

Mount Airy News.

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WHO SHOULD VOTE

Now that the country is in the heat of a political campaign it is but natural that attention be called to the right to vote.

There was a time in the past days of our government when only property owners could take part in our election. From the first time the so-called common people were allowed a voice in the government it has been generally recognized that there should be some way to restrict the ballot to those who were really able to vote intelligently. With the participation of the negro so generally in our elections following the civil war the South saw evil of the ignorant voter, and after many years of turmoil and confusion found a way to get rid of the ignorant negro vote. It was a long step in the right direction.

It appears to us that the country is hardly aware of the vital importance of all intelligent people voting. In all parts of our country, especially here in our own mountain counties, are plenty of the best folks in the world who are indifferent to the political welfare of the land and stay at home and mind their own business, as they think, and allow the other folks to vote and control the country. Get this in your mind once and for all: The vicious men in politics see to it that every ignorant and depraved character in the whole land marches up to the polls and votes. These modern scheming politicians are successful in their political schemes by virtue of their ability to control the ignorant voter. They are able to get by with it only for the reason that so many good people stay away from the polls.

If we recall the facts correctly, there are twice as many people in the State of North Carolina who are entitled to vote as do vote. We suspect that a very large percent of these citizens who take no part in our elections are among the finest citizens in the whole land.

Every year there must be a persistent effort on the part of party workers to get the voters registered. Plenty of good and substantial people would not register unless some one of their neighbors urged them to go to the trouble to get in line to vote.

We suspect that here in Surry where so much is being said about high taxes and waste of the public money, if our voters who have not been voting would line up and vote we would be able to put the management of our county finances in the hands of men who have had sufficient business experience to take care of the people's interests.

We suspect that many of these voters who stay at home if they could be induced to come to the polls would not vote to place accounts that run up in the hundred thousand dollars of hard cash in the hands of men who never had a thousand dollars of their own at one time in their lives. It is a joke on our people the way they place men of no business experience in office where they must do business on a large scale and pass on business problems that involve thousands of dollars of the people's money. No wonder we have so much complaint about high taxes, for how could we expect it to be otherwise. All this can be corrected only by all the people taking an intelligent and active part in the management of our public affairs.

S. P. GRAVES

This town and district is fortunate in having a man of the ability of S. P. Graves for solicitor. This year he stands for reelection to this most important office. It is the custom of the courts to keep busy all the time, and thus the solicitor is not able to get out and work for himself among the voters as is the case with other candidates. He is kept busy with the courts and must depend upon his friends for the interest among the voters.

There is no doubt about the election this year of Mr. Graves if his friends do their duty by him, as they have done in other years, and there is every reason for thinking they will do this. The only danger that could arise is the over confidence that may be in the minds of the people as to the certainty of his election. The district is not so strongly Democratic that there is any room for over confidence on the part of Democrats.

Who will donate a mirror, couch or rug to the teachers rest room in the Rockford street building?

THE MEETING OF THE GOVERNORS

When our citizens invited the Governor of Virginia and our own governor to meet here last week and see our town and county they no doubt accomplished more for this section of the state than possibly could have been done in any other way. Not only did the governors come, but along with them some of the most prominent men in each of the states and it was made a memorable occasion.

And there is good reason why this meeting should have been held. It may not have been impressed on every one that a large part of the trade territory of this town is in the state of Virginia. This town is so close to the Virginia line and the location of the Blue Ridge Mountains is such that a large section of Carroll and Patrick counties is thus cut off from the heart of the state of Virginia.

Of course it would be denied that the Virginia authorities have neglected this territory and failed to open up roads as is being done in other sections of the state, but the fact remains that that part of Virginia that lies south of the Blue Ridge has no roads that are suitable for the use of the automobile and truck.

Carroll and Patrick citizens need to come here and our people need to go into these two counties. There is a mutual interest that binds the two sections together, and the fact that our own country has a perfect network of good roads makes the lack of roads in the Virginia section all the more deplorable.

There is every reason now for thinking that the coming of the governor of Virginia and the other high officials of that state will hasten the day when good roads will be opened up this part of Virginia as is being done for other section of that great commonwealth.

Court at Dobson.

A two weeks term of Superior court for criminal cases began Monday at Dobson, with the largest number on docket in the history of the county. The first day it rained most of the time and little headway was made with disposing of the docket. The cases to be tried are mostly of small importance, with one or two exceptions. The case against A. W. George is due to be heard this court, although it is possible that it will be continued on account of the election being so near at hand. At a former trial the jury failed to agree and the whole matter must be thrashed over again.

At the noon hour Monday the Republicans staged a big speaking event when they had Leslie M. Shaw to address an audience. Mr. Shaw is one of the big speakers being sent out by the National Republican Committee and was Secretary of the Treasury in Roosevelt's administration. His speech consisted mainly of a defense of the extremely high tariff laws just passed by the Republican Congress. Some of the Democratic hearers could not grasp the consistency of his defense. In his speech he enumerated wherein this nation is the greatest and most powerful in the world at the present and then followed this up by defending a tariff bill that is intended to "protect" this powerful country from the weak countries of Europe. To the Democrat it was hard to see the necessity of such a wall of protection thrown around so powerful a country.

