

A. F. Johnson, Editor and Manager.

THE COUNTY, THE STATE, THE UNION.

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NUMBER 1.

WHAT LOUISBURG NEEDS

TOLD BY MANY OF ITS LIVEST
CITIZENS.

Letters Addressed to Citizens Brings
Many Responses—Much Good Can
Result From Many of The Sugges-
tions.

During the past week the editor of the TIMES mailed letters as follows to a number of Louisburg's leading citizens requesting them to contribute an article on the subject of "What, in their opinion, Louisburg needs most," with a hope of, by a fair and sincere discussion through the paper, some movement for the betterment of the town in general might be brought about. The letter follows:

"Feb'y. 6th, 1917.

"Dear Sir:-

"For the purpose of bringing before the citizens of Louisburg the needs of our town with a view of impressing the importance of concerted progressive actions I am writing you to contribute an article on "What, in your opinion, Louisburg needs most," for publication in the FRANKLIN TIMES. It is hoped that through the influence of these articles we may be able to bring about many desirable changes in both the business and social life of Louisburg.

"Kindly prepare your contribution and mail it to us at once. Thanking you in advance for your co-operation I am

"Yours for a better town,

A. F. JOHNSON."

Letters as above were mailed to the following.

L. L. Joyner, J. M. Allen, Rev. W. M. Gilmore, Rev. N. H. D. Wilson, M. S. Clifton, G. M. Beam, Wm. H. Ruffin, Dr. A. H. Fleming, Dr. E. M. Perry, Dr. R. F. Yarborough, Dr. J. E. Malone, F. W. Wheelless, F. Roth, H. L. Candler, F. B. McKinnis, Malcolm McKinnis, I. Allen, E. H. Malone, Supt. E. L. Best, J. A. Turner, J. J. Barrow, W. H. Allen, E. S. Ford, W. R. Mills, F. W. Wheelless, D. F. McKinnis, L. P. Hicks, Ben T. Holden, Rev. A. D. Wilcox, Goldsboro, N. C., Gov. T. W. Bickett, Raleigh, N. C. Mrs. J. A. Turner, President Civic League, Mrs. W. E. White, President U. D. C.

It is with pleasure that we present the following to our readers for their earnest perusal and approval and hope to see some, if not all the suggestions made realities:

From Mayor Joyner.

Editor, TIMES:-

I am not accustomed to "writing pieces" for the papers, but since you want to know what is best for the town in my opinion I will say that there are so many things that could and should be done that it is hard to say just which might be considered the best, but from my observation of other places it seems to me that the two principal factors entering the moulding and making of our best municipalities are first: co-operation second, public spirit. Nothing has ever succeeded where there is a tendency to pull down rather than assist all possible in building up any institution that should be conducted for the good of all concerned whether it be church, Social Organization, or Town or City. Let all come together in a consensus of opinion of what is best and then supply the team work to attain that end. Our failure to progress, it seems to me, as fast as we should is, primarily, too much waste of raw materials. We should have factories, not necessarily large, to take care of our output of cotton, tobacco, lumber etc., and from the present prices of foodstuffs it may soon be absolutely necessary to enlarge our grist mills, raise more corn and wheat and provide a mill or mills for the grinding of the latter into bread. No one can say that there is good business in sending away cotton at 15c per pound, tobacco at 20 to 50c and lumber from 12 to 20 dollars per thousand and having it turned into the manufactured products of each and returned to us in the shape of "mixture" or perfectos to smoke, "twist" to chew, and clothing of varied sorts at prices ranging from 50 to 100 per cent over what we receive for the raw material made right here at our doors. Consider the lumber also, the bulk of which is pine, and note the great quantity of it returned here and had having passed through some magical process that has transformed it into fine "birch," "fumed oak" AND IN A GREAT MANY CASES "WALNUT and "MAHOGANY."

Another factor that makes for the

progress of any Town is to make it attractive to outsiders with the hope of having settlers come and make their homes with us, remembering always that any increase in the number of tax payers decreases the prorata paid by all the people in any community. If you have a piece of land to sell and really care to sell it at a fair price then stick to that price and don't boost it on the first inquiry from an outsider to such a figure as to make the price prohibitive and thus drive the prospect away. Speaking of things attractive always calls to mind the ladies, and they should be commended and given every assistance in their efforts to make the town more beautiful and remember that "A thing of beauty is a joy forever."

