

THE FRANKLIN TIMES

A. F. JOHNSON, Editor and Manager

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With the exception of the expenditure for the paved streets, the town of Louisburg has not published a statement of its expenditures since 1918.

Is a man who refused to do what the law says he shall do either by act or neglect, a fit person to have in trust the expenditures of the public funds?

Talk about the cost of having the town's statements printed is too great. Why the town has not spent but \$195 in seven years for this purpose. Do you call that expensive.

It wouldn't be a bad idea for Louisburg to have one or two ladies on the Board of Town Commissioners. It would be a recognition of their new franchise and no doubt be of great benefit to the town.

When a person's life has become so base that he can jest and ridicule another person for making professions of faith in Jesus Christ, then it is high time for him to be donning the sack-cloth and ashes and seeking divine forgiveness on humbly bended knees.

How can the people of Louisburg determine who has made efficient officers? The only thing that is visible to them is the paved streets and the new machinery at the power house. They have no information whatever of the wise or unwise spending of around thirty to forty thousands of dollars each year?

The voters of Louisburg should demand of every candidate for office in the coming town primary a published statement as to whether or not he will publish at once and at least annually thereafter a statement of receipts and disbursements of the town, and all those who are opposed to such publication should be defeated.

It is unreasonable to expect the taxpayers of Louisburg who want to know what becomes of the town's moneys, to go to the Clerk's office and ask the Clerk. It would take too much of his time, besides the average man wants to scan such information at times when the office is closed. Again to adopt that system, even if it would work would cost the town ten to twenty times what it would cost to have it printed.

THE TOWN PRIMARY. Mayor Joyner has issued a call for the primary for the Town of Louisburg to be held on Tuesday, April 12, for the purpose of nominating a Mayor and a Board of Six Commissioners for the ensuing two years. It will be interesting to note that in his appointments for registrar and poll holders the Mayor has recognized the right and privilege of the feminine sex by appointing Miss Gladys Vick to one of these positions. This action on the part of Mayor Joyner will no doubt meet with general favor. And in it is suggested a new responsibility and a new duty. Heretofore the ladies of Louisburg have had no opportunity to take a part in the selection of the officers who were to govern the town and had a perfect right to criticize the actions of the officials when they were not in keeping with their ideas. Under the new order it is just as much the duty of the women to attend the primary and assist in selecting the officers who will govern Louisburg the next two years as it is the duty of the men. And it is to be hoped that they will recognize the importance of this duty and exercise their franchise. The responsibility now rests largely on the ladies for advancement. The men have been tried and their record is made.

Of course we have no ladies who will allow prejudice or friendship to replace their better judgment, but on the other hand all of them will join in the strongest kind of condemnation of such weakness.

If in the judgment of the ladies of Louisburg the ones who will stand for the best there is in government morally, spiritually, legally and otherwise, are not candidates then it is their duty to find the right ones and use their influence towards their election.

WHAT WILL IT LEAD TO. That the steam roller in Franklin County politics is being applied effectively is evidenced by the several occurrences that have taken place recently, which have served to defeat the wishes of the voters of the county and bring about arbitrary government and inconsistencies that are not only unwarranted but, if reports are true, are unjust to the taxpayers of Franklin County, and produces circumstantial evidence that instead of the regularly elected officials that the voters selected to conduct the affairs of the county a little coterie of citizens are manipulating the county affairs to suit themselves and their consciences. To begin with the salaries of the officers were increased without the consent, or courtesy of consultation of the voters, or of the Commission-

