

MR. PERSON ROASTS REVALUATION

WILEY HOLMES SAYS HE AND PERSON ALONE TOLD THE TRUTH.

Draft Strong Resolutions at Mass Meeting Saturday, Asking for Reduction in Valuation of Land For Taxes—Mr. C. P. Harris Chairman.

Pursuant to a call issued many days before a mass meeting was held in the Court House on Saturday at one o'clock for the purpose of passing resolutions looking to reducing the valuations on farm lands to be presented to the Legislature now in session. Quite a large number were present when the meeting was called to order by Mr. C. P. Harris, who after stating the object of the meeting, was unanimously elected chairman of the meeting and A. F. Johnson was elected secretary.

The Chairman stated that the object of the meeting was to take some action to relieve us of the high taxes we are now paying. He further stated that this would be no political meeting nor should any abuses be allowed, but was an honest effort to have the property of the county reduced in valuation, after which he opened the meeting for discussion, stating that all speeches would be limited to ten minutes each.

W. M. Person rose stating that "we have met here to undo what has been done to us—to do it legitimately—the change of 1920. That crime which put 50 per cent increase on land owners and farmers." He stated further that at there was \$600,000,000 worth of stock in North Carolina untaxed and that corporations were practically tax free. He moved that a committee of two languages be sent to Raleigh to read the riot act to the legislature and demand a change.

Stating that this was time for action and not talking Mr. S. A. Newell took the floor and presented a few figures. He stated that in 1919 the real estate was listed at 4,565,461 and personal property at \$4,565,486. And in 1920 real estate was listed at \$17,246,854 and personal property at \$5,715,786. He stated that theoretically the revaluation act was right, and that the legislature was working on this question trying to arrive at the proper thing to do. He suggested that tax be taken off real estate and be put on personal property.

W. A. Jones stated that he had land worth \$17,000.00 that had been valued under this new act at \$52,000.00 which he considered unequal. He suggests an equalization board to remedy the defects and suggests that the County Commissioners and one member from each township compose the Board. Mr. Jones stated that with the present price of crops and land valuations "if I pay my guano man will sell me out, so I am in a fix."

Mr. Person took the floor again and was right sharp in his denunciations of the actions of the legislators and all who were in anyway connected, or in sympathy with the revaluation act and many other progressive movements.

Mr. J. R. Jones expressed himself in favor of an equalization stating that he had a neighbor whose land was valued at \$40 per acre while his own was valued at \$70.

W. W. Green moved that the Chairman appoint a committee of five to retire and draft resolutions. The Chair appointed S. A. Newell, J. M. Allen, J. T. Inscow, W. W. Green, C. B. Kearney.

Skeleton resolutions were read and referred to the committee.

Mr. Person rose to move "that we strike out the endorsement of the revaluation act in the skeleton resolutions, as we are here to condemn it." Whereupon Chairman Harris stated that he felt that the motive of the revaluation act was entirely honest but that through the enthusiasm of its executives the pendulum swung too far.

Mr. Green moved that Mr. Person be ruled down on a point of order which prevailed.

While the Committee was out drafting the resolutions W. M. Person called for W. W. Holmes to address the meeting who went forward and in a short talk stated that Wiley Person and himself were the only ones who told the truth on the campaign. He expressed himself against everything progressive and for the best interests of the State including the Public Welfare, the Home Demonstration work and even the preachers and presiding elders, stating that he considered that the money he paid for taxes was lost, and that he paid the preacher who was lost. Characterizing three fourths the people in the County fools he retired.

Mr. W. M. Person moved that every land owner in the County, and especially all those present, sign the copy of the resolutions that are to be sent to the representatives in the legislature. The motion prevailed.

Mr. W. D. Bowden was asked to tell the people about the Tobacco Growers Association, during the absence of the Committee and he responded. He attended the State meeting as a delegate from here and his explanation shows that a change of

plan has been made and the prospects look exceedingly bright for another year provided the advice and benefits of the organization is used to the fullest extent. He announced a meeting of the Franklin County Tobacco Growers Association to be held in the Court House on Monday, February 7th, 1921 at 12 o'clock.

The resolution committee reported the following: To the Legislature of North Carolina:

Whereas, we the land owners of Franklin County, North Carolina, have gathered in a mass meeting in the Court House in Louisburg, on this 29th day of January, 1921 for the purpose of seeking a remedy for the heavy burden of taxation placed upon us by the present tax system. NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved, that whereas the revaluation has greatly increased the land values and not increased the personal property values, resulting in a shifting of the burden of taxation to the shoulders of the land owners, we recommend that the valuations upon real estate as made for the year 1920 be reduced to a reasonable value (a reduction of 50 per cent or more) and that personal property values be left substantially as they are; which would result in relieving the real estate of a portion of its present heavy burden of taxation.

