

NOTICE OF AN ELECTION IN SANDY CREEK TOWNSHIP.

Notice is hereby given that, in accordance with the provisions of an Act of the General Assembly of North Carolina, entitled "An Act to Provide Good Roads in Sandy Creek Township, Franklin County," being chapter 174 of the Public Local Laws of 1919, as amended by Chapter 41 of the Public Local Laws of Extra Session of 1920, allowing issuance of additional bonds not to exceed \$50,000, and upon petition of the Township Road Commission of Sandy Creek Township, duly appointed and constituted:

The Board of Commissioners for the County of Franklin does hereby order an election to be held on Saturday, June 18th, 1921, in said township, at which election there shall be submitted to the qualified voters of Sandy Creek Township the issuance of \$25,000 of additional road bonds of said township, and the levy of a special tax to provide for the payment of interest and create a sinking fund for the payment of said bonds, for the purpose of providing and constructing good roads in said township under the terms and provisions of said Special Act of the General Assembly. Said bonds shall run for a period of thirty years from date and shall bear six per cent per annum interest, payable semi-annually.

Albert S. Gupton is appointed registrar and J. J. Carr and J. L. Foster are appointed pollholders for the said

election. The voting place shall be at Laurel or Jones' store in said township, the usual election place and the said election shall be held and conducted as is provided in the general election laws of the State. Those voting for the issuance of the additional bonds and the levy of the special tax shall deposit a ballot upon which there shall be written or printed "For Road Bonds" and those voting against the additional bonds and the levy of the special tax shall deposit a ballot upon which there shall be written or printed "Against Road Bonds."

A new registration is provided under said special act and the petition of the Road Commission calling the election, and the registration books will be kept open for such purpose at Laurel or Jones' store as provided by law for twenty days, beginning Saturday, May 7th, 1921, and closing Saturday, June 4th, 1921.

By order of the Board of County Commissioners of Franklin County, This May 2nd, 1921.

A. J. JOYNER, Chairman, S. C. HOLDEN, Clerk.

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The Business Man Speaks.

(By L. A. Williams, in Outlook)
A few weeks ago I was sitting on the broad piazza of a resort hotel after dark smoking my after-dinner cigar and watching the crowd of vacationists. A fine-looking, gray-haired, well-dressed man in white flannels and blue serge sat down beside me. He was motoring through the country, and, though I was little more than "flivvering," yet we had a common ground for conversation. Soon the talk drifted to a discussion of salaries, and this brought up the question of teachers' salaries and public school support. At once he broke forth into a monologue which was most interesting to me, and, coming as it did from a business man, is worthy of record.

"I shall be fifty-two years old tomorrow, and until two years ago I'll bet I never gave the question of our public schools fifteen consecutive minutes of thought in my life. I always sort of took them for granted, just as I took the sulphur and molasses my mother used to give me every spring. I went to the district school as a boy, and all three of my children have been through the public schools, but even when they were in school I signed their report-cards, looked to see if their deportment was all right, and dismissed the whole thing when I laid their cards down on the table. I guess I did attend the 'doins' when they graduated, but I am not sure that I did even that for any but the youngest one—and that was probably because she was my pet and prize package. I thought I was too busy with my business to bother about school; it was a by-product of my life.

"You have probably guessed that I am a business man. I am a manufacturer of cotton cloth. I have mills in a half-dozen small cities and large towns. Up to two years ago I went on my way serenely hiring my help from anywhere I could get it, not paying much attention to the quality of it so long as it could run a loom and turn out the goods. I made then a moderately good quality of cotton cloth, not a standard, trade marked product, but a material that passed for good fabric.

"One day a young fellow came into my office to try and sell me some new machinery which he claimed would make it possible for me to make up an A-1 finished product. He argued that the margin of profit in manufacture lies not merely between raw material and a finished product, but in the difference between a mediocre product and a first class finished article. I could not see his argument. He was so dead-sure he had what I needed that he sort of put me on my mettle. I wouldn't buy of him, and I showed him out of the office pretty roughly, I guess. Just the same his idea stuck with me, and, while I was so obstinate that I wouldn't put in his machinery, I did begin to cast about to see if I could do anything to turn out a better article. After many months of thinking, I saw what he meant. So I set out to refine the product in one of my mills.

"It was one of the mills where my help had been recruited largely from the country districts where schools had not kept for more than four months in a year, and darned poor schools at that while they were open. Right there I was up against it: Of course the hands knew enough, mechanically, to run the looms according to directions, but when I tried to get them to make little adjustments of the machines on their own judgment and to be more careful about loose ends, etc.—little things that would take something on their part—they just naturally had no desire or intention to do them. I worked personally with that bunch for nearly six months and couldn't accomplish one single thing with them.

"I started thinking about why they would not take some pride in turning out a better product, and, after talking with some of them and after thinking about their whole attitude, I came to see that they had no ideals. That sounds funny for a business man, I know; but it's the truth. They had never been to a school long enough to get any ideals about fine work, about carefulness, neatness, about trying every day to do a thing just a little bit better than they did it the day before, about all those elements that make for first-class work. Oh, you can laugh at me, but, by Jove! it was true. They hadn't one ideal above drawing their once a week and resting on Sunday.

"I took the hint and let them alone, but to prove my point I went into another one of my mills in a town where they had been having a long-term school and good teachers for several years, and tried out my scheme there and say, man, it worked! They fell for my coaching like I was doing them the greatest favor on earth, and they began to turn out a better and still better product, until now, do you know I have had to begin in two more mills to coach the hands; but, believe me, I am not trying it again with hands who haven't had good schooling, not much!

"I tell you, right now, I've had my lesson, and from now on I am interested in good schools, long terms, big salaries, compulsory law, and the whole thing. This thing of good schools has got me. It's good business to invest in school taxes. I think about schools now and I work for 'em. They are the greatest ideals maker we've got in this country, and this old world of ours just grows fat on ideals. I know, for I've been up against ignorance good and plenty, and there's nothing to it.

"Well, good-night, my cigar's done and I'm ready for bed; but now you remember, mister, and do some thinking about these schools of ours—as the cat said about the rat-holes—they'll bear looking into. Good-night."

"I wonder was he right or is it all a mistake? Do our schools really build the ideals he was talking about? Are they worth thinking about?"

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