Masons to Lay Corner Stone

At a recent meeting of Granite Lodge the Masons of this city were asked by Rev. J. H. Fulghum, pastor of the Second Baptist church, to lay the corner stone of the new church now being erected on Rockford street and which will be dedicated as "Haymore Memorial Baptist Church." The invitation was accepted and a committee appointed by the Master, H. M. Foy, to work out the details of the ceremony of laying the stone. It is planned to have these services on the afternoon of Thanksgiving day.

A. W. Fogleman Dies Suddenly

In the night, while he slept, the death angel called the spirit of Alfred W. Fogleman to rest and his family waking on Sunday morning found that he had joined the innumerable caravan on the other side. His grandson, Wade Moody Jr. occupied the same bed with him, and the little fellow slipped out of bed and went to his mother's room without knowing that a great change had taken place. He was sent back to waken Mr. Fogleman and when he could get no answer, Mrs. Moody went to her father's room and found him cold in death; there was no sign of a struggle or of suffering and it is probable that he died while asleep.

The remains were carried to Winston-Salem where the funeral was held at the North Winston Presbyterian church Tuesday at 11 a. m. Rev. Z. V. Roberson of this city and Rev. G. W. Lee of Winston officiating, the remains were laid to rest in Salem cemetery beside the wife who preceded him six years ago. Mr. Fogleman was section foreman and had been in the railroad employ forty one years, serving all that time between Mount Airy and Sanford. He was nearly fifty-eight years old and is survived by five children: Dennis H., Bryan, Mrs. Wade Moody, Mrs. Wm. Allred and Miss Carrie Fogleman.

The mothers are invited to place orders, or await the dressed dollazaar, to be given by the Philaetha class of Central Methodist church, to supply their Christmas needs.

OUR LAWS FOR THE RICH

Ten thousand years from now people may develop into a higher state where the rights of each other will be respected. But in this time, it appears that the average man must contend for all he gets. A few people have the spirit of a brother, but the great rank and file of the folks are looking out for number one. This is strikingly illustrated in the manner in which our country, and all other countries, are governed. In Europe the nobility—the Lords and Earls and Dukes, are the big figures in the making of all laws. It is the one effort of these so-called noblemen to keep themselves in position where they can live in ease and luxury and get what they desire in the way of place and power, which often means practically enslaving the so-called common people.

All over Europe are palaces and castles and hunting grounds, and every other display of great wealth. Along by the side of all this is squalor, and want and conditions of living that are the very opposite of all that stands for comfort and normal living. And this is the state of conditions that the Lords and noblemen of that country have brought about.

Conditions here are not so different, as one would think, from what they are in Europe. In a rural section like this it is hard to understand these things, but go to the cities and the great industrial centers and the mining regions, where the lords of capital hold sway, and conditions are very much as they are in Europe.

The millionaire capitalist of our country is almost an exact type of citizen to the nobleman of Europe. That is, he undertakes to control the country through the laws and get the lion's share of all wealth for his own use.

There is no getting away from the fact that the capital class of this country has been trying for years to get what it wants by the aid of the Republican party. The Republican party of this country is almost an exact duplicate of the Royalist party of Germany and other such countries of Europe. The methods of the noblemen of Europe to control the country are almost exactly the methods of the multi-millionaires of this country.

The average man here in our own land pays a tax to the capitalist class every time he makes a purchase at a store. In this way fortunes have been built up here that are exactly a duplicate of what has been filched from the people of Europe by the noblemen of that country.

One of the most interesting points in all this is that the capitalists of this country are able to keep in power, and do the things they do, by virtue of their ability to control the ignorant vote of the country with the very large campaign funds they use at election times. They collect from the capitalist class as much money as they think it will take to get the vote they want. And by reason of the low mental condition of many of our own people and much of the foreign born element, they are able to control the country.

Many people see all this and take a positive stand against it, but many are unable to see the facts in the light we are here stating them. The result is that we have the two extremes of society here, just as they exist side by side in Europe.

There is no more reason why we should have laws here that make every man pay a tax to the big manufacturer every time an article of his make is bought, than there is why a ruler of one of the little countries of Europe should be paid a salary of twenty million dollars a year. Some day our people will see it in this light.

Mount Airy Boy Foot Ball Star

The Durham daily papers recently carried an extended account of the splendid work of the Trinity college foot ball team in their game against William and Mary last Saturday. A Mount Airy boy, Howard Hatcher, son of Policeman Hatcher, was given special mention for his courage and splendid work during the game. We quote from one of the accounts as follows:

"One of the most remarkable displays of nerve ever seen on a local field was given by Hatcher, left tackle of Trinity. Carried from the field by his teammates with a dislocated shoulder, Hatcher was turned over to two doctors for surgical attention. He was placed under ether and the dislocation reduced. Within 20 minutes he was back in the game and proved to be a tower of strength during the final quarter."