That the revaluation was made at a time of inflated and abnormal values. That we desire that our property be placed upon the tax books at its actual value and not the inflated values which have been placed upon it, and which has caused our taxes to become both burdensome and oppressive.

That we as a body instruct our Senator and Representative, and request the legislature, to use all of their energy and power to find some remedy for this malady which has been brought upon us by the present unjust and untrue values given to our property. That they not only procure this remedy but that they at all times oppose and resist any measure which in any way might add to our already extremely high taxes, more specially the proposed bond issues which are now before the legislature and which, in our opinion, should be voted upon by the people of the state; and we further request that they use their efforts towards the economical management of our state's finances, thus lessening our taxes in these more oppressive times.

That in our opinion the law now on our statute books allowing an exemption of \$300.00 worth of personal property, should be repealed.

We recommend that the board of County Commissioners of each County, together with one member from each township in the county be constituted a board of equalization. (The member from each Township to cooperate with the County Commissioners when passing on values in that township) with authority to value, revalue and equalize values of all property when necessary.

That we recommend that the office of Superintendent of Public Welfare be abolished.

These resolutions were adopted. Mr. Person moved that a section asking the repeal of the office of County Welfare Officer and Juvenile Court be added to the resolutions. The motion carried.

W. W. Green moved that the Chair appoint a committee composed of ten to go to Raleigh and lake the resolutions and also that Mr. S. A. Newell and C. P. Harris be made members of the Committee and that Mr. Newell be secretary of same. The motion was duly seconded and passed and the Chairman appointed J. M. Allen, G. W. Ford, Louisburg; W. W. Green, Hayesville; B. T. Green, Franklin; Joe Wilson, Youngsville; J. T. Inscow, Cedar Rock; C. B. Kearney, Sandy Creek; F. W. Justice, Harris.

No other business being before the Committee the Chairman entertained a motion to adjourn which was taken in the midst of many signing the resolutions.

We are very glad the mumps has almost played out around here.

Honor Roll—Those on honor roll for the fifth grade are Annie Gupton, Annie Rue Wood, and Lucy Bell Denton.

Wood isn't so very newsy this time but if times get better it will be next. COB.

WOOD ITEMS.

Mr. Eugene Edens, of Louisburg, made a business call here last Friday but got up with some girls and on their rabbit hunt he forgot what he came for.

Messrs. J. R. Montgomery and Raymond Shearin and Misses Pearl and Ruth Gupton made a short visit to Bunn Monday afternoon.

Senator F. B. McKinne, Franklin County's representative from the Sixth District in the General Assembly has been given several of the most important Committee assignments. He is chairman of the following committees: Corporation Commission, Propositions and Grievances. He holds membership on the following committees: Agriculture, Appropriations, Banks and Currency, Education, Insane Asylums, Salaries and Fees, Trustees University.

Shaving, according to one doctor, increases neuralgia an other troubles of the face.

DETAILED FIGURES SALARY FUND

FRANKLIN COUNTY FOR FISCAL YEAR.

Compiled By County Auditor And Furnished The Times By Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee of the Board of County Commissioners are to be given credit for having the following statements compiled giving the voters of Franklin County the information concerning the salary funds and other expenses of the County. These statements show a balance in favor of each of the offices, the majority of which is brought about by the increased amount of taxes collected. The Commissioners add to this report other expenses of the Court House which leaves a balance of \$4,514.17 after paying these expenses and salaries. The statements follow:

Statement of the Salary Fund of Franklin County for the fiscal year ending November 30, 1920, showing Fees, Commissions, Etc., Collected for the salary fund from the several county offices.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE table with columns for office name, salary, and total. Includes Sheriff's salary, Office Deputy, T. S. Deputies for collecting taxes, and Total Salaries for Sheriff's office.

CLERK'S OFFICE table with columns for office name, salary, and total. Includes Clerks Receipts for office for salary fund, Clerks Salary for self and Deputy, and Excess after Salaries deducted.

REGISTER OF DEEDS OFFICE table with columns for office name, salary, and total. Includes Total receipts of office for salary fund, Computing taxes, Register's salary for self and Deputy, and Excess after Salaries deducted.

