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WELDON, N. C. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1924.

NO. 40

POLITICAL ADVERTISING.

(From News and Observer, January 30, 1924.)

MR. OLIVER REPLIES TO MR. BAILEY.

Marietta, N. C., January 28, 1924.

Mr. J. W. Bailey,
Raleigh, N. C.
Dear Sir:
Your frank admission, in answer to my recent letter, that you have changed your views on income taxation since 1919, helps to clear up one feature of your record on taxation that has been so inconsistent that I was minded to ask if you were sincere now. I grant any man the right to change his views, and since the income tax amendment was approved by the ninety-nine of the one hundred counties of the State, you say, "Yes, I have changed my views on this subject since 1919."

But this frank admission leaves much to be explained by you that cannot be explained on the basis set out in your letter to the News and Observer of the 25th.

It was not so much your opposition to the income tax in 1919 that caused me to question your sincerity as it was the demand which you made at the time that all the increased taxes, which you admitted to be necessary, should be placed on land and live stock, and you will have to make some more confessions before you can square yourself with members of the Legislature of 1919 who were personal witnesses to your inconsistent and conflicting positions. Let's see how much you now undertake to do this. In answering my letter you say:

"You speak of the Legislature of 1919 of which you were a member. That is the Legislature from which is dated the tremendous rise in taxes in this State and imposition of unjust and unbearable burdens upon our farmers by way of taxes upon their lands. It is true that I repudiated the beginning of that policy."

In the last sentence just quoted you have raised with me an issue of fact upon which either your memory or mine is at fault. It is true that, beginning with the Legislature of 1919, it was necessary to raise largely increased sums of revenue by taxation. The people of the State had just amended the Constitution to require that all public schools should be taught a minimum of six months instead of four months. It was necessary to provide revenue not only for longer school terms but for larger salary for teachers, and also revenue for larger State institutions. Our plan for raising a part of this increased revenue was to collect the State's revenue from income taxes and increased franchise taxes, and thus relieve farm and other property from any State tax. You did not object to the increased revenue. You recognized that it was necessary to have the increased revenue, and presented your plan for raising it. You said that the large income tax payers could not stand another dollar of taxes and demanded that all of the increased revenue should be placed upon lands and personal property of the farmers.

According to the Raleigh Times of Feb. 11, 1919, you said: "If you want some revenue right badly, assess the lands of North Carolina, thirty three million acres of them, at their market value, as is your constitutional duty," he (Bailey) thundered, turning to Maxwell, "And you will get some revenue, all that you need. Why don't you do it? It is easier to make the corporations shell out once more? Why, in North Carolina, hogs are valued at less than I pay for a ham," he shouted. "Goats, Sheep, Jacks, Lady Jacks, etc., are very low down." The Greensboro News of Feb. 11, 1919, carried an item, in part as follows: "Following a discussion of more than two hours tonight, in which J. W. Bailey was best in an argument by A. J. Maxwell, the constitutional amendment committee of the House unanimously agreed to report favorably the proposed changes in the State constitution providing for uniform taxation of income. A number of business men from various parts of North Carolina attended the meeting, but J. W. Bailey presented the only brief against the proposed amendment, except that some Greensboro business men sent a request that the meeting be adjourned."

You say you have changed your mind since 1919, and well might you change your mind for you wouldn't get far with that "hog and ham" speech you made before the committee of the Legislature opposing an income tax.

So I am compelled to deny your statement that you "Resisted the beginnings of that policy," but you demanded that all of the heavy burden of increased taxes should be placed on lands, and that none of it should be placed on incomes. If there is any man in the State who has no right to complain of increased taxes on land it is you, for you demanded that lands and live stock be made to bear it all. If the Legislature had followed the course demanded by you, the lands of the State would be bearing some four million dollars more of annual taxes than are now raised by a tax on incomes.

