

**The Charlotte News**

—Published By—  
THE NEWS PUBLISHING CO.  
Corner Fourth and Church Sts.

W. C. DOWD, Pres. and Gen. Mgr.  
JULIAN S. MILLER, Editor  
JASPER C. HULL, City Editor  
W. C. DOWD, Jr., Managing Editor  
W. M. BELL, Advertising Mgr.

Telephones.  
Business Office ..... 115  
Circulation Department ..... 2793  
City Editor ..... 277  
Editorial Rooms ..... 385  
Printing House ..... 1630

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS  
The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to the use for republication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in this paper and also the local news published herein.  
All rights of republication of special dispatches herein also are reserved.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES  
By Carrier.  
One year ..... \$10.00  
Six months ..... 5.00  
Three months ..... 2.50  
One month ..... .85  
By Mail.  
One year ..... 8.00  
Six months ..... 4.00  
Three months ..... 2.00  
One month ..... .75

Sunday Only  
(By Mail or Carrier.)  
One year ..... 2.50  
Six months ..... 1.30

TIMES-DEMOCRAT  
(Semi-Weekly.)  
One year ..... 1.50  
Six months ..... .75

FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 1921.

**WHAT MAKES A CAPABLE SCHOOL TEACHER?**

The new basis of certification of teachers for the public schools of North Carolina seems to be laid in two considerations, one is that the teachers shall have attended some certain college during their academic days and the other is that they shall in the future attend some accredited summer school.

The capacity of a school teacher, is, of course, largely dependent upon collegiate education and collegiate education is itself in a measure dependent upon the sort of a college attended, but even this lacks a great deal of constituting every requirement for a capable teacher.

For instance, some of the best teachers which a community may have attended some small college—perhaps, a denominational college,—but received in that institution training which eminently fitted them for teaching in the public schools. It is not always necessary to go to some great University to become qualified to live, move and have a being.

Not all the great scholars of America went to Yale or Princeton or Harvard, neither have all the school teachers in North Carolina who are qualified to hold their jobs attended the University or the Greensboro College or a few others held in such esteem by the educational officials of the State.

And yet, forsooth, because some school teachers did not go to some certain college and get their certificate of graduation, the State board holds that they are not entitled to as high a grade of certification in the public schools as some others. Their long experience as teachers is disregarded; what they have already demonstrated in the way of fitness for school duties is laid aside. They rise or fall upon this little arbitrary, whimsical detail of whether or not they chanced to graduate from some one institution.

Coupled, however, with this requirement is the summer school attendance mandate.

We don't imagine that the school teachers mind this so much and as a matter of fact, they ought to be required to keep themselves in mental trim for their work, even though it may not suit the purpose of some of them to trek off every summer to some school established for their benefit.

The greatest fault in the lately announced plan of the State school officials lies in the grading of teachers upon the basis of what college they graduated from, to the utter exclusion of their experience as a test of their qualification for teaching.

It is not a matter to be wondered at therefore, that the school teachers of North Carolina, who are just beginning to be treated decently in the way of salaries, should rebel against such arbitrary and capricious rulings as these.

The reduction of \$30 a month in salary which so many of them must accept under their reduced gradings will simply drive them out of the school rooms and add to the long list of those already gone another militant group of men and women who are qualified to teach, but who are not qualified to stand the whimsical tests imposed by State fiat.

Col. Ike Meekins, a friend of former Senator Marion Butler, has been given a federal appointment. He got it, however, not because he was a friend of Mr. Butler, but in spite of it. Mr. Morehead's endorsement was necessary first.

WINE MESS STAYS OUT.  
Secretary Denby has let it be known that the old order abolishing the wine mess on board naval vessels will stand. The secretary said that, leaving national prohibition out of consideration entirely, he heartily approved of the order promulgated by former Secretary Daniels soon after the latter took office and he further said that in his judgment not a corporal's guard of officers were in favor of rescinding the order. One of the greatest accomplishments of Mr. Daniels was to abolish the wine mess from naval vessels and he was roundly condemned for it by those especially who were watching every step he made for purposes of shelling him with abuse and vituperation. It is encouraging that the new secretary shares the same convictions about this matter as Mr. Daniels.

**THE NEWS FAVORS ROAD BOND ISSUE.**

The News has formed no precipitate opinion about the issue of \$2,000,000 in bonds for road-improvement in Mecklenburg county. It has, on the other hand, exercised its right to study the proposition carefully and withhold its judgment until a satisfactory scrutiny had been made of the project; and it has endeavored to reach a decision upon the facts of the situation, relieved of prejudice and every other influence that might alter a calm verdict.

