

THE FRANKLIN TIMES

A. F. JOHNSON, Editor and Manager
O. J. HALE, Assistant Manager

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Louisburg, N. C. April 12, 1918.

The Government is calling for another big number of troops the last of this month.

With the farmers expressing themselves as they are it looks like it is time for Dr. Alexander to resign as the President of the Farmers Union.

Louisburg now has as pretty streets as any town in the State. Will the merchants be allowed to detract from their appearance by using them for display spaces.

A stranger in town Wednesday seeing a sidewalk full of goods that was hardly passing room remarked that he was very much surprised at our merchants' and our town.

THE WAR

During the past week there has been no great changes to take place on the Western front, where the interest of the war activities now center. The reports show that the Germans have renewed their offensive at several points but have been held down to small gains. At no place have they broken the Allies lines and only in few places have any gains of any consequence been made.

COUNTY-WIDE SCHOOL TAX.

Supt. Best Gives Us Much Information For Our Readers.

The editor of the Times called on Supt. E. L. Best of Franklin County Public School System, and requested him to give us an interview, explaining as fully as he could the proposed county-wide school tax and its application to local conditions that our readers might be in better position to determine their future action on this important question.

Q. How much burden would this tax be?

A. 30c on every one hundred dollars valuation of property and 90c on each poll. The burden on the average acre of land in Franklin County would not be the total present value of two eggs.

Q. What about the Districts that already have a local school tax?

A. Section 5 of the Law under which the county tax election is called says: "That in case a majority of the qualified voters at said election in any township or in the entire county shall vote in favor of said special tax, on petition of a majority of the members of the board of trustees or the school committee of any existing special tax district within said township of county so voting, the county commissioners shall reduce the annual special local tax levy of said district by an amount not exceeding the special levy provided for the county or township under this act." In short this means that any district that has a local tax may reduce any or all of its local levy, just so it does not go below the County special levy.

Q. How much would each District receive from this special county-wide tax?

A. This fund, if voted, would be apportioned to each district just as the present school fund is apportioned. If this tax were voted and the general county school fund doubled, the present apportionment to each district would be doubled. A school that has been receiving \$225.00 from the county, would receive \$450.00 in the new apportionment. This means that the above district would be receiving \$450.00 from the County Special Tax.

Q. Would a District that has a local tax receive as much from the county-wide special tax as it did from its local Special Tax?

A. As was stated in III, if the County school fund was doubled by the county-wide tax, the apportionment to each district would be doubled. With the exception of the three town schools and one county school, there is not a local tax district in the county whose present apportionment from the county is not greater than its local tax. With these exceptions, there is not a local tax district in the county that would not receive a larger amount from the county-wide Special tax than it now receives from its local tax. You can figure this out for your own special district, by noting the difference in your local tax and the apportionment to your district from the county.

Q. What would become of the special tax that any district may now have?

A. If the district receives sufficient funds from the county-wide tax to run its school as long as it wishes, and pay its teachers what salaries it may desire, it then has the power to reduce the local levy to any amount not to exceed the county levy.

Q. Who are the ones to decide if and what part of the local tax in special tax districts shall be levied?

A. This matter is not discretionary

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COUNTY-WIDE SCHOOL TAX

Expressions by our Citizens on this all important Question.

Supt. E. L. Best, Louisburg, N. C. Dear Sir:- We are very glad to learn that we are to have the privilege of casting our ballots to increase our Public School funds.

It is evident that our schools now are not what they should be and we can not expect to get the best teachers at present salaries. Other counties are paying more, and we must follow if we wish to even maintain our present standard.

We need longer terms and better qualified teachers. We are with you and glad to support this worthy cause.

Yours very truly, D. E. Pearce, D. B. Pearce, Pearce School, Gold Mine township

The following are some of the reasons why I believe that every man should be interested in the schools of Franklin county.

Franklin county should vote for the county-wide school tax on the 14th day of May. Our teachers are obliged to receive more money for their services or they will be forced to work at something else. They must receive enough money to live on. Teachers are getting the same old price they did when ginsham and pecanols were selling for 10 cents per yard which now costs them 25 cents per yard; shoes that did cost them \$2.50 are now getting from \$7.00 to \$10.00 per pair. Bread that did cost from \$8.00 to \$10.00 now cost from \$15.00 to \$18.00 per month.

