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HOME DEMONSTRATION

Home demonstration knockers are invited to read the article published below, not for any consolation they might get but to throw some light on the reaction that usually follows the withdrawal of support to the departments of government which cost less and bring the largest returns. What is said here was written by W. O. Saunders, editor of the Elizabeth City Independent.

What he has to say about the action of the Pasquotank commissioners has also been ably seconded by Editor Peele, of the Daily Advance, at the same city. These men have been on the job in Pasquotank for many years and they are in a position to know the sentiment of the county citizens. Their utterances must be given weight, and what Saunders says about that board is a plenty. This is the way he says it:

"The Board of Commissioners of Pasquotank County did a narrow, short-sighted and regrettable piece of business yesterday when they cut off the appropriation of fifty dollars a month for the office of Home Demonstration Agent, thereby abolishing home demonstration work in the county. The Commissioners abolished the office for no other reason than to save a small item of expense and to gratify Chairman Noah Burfoot's grudge against Miss Marcie Albertson, who has held the office of Home Demonstration Agent for six years.

"It was Chairman Burfoot's vote that broke the tie and abolished the office. Chairman Burfoot dislikes Miss Marcie Albertson. She is progressive and he is reactionary; she is for the people and he is for Noah Burfoot; she is making farm life attractive and helping to keep boys and girls on the farms, and Mr. Burfoot is the proprietor of a small knitting mill who would much prefer seeing the boys and girls leave the farms ignorant and unskilled and work in the mills at low wages.

"Three new members of the Board of Commissioners sought election for the avowed purpose of cutting down the expense of the county government; and here is a sample of how they propose to do it. By cutting off the demonstration work in the county they have saved the tax payers of the county fifty dollars a month—that is all. Fifty dollars a month is all the demonstration work has cost the county, the rest of the cost being defrayed by the State and Federal governments.

"To save a miserable item of fifty dollars a month and to satisfy Chairman Burfoot's dislike for Miss Albertson, your Commissioners have abolished an office that was at the time helping nearly three hundred girls in this county to make so many farm homes more comfortable and more profitable. The Home Demonstration Agent in this county held more than four hundred meetings in the county last year and had thirty-two active clubs going. Miss Albertson has not only taught the girls of Pasquotank County how to better preserve and market the surplus products of the farms, gardens and orchards, but she has taught them the things they should know about diet, how to make their homes attractive, how to make their own clothes and millinery, how to beautify their yards and recently she had put them to work making rugs and baskets. The energizing and refining influence of this woman worked ceaselessly in the homes throughout the county and has been of incalculable value. But the work is abolished because a few simple men can't see it or, seeing, comprehend.

"This newspaper believes that the Commissioner will reconsider their action at an early date, when they have heard from the thousands throughout the city and county who appreciate the great value of the work that Miss Albertson has done. Once before a Board of Commissioners repented and reversed itself on this very question.

"We are to be congratulated that it didn't occur to the County Commissioners to save the taxpayers' money by closing all the schools in the county."

EXPENSIVE JUDICIARY

Editor Connor of the Roanoke-Chowan Times asserts himself forcibly on the question of increasing judges' salaries and adding ten new judges and solicitors, two proposals being advanced by the State Bar Association. His position is that the people are in no mood to increase salaries, nor to create new offices; and there is plenty of justification in what he says.

Discussion along this particular line is highly in order among Hertford County people just now. There is plenty of talk about a Recorder's Court for the county, and the lawyers are, so far as the Herald is able to learn, unitedly in favor of its creation. Legislation creating this court will probably be sought in the next legislature in January.

Like our Northampton contemporary, this paper does not believe any additional burden should be placed upon the taxpayers for more judicial officers, unless there is a greater demand than is current in the County now. This paper does not profess to know whether the court will actually be created, but it is well to use precaution when any additional expense is to be added to the county through its establishment, in addition to this county's share of whatever extra appropriation is made for more judges and solicitors for the State.

Here is what Editor Connor has to say about increased salaries, and a more expensive judiciary:

The question of increasing the pay of members of the General Assembly from four to ten dollars a day, submitted to the voters at the November election, was overwhelmingly defeated by the people. So would the proposition to increase the pay of Superior Court Judges from four to six thousand dollars a year, as was done by the last Legislature had it been submitted to a vote. The judges in the rural districts of North Carolina have to work less than one-fourth of the time, if Northampton is an average county, yet it is proposed by the State Bar Association, composed entirely of lawyers, to burden the people of the State with ten more judges and an equal number of solicitors, representing an additional annual pay roll of more than one hundred thousand dollars. This, if adopted by the Legislature, would be a useless expense simply to give twenty men easy jobs at public expense.

