

# THE DANBURY REPORTER.

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An Editorial.

## Fooing the Foolish.

Last week's newspapers all over the Fifth district carried huge spreads entitled "The Actual Truth," in which Congressman Frank Hancock attempted to set his record right before his constituents by quoting some heavy endorsements from his friends.

Although the congressman is a poor man, receiving only \$13,500 per year, salary and expenses, these advertisements cost somebody a considerable sum of money, evidently, at so much per inch.

Well, these "endorsements" were perfunctory letters from Henry T. Rainey, Joseph W. Byrns, Henry B. Stegall and Marvia Jones, colleagues of Congressman Hancock.

To the unthinking and those who are unfamiliar with the smooth wiles of politics, this "Truth" spread was a knock-out.

But there are a few significant and crude facts which may be dug up out of the garden of roses, of some interest to the general public, and one of these facts is that every one of these "endorsements" is dated May 19—except one, and that bears date of May 13—quite recent dates, it is noted.

Then wherefore and why?

Why this juxtaposition of such delightfully corroborating evidences? Could such coincidences indicate that the letters were all written or dictated by the same man—by our Granville county friend now under fire—and that he prepared the dotted line for his friends to sign on, and that in all probability neither one of these friends knew or cared what he was signing?

The grammatical earmarks, the breezy optimistic sentiment, etc., look alike in each letter.

How prone are we all to lend our signatures to our friends. Haven't you put your name to petitions without even reading them? I have, I am sure—quite a loose and careless habit, we all admit in our generous guilt.

Could it possibly be—we wonder—that the lovable doctrine of "you tickle me and I tickle you" obtains in the dignified chamber across the hall from the U. S. Senate?

There is no question that some beautiful and splendidly co-operative friendships exist among congressmen as well as other people, and the fact that all of these signatories to Congressman Frank's ponderous "Truth" advertisement are like himself members of Congress and would-be beneficiaries in a salary raise, could not with reason be denied.

And when Congressman Frank voted to bring about an increase in his own salary from \$3,500 to \$9,500 per year, with \$5,000 expense money, he was voting to award the same luscious hand-out to Messrs. Rainey, Byrns, & Co., and they would be ungrateful indeed if and when the opportunity presented itself they were not willing to "testify" in the brother's behalf who had befriended them so lavishly—even to signing on a dotted line.

But the most unfair and ungalant thing about Frank's big "Truth" spread is his effort to use the influence of Mrs. Mebane, his lady competitor, to bolster up his tottering record, and to take an unfair advantage of a political sentiment now become—and which he knows is now become—obsolete.

In the last parting shot of his broadside, Frank says the following: "Mrs. Mebane herself has commended the work of Frank Hancock to him on several occasions and in one of her letters she says 'Thanking you in advance for your unfailing courtesy and consideration, and with a very real pride in the able and brilliant way our District is being represented at Washington, believe me, with best wishes, and sincere admiration, etc.'"

Now when Mr. Hancock printed this in his advertisement, he KNEW that that letter from Mrs. Mebane had been written many months before he opposed President Roosevelt and his administration in their efforts to aid the tobacco farmers, and that Mrs. Mebane had long since CHANGED HER OPINION, for cause.

And it has only been about three weeks ago that Mrs. Mebane published an answer in the Greensboro News to Mr. Hancock's letter, in which she very clearly told Mr. Hancock that since he had made his record in the tobacco crisis, and since he had voted for the increase in his own salary, that she did not endorse his course in congress further.

But Mr. Hancock—KNOWING THESE FACTS—resurrects the old letter from Mrs. Mebane and uses it in Stokes and Surry in an attempt to fool the foolish, distort the facts and juggle the evidence.

Some of Mr. Hancock's friends seek to dispose lightly of the congressman's record on the tobacco situation, claiming that what Frank was after was to get a higher price than the President was working for and arguing virtually that he should be rewarded with re-election because he was so much a better friend of the farmer than the President was, and had more sense than the administration.

They conclude by saying that Frank will be elected by a larger majority than ever.

While this logic is equivalent to saying that the tobacco farmers of the Fifth district don't give a damn whether Frank stood with them or not, they are FER him—it must also presuppose that there are enough persons to whom Frank has promised postmasterships, to put him over safely, regardless, as it is conceded that the congressman is shrewd enough to appoint nobody until after the primary.

