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A THOUGHT.

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable.—Ps. 145:3.

A great man is made so for others.—Thomas Wilson



A DELIBERATE CAMPAIGN TO CONTROL DURHAM

The time has come when Durham must say who is to control the city—who is to spend the money of the taxpayers—in whose hands we place the care and future of our children—with whom we entrust our health and that of our families—to whom we give the power to regulate our individual freedom as well as our collective progress.

Durham county politics, within the city and without, have never been particularly good or particularly bad, except in spots. But the city and county have done remarkably well and generally managed to secure government by a majority of the people.

There is a deliberate campaign, which has been under way for the past two years or longer, to gradually centralize all control of all public affairs both city and county, within the hands of a very small, but rather powerful group which is using the morning paper as its mouthpiece.

Durham turned to the city manager form of government. It was in principle a very wise move. The managerial form is perhaps the most advanced form of city government. But it should by all means be kept the instrument of the people and not deteriorate into a club to be used over the heads of the city, nor the medium of sewing up control of all our properties, all our taxes, all our resources, to carry out the aims of a small minority who are more concerned with their own fortunes and their own schemes, than they are with the desires of the people they are popularly supposed to represent!

County-Wide Tax Only Small Part.

When all of us look at the issue of the county-wide school tax, remember this—

The county-wide school tax is not a single issue. It is but one phase of a great issue, of who shall rule—the people or those who are behind the opposition. It is not a matter of dollars and cents. It is a matter of fundamental principle, and if we stop now to count the pennies, we are most likely lost.

The official minority which threatens Durham, and which has as one of its leading figures Mr. E. T. Rollins, has already made some progress. It controls the present city council. For that reason changes are desirable at the coming council elections, the primary on the 21st and the general election on May 5th. To strike at the root of the evil, Durham must turn her attention not only to the school tax but to the battle for the four inside places on the city council. Some attention will also be necessary to the candidates from the outside. More upon the council question will come later.

Minority Vote of the Council.

What happened when city extension developed? When city extension was being framed, the question arose as to the number of representatives to be given the outside territory. The move to allow East Durham and West Durham less than two members each on the city council was defeated. A move to then decrease the total number of councilmen by re-districting the entire new city was likewise defeated.

Faced therefore, with the fact that the board would number twelve rather than eight, with a mayor in either case, the minority now in power realize that by the smallness of their own numbers, the larger council reduced considerably their chances of maintaining absolute control of all the city's business. The move was therefore introduced, to make possible the conduct of city business by a vote of less than a majority of the council. Fortunately that move was defeated.

But, let it be understood, that the backers of the minority council vote were confident it would pass. They anticipated no such uprising of the public which followed the expose by The Sun and which flatly defeated the move.

Assessments and Street Paving.

And so they were planning two other moves. One was the assessment of improvement benefits to the possible, extent of 100 per cent., against property adjoining or near, though the inside as well as the outside benefited by such public improvement. Further they planned the measure, which would permit street paving without petition, which is to say without the property owner having the slightest voice, except through the council. It was in this connection that the proposal was advanced to largely diminish or nullify the representative power of the outside by permitting a minority to decide such questions as assessments and other people's street paving, through less than a majority council vote. Incidentally, these two moves were also defeated by the watchfulness of those against whom they were very largely directed.

So much for the effort to control, by minority, the council and all the city's business, an effort, which, be it marked down, has not been abandoned and will continue where the opportunity presents, from time to time.

Dictating to the Health Board.

Next, there was the deliberate attempt to control the health board, last June when the board and the city manager failed to agree. The manager was one member of the board, an adviser. He took the attitude he was its preceptor. He took the attitude that his recommendations to the council should be regarded rather as orders. And when he could control neither the health board, or the council's vote on health, despite the backing of one particular member of the board and his powerful minority, he refused to have anything to do with the health board and absented himself without leave from its sessions until such time as his minority could move the council to relieve him of that duty. But the fight on the health board is not done. It is coming again. There will be persistent efforts to gain control of the board, with the ultimate hope of either reducing it within its present status, to a mere sanitary department, collecting refuse and inspecting food and sanitary conditions without authority or funds to enter the broad field of campaign against all disease, or by effecting the same result through the medium of a city health department under the manager himself.

Mr. Stanley's Head.

Next there was the bitter attempt to take off the head of W. E. Stanley, because he would not submit to domination by the man-

ger, with the expressed hope and threat that city welfare would be placed under the city manager. By the strength of the board behind him and the fierceness of a rapidly assembling defense, Mr. Stanley escaped, but the fact is established in our minds that the continuation in power after the coming city election, of the minority which now sits in control will mean the ultimate removal of Mr. Stanley and probably a welfare department under the city.

Now the School Board.

Finally, the guns are opened on the school board. The school board has always been a thorn in the side of those who are fighting county-wide tax. In fact their policy is opposition to the schools under any circumstances, until they have been tied up under control of the manager and this same minority, either with or without the existence of a school board, so that schools may be curtailed in keeping with the same backward ideas which a decade ago were sufficiently wide-spread in the entire State of North Carolina to seriously retard education.