There may be a few counties like Wake, Guilford, New Hanover, Forsythe, which contain large towns that need more courts but there are a large number of counties, Northampton for one, that is provided for more courts than is needed, and by rearranging the courts those counties that need more courts could be supplied without increasing the tax burden one cent. Some two or three years ago we had occasion to ascertain the number of days court is held in Northampton and found that on an average court was not held half the time provided for.

The number of cases on a court docket does not indicate the necessity for additional courts. It is never intended to try many cases on the docket. They are placed there for other purposes. Many are on the docket because the lawyer's fee has not been paid, and no one blames the lawyers for keeping cases on the docket until they are paid, otherwise in many cases they would never collect.

This paper is opposed to creating any office just to give somebody a job.

A LITTLE NONSENSE

Absent-Minded Professor—"Margaret, please take that cat out of the room. I cannot have it making such a noise while I am at work. Where is it?"

Servant—"Why sir, you are sitting on it."

An old darkey visited a doctor and was given definite instructions as to what he should do. Shaking his head he was about to leave the office when the doctor said, "Here, Rastus, you forgot to pay me."

"Pay you for what, boss?"

"For my advice," replied the doctor.

"Naw suh! I ain't gwine ter take it," and Rastus shuffled out.

Millionaire (speaking to body of students) "All my success, all my tremendous financial prestige, I owe to one thing alone—pluck, pluck, pluck."

Student—"But how are we to find the right people to pluck?"

A man has no business in taking unto himself a wife unless he has the disposition to submit to being bossed at least part of the time.

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OFFICE CAT



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"I don't think much of this secret meeting business, if that is what they are doing," remarked one of Hertford County's citizens at Winton last Monday, as he waited with several others to hear the deliberations of the board at its first regular meeting. Other expressions similar to this one, some a little stiffer in the language used, were heard.

Whether the members had a private caucus, or a closed meeting the CAT does not know, and made no attempt to pry up the lid and find out what was going on. But, whatever transpired during the morning hours was certainly not included in the minutes, and cannot be considered as official acts of the board. For, the board's secretary was not on the job.

However, it goes to show how "leary" people are about public officials withholding any of their acts from the public who pays them. And, it is a good, healthy sign, and denotes an interest in good, orderly government.

"Just what I have been wanting them to do", remarked Superintendent Hines when the motion was carried to inspect the roads built by his men. "I will be right here Thursday with a Ford car, to carry four of you."

An inspection of the work, and an inventory of the equipment on hand, together with a financial statement ordered prepared will give the board a working knowledge of the road building business. It was a good move, and should uncover all deficiencies, if any, and probably assuage some of the loose talk about wasting money. Whether the report and findings are favorable or not, it is still a timely proposal.

"Since they have found out just how much power the chairman has (reference is hereby made to an account of last week's meeting of the board of commissioners) it looks like the office is a coveted one," said one taxpayer at Winton Monday. The road commissioners had been balloting for some time without breaking a tie—a deadlock that is still unsettled.

"No chairman can vote as a member to tie the count, and then vote as chairman to untie what he has already tied"—Robert's Revised Rules of Order. The CAT poked his head into that little red book Monday morning and that is what he read. If the board of commissioners abide by the ruling of its chairman, we'll be figuring on compiling us a new book on "Rules of Order." Lookout, Mr. Roberts.

Register of Deeds John A. Northcott wants to know when the CAT expects to express himself on the salary proposition for his office and other county offices. "When he gets enough information about what fees do amount to, what work is attached to the job, and how many men it takes to carry on the work", was the way the Editor answered it for the CAT.

"The average man knows but little about the work attached to the office; and what the job is entitled to pay," chimed in another taxpayer. And, that is true.

"If there's going to be a Recorder's Court for this County, Ahoskie expects to be chosen as its place of sitting", is what people here are saying. And, they are already awake to the job of proving to the rest of the folks that Ahoskie is entitled to it.

"Less you wear the longer you live," claims a doctor. We know a girl in Ahoskie who is racing with Methuselah.

Insanity is said to be akin to love; but a man in love doesn't care if he is crazy.

Our heart goes out to the kids of the country. It has been pointed out that December has five bath nights.

The peek-a-boo waist has been supplanted by the burlesque skirt. Give gloom the absent treatment.

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This Sale Will Last Until Dec. 25th

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