We have reached the conclusion that the only way that the people of Mecklenburg county will be able to provide themselves with the sort of good roads which they must have is by means of this bond issue.

No analysis of the method of direct ad valorem taxation shows up as favorably as a analysis of the bond issue.

It is possible, of course, to build and pay for hard-surfaced roads by means of immediate taxation, but it is unthinkable that the tax-payers of the county can afford to go down into their already hard-pressed pockets at this time for a sufficient amount of money to build \$2,000,000 worth of permanent roads. The burden would be greater than they could bear and greater than they should be expected to bear.

The bond proposition, on the other hand, provides a method by which the county can avail itself of the necessary funds now, by the use of the credit of its people, and the payments for these roads can be distributed out over a period of 30 years. Thus, for a minimum annual amount, the roads can be built now without imposing undue hardships upon the tax-payers of the county.

The News is, furthermore, influenced in its decision not only because the bonds appear to represent the best financial strategy, but also because it believes that the people who are to populate the community within the coming years and the new property and new wealth to be created ought to have a share in the payment for an improvement from which they will so immediately and so vastly profit.

Taxables in Mecklenburg have been increasing rapidly, practically at the rate of 10 per cent for 20 years. (We speak, of course, of new taxables, not of old property given a higher valuation.) It is easy to estimate that if the future taxables to be accumulated in Mecklenburg county mount up even to the extent of a fraction of the past average increases, before these bonds will have been refunded, there will have been as much new property under taxation as there is now. This means that the future will help the present share in the cost of this improvement, as it should do, if it enjoys with us the great advantages of good roads.

Our understanding is that the people of Mecklenburg county are in favor of good roads, decidedly and overwhelmingly. We know they are. Unhappily, the bond project has been presented at a moment when conditions argue against them. Sentiment in the rural side is against the bonds because the people of the county are hard-pressed by unfortunate circumstances. They are, therefore, not to be chided for their present attitude of opposition. It is natural that they should be opposed to anything that suggests a larger taxation falling upon them at a time when they are already burdened with high assessments and increased taxes and at a time, also, when deflation of values on their products has all but laid them prostrate. In such a plight, the farmers think they can not afford the cost of good roads.

The News believes, however, that the situation more really suggests that the county and these particular citizens of the county, the farmers, can not afford the cost of the sort of roads we now have. The most immediate agency for lifting the whole country upon a higher plane of agricultural and industrial prosperity and independence is the hard-surfaced highway. A complete system of such roads in the county will change the entire aspect of the outlook for Mecklenburg county and the benefits will be most directly enjoyed by these very farmers while their friends in the city bear the major cost.

The farmers can figure it out for themselves. Their property outside of Charlotte township is assessed at approximately \$31,000,000. The property in Charlotte township is now assessed at \$109,000,000, just about 3 1/2 times more than the property of the farmers. This means, of course, that the people of Charlotte township, will pay about 70 per cent of the \$2,000,000 of bonds or to be more exact, they will pay \$1,400,000 of the entire cost of building the roads. AND EVERY FOOT OF THESE ROADS WILL RUN THROUGH FARMING PROPERTY, thereby, most directly benefitting the farming population.

The News is not unmindful also of the resentment that is generally felt over the method adopted by the legislature of handling future road-building. It feels as outraged as any citizen in the community, but when we come to face a great economic problem, such as this is, we must in charity and for the common good, lay aside our prejudices and passions and let our convictions and our sense of duty have the right of way.

Mecklenburg county must have better roads; it must have roads as good as those in any other county in the State. We are entitled to nothing less than the best and we may as well make up our minds that to get what we so sorely need and what we most imperatively must have, we will have to foot the bill. And the bond method is the easiest, most expedient and altogether most satisfactory process before us for providing the funds.

W. C. DOWD,  
President and General Manager,  
News Publishing Company.

**REVALUATION STANDS.**

No matter what the Mecklenburg board of commissioners may do in the way of assessment reduction, or what the commissioners of any other or all the counties, for that matter, may do with it, the principle underlying the revaluation act stands out unimpaired. This is the principle of putting all the property of the state on an even basis, of "making the tax books tell the truth" as former Governor Bickett used to put it poetically.