As a matter of fact among the minority is a distinct antipathy to advanced education. More bitter however, is the attitude of the men in question against those who disagree with them. And the same policy of going after the scalps of those who do is being followed in the school field as in others, in a direct effort to force the dominance of this council minority on schools as well as everything else. It will be remembered that these forces withheld title to the city high school for a ridiculously long period from the city school board. When the city agreed to expend, as part of the purchase price of the old high school from the school board, \$15,000 on the grounds of the new city high school, the manager withheld the money because his ideas were apparently not going to be followed by the school board in spending it. And if we mistake not, the city manager never did turn loose this money, which certainly should have been expended at the discretion of our very capable school board, until he did get his own way in the matter.

Now the boast is open, as Holland Holton makes plain in his article today, that two members of the school board are to be kicked out this year, simply because they do not go along with this council clique. They are Major L. P. McLendon, chairman of the board and Mr. Gilbert C. White. Neither needs any defense here. What Mr. Holton did not say, but which is true nevertheless, is the fact that this same minority has planned, after election two of their own choice, to bring pressure upon Mrs. F. L. Walker, another member of the board, swinging Mrs. Walker to a point where she will cast a deciding vote for the ousting of City Superintendent Frank M. Martin. The move is also directed against Marion B. Fowler, business manager of the school system and one of the most capable and clear-minded of Durham's young men. Both of these men are marked for the axe because they are executives and men with intellects, not mere bookkeepers and figureheads, because they look to the interest of the whole people and the entire school system and not to the dictates of this same coterie.

Knowing Mrs. Walker as we do, we believe the opponents of the county-wide tax are once more barking up the wrong tree. Mrs. Walker has always been actuated by a desire to administer the schools for the best interests of all Durham, she is responsible for a great amount of the progress Durham has made, and Durham may accept our word for the fact that she has sufficient will power and backbone to remain true to her convictions. Mrs. Walker will do what she conceives to be right, all the pressure to the contrary notwithstanding.

Whom to Trust.

And so we see the real purpose of the county-wide tax opposition. We get a glimpse of the gigantic scheme of which this school tax and its five cents on the hundred dollars is but an incident, a cog in the whole wheel which is designed to break Durham and Durham's spirit. There is a thirst for power and influence here which gravely menaces all of us, which means the setting back of Durham's fortunes twenty-five years, if not barked.

We ask Durham to remember the tactics against the welfare department.

We ask Durham to remember the tactics against the health department.

We ask Durham to observe the tactics against the non-political school board.

We ask Durham to remember the tactics for 100 per cent. improvement benefit assessments.

We ask Durham to remember the tactics for street paving without petition.

We ask Durham to remember the tactics for conducting the city's business by a minority vote of the council.

Then we point to the similar tactics, through any weapon, fair or foul, through inside pressure and outside propaganda to defeat the extension of city schools to all the city.

We ask Durham to remember the morning paper is the mouthpiece of this organized minority and to weigh its argument accordingly.

Review, then, the record above. Remember if you will that The Sun in every case opposed the attempt to arbitrarily saddle these impositions upon the public. Remember The Sun has no axe to grind. Remember The Sun has attempted to serve all its readers, and when the time comes to vote for the county-wide tax, place your confidence where you think it is best placed.



BEWARE, IT'S UP TO A MAN TO HELP HIMSELF

All things may come to him who waits, but without doubt the good is more or less indiscriminately mixed with the bad and a long time in arriving at that.

There is one thing certain. Unless we expect to sit around and "crab" for another four years about the type of men who sit on the city council and the things they try to put over on us, we had better get out our political tools and operate.

The time is growing mighty short within which a citizen may file a petition which will make him a candidate in the city election.

Of course, if we are perfectly satisfied with the way things are going, if they are going, there is no reason to stretch a leg. If, however, we have become considerably disturbed over the course of local human events and hope for something better, we had best put some action behind the hope. Hope is a wonderful thing in its place but it has no place in victory. It is the strength of the defeated and down-trodden.

The time is at hand for some scenery shifting. The public is ripe and some of our present office holders are over-ripe. The only thing which will keep the affairs of the municipality from taking upon an increased odor of putrefaction is the injection of some fresh fruit. Bring on the candidates.



AN OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR NEGRO SPIRITUALS

Tuesday night of this week, the white people of Durham are to be given the opportunity of hearing negro spirituals sung only as members of the colored race can render them. The Harriet Tubman, colored, branch of the Y. M. C. A., is presenting the spirituals. A chorus of sixty voices, assisted by the State normal quartet will provide an evening of music which will be entertaining and moving, to those who have the good fortune to be present.

In addition, poems of Paul Lawrence Dunbar, one of the most talented members of his race, will be read. The concert is to be given in the auditorium of the Hillside Park school.