Trinity will play Davidson at Greensboro Saturday and several Mount Airy fans are planning to go down and cheer young Hatcher on to victory.

Shall the school board permit dancing and card playing in the school building? If you have strong convictions for or against these things express your views to the members of the board.

ELECTION NEAR AT HAND

In a few days the people of this county will meet at the polls and select officials who will manage the public affairs of the county for the next two years.

When Surry county was largely a forest and only a few people lived within its border, which was the case not so many years ago, it was of small importance who should hold the offices, for there was but little to do.

In the past ten years there has swept over the county a wave of dissatisfaction with the old order and now we have almost suddenly been ushered into a life entirely different from the old customs of only ten years ago. Now every neighborhood is in touch with the outside world by means of a good road. Almost every established home in the county owns an automobile, even to the colored people. The county now has one of the largest and most expensive court houses in the state, and the numerous streams of the country are all bridged in a number of places each.

With the coming of all these improvements there has also come an expense account that must be met by the public in the way of taxes on real and personal property. There is no way to get by without paying this tax, and it is here to the amount of more than a quarter of a million dollars. And everywhere men of property are protesting against the size of their tax receipt. It is getting to be a burden to them, they contend, and many farmers frankly say that they are hardly able to make a surplus on their farms that will pay their taxes. Citizens are known to borrow money with which to meet the tax man.

Back in the old days of low taxes and mud roads, it was the custom for the citizens to meet in convention and select officers for the county, being careful to give each section of the county an officer so that no part of the county would feel slighted. It was the rule to award these offices, especially the office of county commissioner, to some substantial farmer who stood well with his neighbors, and the office was more in the nature of an honor conferred than that of a public trust. But little was expected of a commissioner and but little was given him for his services.

Now all has changed. Today the men who are at the head of the county affairs do business on about as large a scale as any manufacturer in the county. But we have held on to the custom of the generation ago in selecting men from the party for the enthusiasm they show for the party, and with but little regard for their fitness for the office.

People have commenced to see the folly of all this, and they see it especially when they look at a tax receipt. It is a fact that stands out undisputed that the county of Surry is paying a tax on real and personal property far in advance of that paid by many other counties.

The Democrats of this county see all this and would remedy it by placing in office tried and true business men who are able to handle the large volume of business in a way to lower the taxes, or to keep them as low as is consistent with good business.

This year they are asking the people to support as fine a set of business men for the county officers as can be selected from our citizenship.

For sheriff of the county you are asked to support C. H. Haynes who is well known to all our people. Beyond question he is a man of natural ability, trained and tried in places of public trust, a man who knows the needs of the people and who will unquestionably meet every public trust in a way that will be both a credit to himself and to the people.

For clerk of the court you are asked to vote for Frank Lewellyn who has lived his entire life here in the county and is known to be one of the most substantial citizens we have. He is a man of ability, the son of the late Rev. J. H. Lewellyn and a brother of the late Jim Lewellyn. He has before been called upon to run for office on the ticket of his party, and has long been known as a man of ability that well qualifies him for any office of public trust.

For register of deeds you are asked to vote for S. Gilmer Dobbins who is known to most of the farmers of the county by reason of his connection with the warehouses where he has served as a bookkeeper. He is a man who will render the highest service to the people.

For the legislature you are asked to vote for Dr. T. J. Smith who is known in the county as one of the most worthy citizens we have. He is in touch with all progressive measures and will make a representative of the county who will be able to secure legislation that is needed.

For county commissioners the party has named W. J. Eyerly and Alex Chatham, two of the men of the county who serve the people in the largest capacity of any citizens we have. They have more to do with the general welfare of more citizens than any two other men. They are both popular with a large number of

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voters who entrust them with their private business and take their advice on private matters.

If these two men are entrusted with the county finances you may be sure that the embarrassing entanglements that have been the rule recently will cease to be. They will put the county offices on a business basis and see that the taxes are reduced to the lowest practical figure. For the other offices men of ability are on the party ticket and they will serve the people well.

There is no way to force the people of the county to vote for men of ability to manage the affairs of the public. It is a matter of choice with the voter. The Democratic party has selected men who are known to be of ability to fill well the offices, and you are asked to support them. To do this will place the county affairs in the hands of men who will so manage the public business as to make the taxes as low as possible and relieve the public mind of the suspense that is always present when

the finances of the county are handled in a way to cause constant agitation and confusion in the minds of the voters.

Odd Fellow Picture At Victory

A film furnished by the Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows will be shown at the Victory theatre Saturday and Monday nights in addition to their regular pictures. The tickets will be sold on the streets for 25c each. Buy your tickets from the Odd Fellows as a per cent of all tickets sold by them will be turned over to the Odd Fellows Children's Home at Goldsboro. The picture features the Grand Lodge at Winston and the Children's Home at Goldsboro.

The school boy or girl who makes an average of 75 per cent on attendance for the nine month school term is in school only 1-10 of his time for the year. Where is he and what is he doing besides eating and sleeping the 9-10 of his time?

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