

# Observer's Explanation Flimsy, Says Mr. Taylor

MR. EDITOR—

I notice the Hertford Observer under date of July 19th has undertaken to reply to my article that appeared in the Hertford County Herald dated July 13th, which had reference to a former article of mine that was published in the HERALD dated June 29th and refused by the editor and publishers of the Observer.

The editor and publishers of the Observer's reasons set forth for not admitting my article of June 29th to the press are so flimsy and void that my first impulse was to not pay any attention to them whatever, but my second thought impels me to take some cognizance of some statements contained in their reply that are both misleading and untrue which the public ought to know of.

Now, Mr. Editor, all readers of the HERALD are not readers of the Observer. I feel that it is nothing short of justice to me and to my readers that they should know the reasons set forth by the editor and publishers of the Observer for the suppression of my article, so I am asking you to reproduce it and allow me to reply under each paragraph.

### Why We Rejected Mr. Taylor's Article

"The last issue of the Hertford County Herald publishes a letter from Mr. J. C. Taylor, of Como, in which he takes the Observer to task for its failure to publish a certain article submitted to it. Mr. Taylor draws several deductions as to the non-appearance of the article, none of which even remotely were true. The Observer does not undertake to censor the views of its correspondents, but we do require that their communications be boiled down to a reasonable length, and that they at least be legible. None of these qualifications were found in Mr. Taylor's article, hence it was not published.

"Mr. Taylor's article was written on blank forms of the Post Office Department. These forms are ruled crosswise, lengthwise, and contain certain printed matter on them that make it next to impossible to decipher what is written on them. We make this explanation because of the fact that Mr. Taylor is so ready to impute unworthy motives to the Observer, and not because of any desire to embarrass him. We also desire to state that the Editor of the Observer is in no way to blame for the non-appearance of the article in question. When an editor passes matter on to the printer for publication he does not make a record of it, hence it is possible for the matter to not appear in the paper and the editor may never be any the wiser for it.

"We do not know why Mr. Taylor writes his letter of complaint to the Editor of the Herald. That Editor has probably enough troubles of his own, if he hasn't he is unlike most of the editors we know. Anyway, the Observer would have been glad to have answered any letter Mr. Taylor chose to write us on the subject. In any event we should like to disabuse Mr. Taylor's mind of any thought he has as to the questionable motives that impelled the Observer to reject his article, and to show our good faith in the matter we will be glad now to publish the article if Mr. Taylor will send us the issue of the Herald containing it. Doubtless Mr. Taylor furnished the HERALD a more legible copy than he did us, in fact we are quite sure he did. We hope this "tempest in a teapot" will abate, and that Mr. Taylor will believe that the Observer is quite as anxious to serve the people of this County well as he himself can possibly be.

1. I have received numerous letters from reputable citizens throughout the county endorsing my article in full, stating that they were with me and that all I had said was 100% true, and needed to be said. So far

as the legibility is concerned, let me say that I have done much writing, have been in business more or less since my boyhood. I have been postmaster twelve years and this is the very first instance that my attention has been called to the fact that my writing was not legible. It seems to have been legible enough for the publishers of the HERALD to decipher without trouble as I have had no complaint and they made a good job of it. I have no doubt that the article referred to would not have pleased the editor and publishers of the Observer better had it been boiled down and boiled out, especially that part which referred to the editor.

2. It is true that it was written on blank forms of the Postoffice Department, but they were out-of-date money order forms and are no longer used by the Department. Instead of burning them as is customary, I saved them for manuscript, they being ideal for that purpose, furnishing a clear space of 8 1-2 by 12 inches of first class white paper, suitable for pen and ink, but I used a black pencil. They were ruled, as stated, but it was very fine and of a delicate yellow and did not show at all under the use of a black pencil.

The one line of printed matter at the top and about two inches at the bottom, did not interfere at all as my writing was not confused with it. The editor and publishers had absolutely no trouble in reading what was written on them. If my feelings towards the Observer had been impaired or unkind feeling had existed, it would never have had the opportunity to publish my article. The statement that the editor had nothing to do with the non-appearance of the article in question is too flimsy to argue.