Our need in order to go forward is men, sincere in their efforts to serve for the best good of all the people without thought of personal gain or prestige, men whose first thought is not what they can get from us but rather what they can give to us on the basis of plain, practical hard work in the ordinary affairs of life that these ideals may be carried to a happy conclusion.

This is a very broad subject and a discussion could very well, not unlike Tennyson's brook, "Go on forever," but assuming your space is limited and that I have already overstepped the bounds I will say that coming right down to brass tacks let us boost, not knock, and use every effort to assist each other in all laudible undertakings for when we have come to the conclusion that this is mutually best I believe that the Town will take on new life and move steadily forward.

Sincerely yours,

L. L. JOYNER.

Her Greatest Need.

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I am in receipt of your letter asking me to answer for the TIMES the question: "What does Louisburg need most?" With my brief stay in the town I can not claim such a knowledge of the conditions here as to be fitted to answer your question. Unquestionably, authorized by the Book, I should reply that the chief need of Louisburg and of all other towns is "pure and undefiled religion," such love for God as will manifest itself in love and loving service for men.

But if you refer purely to temporal things, I can only say that so far as my experience and observation goes it is paved streets and cement sidewalks.

Respectfully,

N. H. D. WILSON.

More Manufacturing.

Dear Mr. Editor:

Yours of the 6th requesting my opinion upon "What Louisburg needs most" received and I cheerfully respond.

To me it seems that the most needed things in our town is more manufacturing plants, better railroad accommodations and paved streets. With these the town would take on new life.

With best wishes, I am

Yours truly,

F. ROTH.

Get Streets Other Things Will Be Added.

My Dear Editor:-

It is high time for good old Louisburg to get out of the mud. You know we are paying almost ten per cent of our taxes each year on street work alone, not saying anything about the time our good chief is looking after the work, when he might be of some service elsewhere, looking after some garbage, etc; before the spring begins and the Monster Mosquito starts out on his deadly poison trip. Lets get together and pave the streets and beautify our good town. And build some factories. I believe I would be safe in making the statement that a good many factories have made more money for the last year than every merchant in town has made. Why is it we sit still and wait for the other fellow to do these things? Lets start the good work by paving the streets and have pretty sidewalks all over town. Who is it would not be willing to do his part? I feel sure we haven't a single property owner who would not be glad to lend a helping hand and do his part. I have thought over this proposition and I believe it can be done, with very little special tax except to the property owner whose property is paved. He would only have to pay one-fourth (1-4)

which he could pay all cash when it is all done, or be given five or ten years to pay it in. If any reader should go down to the banks to borrow \$1,000.00 and the banker should charge him 10 per cent what would the answer be? Still we spend about that amount each year on the streets. We are in "mud" or in "dust". We are muttering about it all the time. Nothing is done, unless we who will, push and not kick. I believe if we pave the streets it will get things moving and we would see greater things for our good old town. After we get out of the mud then we will begin to do other things. After it is all done a kicker would be ashamed to meet himself, and I am sure we will not have a single one. Lets all pull together and it will be done.

F. W. WHEELLESS.

Better Streets.

"What is the matter with Louisburg?" "She's all right!" If saying so would make it so, I would say it a thousand times.

However, Louisburg would not suffer in a comparison with other towns of its size and in its class. The writer was born and reared in the country, he has lived in villages, towns, small and large cities, and yet he can say without the least hesitancy that Louisburg is one of the most delightful places in which to live that he has ever found. And yet, because he loves her people, he would not close his eyes to her shortcomings and his ears to her crying needs.

In answer to the editor's question, "What, in your judgment, are some of the greatest needs of Louisburg?" I would say:

1. More Public Spirit—That this town has had in the past a good degree of public spirit is evident from the splendid church and school equipments that have been provided, electric light and water works system, and other public utilities. But one glimpse at our streets at any time since the first of January would convince the casual observer that more public spirit is needed right now that will push through the movement to pave the streets so that our friends can come here to do business with us, and that we may have a way of getting out occasionally to the rest of the world. At present we are about as effectively blocked by our muddy streets as the Germans propose to fix the British Isles.