Farm labor, saw mill labor, the wages of rural route carriers, etc. have all greatly advanced. Can we expect to retain teachers at the same old salary? Surely the little tax will not worry us when we are getting 25 cents for cotton and 30 cents for our tobacco. As a school committeeman knowing what it means to try to get a good teacher, I realize that we must have more funds. It is not a question of the school system standing still or going forward, but whether or not our system will go backward. This is a progressive age and for my part I want to see the schools progress with the other things. This means, are we going to let a few dollars and cents stand between us and the education of our boys and girls. I believe that when the test comes the men of Franklin county will go to the polls and vote to give the children a chance.

J. M. Sykes, Cypress Creek Township.

Prof. E. L. Best, Louisburg, N. C. My dear sir:

I cannot refrain expressing my views regarding the school tax election, to be held early in May. At no time perhaps in the history of the world, do we need trained men and women in every vocation of life, domestic, civil, judicial, military, and above all educational.

The United States Government is calling for men and women today. Calling for the best in her service. Only the young men are wanted at the front. They must go through a perfect system of training before going into active service.

The Surgeon, the physician, the nurse all must be trained. Only the best are wanted.

No one questions the Governments policies, in fact we know it is a right one. Now we are just awakening to the realization of the fact that the education of our boys and girls must be the best. We must increase the efficiency of our schools by raising the standard of the teaching profession.

This can be done only by increasing the pay of the teachers.

We get the best doctor when we are sick. The best lawyers to defend us in court. The best preachers to show us the way of Eternal life. The best cooks to prepare our food, but we neglect the greatest virtue, the education of our boys and girls. What inducement is offered the young men of women to spend years of hard labor and perhaps all the means at their disposal in the preparation necessary to train the mind of our boys and girls. When at present we pay them barely enough to live on. Teachers have been underpaid too long. We have got to pay teachers more money, or they will seek other employment, and the schools of our State especially the rural districts, will break down.

This country has been growing rich for three years. The brick layer, the hod carrier, the carpenter, all getting big pay. The manufacturer, the wholesaler and retail merchants, the farmer all making money. The United States is rich. Everything to wear, everything to eat is high, with all this the school teacher is expected to work on at the same old price.

Reflection on the good name of North Carolina. I cannot see how patriotic citizens can hesitate on this question, a question teeming with weal or woe to generations unborn.

Let us arouse our conscience. Let us wake up. Like Old Rip Van Winkle let us shake ourselves and see if we are dead or alive. Let us vote the special tax, vote this, vote another until this good old state of ours will get on the bottom and rise up with her sister states.

B. W. Ballard.

A SHOWDOWN FOR THE FATHERS OF FRANKLIN COUNTY.

The greatest good any community can accomplish in this day and time is to have a system of schools whereby every child can be trained by competent teachers to perform the future duties and bear responsibilities most efficiently. I feel confident that Franklin county will take advantage of this great opportunity and will vote the proposed county-wide tax. Men and women give your boy and girl a chance. Pull together and lets make

a long step forward. Yours truly, G. B. West, Sandy Creek School.

Having lived in a special school tax district for a number of years, I realize that the school funds of the county are inadequate to meet the demands for better schools, or to keep them up to the present standard of efficiency. The demand for better schools is growing greater each year. Yet the only increase in the funds comes through the increase in taxable property. This affords a very small increase. In addition to the demand for better schools there comes the additional problem of how to buy the best with our funds when the purchasing power of the dollar is today so small. All incomes are soaring except the school income. The question is how to make this on an equal basis with other things. I see no solution save an increased county-wide tax rate. Labor has advanced from 50 to 100 per cent. Do we hope to employ competent teachers for the same price? Can a conscientious school board offer a competent teacher the same mere pittance of a wage for her services?

The plan as I see it is not to put an extra burden on those districts which have already voted ample funds by special tax, but to make it a county-wide increase. Then those districts which already have a special tax if they find they are giving more to their school than is necessary may reduce the special tax or may repeal it entirely. I for one will go to the polls on the 14th day of May and vote for this measure and I have sufficient confidence in the people of Franklin county to believe that a big majority of the people will vote just as I will.

Eugene Fulghum, Cedar Rock Township.

Don't forget to pay your poll tax before May 1st, or you will deprive yourself of a right to vote.

FARM DEMONSTRATION WORK

Information of Interest to Farmers Contributed by Mr. C. H. Stanton, Farm Demonstration Agent for Franklin County.

How will you plant, fertilize and cultivate your corn crop.