3. I wrote my letter of complaint to the HERALD because I know that it would be published and wish to say that if my articles have been or caused that paper any trouble, its editor has certainly succeeded in keeping it a secret from me. If the Observer would have been glad to have answered any letter that I chose to write it on the subject, why did it not reply to my letter of the 9th inst., asking why the article in question had not been published and inclosing postage for its return? No reply has been received. My letter bore my return address. It is altogether unnecessary and would be foolish for me to hunt up the issue of the HERALD that carried my article in order that the Observer might now publish it. The editor and publishers have seen it. Everybody knows that newspaper publishers exchange papers, that a copy was sent to the Observer by the HERALD. As to a more legible copy being sent to the Herald, I will reverse that, the best copy was sent to the Observer. The Herald got the original as it was composed and on which many sentences were erased and changed. The Observer got a copy, got carbon, but re-written, and naturally more pains were taken in writing it. I suspect that for the time being, the Observer lost sight of the fact that we had a real county paper and thought it had the only copy and that by withholding and not attempt to reproduce it, which would result in the whole article being suppressed.

JOHN C. TAYLOR.  
Como, N. C., July 24, 1923.

### HARRELLSVILLE NEWS

J. O. Askew, Jr., is spending his vacation in Atlantic City, N. J.

Miss Jannie Sharp is visiting relatives and friends in Belhaven, N. C.

Mr. H. H. Taylor was in Norfolk a few days last week.

The Baptist Sunday School held its annual picnic at Colerain Beach last Thursday afternoon.

Rev. and Mrs. Walters and their guest, Mr. Yuya, a Japanese preacher, spent Saturday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Harrell.

Misses Bernice Harrell and Elsie Taylor left Sunday afternoon to visit their aunt, Mrs. H. N. Knapp in Portsmouth.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Perry were the guests of Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Mitchell in Ahoskie Sunday afternoon.

Mr. Marcus Smith returned to his home here Sunday after spending several weeks attending summer school in Durham.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Cullens, Mrs. R. C. Mason and little daughter visited in Ahoskie Sunday afternoon.

Rev. and Mrs. Walters of Colerain were guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Askew, Sunday.

Dr. and Mrs. J. A. Powell and children visited in Ahoskie Sunday afternoon.

Messrs. Douglas Sykes, Tennyson Holloman and Marcus Smith went to Cofield Sunday afternoon.

Miss Katherine Weller of Norfolk is spending some time with Miss Mary Sykes.

Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Callis, Misses Lizzie and Ethel Callis visited near Ahoskie Sunday afternoon.

Miss Edna Green from Suffolk, Va., is visiting Misses Elizabeth and Evelyn Smith this week.

Emerson Fountain of Leggett's arrived Monday to spend some time in the home of Sheriff and Mrs. Scull.

Miss Madie Stone of Phoebus, Va., is visiting Miss Olivia Lowe this week.

Mrs. B. N. Sykes, Misses Mary Sykes, Katherine Weller, Myra Scull and Emerson Fountain left Tuesday morning to join Miss Swindell's camping party at Lazy Hill Camp at Colerain Beach.

We are sorry to report Mrs. Starkey Sharp, Jr., real sick at this writing.

In 1920 2,276,000 automobiles and trucks were produced.

### RATE FOR SCHOOLS

(Continued from page 1)

wrangling during the entire session. Doctor Mitchell, insisting strenuously for an itemized account of Superintendent Britton's expenditures for the past two years, was halted by a motion passed at a former meeting of his board. He wanted that statement, but, as Mr. Eure explained, the board had already voted to relieve Mr. Britton of the statement, provided a monthly statement was presented by the superintendent to the commissioners.

This monthly statement, however, turned out to be a report of the work of Mr. Britton as county superintendent of Public Welfare. Attorney Lawrence explained that the commissioners could not request such a statement from a co-ordinate branch of the county administration. That, he said, was entirely in the hands of the education board. Attorney Stanley Winborne concurred in that point.

Altogether, it was a good day for schools in Hertford County, although a blow to the fretful disposition of taxpayers. It means an increase of 23 cents over the 1922 levy, which, together with the 10 cents additional road tax, will raise the 1923 county levy to \$1.25, or 33 cents above the 1922 rate.

### SUMMONS

North Carolina—Hertford County: Superior Court—Before the Clerk.

Effie Williams vs. Sam Williams—NOTICE

The defendant above named will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Hertford County for divorce absolute against the said defendant; and that the defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear before the Clerk of the Superior Court of said county on Monday, August 27, 1923, at the Courthouse of said County in Winton, N. C., and answer or demur to the complaint in said action or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

D. R. MCGLOHON,  
Clerk Superior Court.

By W. R. Johnson, Atty. for Plaintiff.  
This July 11, 1923.