ers, causing an added expense and burden to the taxpayers. The next step was to cripple, or to show their antagonism to, the Board of County Commissioners by repealing that portion of the increased salaries bill allowing the Commissioners extra pay for committee work. Following this the powers of the Commissioners without their knowledge or consent, were taken away from those elected by the people and usurped into the office of Auditor, repealing that portion of the old salary law that required the auditor to compute the taxes and make up the tax books, allowing this to go back under the old system to the Register of Deeds. Again on February 5th, the Commissioners met in called meeting and among other things, all of which in their opinion they were doing for the best interest of the taxpayers and in accordance with law, they made a change in the personnel of the Louisburg township road trustees and agreed to sell a piece of land on the banks of Tar River belonging to the County that has never turned in any revenue for \$500—at the rate of about \$7,000 per acre. This meeting was held illegal. Evidently an obstruction for the desired ends of the few. Therefore on the first Monday in March the commissioners were required to re-enact their former order to make it valid. The action on the Trusteeship was re-enacted and the Commissioners were released from its land deal. On Friday of last week another called meeting was held and when called to order in the forenoon all members were present except Wilder. Commissioner Hudson stated as the former special meeting was held illegal and as he had received no legal notice of this meeting he did not consider it a legal meeting, and that in addition he was opposed to selling \$50,000 worth of County bonds without advertising them and giving the public an opportunity to bid on same. Mr. Hudson refusing to give over in his position the Board adjourned for about two hours so that Commissioner Wilder could be sent for. After Mr. Wilder arrived it developed that he had received no notice, and the Chairman stated during the day that he had called no meeting. This meeting was held sufficiently legal to sell \$50,000 of the County's bridge bonds without any publicity whatever, although the Board, so we are informed, had ordered them advertised at a meeting held in January, and at a price, so we are informed of \$500 less than another concern offered, who were waiting to see the bonds advertised.

There is no doubt that the County needed the money and possibly a sale of bonds properly advertised would have been the proper course for the Commissioners. But for a Board to sell \$50,000 worth of bonds privately is nothing less than the usurpation of a power unjustly given, if given at all, and should be foreign advice for any one to give much less for anyone to take. On the other hand if it was illegal to remove a road trustee or make a \$500 land deal that would mean conferring a liability into an asset, at a special meeting how in the name of common justice can any one get an excuse to put a burden of \$50,000 on the taxpayers at a private sale in such a special meeting. If the entire amount involved in the first special meeting had represented a fraud it could not have been an equal burden to a \$50,000 bond issue that represents a mortgage on every man's land in Franklin County, and which the land owners will be called on in a special tax to pay off, and from our information would not equal the loss the county sustained by reason of the private sale. Commissioner Hudson deserves the commendation of all the taxpayers in Franklin County, for laying aside friendship and standing firm in what he considered his duty to his people, and while the people are assembled in a mass meeting Saturday to consider some changes in the revaluation they should also condemn the practices that are being forced upon the people by the few who are running things to suit themselves, the public interest be hunged.

The invisible government at Washington City that has received so much comment recently, and commanded the attention of Congress, has nothing on Franklin County. Unless the people assert their sovereignty and repudiate such actions on the part of the few self constituted guardians of Franklin County there is no telling just how far this influence will go, or into what condition it will place you and your County.

TAKE TIME TO BE RIGHT. "Take time to be right" should be the watch word of the Board of County Commissioners on Monday, April 12th, when they will be required to take under consideration the operation of the revaluation act. If we understand the law, the Board will be required first to determine whether the land values for taxes are sufficiently unequal to justify a new valuation, either in the County as a whole or in any township. As we understand it this does not mean that the Commissioners are to consider at all the question of whether the land as a whole is valued too high or too low, but only refers to the injustice of one man's land being valued higher than that of his neighbor and this in sufficient numbers of cases to make it cheaper to the County to revalue all land. The question of Franklin County's land being valued higher or lower than Vance, Nash or any other county in the State is not a consideration at this meeting because of the fact that Franklin County's land or personal property will pay no tax that will go outside the County. Therefore it is entirely a local question pure and simple and only necessitates the equalizing inequalities where they exist. Of course if the Board finds that there is sufficient inequality to justify a new valuation why they should order it. But before they do there are several matters that should command their attention, which we will call to mind as we go along. If they do not find suf-

ficient inequalities to justify a new valuation then they may proceed to hear complaints of private citizens as to the individual inequalities and make such adjustment as they see fit. The law lays down the proper course to be followed in each case and will no doubt be clear enough to the several members.