You insist that in your appearance before the Legislature of 1919 you were not employed by any corporation or income taxpayers. That is a matter within your knowledge and not mine, and I accept your statement fully. But it adds nothing to your appeal to the farmers of the State that you made this fight voluntarily to have all the increased taxes placed on them. You were, at least, fearful that the Legislature "would make the corporations shell out again," and you were very urgent in demanding that the Corporation Commission go out and get the farmers' hogs, etc., to keep the corporations from having "to shell out."

You have the privilege of making any other confession, but, when you resisted, during the whole session of 1919, every effort to place any of this increased burden anywhere else, and insisted that all of it should be placed on land and live stock, you cannot expect me to accept your statement that you, "resisted the beginning of this policy" of placing heavier burdens upon lands. On the contrary, you resisted every effort to place any part of the burden anywhere else except on land and live stock. My recollection does not agree with yours, and I am sure that the press reports of your position at the time, as well as the memory of other members of that Legislature, will bear out my recollection of it.

You have the right to make another confession of change of views in the light of experience, but you have no right to criticize the Legislature for increasing taxes on land, when it refused to go as far in taxing as you demanded it should go. And, if you change your views upon these important matters so rapidly, who can prophesy what your views would be by the time you are inducted into office, if you should be elected Governor?

In the closing paragraph of your letter, you infer that the Legislature of 1919, and other Legislatures in the past twenty years, were composed mainly of lawyers and politicians. You should have no objections to these two classes. However, the North Carolina Manual shows that there were fifty-five farmers in the Legislature of 1919.

Very truly yours,
J. S. OLIVER,
Farmer and Member of
House of Representatives, 1919.

DECEITFUL.

The pleasures of this world are deceitful; they promise more than they give.—They trouble us seeking them, they do not satisfy us when possessing them, and they make us despair in losing them.

DIDN'T WORK.

A soft answer turneth away wrath, yet a man caught by his wife dealing out soft answers to a pretty girl next door, says he can show scores to prove that the proverb didn't work well in his case.

OLD WELDON

Things That Happened 33 Years Ago in Town and Vicinity.

February 12, 1891.—Capt. T. N. White trapped an otter last week the skin of which measured over five feet in length.

Miss Aggie McGee shot and killed a wild duck one day last week with a double-barrel shot gun. It was a shot that many of our young men would have been elated to have made. Miss Aggie is a lady of many accomplishments.

Mr. J. R. Stainback has purchased the mineral springs in Northampton county, at Spring church, together with sixty acres of land.

Mrs. M. E. Spencer, late of Scottsville, Va., died at the residence of her son-in-law, Mr. R. C. Lassiter, last Sunday morning, aged 82 years.

Mr. J. R. Stainback has purchased of Mr. G. P. Phillips the house and lot on Third street, known as the Richardson place.

Mr. M. F. Hart came down from Oxford Monday for a short visit.

Mrs. Melissa Long is visiting friends in Northampton county.

Miss M. J. Jordan, of Northampton, was in town last week on a visit to Mrs. W. E. Daniel.

Miss Mattie Pierce, of Rocky Mount, is visiting Miss Mary Pierce.

Miss Irene Shearin, of Brinkleyville, is visiting Mrs. P. N. Stainback.

Mr. A. S. Allen, who has been up on the Eastern Shore of Maryland for several days past, returned home Tuesday.

Mrs. M. M. Burnham, of South Mills, who has been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Bass, returned to her home on Saturday accompanied by her youngest sister, Miss Bettie Bass.

Miss Kate Long left last Monday for Raleigh to be a bridesmaid at the marriage of her particular friend, Miss Meta Capehart.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The membership of the Southern Presbyterian church is 428,292, according to statistics submitted to the general assembly of the church of 1923. It is safe to estimate the total income of the members of this church during 1923 at not less than \$300,000,000. The title of this income is \$30,000,000 and this title alone is more than six times the amount that is being asked of the church for next year in support of the benevolent causes of the general assembly—foreign missions, Christian education and ministerial relief, publication and Sabbath school work, the general assembly's training school at Richmond, Va., and the American Bible society.

