

THE NEWS REPORTER OF COLUMBUS COUNTY.

OUR POLICY: We believe, heart and soul, in our paper, our country, state and nation. We stand for progress — for better roads, better schools, churches and a better living enlightened people.

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY at WHITEVILLE, N. C.

Entered at the postoffice at Whiteville, N. C., April 3, 1895, as second class mail matter.

\$2.00 Per Year, Cash In Advance

W. B. KEZIAH, EDITOR.

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 1924

DO WE CONSIDER ALL SIDES?

It is very much the practice, or shall we call it a habit, to jump on boards of county commissioners in this county, especially near the close of their terms and lay to their doors all the sins that are bequeathed to mankind.

The present board has come in for its share of criticism. They have not asked or sought that we defend their course and in writing this editorial we are prompted entirely by a love of fair play and a careful analysis of the situation from all sides which leaves us with an established conviction that the board has done the best it could under existing conditions. Furthermore, we believe that an impartial study of the accomplishments in his county during the past two years will leave all sensible men and women in possession of the knowledge that there are many things for which the present board should have the heartiest commendation of the public.

A newspaper man is pretty much on the firing line at all times. He is cussed out for this and that and everything that happens in his county and territory. He has to deal with hundreds, often thousands of people, many of them natural cranks who like nothing better than to knock him, knock their neighbors and knock everything else that comes within range of their narrowed visions. They knock, we all know. Too often we look at the small mistakes and let lose the guns of criticism without giving any recognition whatever to the good deeds that have been done by the same party or parties.

This is not being written in defense of the cussings out that we have received as a public party in the shape of a newspaper man. We don't want any defense for that and in all truthfulness we think we can say that if we had never made any

enemies or knockers during our eight years of newspaper experience, we would give up the work here and now on the grounds that we had been an utter failure, and we would take up some other line of work for which we might be better fitted.

In short, we glory in the enemies that we have made as a newspaper man. Every man that knocks us is doing us a service, whether he intends it or not, if he does not intend it we naturally have small thanks to him for his efforts. Going by that we have no thanks going to anyone who knocks us, this despite the fact that they are encouraging us and doing us a favor.

What we want and intend to say is that we get knocking on about the same scale as a county officer gets at the hands of prejudiced parties. There is the difference that the county official cannot very well defend himself because most of the knocking is done behind his back. The power of the press reached further and the newspaper man has plenty of ways and means to defend himself from the knockers if it happens that he gives a happy hurrah for their knocking, and in this case we do not.

At the same time we cannot restrain a feeling of sympathy for many of our public officials. They do things for which they deserve a hearty cussing out from the public and it is very seldom that they fail to get it. These columns have never been by any means slow in giving any official a piece of down the country when we thought he was deserving it. On the other hand we have tried to praise good actions whenever possible, when they were called to our attention. They are not often so called and in this particular instance they have not been called at all by any of the parties interested. We think we may say that we have just been thinking that there has been a good many very commendable acts done by the present board of county commissioners that are deserving of the heartiest praise and commendation of the citizens of Columbus.

If we folks who have lost no chance of cussing the commissioners for the acts and occurrences that have not been pleasing to us will stop awhile and study up the one and many acts that have met with our hearty approval, perhaps, we can find room to say a good word in behalf of the board. As one of the offenders who have been guilty of knocking we feel that we should here and now say something in commendation of the board for some of the things they have done.

We want to commend and thank all three men on the board for building the mile of hard surface road west of town. Before this road was built the hundreds of people from Tabor and all the lower part of the county, who had to come to town, had to cross a mile of swamp and half a dozen rotten and often impassable bridges to get here. Folks in Whiteville who had to go out that way had to undergo the same difficulties. As this is easily one of the most used roads in the county, it can easily be seen that several thousand people will readily join with us in a word of praise to the commissioners for having made it a lasting good road. This road is one of the worth-while things that should evoke our praise.

Another much bigger thing for which we want to praise the commissioners is the building of the highway to Tabor. We have reliable information that as a result of the work that has been done on this road by the commissioners, the state will shortly take it over as a link in the state system of highways. This act will remove the burden of maintaining twenty miles of much used road from the shoulders of Columbus county people, it will enable Columbus county to devote more of its road building funds to building

and keeping up other roads in Columbus. We think the commissioners should have a word of praise for this work and we are doing our bit in the abiding faith that there are a lot of others who will join us in a word of thanks.

The commissioners have been and are still assisting in building a road, almost equal to the state highways, through Welches creek township and connecting with the Wilmington-Charlotte and Asheville highway between Whiteville and Hallsboro. People in Walches Creek township can surely find room for a few words of praise of the commissioners for assistance with this road, and we are glad to join them. The road will open up a good section of county which has heretofore had but a wretched system of roads.

