mains, paving, sewers and street improvements, he said. This item he said was small for a city to spend to get improvements in comparison of the \$40,000 approximately that the city was paying to the county for good roads alone outside of paying the city's share on the bridge bonds and the half dollar bond issue interest. He stated that the expenses of the schools, city salaries and expenses had been constantly rising making a large sum necessary for running the city. Several people asked questions and there was a general discussion of taxes, assessing, violations as a closing of the meeting.