If the membership of this church would contribute the coming year 35 cents to the evangelization of each of the 32,000,000 people in heathen lands, for whose evangelization Southern Presbyterians are responsible, and sixty cents to aid in the evangelization of 5,000,000 people in home mission territory, and if the salaries of all of the pastors of the church should be made what are recognized as "living salaries," the annual budget of the church would amount probably to not more than \$12,000,000, which is but little more than one-third of the title of the income of the members of the church for one year.

The progressive program of the church, directed by the stewardship committee of the general assembly, is calling upon the church for \$4,750,000 for benevolences for the coming year, less than one sixtieth of the total income of the membership for one year, and, as stated above, less than one-sixth of the title of this annual income. Special effort is being made to get each member of the church to recognize the duty of setting aside the title of the income for the work of the Lord, in keeping with scriptural injunction in this connection, and to recognize that giving upon the part of the individual does not begin until this has been done. Reports from all of the synods of the general assembly show that the number of titheers is increasing rapidly, and due to this fact the financial obligations of the church will be the more easily met.

R. E. LOVEN.

CITIZENS, ATTENTION!

SCHOOL BUILDING TO BE DEDICATED ON WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY, FRIDAY 22, 7:30 P. M.

All patrons and friends of the school are urged to come to the new high school building on Friday evening, Feb. 22, at 7:30 and participate in the dedicatory services or exercises of the new building. A treat is in store for you as we have a speaker from our own State University, Prof. Walker J. Matherly. He comes highly recommended and we are sure he will bring us a wonderful message. Don't fail to come.

The program follows:

1. Invocation—Rev. G. W. Perry.
2. Song: "Carolina."—High School pupils.
3. Presentation of Building—Hon. C. R. Daniel.
4. Acceptance of Building and Introduction of Speaker—Hon. Geo. C. Green.
5. Address—Prof. Walker J. Matherly, State University.
6. Song: "America."—High School pupils.
7. Benediction—Dr. E. D. Poe.

ROANOKE RAPIDS-ROSEMARY.

Personals and Other Items of News From the Great Manufacturing Twin-City.

[By Our Special Correspondent]

Mr. C. Davis has returned from a business trip to Raleigh.

Mr. Geo. Brietz, of Selma, was the week end guest of Rev. and Mrs. E. N. Harrison and made an interesting and inspiring address before the Rosemary M. E. Sunday school.

The B.Y.P.U. were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Johnson on Friday night and were delightfully entertained.

Mrs. Geo. Hayes entertained a number of her friends on Thursday afternoon at bridge.

Miss Bertha Reed gave a candy pulling Saturday night in Rosemary cannery.

The play, "Mice and Men," given Tuesday night in the high school auditorium by the students was a success in every way. The costumes were lovely and a number were made in the Home Economic Department.

The Missionary Society of Rosemary M. E. Church, were entertained in the home of Mrs. R. D. Jenkins on Tuesday afternoon.

The Parent Teacher Association of the High School held its regular monthly meeting Monday afternoon. Supt. E. J. Coltrane told of the new vocational school building to be erected at once. Mr. Knight explained the work of the Manual Training Department and Mrs. E. N. Harrison, subject for a five minutes talk, was a Parents view of the M. T. Department.

Mr. and Mrs. B. P. Cooper had as guest last week Dr. W. D. Reynolds, of Olean, N. Y.

Mr. Emmet Wright has returned from a long stay in a government hospital, much improved in health.

Mr. Edwin Branch, of Enfield, spent last week in the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Williams.

The Roanoke Rapids basket ball team won a victory over the Scotland team on Friday night. In the first game of the series for the State Championship, the local team defeated Norlina Friday, winning by a score of 28 to 26.

Feb. 18, 1924.

Miss Bertha Cox has returned from a visit to Winston-Salem.

Miss Bernice Dieker is visiting friends in Lumberton.

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PAPER

From Senior English Class of Local High School.