The above statement shows only the Fees, Commissions, Etc., from the several offices that should go into the Salary Fund, which is to be used as such, only, as I understand the law, and is based partly on facts and figures already compiled, as I have not had sufficient time in which to audit in detail all the receipts for the past year.

Table listing various expenses: Total receipts paid to the county from the several offices, Postage for the offices, Office Supplies, Express, Drayage, Etc., Light and Water for Court House, Telephone for Sheriff and Register of Deeds, Fuel for Court House, Court Costs, Jan. May and Oct. Terms, Special Officers to Court and Grand Jury, Court Stenographer.

Summary table for expenses: Total expense of Court House (Estimated), Total Salaries, Sheriff, R. of D., and C. S. C., Total.

Total \$12,802.28 \$12,802.28 Excess \$4,514.17 This estimate of Court House Expenses is not meant to be charged to the Salary fund, but was requested to be compiled as a matter of information.

Statement of Fees, Commissions, Etc., paid to the County from the several offices, for the fiscal year ending November 30, 1920.

CLERK'S OFFICE table with columns for Fees, Com's, Jury Tax, Fines & Sten F, Forf's, Total. Lists monthly data from Dec 1919 to Nov 1920.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE table with columns for Fees, Commission on Taxes Collected, Total. Lists monthly data from Dec 1919 to Nov 1920.

REGISTER OF DEEDS OFFICE table with columns for Fees, Marriage License, Total. Lists monthly data from Dec 1919 to Nov 1920.

Total amount paid to county from the offices Less Fines & Forfeits, Jury T. & Sten. Fees (Not Sal. Fund) Leaving TOTAL AMOUNT PAID IN FOR SALARY FUND

The Finance Committee feel it their duty to make the following statement and explanation with respect to the Office of Register of Deeds: Under the salary basis the bulk of gratis work falls on the Register of Deeds, who by virtue of his office, is Clerk to the Board of Commissioners.

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A LITTLE GIRLS LETTER

FORMS PART OF WELFARE REPORT.

Will Be Of Interest To Those Of Our Citizens Interested In The Work For Humanity.

The following is a report of the work that has been accomplished in the county in the Welfare work since its beginning August 1st 1919. As was stated in a former report the law does not permit the publishing of the names of any of the juveniles and therefore they will be published under the number given them in the office as they occur.

Juvenile Work.

Case No. 1—A twelve year old colored boy left by his mother with his grandmother when an infant. After the grandmother had cared for him until he was a big boy his mother wanted to take him away with her to Norfolk but to this the grandmother objected saying that his mother was not a fit person to raise him.

Case No. 2—A thirteen year old colored girl. This girls father died and her mother married again later dying and leaving her with her step-father. The girls uncle then tried to get her away from her step-father saying that she was likely to be mistreated. Upon investigation it was found that the girl wanted to stay with her step-father, whom she considered as being her father, and the uncle who was trying to get her was addicted to whiskey and did not bear a very good name.

Case No. 3—A fourteen year old white girl whose father was dead and whose mother had married again leaving the town and abandoning the little girl when she was a small child. Later the aunts health failed and she had to break up housekeeping. The girl had no where to go as her people did not want her so she wrote me asking for help. I was fortunately able to secure a scholarship for her in one of the best schools of the state where she may obtain a good education. The following letter called my attention to her; she had been reported as absent from school and I wrote her aunt in regard to it:

Dear Sir: Your last letter received and I will take the liberty in answering it as my aunt has asked me to. She wrote you that I had to keep house the reason I did not attend school. But my aunt has broke up housekeeping and I have to leave here and in about a week I shall leave this town go some where I don't know where or care. The law will not allow me to work for my living then why don't the law take care of me.

I have no parents, I am only an orphan, and if you want me to go to school you had better come and see about me. I have always wanted an education but it was impossible and in spite of being absent so much I have in the sixth grade. I have been living with my sisters and aunt ever since my father died, and now I am turned out of a home. No one cares whether I live or die. It is strange I am telling you this but I have no one else to tell and if this letter will by any means touch your heart. Please let me hear from you at once or I shall write to the State Supt. for advice.

Yours very truly, Then here is a letter received from her after she had been in the school for several months.

Dear Mr. Jones: There is just one more week of school and I can't hardly realize that I've been here so long. Do you know that I like out here so well I shall almost be sorry when time comes to leave. I have got a new room mate. She came about two weeks ago. So you see, she got here later than I did. I've just finished examinations on Spelling and Arithmetic and I think I passed on both of them. I haven't got but four more examinations next week.