It is entirely too late now to get a cover crop on land where this year's corn crop is to be. But it is not too late to do a few other things that will increase your chances for a crop.

Make good use of a disc and smoothing harrow before planting. The more you do with these implements before you plant, the less you will have to do with slower tools afterwards. Also you are increasing your chance for a good stand.

If you did not break your land to a sufficient depth, run a subsoiler, or similar plow in the row. This will give the roots more room and increase the moisture holding capacity of your soil.

If you want stalk at expense of grain use fertilizer when you plant. But if you want a maximum yield of grain save your fertilizer until later on say when the corn is knee high.

Maximum yields of corn are made by planting a sufficient quantity of good seed and thinning out poorest stalks. The yield on grain is very seldom increased by replanting.

Corn is a fibrous rooted plant, that is the roots grow in every direction. A goodly part of them are near the surface. For this reason, cultivation should be shallow, just deep enough to kill weeds and grass and form a mulch to prevent evaporation of moisture.

Every row should have either peas, soy beans or Velvet beans. Either of these crops will pay practically all the expense of the crops, and leave the corn for profit.

SPRAY YOUR FRUIT.

The recent frosts have greatly reduced all fruit crops. This, with the scarcity and demand for all food materials, makes it very important that every means be used to save what is left.

The first spray after the petals fall is the most important. This should be applied just as soon as the petals fall and before the calyx lobes have closed. Spray with lime sulphur (1-2 gal. in 50 gal. of water, with 1 lb. of powdered arsenate of lead added for caterpillars.)

Do not delay this spray if you want sound fruit. It means more than all other sprays.

CRIMSON CLOVER SEED.

The Dept. of Agriculture advises that the outlook for imported clover seed is very gloomy and advises farmers to save all their seed. If present conditions prevail, clover seed will double in price.

Don't turn under your clover now. Gather the seed, and then make a crop of corn. It will not be too late, and the clover seed may be worth more than the corn crop.

Do not seed harvester. Or you can rather catch seed by hand in one day to seed four acres. This will mean a saving of about \$20 according to the present indications. Do you make \$20 every work day?

FRANKLINS ALLOTMENT OF GOVERNMENT NITRATE.

The U. S. Bureau of Markets has allotted 259.7 tons of Nitrate to Franklin county farmers. This means that all applications sent in prior to Feb. 4th will get the full amount asked for.

Applications are that applications sent in after Feb. 4 will not be given consideration. These later applications have been sent to Washington by the County Agent and by Director B. W. Kilgore, explaining that application blanks did not reach the county until Feb. 1st, but to no avail. The Bureau of Markets advises that it may be possible to allot an additional amount to the county about May 1st, but does not say positively that it can and will.

The first shipment of 29 tons has left Wilmington. Other shipments will follow later.

FOR COMMISSIONER. I herewith announce myself a candidate for County Commissioner from Franklinton township, subject to the action of the Democratic primaries in June and will appreciate your support. J. H. COOKE. Hon. Jas. H. Pou Speaks at Pearce's. One of the most enthusiastic War Savings meetings yet held in the county took place at Pearce's school house in Dunns township on Wednesday night of last week. The people of this progressive and patriotic community turned out in large numbers. Many could not find seats or standing room. Mr. Jas. H. Pou, of Raleigh, delivered a powerful address which made a deep impression on the entire audience. After Mr. Pou's address, Mr. W. H. Yarborough, County Chairman of War Savings spoke briefly. He declared that it was the best War Savings meeting he had yet attended and spoke in highly commendable terms of the evidence of progress and prosperity visible in that section of the county. From all signs it will do its full duty in the War Savings campaign.

KODAK



I have a number of fine instruments on display. They will add greatly to the pleasure of your Summer outing.

FILMS AND SUPPLIES

I have a large lot of films, all sizes for Kodaks at reasonable prices and keep a full stock on hand at all times. Call in and see me.

Elias Beasley at AYCOCK DRUG STORE.

Large advertisement for The McBrayer Clothing Co., Inc. featuring 'NOTICE! NOTICE!' and a list of clothing items with prices. Includes a lion logo and the slogan 'Everything For Daddy And The Boys'.

Advertisement for 'America is Rolling In Wealth' by The First National Bank. Includes the slogan 'BUT HOW MUCH OF IT IS YOURS?' and contact information for W. H. Ruffin, Pres. F. B. McKinne, Cashier and W. D. Jackson, Asst. Cashier.