A serious objection to the movement proposed is that increased taxes will be levied, and we are already groaning under our load. Quite true. But it would be false and fatal economy for our city government to scrimp at this point. Having few manufacturing industries, this town is almost wholly dependent upon the surrounding country for its sustenance. If our streets are in such condition that the presence of country people here is well nigh prohibitive in the winter, the streets will soon grow up with weeds and grass in the summer. So the very life of the town is dependent upon our making it possible for business to come this way, and up to this time it can not come through the air or by any other means than over our streets.

Suppose the sick man argues that he can not afford to send for a first class physician and procure the remedies that he may prescribe because that would impose a heavy tax on him after he recovers and, furthermore, he is already in debt, and so he decides to drag along as long as he can, and eke out a miserable existence. Such a one would be a fit subject for Dix' Hill. Of course anybody knows that it is the part of economy to spend all the money necessary to get well at the earliest possible moment, and, with an efficient body, he can soon repair his wasted fortune. Not to do this would mean the loss of everything with no hope of recovery. Apply the argument to the present situation of our town.

The time has passed when we can be indifferent about this matter with impunity. Good roads have been built to other neighboring towns and cities, and it is an easy matter for our friends to go where they have good streets. Furthermore, paved streets would have the same effect on our town that a good decent suit of clothes would have on a man. He has more self-respect and others respect him more, and he stands a better chance of doing something. At present every citizen in Louisburg hangs his head in shame, when away from home, at the very mention of the con-

dition of our streets, and he at once assumes an apologetic air.

City Fathers, men of Louisburg, let us begin to change conditions, so that we can lift up our heads and invite the outside world to one of the fairest and best towns in all North Carolina with the assurance that they will not be met with a "soupy," "sloppy" welcome.

2. A Greater Spirit of Co-operation—This is absolutely essential to all civic progress. Every citizen in Louisburg ought to work, and work in harmony with other folks, for the betterment and advancement of the town. The spirit of "knocking" ought to be forever abandoned. It hurts the town and it hurts the "knocker" himself ultimately, while he may for the moment have a sense of enjoyment. Whatever hurts the town hurts every citizen in it, including the "knocker," because we are an organized body. If this town does not suit anybody in it, the world is large—and there are other towns.

If everybody begins to sound the praises of Louisburg, and there are plenty of good things to say in her favor, and keep it up continuously everywhere and at all times, you will find that the outside world will soon come to see it as we do, and they will be coming here to educate their children, to pursue their various professions and different lines of work. And the more people come with high motives actuating them, the better town will we have. This kind of a spirit has been an important factor in the making of every city that is worth while.

3. Higher Ideals—There is, I fear, on the part of most of us too great a feeling of complacency. We are too well satisfied with present conditions. We need a noble restlessness that will not let us be content with any thing short of the very best conditions in which to live and grow. A general cleaning up, both materially and morally speaking, would be a most wholesome and helpful result to see accomplished. The raising of higher standards is a crying need. Things that were tolerated and winked at ten years ago, ought to be outlawed and forever banished from our borders at this good hour. The hosts of righteousness are moving on in the world today, and we need to keep step with the onward march of progress in the higher realms of life.

There may be a feeling on the part of some that the greatest need of all is MORE MONEY. To be sure we need money, that is an essential element to be reckoned with, and is by none to be despised. Yet the fundamental need is MANHOOD, with high ideals and high standards of character. A town built up with such material will not be lacking in money and all the other essential things to her greatest progress.

WALTER M. GILMORE.

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY M. E. CHURCH

Various Committees Appointed in
Charge of Special Work.

No. 1. This committee shall have in charge the parsonage: Mrs. E. F. Early, Chairman; Mrs. Ivey Allen, Mrs. L. P. Hicks, Mrs. George Ford, Mrs. W. M. Person, Mrs. E. Odom, Mrs. W. H. Pleasant.

No. 2. Shall have in charge the church: Mrs. G. L. Crowell, Chairman; Mrs. R. R. Harris, Mrs. C. K. Cooke, Mrs. Spencer Baker, Mrs. Al Hodges, Mrs. Joe Barrow, Mrs. S. S. Meadows, Mrs. M. F. Houck.