However there is one thing that is of the greatest importance to the Commissioners to bear in mind and that is the amount of money you will need to run the government of the County. There is no excuse to reduce taxes to a point that will force you to issue bonds to take care of the amount of the County's expense that the taxes fail to meet. Then again you will remember that the cost of government will be at least \$5,000 more in 1921 than it was in 1920. In order to be able to act intelligently you should know how much money you will need to run the County the next twelve months and provide for this amount with taxes instead of notes and bonds. To this preparation should be added the additional information to what limit you can put the tax rate. This is the second important question gentlemen and you should know just how far you can go legally. Last year your rate for the County was as follows: General purpose 9 cents; Bridge 7 cents; Poor 5 cents; County Schools 15 cents making a total of 36 cents on the \$100 worth of property, leaving off the 8 cents levied for School building fund. The latter item, we are not sure but is entitled to be levied as a special tax and would not be effected by the Constitutional limitation. But if our understanding and our information is correct all the other items are effected by the Constitutional limitation and will have to be levied in accordance therewith this year. At the election in November a Constitutional amendment was ratified reducing the Constitutional limit for taxes to 15 cents from the old limitation of 66 2-3 cents, and is now law. This amendment only changed the figures in the constitution, therefore the same application stands. Under the old system the State and County together for general purpose, poor, bridges and schools, except where special taxes were voted by the people, could only levy 66 2-3 cents on property, therefore under the new limitation they can only levy 15 cents. In support of this idea at one time Franklin County levied a rate 2 cents higher than the constitutional rate and although the private individuals paid it, the railroads raised the question of its constitutionality and the County had to refund them that amount.

As the State has levied no tax this year the County will be allowed to levy the full 15 cents, and possibly may be permitted to levy in addition a tax sufficient to take care of the outstanding bridge bonds that were permitted to be issued as a necessary improvement. But otherwise there is hardly any question but that the Board will be forced to stay within the 15 cent limit.

Now since the tax levy on the present values for 1920 was 36 cents and proven to be insufficient to take care of the County's needs, and that the tax levy for 1921 can hardly exceed 15 cents—less than half of that of last year—can you afford to reduce the values of property?

Then again isn't it reasonable that if the County takes the position that real property has decreased in value twenty-five per cent since January 1919, that the public will have a reasonable excuse to consider that personal property has decreased in a like proportion, and won't it be an in-lucement to the fellow who has money, or papers representing money, to withhold it more than ever on the grounds that land and other personal property, in his opinion, is not paying their proportional part of the taxes. Hasn't the fellow who owns money and bonds or mortgages and personal property just as much right to his opinion that tax values on land are not equal to the tax values on his property as the fellow who owns land has to the reverse idea. This is a question, gentlemen that has three sides, two of which contain about equal fighting ground. But the third, that of the Commissioners, who have the burden of the government to bear, is greater than both the others together. Therefore we say to you to look deeply into this question and be sure of your position before you act. Take Time to be Right.

IN MEMORY Mrs. Kate White was born May 1st, 1857, and was called away to her Heavenly home March 11th, 1921. She was a member of the Methodist Church at Bunn and we feel that the church has lost one of its most deeply consecrated members. While she was unable to attend services she was always interested in the church. I have been by her bedside a number of times and was forcibly impressed by her life as one of obedience to God's will. Though she was confined to her home her influence was great, for one could not look into her face without seeing and feeling the love of God. Her life was not a barren fig tree by the wayside but one that God had pruned with his own hand that it might bring forth an abundance of fruit. She bore her suffering for a number of years with a smile, realizing God's promise was sufficient for her. She leaves three children and one sister to mourn her death. The funeral service was conducted by her pastor at the family burying ground at Bunn. May God comfort and sustain the sorrowing ones and help them that they may so live that they may meet her again. E. R. CLEGG, Pastor.

To the woman who hasn't a cook it is at least a satisfaction to know that she is her own boss.—Petersburg (Va.) Index-Appeal.

If a woman is heartless it is the fault of some man.

H. W. BORING, a well-known Kansas farmer, says he has gained twenty pounds and is in better general health than he has been in years, since taking Taniac.