The commissioners are building several good roads, one going out from Tabor and through Pireway and other communities down there in the lower section of the county where they have some of the finest farming lands in Columbus and had the poorest system of roads in the state. The opening of roads down there will be worth a million dollars to the folks down that way. We are glad that the commissioners saw fit to build roads, in behalf of the good folks in that heretofore sadly neglected portion of Columbus, we

want to thank the commissioners for what they have done there. It is deserving of higher praise than we can give here.

The commissioners have built a highway from the Brunswick county line to Whiteville. Folks here in Whiteville and folks all about the county after getting to Whiteville over state and county highways can go on to the coast at Southport and arrive in a couple of hours after they start from Whiteville. Brunswick folks are certainly appreciative of our commissioners for fixing things so they can come over into Columbus. We are appreciative of the fact that we can get over into Brunswick once in a while and the folks living down near the river are appreciative of the fact that they can now get some where, when it used to be that they could get no where at all without wearing wading boots. The state will some day take over this road and thereby save the county much road funds.

The commissioners have installed an up-to-date system of book keeping and auditing. Under it county funds will always be handled accurately and without there being a possibility of errors and loss of the tax payers money. The auditing will keep tab on every detail of county government and will avert much carelessness and neglect that has ex-

isted in some quarters in the past. In short, with it the county is being run now under a complete business system and the commissioners are entitled to some praise for it.

There are a lot of sections of the county that are much in need of better roads. We grant that they need them and that the folks living in those sections may feel justified in kicking at the failure to get them. On the other hand a little sober reasoning will bring about the realization that it was not within the power of the commissioners to start work in every section of the county at once. With the ways and means at their command they had to start out and do the best they could and build good roads as fast as they could. Not everything could be done at once and we are glad and wish to compliment the commissioners for having started where they did, in the much neglected lower section of the county, when they started out to build good roads.

We have not kept track of all the things that the county commissioners have done and for which they are entitled to a measure of praise. We just have an idea that there is a lot of things that they have done for which a lot of folks are glad. We have named a few of the things for which we are glad and about which we believe there are a lot of our people just as glad as we are. No one can please everybody but this paper earnestly hopes that, as a matter of simple justice to our board of commissioners, there are a few other folks, who can find something that will call for thanks to the board of county commissioners.

When Leo Simmons, 19 years old Whiteville boy, received his terrible burns in a gasoline explosion last Monday night the 117th Motor Transport Company was drilling here at the Armory. The boys all went to the fire and within 20 minutes after the fire was extinguished the commanding officer of the company reported to the doctors attending Simmons that the rank and file of the Motor Company, to a man, was standing ready to donate skin from his body for grafting upon the injured boy. It turned out later that such a sacrifice would be useless as the young man was too badly burned for any earthly aid to avail in saving his life. Still, the fact that the offer of the boys could not be accepted, should in no way lessen the pride that our citizens feel in the young men who compose the company.

Report of the Condition of THE BANK OF CHADBOURN at Chadbourn, N. C. in the State of North Carolina, at the close of business, March 31st, 1914.

Table with Resources and Liabilities columns. Resources include Loans and discounts (\$311,801.65), Demand loans (450.00), Overdrafts, unsecured (62.88), Banking houses, \$8,000; furniture and fixtures, \$4500 (12,500.00), All other real estate owned (18,729.11), Personal property (2,750.00), Cash in vault and net amounts due from banks, bankers and Trust Companies (26,422.39), Cash items held over 24 hours (89.75), Checks for clearing (301.34), Expense (6,308.20), Farmers Savings Bank Liquidating account (20,410.33). Total Resources: \$400,707.49. Liabilities include Capital stock paid in (\$20,000.00), Surplus fund (10,000.00), Bills payable (105.00.00), Deposits subject to check, individual (149,080.56), Time certificates of deposit, due in less than 30 days (8,992.35), Cashier's checks outstanding (2,760.28), Certified checks (9.06), Savings deposits (105,195.20). Total Liabilities: \$400,707.49.

Total \$400,707.49 State of North Carolina—County of Columbus, April 9th, 1924. I, C. L. Tate, Cashier of the above named Bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. C. L. TATE, Cashier. Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 9th day of April, 1924. A. M. Smith, Notary Public. My Commission expires January 28, 1926. Correct—Attest: D. C. CLARK, C. F. SHELTON, ELROY BAILEY, Directors.

POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENT!