No. 3. Shall have in charge relief work, including the looking after the sick and strangers: Mrs. W. E. White, Chairman; Mrs. D. C. High, Mrs. N. H. D. Wilson, Mrs. George Murphy, Mrs. S. P. Burt, Mrs. Mattie Williams, Mrs. Dora Allen, Mrs. Will Murphy, Mrs. E. S. Foster, Mrs. M. S. Davis, Mrs. Lella Williamson, Mrs. B. T. Bailey, Mrs. George Biddle.

No. 4. Shall assist the pastor hold prayer meetings, services in the fall and any way you can to promote the spiritual life of the community: Mrs. M. C. Pleasants, Chairman; Mrs. D. E. McKinnis, Mrs. R. Z. Egerton, Miss Lucy Foster, Miss Louella Jarman, Mrs. A. W. Alston, Mrs. J. E. Malone, Mrs. W. R. Mills, Mrs. D. T. Smithwick, Mrs. Asher Johnson.

No. 5. Shall provide entertainment and have in charge all social functions of the church: Mrs. J. A. Turner, Chairman; Mrs. S. J. Parham, Mrs. Fred Hicks, Mrs. Atwood Newell, Mrs. E. W. Furgerson, Mrs. Ben Williamson, Mrs. K. P. Hill, Mrs.

M. S. Davis, Jr., Mrs. Levi Beasley. The chairman of each committee is expected to bring in a report quarterly to

MRS. DAVID F. MCKINNE,
Supt. Social Service.

Mr. Thomas W. Ruffin Gets Law License.

It will be gratifying to his many friends in and near Louisburg to learn that Mr. Thomas W. Ruffin, eldest son of our esteemed townsman, Mr. Wm. H. Ruffin, successfully passed the Supreme Court examination last week and has been granted license to practice law in North Carolina. Mr. Ruffin is a graduate of the University where he has made quite an enviable reputation both in the college work and the Societies to which he belonged. He has the honor of winning in the Inter-Collegiate Debate at John Hopkins last summer. Mr. Ruffin is a studious and accomplished young gentleman who will, no doubt, do credit to himself and his profession, in his practice of law. It is with much pleasure we note his intentions to practice in Louisburg, and that he will become associated with his father, Mr. Wm. H. Ruffin, after completing this school term at the University.

Young Peoples Missionary Society.

On Tuesday evening, February 13, the Young Peoples Missionary Society met at the home of Miss Kate High, in a Study Circle meeting. The Society has just begun their new book "The Makers of South America," of which Miss Lydia Inscow is the leader. Those present at the meeting were Mesdames M. C. Pleasants, E. L. Best, Misses Lonie Meadows, Julia Barrow, Sue Alston, Hodge Alston, Lydia Inscow, Louise Thomas, Addie Young, Kate High, Lillian High.

The subject for the evening was the first chapter in the book of "The Makers of South America" and was very interesting indeed. It dwelt on the life of Francisco Pizarro. After finishing the lesson a Tea, Sandwich, and Mint course was served. No other business to be brought before the Society adjournment was taken to the next regular meeting to be held with Miss Kate High, on Tuesday evening, February 20th, 1917.

Recording Secretary.

List of Letters.

The following is a list of letters remaining in the Post Office at Louisburg, N. C., not called for Feb. 16th, 1917:

Mrs. Nannie P. Anderson, Mrs. W. H. Fisher, Mr. A. H. Flonon, Mr. Troy Fuller, Mr. Ernest Hall, Miss Martha Harris, Mr. Percy Harris, Miss Feby Haze, Miss Amanda Jones, Miss Sarah Johnson, Miss Lucy Manite, Miss Emily Belle Macon, Miss Lettie Mullen, E. K. Pearce, Miss Lucy Perry, Mrs. Alice Perry, Mrs. S. B. Pridden, Mrs. J. P. Shearin (2) Mr. Matthew Strickland, Mrs. I. J. Strickland, Mr. Staley Strickland, Mr. E. S. Wilder, Miss Lucy J. Williams, Willie Harris from dead letter office.

Persons calling for any of the above letters will please state that they saw them advertised.

R. H. DAVIS, P. M.

Hall's Cross Road Items.

Mr. Wiley Beddingfield and wife spent Saturday and Sunday with her people near Rolesville.

Misses Beatrice Beddingfield and Matilda Strickland spent Saturday with Miss Maggie Strickland.