The senior English class has recently been studying the development of newspaper articles and has written several. Among the best was the one by Annie Rowe House, which follows:

WALTER SLEDGE, A PROMISING YOUNG EDITOR FOUND MURDERED IN PRIVATE OFFICE—EDITOR OF ROANOKE NEWS STABBED BY JEALOUS WOMAN.

(Associated Press.)

Weldon, N. C., Jan. 31, 1924.

Walter Sledge, editor of the Roanoke News, was found by his private secretary, Miss Annie Joyner, when she returned from lunch today. Mr. Sledge was lying across his desk with a deep wound in his neck. On the floor was his paper knife still wet with blood. Miss Joyner immediately summoned Dr. William Collier, whose office is in the same building. Dr. Collier pronounced him dead.

The police was notified, and an inquest was held and later the body was removed to his late home.

Mrs. Sledge, formerly Miss Catherine Collier, was notified while visiting at her parents' home in Garysburg.

The police under the direction of Chief of Police Leon Tucker, worked on the clue of a handkerchief and vanity case found on Mr. Sledge's desk. The initials "V. O." on the silver vanity and the odor of "Hoyt's" perfume on the handkerchief helped to betray the identity of the guilty party.

A young woman by the name of Virginia Owen, said to be a former sweetheart of Mr. Sledge's, was seen by the elevator boy, Rastus Jones, as she was leaving the office of The News.

Miss Owen was arrested late this afternoon and taken to the Halifax county jail to await action of the grand jury. Her attorney, Miss Mary Virginia Joyner, together with the District Attorney, Miss Byrd Suter, will bring this to an early trial.

Judge Winfield Crew will take evidence tomorrow from the following witnesses: Misses Mattie Sammerell, Elizabeth Wyche, Hazel Clark, Gladys Jones, Lillian Reid and Ruth Bosman, all members of the office force of The News.

Misses Lily Boseman and Theresa Marks, former correspondents of the Weldon Daily Times will also be called.

The funeral arrangements had not been completed at a late hour, but it is expected that the Ladies Aid and the Weldon fire truck will lead the procession.

ANNIE ROWE HOUSE,
Reporter.

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SPRIGHTLY SPARKS.

Gathered Here and There and Everywhere.

Did you get a valentine?
Be patient spring is almost here.
We are gaining day light rapidly.

The mails were crowded last Thursday with valentines.

Spring may be late occasionally, but spring millinery never is.

J. A. Coburn's minstrels performed at Roanoke Rapids last Thursday night.

Only a few more days of February are left and then comes March roaring like a lamb.

The groom indeed is falling fast
Who tells his bride all of his past.

The marriage lottery is not all blanks. Ask some women and they'll tell you that they drew worse than blanks.

In algebra we are taught that "x" is an unknown quantity. Yes, and in politics an "ex" is an unknown quantity, too.

Postmaster Price asserts that except around the first of the month few people get as much mail as they think they ought to have.

Education is a great thing all right, but the girl with the low neck attracts more attention than the girl with the high forehead.

Every woman knows man is superior to animals. The lion growls while feeding but the man only growls when he isn't being fed.

No mother ever nurses a baby with more care than a man nurses the last dozen hairs on his dome when he finds he is almost bald.

The people of this old world groan under their war debts, but if the war debts were all paid off they might get to fighting again.

There are still some fellows in this country who call it "pretty good whiskey" just as long as it doesn't eat the cork out of the bottle.

Next time you meet the Weldon citizen who can see no good in this country ask him to explain why so many immigrants come over here.

"Some things," remarked a Weldon man yesterday, "can't be bought with either love or money, but money can buy a lot of things love can't."

We have some fellows in Weldon who could settle the argument between the French and Germans but who can't make their own kids take castor oil.

Since none of the ministers around Weldon are buying \$5,000 sedans we take it that leap year isn't boosting their business to any very great extent.

The farmer takes a chance on a crop failure every year, but where is the Weldon man who can say he ever had a poor yield of weeds in his back yard.

This is a funny world in which we live. When two trains come together that is called a collision, but when two kids come together we call them twins.