I respectfully announce myself as a candidate for the democratic nomination for Recorder of Columbus county, subject to the will of the Democratic voters of the county to be expressed in the primary. If nominated and elected I pledge myself to administer the affairs of that office without fear or favor and with an eye single to the administration of justice. I will greatly appreciate the support of my fellow-Democrats. Respectfully, A. T. CLARK.

FOR THE LEGISLATURE

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the Legislators, subject to the will of the Democratic voters of Columbus county, as expressed in the coming primary. I will appreciate the support of the men and women voters of Columbus county and if elected I will endeavor to serve the best interests of the voters. J. R. MAXWELL.

FOR THE LEGISLATURE

To the People of Columbus County. I hereby announce myself a candidate for the Lower House of the General Assembly of North Carolina, to be expressed by the wishes of the voters at the primary on June Seventh, 1924. GEORGE W. HOOKS.

FOR THE LEGISLATURE

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the legislature subject to the will of the voters of Columbus county in the Democratic primary June 7th. If nominated and elected I will strive to serve the best interests of the people of Columbus county as a whole. AVERY THOMPSON.

FOR REGISTER OF DEEDS

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the office of Register of Deeds of Columbus county, subject to the will of the Democratic voters of Columbus county to be expressed in the coming primary to be held on June 7th, A. D., 1924. I appreciate the handsome vote and support given me by the voters in the last Primary, and if nominated and elected will endeavor to serve the best interest of the people while I am in office. GEO. E. COLLIER.

FOR REGISTER OF DEEDS

I take this method of announcing myself a candidate to succeed myself as Register of Deeds of Columbus county. I will thank the voters for their support at the Primary, June 7th, 1924, and if nominated and elected I will render the same service as heretofore. Respectfully, KATHLEEN BALDWIN.

FOR SHERIFF

I announce myself a candidate for Sheriff of Columbus County, subject to the will of the people as expressed in the June primary. If nominated and elected the office will be conducted with every economy consistent with efficient management. JNO. W. HALL.

FOR SHERIFF

To the Voters of Columbus County—Ladies and Gentlemen: I take this method of announcing myself a candidate for the Sheriff's office, subject to your approval, as expressed in the Democratic primary in June. If elected I shall endeavor to put forth every effort to serve the people fairly and impartially, to the best of my ability. CLYDE M. GORE.

FOR SHERIFF

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the office of Sheriff, in the coming primary, to be held June 7th. I thank the people, one and all, for the loyal support heretofore given me and will appreciate your support in the coming primary. If elected I shall continue to render the sure service as heretofore given. J. O. AMMONS.

FOR SHERIFF

To the People of Columbus County: I have decided to run for the office of Sheriff of Columbus county in the Democratic primary of June 7th, 1924. Any one voting for me can rest assured that the county and all concerned will get a square deal, and that I can efficiently perform the duties of the office of Sheriff. C. C. PRIDGEN.

FOR SHERIFF

To the Voters of Columbus County: I hereby announce myself a candidate for the office of Sheriff of Columbus county, subject to the action of the Democratic primary of June 7th. I will appreciate your vote and support and if I am nominated and elected, I pledge myself to discharge the duties of the office in a straightforward business manner. LONNIE H. HIGH

FOR JUDGE COUNTY COURT

I hereby announce myself a candidate for re-election to the office of Judge of the county court and I will appreciate the support of the Democratic men and women voters of Columbus county in the primary of June 7th. If elected I shall endeavor to discharge the duties of the office in a judicial manner conforming to the nature of the cases brought before me. E. A. MAULTSBY.

FOR COMMISSIONER

Unsolicited friends have approached me and I have consented to come before the voters of Columbus county in the June primary. If they see fit to elect me I will say that I will endeavor to use every economy legally available. J. LEE WILLIAMSON.

Grand Theatre PROGRAM

MONDAY, APRIL 14. WALLACE REID IN THIRTY DAYS Two Reel Comedy (Mrs. C. F. Bowen.)

TUESDAY, APRIL 15. MAY MURRAY IN JAZZMANIA Two Reel Comedy (Miss Blanche Dyson)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16. MAY MURRAY IN JAZZMANIA One Reel Comedy (Miss Orene Kranhke)

THURSDAY, APRIL 17. JACKIE COOGAN IN TROUBLE One Reel Comedy (Miss Mildred Elkins)

FRIDAY, APRIL 18. BETTY CAMPSON IN "KICK IN" Two Reel Comedy (Miss Mae Formyduval)

SATURDAY, APRIL 19. HOSPITALITY A Metro rip roaring High Class Comedy Special. Also an extra two reel comedy. (Miss Rachael Grady)

MICKIE, THE PRINTER'S DEVIL

By Charles Sughroe © Western Newspaper Union



Yes, He Has a Few Fleas

CHARLES SUGHROE