In many counties of the State the assessment under this act was too high, not merely because of any arbitrary opinion which boards of assessors exercised about it, because, unhappily, the assessment was made when values had reached their peak. Assessments in this county were too high, almost extravagantly high in spots, but it was because the assessors sought to carry out the law and register property for what its owners believed it to be worth.

The assault which has been launched against this assessment in North Carolina hasn't touched the basic principle yet, if, indeed, it was ever aimed at it. The protests poured in volumes when values began to drop and deflation was setting in. It was obvious, under such circumstances, that the valuation placed on properties while at the zenith of their worth could not stand. The farmer, for instance, who saw his cotton go down 50 per cent below the cost of its production naturally argued that his taxes should go down in proportion and the only way to get his taxes down was to bring his assessment down.

Thus, therefore, there has been created not merely a sentiment in favor of a reduced valuation, but a necessity almost, if the tax books are going to tell the truth. When commodity values decline 50 per cent under the mark they reached a year ago, there is no sensible plan by which to hold up property values. They must move along in concert.

The impressive fact stands out, however, that with the reduction which has been sought and which was demanded by conditions, no harm has come to the plan of assessment and no harm will come to it. It is right and fair and equitable and being such, it will survive any feeble criticism that may be leveled against it. From time to time there may be alterations in it by which the plan will be strengthened, but nothing will be done to eliminate it and to return to the old system by which a few who were honest enough to list their properties correctly had to pay for their honesty by bearing the burden of a community's taxation.

**RECALLS THE TIME MR. HARDING TAUGHT**

Boulder, Col., April 8.—The cheery smile that greets callers at the White House in Washington these spring days is the same that beamed upon his pupils when Warren G. Harding was a country schoolmaster in Ohio in the early 80's, according to Mrs. Sarah E. Wright of this city, who attended a district school taught by the new president of the United States.

"The school was a mile and a half from Marion, Ohio, and was known as the 'Little White School,' Mrs. Wright said here. 'But the mutations of time have wrought great changes—the schoolmaster is now president of the United States and the schoolhouse has been converted into a garage.'

"Mr. Harding was about 18 years of age then," Mrs. Wright continued. "He was a handsome young fellow, tall, of erect bearing and cheerful."

"I recall that my younger sister stayed out of school one day after she had committed some breach of discipline. When we persuaded her to return the following day Mr. Harding asked her why she remained away from her lessons. She said she was afraid she would be whipped."

"Oh, I couldn't whip a little girl like you," Mr. Harding said, with a beam of kindness on his face. "We all loved him then, and I guess most people love him yet."

**Cuticura Soap**  
SHAVES  
Without Mug  
Cuticura Soap is the favorite for safety razor shaving.

Dilworth Lots are Ideal.

**F. D. A.**

A GOOD PLACE TO LIVE \$12,500

within the city—less than ten minutes' E. Z. walk of square—8 rooms—two baths, heated—and fine community Unquestionably choice as to both location and price.

FOR DEVELOPMENT  
2,000 feet railway frontage by about 1,200 deep. No waste and nearly level as a parlor floor. 62 acres in tract. Excellent for manufacture—warehouses or will make in excess of 200 large excellent home lots. Price \$15,000.

It straddles CITY LINE. ASK.

**ALEXANDER'S**  
F. D. THOS. L.  
SWAT THE FIRE HAZARD.  
Progressive Realty Co.,  
Dilworth Developers



Some say success is pluck and luck—luck in finding fools to pluck. Others say it is the knack of holding to the beaucoup jack. Still others say you work the trick if you can get a job and stick. But, if you will excuse the rhyme, I think that he who spends his time in learning knowledge that he needs is he who does the greatest deeds.

What do most men do at night? Well, some see shows, some get tight, some play cards, some turn in, some shoot dice, some play "skin," scarcely one in fifteen scores eat their chow and stay indoors. That's the reason that they fail, and walk around with gloom and wall. "Oh, this world is cold and cruel! Its slow fires burn with human fuel!"

We see results now every day of men who throw their time away. Absent-minded, minus sense, the conversation they dispense is filled with huckster to the core. For instance, here comes Smith and Moore. Says Smith, "Know Jones, that Georgia bum?" "No," draws Moore. "Where's he from?" Now Smith is absent-minded, too. He turns to Moore and blurts out, "Who?" Then two young ladies chance to meet and shake hands on the busy street. Says one, "My goodness! Are you here?" "Why, yes!" comes back, "Are you, too, dear?"