7-20-23-4t.

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Excellent equipment in all departments.  
Session 1923-1924 begins September 4.  
Entrance requirements for Freshman Class, 15 units—English, 3; History, 3; Mathematics, 2 1/2; Science, 1; Elective, 6 1/2.  
For catalog, illustrated circulars, and entrance blanks, write E. B. OWEN, Registrar.

**Opportunities**  
lie all around for the man who has  
"ready money."  
The man who hasn't it is already  
embarrassed by seeing the other  
fellow seize the "big chance" and  
forge ahead.  
Don't envy him his "luck". Practice  
his forethought.  
Why not open your Saving Ac-  
count here Today?  
The amount doesn't count. It's the start—  
that's the thing  
**Farmers-Atlantic Bank**  
AHOSSIE, N. C.

### COMO NEWS

Messrs. Ferrall Hill and T. I. Burbage were visitors in Wakefield, Va., Sunday.

Miss Mina Holloman of Ahoskie is visiting in the home of her uncle, Mr. T. E. Vann.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bowles of Aulander visited relatives in Como the past week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Darden and daughter, Miss Homoiselle Darden of Newsome, with their house guest, Mrs. C. B. Darden of Richmond, visited friends here Wednesday.

H. E. Picot spent the week-end at his home here.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Vaughan of Franklin, Mr. J. A. Vaughan of New York, Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Vaughan and Mrs. Sam Brewer of Raleigh, Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Vann of Ahoskie were guests in the Vann home here Sunday.

Mr. Jack Campbell of Rocky Mount has concluded a visit in the home of Dr. T. I. Burbage.

G. C. Picot has returned from a visit with Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Camp at Virginia Beach.

Mr. W. J. Hill, Misses Marion and Marietta Picot, Miss Susie Barnes, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Barnes, were in Franklin Saturday.

Miss Kate Howell is visiting her

sister, Mrs. Jack Curl of Mapleton.

Mrs. Robert Campbell and children, Robert and Elizabeth of Plymouth, are visiting Mrs. Campbell's parents, Dr. and Mrs. T. I. Burbage.

Quite a number of Como people attended the Lightbourne meetings at Boykins last week.

Mrs. P. W. Majette and daughter, Miss Virginia Majette of Pensacola, Fla., are visiting relatives in Como.

J. C. Taylor, G. C. Picot and J. B. Worrell were in Winton Monday.

S. W. Savage, who recently underwent an operation for appendicitis in a Norfolk hospital, is getting on nicely.

The Girls Auxiliary of Buckhorn church with their leader, Mrs. H. McD. Spiers entertained the Royal Ambassadors with a beach party at Maney's Ferry Thursday afternoon. After enjoying boating and bathing a delightful camp supper was served.

Cecil Lassiter, eight-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Lassiter, died at the home of his parents in this community Wednesday and was buried in Buckhorn cemetery Thursday afternoon. Rev. G. C. Picot conducted the burial services.

A value of \$300 was put on the ten tons of hay which one farmer cut from a six-acre demonstration plot in Pasquotank. He says the hay paid all expenses of putting out the pasture.

**Balance!**  
at sea and on land-

A GREAT ship far out at sea was shaken by an ominous shudder. One of the four propeller blades had been thrown off and before the engines could be stopped the driving shaft began to pound and whip. Sailors dangling in a rope sling went over the stern and chiseled off the opposing blade. Afterwards, with power reduced but balance restored, the vessel made port.

When a cylinder is missing your car goes by jerks. Its power plant is unbalanced. The gasoline that feeds your motor must be balanced. A refining experience of more than half a century and constant research have produced a finely balanced motor fuel called "Standard", the gasoline that gives you instantaneous starting and swift pick-up—maximum power and high, economical mileage. You don't have to turn out of your way to find this balanced gasoline. Every pump you meet with the red "SO" on the globe dispenses this all-round motor fuel. Use it exclusively for all-season economy and satisfaction.

**STANDARD OIL COMPANY**  
(New Jersey)

**"STANDARD"**  
The Balanced Gasoline

Made right here in the Carolinas at Charleston. Sold at hundreds of pumps that bear the seal.