

# BOARD BACKED DOWN

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## Camden Freeholders Eager to Drop Turnpike Purchase Scheme

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### COURT ORDERS SERVED

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#### Charges That Members of the Board Had Acted Illegally and Were Interested in the Deal

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Members of the Camden County Board of Freeholders almost fell over each other yesterday in their haste to rescind their ill-advised action at a previous meeting in voting to purchase two unprofitable turnpikes at about double their value. The change of front was brought about by legal proceedings instituted by counsel for Dr. Willis H. Hunt, a taxpayer, who secured from Justice Garrison writs of certiorari to carry the turnpike deal to the Supreme Court for review. He secured restraining orders pending argument as to the legality of the board's action. The certiorari proceedings will be dropped, now that the board has backed down.

Lawyer Archer had the restraining orders in his pocket when the board met yesterday, but he gave the members an opportunity to square themselves. They quickly grasped at the chance.

The board first knocked out the Ellisburg turnpike purchase. Then Lawyer Archer stepped forward and served the restraining order in this case. The board then rescinded their action in buying the Camden and Westfield turnpike, and the other restraining order was served.

The purchase of the two roads, together with necessary repairs, would have cost the county nearly \$100,000. This would have shoved up the county tax rate from eighteen to twenty-four cents more than it was last year. In the petition for a certiorari it was alleged that the purchase of the turnpikes had been illegally consummated, and that two of the Freeholders were interested by holding stock and judgments.

The board decided to readvertise for proposals for an extension to the Blackwood Asylum, as the lowest bidder, William Severns, had failed to inclose his bond with his bid. Severns' bid was for \$37,950, and some of the members tried to have the contract awarded to B. F. Sweeten & Son for \$40,437.14, as the next lowest bid. New bids will be received on May 10.

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