Birth Announcements

The following white births were reported to the Durham city and county health department during the week ending March 28: Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Kerr, East Durham, boy born March 18. Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Henry Nichols, Route 8, Durham, girl, born March 20. Mr. and Mrs. James T. Fowler, West Durham, boy, born March 19. Mrs. and Mr. Jesse E. Whitaker, 504 Roxboro street, boy, born March 25. Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Rigbee, 1011 Angier avenue, boy, born March 26. Mrs. and Mrs. Eric L. Woods, Hyde Park avenue, boy, born March 25.

SHEARINGS

Former Senator Dial—Former Senator Dial, of South Carolina, has received his reward for deserting his colleagues and voting with the President on the bonus fight in the senate. He has been placed by the President on the lame-duck roost as one of the members of the commission to investigate Muscle Shoals. If it concerns the farmers in any way, the Republicans name a commission. It is so much easier than it is to do something.—Raleigh News and Observer. Mrs. and Mrs. J. S. Rhew, Durham, Route 4, boy, born March 25.

Cartoon titled 'Sooner or Later' showing a man holding a sign 'BILLS' and a woman holding a sign 'SALARY'. Children hold signs for 'WINTER COAL BILLS', 'TAXES', and 'SPRING CLOTHING BILLS'. A speech bubble says 'WE WANT SOME MILK WOW!'.

The Man About Town TOM SIMS SAYS

WANTS NEW TELEPHONE This paragraph is written just to remind husbands that it is getting the time of year for Lightning storms, and to prevent them from cutting a physician should they find their mate in hiding.

TELLS AGE OF FISH See in the papers where a professor in a northern institution has discovered a way of telling the exact age of a fish by a stone in the fish's ear, which grows larger each year. Whether the professor's discovery will bring him much fame, is not known, but we do if he can discover a way of telling the exact age of a woman, he will create a big sensation.

BETTER START EARLY Now is the time for all good men, and women too, to begin the war against probably the greatest pest of the household—the fly. If the war is started now, the opposition won't be so great later. By killing one fly today, we will probably be saved the trouble of killing a thousand, a month from now. All breeding places for the pests should be eliminated. The health department has already inaugurated a war against flies, and the citizens have been asked to lend their co-operation in the battle.

TIME TO HIDE If some afternoon you go home, and find your wife lying in bed, with her head and ears covered up, or find her hid in some closet, don't think she is sick or has suddenly lost her mind. But on the other hand, glance out the window, and see if it is lightning. If it is, you will then know the reason of the better half's curious actions, and if it isn't then you can tell the storm and strife that the storm is over, and she can come out of hiding.

IT'S A FUNNY WORLD

Birds Know Train LANCASTER, Pa., March 28.—A local train between here and Quarryville may not be a flyer, but it is a bird train. All winter the fireman and engineers have been throwing out food along the track. Now the birds flock out of the woods every time the whistle is blown.

Keeps Canaries Dry NEW YORK, March 28.—An inkwell water bowl for canaries has been invented to decrease the number of birds which die while being shipped on a railroad train. Heretofore the movement of the train splashed out water and caused the birds to catch cold. The new bowl won't release any water except when the bird pecks it.

To Save Terrapins RALEIGH, N. C., March 28.—The diamond-backed terrapin, highest priced American turtle, has been almost exterminated by wholesale methods of killing them off the North Carolina inlets. The state fisheries department has decided to prohibit terrapin catching for five years.

WALL PARAPETS NOW IN PLACE ON NEW HOTEL

Coping and Large Vase-Like Ornaments on Top of Washington Duke Hotel Being Added.

ALL PARTITION WALLS WILL SOON BE COMPLETED

Electricians Have Started on Intricate Task of Pulling Wires Through Building.

No spectacular changes have made themselves prominently noticeable during the past week through the work which is being done on the Washington Duke hotel, yet the work is moving forward. The passerby notices that window sash have been placed in the frames on two or three more floors. Up on the roof during the past week workmen have been seen at work putting up the parapet, its coping and the tall, vase-like ornaments placed at uniform intervals along the parapet.

Inside where the main on the street cannot see so very well, the work is being pushed on. Partition walls are now all completed with the exception of those on the basement and top floors, and these will undoubtedly be completed by the end of another week.

The finished cement floors have been laid on all bedroom floors with the exception of the 14th and 15th, and the 14th will soon be laid.

Plasterers are pushing their work on, both those who are applying the brown coat and the white finishers. Electricians from the Durham Public Service Company, which has the job of putting in all electrical fixtures, are now at work pulling the electrical wires through the many conduits throughout the building.

Up on the roof of the hotel, invisible from the street, the two stairways leading out are now being housed in. Up there, also, walls of the housing around the elevator machinery are also being laid.

During the past week furniture and furnishings have had the closest attention of those who have the responsibility of making these selections and purchases.

Women's clubs have become numerous in Turkey. A few years ago they were unknown. Moths can smell, scientists have ascertained.