"Since Taniac has overcome my troubles I have gained twenty pounds in weight and am in better general health than for years past," was the straight-forward statement made a few days ago by H. W. Boring, a prominent and well-to-do farmer living at Overland Park, Kans.

"During the two years I suffered I tried everything I knew of to get relief, but nothing seemed to reach my case until I tried Taniac. My appetite was poor and my digestion was so bad I could hardly retain my food. Nothing seemed to agree with me; in fact, I was almost a confirmed dyspeptic. My whole system seemed to be out of shape. I would have pains across the small of my back so bad at times I could hardly move around. My nerves were all unstrung and I would become upset at the least little thing. I seldom slept well at night and finally, became so weak and run-down that I lost weight rapidly. I was also troubled a great deal with catarrh and of mornings had to spend a half hour or more clearing up my head.

"This is just the condition I was in when I began taking Taniac and it certainly has been a blessing to me. It just seemed to be made especially for my case. I improved from the first. My digestion now is perfect and regardless of what I eat I never suffer any bad after-effects. The pains across my back have entirely disappeared. The catarrh has left me, too, and my head is perfectly clear. I am no longer nervous and rest well at night. I have regained my lost weight and am feeling better and stronger than I have in years. I am going to keep Taniac in my house so it will be handy at all times."

Taniac is sold in Louisburg by SCOGGIN DRUG CO. Adv.

FOR MAYOR. To the Citizens of Louisburg: In announcing that I shall be a candidate to succeed myself in the April primary I wish to bespeak your support and to make grateful acknowledgment of your confidence in the past; promising to merit your continued approval by a conscientious performance of the duties imposed in me.

LOUIS L. JOYNER. March 23rd, 1921. 3-25-t.p.

CROPS AND ACREAGE FOR 1921 The Vital Question of the Moment Presents a Great Opportunity for Southern Merchants. The opinion seems general that prosperity in the South this year and next hinges on the acreage planted to cotton and tobacco this spring. The situation is well covered in the following letter recently issued by John M. Miller, Jr., President of The First National Bank of Richmond, Va. "In our judgment the cotton and tobacco already on hand in this country together with NOT OVER a half crop for the coming year, is all that the world will be able to purchase and pay for at reasonable prices. If large crops of cotton and tobacco are planted this Spring it will result in continued low prices, and even lower prices during the Fall and Winter of 1921. "Acreage planted to those crops SHOULD NOT EXCEED one-half of last year's acreage, and MORE feed and food crops should be planted to avoid sending millions of dollars away from home for feed and food. "Our course will be to confine our loans to banks, supply merchants, etc., insisting upon the above policy and practice in their respective communities. "We invite co-operation and correspondence from our banks and other customers on this subject."

The situation is one that calls for immediate and forceful presentation of the above facts to southern farmers. The merchants of the South can do this to better advantage than any other one class of business men because of close personal contact. You can discuss the matter in all its phases with the business farmers of your community and secure their cooperation, realizing that the proper handling of the 1921 farm crop question is a necessary factor in the quick recovery of business and a vital feature of the South's future prosperity. —Richmond Trade News.

The Quinine That Does Not Affect The Head Because of its tonic and laxative effect, LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE (Tablets) can be taken by anyone without causing nervousness or ringing in the head. E. W. GROVE'S signature on box. 3c.

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and

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Louisburg, North Carolina

T. W. Watson, Agent

SERVICE

WHERE INSURANCE SCIENCE LEAVES OFF, insurance SERVICE begins. It is the human element in a mathematically adjusted business.

AMBITION

THEREFORE WE HAVE HAD AN AMBITION to help develop a SERVICE that would not only be GOOD SERVICE, but good business.

SERVICE

WE BELIEVE THAT SERVICE, to measure up to the highest standard must have something more than a sentimental appeal; it must have ACTUAL BUSINESS VALUE.

EFFORTS

OUR EFFORTS, THEREFORE, are steadily directed toward the developing of GOOD INSURANCE SERVICE for our customers, who look to us to make quick, generous, and satisfying responses to their needs, WHATEVER, WHENEVER, and HOWEVER they may develop.

When You Think of INSURANCE THINK OF

WATSON