Messrs. Robert Wheelless and Joe Denton were pleasant callers at Mr. Gus Strickland's Saturday.

Mr. Willie Carter went to Bunn Saturday afternoon.

Mr. H. S. Beddingfield has been on the sick list the past week.

We are glad to say Mr. Charlie Nowell, who has been sick with the measles some time, is able to be out again. Leap year left some of the old maid's around here but look out girls the old bachelors have started out to courting now.

BLACK EYES.

Safe Conduct for the German Consul. Washington, Feb. 12.—The state department today took steps to secure from the Japanese government safe conduct for German Consul General Zitterman, at Manila, who desires to proceed to Tsien Tsin on the transport Thomas, which will touch at a Japanese port. Dr. Zitterman also asked that the crews of the German war bound ships at Manila be sent to the Philippines.

THE MOVING PEOPLE

SOME YOU KNOW, SOME YOU DO NOT KNOW.

Many on Business, Many on Pleasure, Others to be Going, But All Going or Coming.

Mrs. J. M. Allen left the past week for New York.

Mr. R. C. Perry left Tuesday for a visit to Richmond.

Mr. John Wells, of Wilson, was a visitor to Louisburg the past week.

Lieut. W. W. Boddie returned Tuesday night from a trip to Odessa, Texas.

Mr. G. W. Candler, of Murphy, visited his daughter, Mrs. H. G. McBrayer, the past week.

Mr. F. Roth left Monday for the Northern Markets to purchase his Spring and Summer stock of goods.

Mrs. John R. Underhill, of Hopewell, Va., spent last week with her mother-in-law, Mrs. Giles R. Underhill, near Louisburg.

Mrs. Julia Scott left Sunday for New York and Baltimore, where she will purchase her spring stock for her millinery parlors.

Clerk of the Court J. J. Barrow returned home Saturday after spending some time with his mother and brother in Greensboro.

Misses Julia Barrow and Minnie Brickell left Wednesday for Raleigh, where they will be week-end guests of Gov. and Mrs. T. W. Bickett.

Mrs. Corydon S. Jones, of Raleigh, has returned to her home after spending a week with her mother, Mrs. Giles R. Underhill, near Louisburg.

WAR WITH TEUTON FORETOLD IN 1898.

German Rear-Admiral Told Dewey at Manila of Seizure of New York City. Rear-Admiral von Goetzen, of the German navy, said to be a close friend of Emperor William, told Admiral George Dewey at Manila Bay in 1898 that the present war would occur just about this time, and that it would be followed by the seizure of New York City, and possibly Washington, by the Kaiser's forces, according to a leaflet issued by Charles Scribner's Sons, New York publishers, just received here by W. A. Hunt, cashier of the Citizens Bank. The leaflet sent Mr. Hunt is a forerunner of a book entitled "The Pan-German Plot Unmasked."

Whether anybody believes this to be an authentic story, or whether it is a mere bid for the sale of the new book, is not known, of course, but the bare announcement at this time is of more than ordinary interest. In regard to the incident, the leaflet quotes from the book the following said to have been taken from the Naval and Military Record:

"In 1898, before Manila, the German Rear-Admiral von Goetzen, a friend of the Kaiser, said to the American Admiral Dewey:

"In about fifteen years my country will begin a great war. Some months after we have done our business in Europe we shall take New York, and probably Washington, and we shall keep them for a time. We do not intend to take any territory from you, but only to put your country in its proper place with reference to Germany. We shall extract one or two billions of dollars from New York and other towns."

Popes Items.

Mr. J. H. Conyers spent Saturday night with Mr. Battle Bragg, of Pocomoke.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Pearce spent Sunday with their daughter, Mrs. Otter Holden, of Popes.

Mr. R. L. Conyers and family spent Sunday with Mr. Bud Goswick, at Mitchner's.

We were sorry to learn of the sad death of Mrs. H. G. House, who died Saturday. Mrs. House was well known here and had many friends around Popes.

The measles are dying out up here but the mumps has come in their place.

I am real sorry for Mr. President of Punkin Center, as he wrote such a pitiful story about being so dry Christmas, and am sure he thinks of the good old brandy at the head of the good old brandy at the head of the pond from Uncle John.

G. H. P.