

THE FRANKLIN TIMES

A. E. JOHNSON, Editor and Manager

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The State Superior Court in the case of Tobacco Growers Co-Operative Association vs W. J. Jones, of Nash County, handed down an opinion fully upholding the Co-Operative contract on Wednesday. This settles all controversy as to its constitutionality.

TOWN MANAGER

The recent campaign in Louisburg has developed a question that is worthy of the serious consideration of every citizen in the town, more especially those that are, or are contemplating being Commissioners. Its the question of a City Manager for Louisburg. To our minds it is the very thing Louisburg needs. It is also a very dangerous thing to use. There is no doubt, as we see it, that the business of Louisburg is sufficiently large to justify the employment of a man to look after it—to give his whole time to. We do not agree with some that we should have a Commission form of government for the reason that in the Commission form of government it requires three whole time Commissioners—half time wouldn't do as a divided interest isn't usually good for any business—and we don't think Louisburg is large enough or has business enough to justify three men of this kind. But we do think it can easily accord, and actually save money by having one man as Manager. Provided the salary is sufficiently large to justify a really competent man to take hold of it. He would save his salary in many ways. The dangers in such a system lies in getting the wrong man—one who is put in for political purposes, rather than qualifications. For this reason a manager should never be elected, as it is so hard to get rid of him if it is found that a mistake has been made. He should be employed by the Board of Commissioners and then only on a contract that states that his time in office is up when his services become unsatisfactory to the Board. We hope that whoever is elected for Commissioners in Louisburg for the next two years will try out the City Manager plan for one year at least, and lets see how we like it.

LOUISBURG AND POLITICS

Possibly one of the most outstanding features in the history of Louisburg is its politics. The time for election or primary has ever been a welcomed time by its inhabitants. They like it for the games' sake and play it as a diversion. And it is the most seldom thing at all that a season of this kind is let to pass without the joy of a conflict. Sometimes reaching the extremes and again more pleasant and congenial. But usually developing a most spirited fight with extra good feelings prevailing.

Therefore the interest shown in Louisburg the past week is nothing unusual. Only a repetition of what has happened so many times before. The only thing new about it was the activities of the ladies. No one questions their good motives or their good influences. Therefore their inactivity after such interested activity brought about the spice of the occasion. The cause, no doubt, was over enthusiasm. A desire to do something of benefit, but evidently got started in a direction that was not entirely satisfactory. However there is no use to discount the efforts of the good ladies as they

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are surely going to wield a strong and desirable influence in our elections as soon as they get their equilibrium and we hope that day is near at hand.

Then came the Mass Meeting Monday night—a natural coincidence with a dissatisfied people. But with as many minds at work as was represented it was only in due course that it should adjourn without action except for a promise in the future.

That the Commissioners made a mistake in making the call for the primary so short is admitted. There was nothing that necessitated it being held before the 25th or 26th of April. And a longer time between the call and the holding of the primary would surely have given a better advantage to any one contemplating entering the campaign. However no one at heart really believes that either of the Commissioners had any ulterior motive in his act. It was purely an act without serious consideration. One that should not have been made, but it was. But even though the time allowed was short, too short, it did not debar anyone from entering the primary. And most assuredly such an excuse is ridiculous after the Mass Meeting had an opportunity of putting out as many tickets as it wished. This too is a circumstance of which our people are thoroughly familiar and well versed in handling as fully three fourths of the tickets ever voted on in Louisburg were made up the night before.

In view of all the facts the circumstances and the character of the men elected, together with political and social harmony we believe it would be an error to introduce another ticket against the primary nominees. There are a few things in life a little more valuable than a public office or the desire of some over-enthusiast person being satisfied. Louisburg is very susceptible to factional fights. At present there has not been anything of this kind to enter. With the developments promised by another Mass Meeting we need expect nothing else except a bitter contest that will leave an aftermath that can do no one any good. Lets have harmony.

Yet there is justification for the unrest that is experienced in Louisburg over its municipal finances. The fact that the town collects around \$40,000 from taxes and other sources and by its actions flatly refuses to give an accounting to the tax payers is sufficient to bring about criticism. The fact that the books are in the Clerk's office and open to any citizen who wishes to see them is not sufficient. To go into the office and call for the

books is more or less embarrassing and besides is inconvenient for the average taxpayer during the hours that you could reasonably expect the Clerk to be on the job. The taxpayer wants a full and complete statement of the receipts and expenditures of the town. One that is made up in a plain and easily understood manner. He is entitled to it, and the law requires it to be published. Why not give it to him? No big business allows a manager to continue to run the business year end and year out without ever requiring an accounting. Then why should the town officials expect treatment that is not recognized as good business. We are confident that if the town officials would take the tax payers into their confidence and keep them posted publicly of the affairs of the town, there would be less than five per cent of the present dissatisfaction.

We do not condemn or criticize the action of our tax payers in Mass Meeting assembled, but on the other hand wish to encourage it. But let its activities lead in the right way. Don't use it for the purpose of bringing ugly charges against one another, or for the purpose of creating discord upon which to ride some fellow into public office, or to create strife among an otherwise happy and contented people. But lets use it to say to our officials how we think the government should be run and then to lend our assistance and influence to our officials and help them do it. We will feel much better by doing this than by leaving everything up to our officials without any help from us and then "cussing" them out for not doing what we wanted done.

Lets discourage everything that tends to break the peace and harmony of a community and encourage the spirit of team work and cooperation. We will get more desirable results.

Accidentally Killed

Millard Mitchell, 18 years old, a son of Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Mitchell, of Franklinton, was instantly killed on last Tuesday evening at 8:50 when thrown beneath a freight train. Mr. Mitchell was attempting to cross between two cars as the train stood at the Graded School crossing. The train started, he fell to the track and was instantly killed.—Franklinton News.

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Well, This Guy Was too Big!