Such things happen all the time. It's no exception in this rhyme. The reason is that half of us had rather raise some Cain and fuss than stay at home in sheltered nooks and dig some knowledge from good books. Luck in finding fools to pluck is no doubt just a pile of muck, for he who spends his spare time well will reach the top, so sages tell.

Copyright 1921, by News Publishing Co.

**THREW OUT FIFTY CASES.**

Greenville S. C., April 8.—The Federal grand jury here Thursday threw out about fifty cases charging violation of the selective service act, in which the men had been notified to report to the local board in November, 1918, but failed to do so because the armistice had been signed in the meantime.

**How Helene Maxine, Age Seven Months, Keeps Her Health**

WALKERTOWN, N. C.—Mrs. Carrie Caudle, in explaining why her little seven months old baby has never had a sick day in her life, states: "Helen Maxine now weighs eighteen pounds, and I have never lost a night's sleep and I have used Baby Ease with her. I have used Baby Ease Laxative with her since she was a tiny baby, and have never given her anything else. I give Baby Ease Laxative credit for her good health and recommend it to all my friends."

Baby Ease is a perfected laxative by baby specialists that is safe, reliable and pleasant, and is recommended for stomach and bowel complaints, constipation, diarrhoea, sour stomach, gas, indigestion, etc., of infants and children. 40c and 65c at your druggists, and your money back if you are not satisfied.

**Spring Cleaning Time!**

We have the following essentials, and many others:

- Screens
  - Fly Killers
  - O'Cedar Mops
  - Cotton Mops
  - Ladders
  - O'Cedar Polish
  - Jap-a-Lac
  - Brushes
- Tell us your wants. We imagine we have it.

**Charlotte Hardware Company**  
30 East Trade St.  
Phones 1505-1506

Follow the Red Arrow to the Auto Show, April 11-16.

**BIG NEWS FOR MEN**  
Spring Styles Are Pouring In!



Up-to-the minute models for young men and older men. Stouts, Slims, Regulars in all styles for Spring wear

One group of young men's Suits in blue or Brown Flannel, with pin stripe of white. Made in the very newest models. This is a \$40.00 value, now

\$19.95 \$29.50

Schloss, Hamburger and Styleplus hand-tailored suits. Made of Serge and Fancy Worsted; in regulars, slims, stouts and young men's models. Priced

\$25.00 \$35.00 \$39.50

Other Models Which Are \$18.50 and \$29.50 Values at \$9.95 and \$14.95.

**SHIRT SPECIALS**

Men's Dress Shirts, made of fine grade Percal and Madras. Plain and fancy patterns

98c

1 lot Men's Dress Shirts—made of repp and extra quality madras. Values up to \$3.00. Special

\$1.50

Men's Fine Madras Shirts made in plain and fancy patterns. Formerly sold for \$5.00. Special

\$2.95

\$10.00 and \$12.00  
**SILK SHIRTS**  
\$4.95 and \$5.95

Big lot men's fine Silk Shirts, beautiful patterns. Formerly sold at \$10.00 and \$12.00. Special.

\$4.95 and \$5.95

**NECKWEAR**  
Big lot Men's New Silk Ties, in all shapes and patterns

50c 75c \$1.00 and \$1.50

**CAPS**  
Big lot Men's Caps. New shades and beautiful colors

\$1.00 \$1.50 \$2.00 and \$2.50

**In the Boys' Department**

Have you seen such values we have to offer in our big Boys' Department? We are offering good values in every line. Bring your boy here and fix him up.

Boys' Suits made of serge and fancy worsted. Sizes 8 to 19 years.

\$3.95 to \$12.95

**BOYS' WASH SUITS**  
Boys' Novelty Wash Suits, made of good grade washable materials. Beautiful models. Size 3 to 8 years.

\$1.25 \$1.48 \$1.98 \$2.48

**BOYS' ODD PANTS**  
Boys' Odd Pants, made of Serge, Worsteds and khaki Cloth. Size 8 to 19 years

98c \$1.25 \$1.48 \$1.98

**BOYS' STRAW HATS**  
Big Lot Boys New Straw Hats, made of very fine straw. Colors Navy, Black and White

69c 75c 98c \$1.48

**BOYS' UNDERWEAR**  
Boys' Nainsook Union Suits, extra quality

50c 75c \$1.00 and \$1.15

**BELK BROTHERS**  
COME TO CAROLINAS' GREATEST AUTOMOBILE SHOW, APRIL 11-16