Teacher—"Johnnie, give me a sentence using the word 'diadem'."

Johnnie—"People who drink moonshine diadem sight quicker than those who don't."

Answer this and win the leather medal: Why is it that one girl's waist line is just below her shoulders while another's seems to be trying to get below her knees?

"About the only time reduced prices shock a fellow, is when the price of the auto he bought drops a couple of hundred dollars about a week after his car has been delivered."

Here is the grave of Timothy Tether
Who never kicked about the weather,
Here lie the bones of Absalom Earl
Who never cussed the telephone girl.

BIRTHDAY PARTY.

Florence Elizabeth Harvell was hostess Friday afternoon at a party at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Harvell, on Cedar street, in honor of her tenth birthday. There were a number of enjoyable games and pretty valentine favors. Delicious refreshments were served. The guests present numbered about twenty.

AMONG THE VISITORS.

Personal Items About Folks and Their Friends Who Travel Here and There

Mrs. Willie Green Cohen visited Raleigh, this week.

Mrs. J. A. Johnston visited relatives at Emporia, last week.

Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Allen are visiting relatives at Lakeland, Fla.

Mrs. Emory Green, of Greensboro, is visiting relatives in Weldon.

Mrs. F. A. Cole and Miss Mary Long Green visited Richmond this week.

Mr. Walter Allen, of the State University, spent the week end in Weldon.

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Dunn and children, of Scotland Neck, spent the week end here.

Miss Dona Johnson, of Margaretsville, is visiting her sister, Miss Blanche Johnson.

Mrs. E. H. Stancell and children, of Rocky Mount, spent the week end with relatives here.

Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Jenkins, of Portsmouth, Va., spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Anderson.

Mr. C. F. Glasgow, of Charlotte, who has been visiting relatives and friends here, motored home a few days ago.

Mr. A. F. Stainback, Mr. Thos. Peacock, Mrs. Ida V. Stainback and Mrs. A. C. House visited relatives at Greensboro last week.

Mrs. Lee Johnson who is Social Service Superintendent for the North Carolina Conference, has returned from a visit to Roxboro and Durham.

Mr. Sam W. Clark who has been away from Weldon for the past several years, is visiting his father, Mr. E. B. Clark. His many friends are glad to see him once again.

VERY UNJUST.

It has been the custom for the past thirty-five years, or more, in this county, to rotate in giving out the county printing; for instance, in 1919, the printing was given to The Roanoke News. In 1920 it was given the Roanoke Rapids Herald. In 1921 it was given to the Enfield Progress. 1922 it was given to the Scotland Neck Commonwealth. We were told by ex-Register of Deeds, Mr. R. L. Dickens, that we were scheduled to get it for the past year. But when the time came it was given to the Roanoke Rapids Herald, thereby ignoring the past custom. We will not forget this unjust act on the part of our commissioners and it may be that those who were instrumental in dealing with us thusly will have cause to regret it sometime in the future.

THE FAIR A CERTAINTY.

Nearly all the stock for re-establishing the fair has been secured, and as soon as the land can be decided on, work will be commenced on the race track and the necessary buildings. The fair will be located at, or near, Tilghman's X Roads, on the Seaboard Air Line, between Weldon and Roanoke Rapids. So you can commence getting things ready to exhibit at the greatest fair that has ever been held in Eastern Carolina.

A SLIGHT MISTAKE.

A commercial traveller, by mistake, handed one of our merchants last week, upon whom he had called, a portrait of his betrothed instead of his business card, saying that he represented that establishment. The merchant examined it carefully, remarked that it was a fine establishment, and returned it to the astonished and blushing traveller, saying: "I hope that you will soon be admitted into partnership."

WELDON ENJOYING A BUILDING BOOM.

There are now under construction and planned, ten new residences with several others as early prospects. The Weldon Cotton Manufacturing Company will build near its mills four tenement houses from four to six rooms each, lumber for which is now being assembled. Weldon needs new houses to house its growing population and it is very likely to be quickly taken up.