Miss Taylor, one of our teachers that has been sick in the hospital, will be back with us Monday, and I shall be glad to see her. I hope we can take a walk out to see the new building tomorrow for I am just crazy to see it. Our commencement exercises will begin Saturday afternoon end on Monday night, and we will leave for home on Tuesday the twenty-fifth. With best wishes, I am

Case No. 4—A thirteen year old boy who was criminally incorrigible, his father was unable to control him so came to me for advice and assistance after the boy had stolen a considerable amount of money. A place was secured for him at a splendid training school but before he was carried there his father decided to keep him through the summer to help on his farm but he later came to see me again saying the boy had

PERSONALS.

Mr. F. B. Leonard visited Raleigh Monday. Sen. F. B. McKinne spent Sunday and Monday at home.

Mr. E. H. Malone paid Greensboro a business visit Tuesday.

J. K. Brewer returned home Monday from the Sanatorium.

Mr. Wilmot Brown and wife, of Hamlet, were visitors to Louisburg this week, guest of his father.

Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Person, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Thomas, Miss Gladys Vick and Mr. J. E. Thomas went to Raleigh Tuesday night to see "Freckles" at the Academy.

Mr. W. L. Beasley, accompanied by Dr. J. O. Newell and Miss Annie Laurie Macon, left Monday for Raleigh where he will undergo an operation at Rex Hospital.

THE McBRAYER CLOTHING CO. FAILS.

The McBrayer Clothing Co., one of Louisburg's leading clothing establishments, was placed in the hands of a receiver on Thursday evening of last week. Mr. D. F. McKinne was named Receiver. We understand that the liabilities of the company was about \$27,000.00, with assets of about \$27,000.00, the assets consisting principally of stock at inventory. We understand that the management took this action in order that all the creditors of the company might share alike, and was brought about on account of purchases on the basis of usual sales, and the drop off of business on account of low prices, made it impossible for liquidation of the indebtedness when due.

AT THE COLLEGE.

Rev. W. W. Peele, Pastor of Edenton Street Methodist Church, Raleigh, preached a number of strong sermons at the Chapel Exercises at the college the past week, from which much good will result. During this series of sermons many of the girls who had not made a profession of faith, gave their lives to God. The services were much enjoyed by all those who heard. Rev. Mr. Peele.

METHODIST CHURCH.

Sunday School 9-45 A. M. Preaching at 11:00 A. M. and 7:30 P. M.

It is specially desired to have the young people present at the morning service.

PINEY GROVE.

The pastor, Rev. G. F. Smith will preach next Sunday at 3:00 P. M. Everybody in the community cordially invited to attend.

PICTURE LECTURE.

At the Methodist Church, Wednesday night 7:30, Feb. 9, 1921. Rev. C. K. Proctor, Pastor of Central Church, Raleigh, will give a Picture-Lecture, using the Stereopticon and slides shown at the last Conference at Rocky Mount.

Admission free. No collection. Everybody invited.

SERVICES AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH.

Services at St. Paul's Church Sunday next will be Sunday School and Bible Class at 10 A. M. Morning Prayer with sermon and administration of the Holy Communion at 11 A. M. Rev. N. Collin Hughes, Rector, officiating. A cordial welcome is given to all services to all visitors.

HONOR ROLL.

The following is an honor roll for Laurel School for the month of January:

- Eighth Grade—Helen Alston, Hugh Jones. Seventh Grade—Mary Egerton. Sixth Grade—Louise Parrish. Fifth Grade—Harold Garbee, Reubin Gupton, Theron Hight, Clement Harper, Roger Harris, Alice DePriest. Fourth Grade—Mamie Harris, Eugene Harper. Third Grade—Ruffin Harper, Blount Egerton, Lessie Breedlove, Helen Tharrington, Rachel Garbee, Helen Parrish, Irene DePriest, Willa DePriest. Second Grade—Lucy Perry Conn, Irma Gupton, Lucy Breedlove, Loyd Crissman, Clyde Crissman. First Grade—Estelle Woodard, Pat Florence Edwards, Sue Egerton, Wilson Parrish, Bettie Hobbitt Marshall, Page DePriest.

Dad the Washerwoman.

A recent survey of farm life conditions in Arkansas by the state college of agriculture revealed two homes in which the father did the family washing.

stolen some more money, and to try to get the place for him again, I succeeded in getting it and carried him to the school, in a few weeks he escaped and came home. A place was then secured for him at the Jackson Training school where he will be cared for and given the proper training. (TO BE CONTINUED)