## DEMOCRATS MEET MONDAY, JUNE 11

COUNTY CONVENTION CALLED BY CHAIRMAN S. P. CHRISTIAN—PRECINCT PRIMARIES TO BE HELD ON PRECEDING SATURDAY—TO ELECT DELEGATES TO STATE CONVENTION, NAME A COUNTY CHAIRMAN, AND TRANSACT OTHER MATTERS.

S. P. Christian, chairman of the Stokes county Democratic executive committee, issues his call this week for a Democratic convention at the court house in Danbury on Monday, June 11.

The call also directs attention to the precinct primaries which, according to the State Democratic plan of organization, must be held on the preceding Saturday, to-wit, June 9, 1934, at one o'clock P. M.

At these precinct primaries five Democrats must be elected who will constitute the precinct committee. One of the five shall be chairman of the precinct committee, and this chairman becomes automatically a member of the county executive committee. It will be his duty to attend the county convention and help elect a county chairman of the executive committee. One of the five precinct committees shall also be named as secretary of the precinct committee.

Chairman Christian urges in his call that a full attendance of Democrats is desired both at the precinct primaries, and at the county convention. The convention will name delegates to the State Democratic convention on June 21, and will also elect a permanent county chairman of the executive committee.

## Birthday Fete Given H. A. Fulp

Flatshoal, May 28. The farmers around here are very busy setting out tobacco these days. Seems like a bumper crop will be raised this year.

There was a gala time at Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Fulp's Sunday. Their friends gave Mr. Fulp a birthday dinner of all sorts of good things to eat, and everybody seemed to enjoy themselves. The out-of-the-county visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Limmie Corns and family of High Point; Mr. and Mrs. Ramon Fulp of Martinsville, Va.; Mr. and Mrs. Boles of Bassett, Va.; Mr. and Mrs. John Southern of Winston-Salem; Mr. and Mrs. Ross Southern and family of Walkertown, and lots others from all parts of the county. There were at least 200 in all and some children. All had a fine time.

Mrs. H. A. Fulp is very sick. She has been very bad, but seems to be a little better today. Hope she will soon be O. K. again.

There will be preaching at Flat Shoal church Saturday and Sunday. Everybody come.

A FRIEND.

Supt. of Schools J. C. Carson, of Germantown, was in Danbury Tuesday.

## BALLOT BATTLE NEXT SATURDAY

EVERYTHING NOW READY FOR PRIMARY—STRONG INTEREST SHOWN IN SEVERAL OF THE CONTESTS—REPUBLICANS HAVE ONLY ONE CONTEST IN PRIMARY, TO-WIT, THE LEGISLATURE.

The tickets have been printed and delivered to the election officials, and everything is set for the primary next Saturday.

The primary is overwhelmingly a Democratic primary, as 21 Democrats are on the Democratic ticket, while the Republican ballot shows only two, to-wit, New and Joyce, respectively, for the legislature.

Interest is at a white heat on some of the contests, notably, that of members of the board of education, and for congress.

Below is reproduced the tickets which each party will use in Saturday's primary:

## KING NEWS

King, May 28.—On June 10th the Baker reunion will be held at the home of C. O. Baker one mile north of Dalton. Everybody is cordially invited to attend and bring well filled baskets. Dinner, picnic style.

King, May 30.—Mr. and Mrs. John Smith and Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Newsum went on a sight seeing trip to Stuart and Hillsville, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Kiser, of Winston-Salem, visited relatives here Sunday.

Kennis Pulliam has returned to Knoxville, Tenn., after spending a few days with relatives here.

Dr. O. R. Kiger, of Winston-Salem, formerly of King, was a visitor here Sunday.

Miss Dorothy Newsum has returned to her home here after spending several days at Rural Hall, where she was the guest of Mrs. Wilburn Shouse.

Miss Lucy Leary is spending some time with relatives and friends at Portsmouth, Va.

Little Miss Virginia New, who underwent a tonsil operation in the City Hospital at Winston-Salem a few days since, is getting along nicely.

Prof. and Mrs. King Brown, of Burgaw, are spending a few days with Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Brown on Main street.

W. C. Newsum, of Mount Airy was here Saturday. Mr. Newsum was reared near here.

Worth Kirby has accepted a position with the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. at Winston-Salem. He entered on his new duties Monday.

The King Tigers defeated Pilot Mountain in a game played at Pilot Mountain Saturday to the tune of 4 and 3.

Mrs. Gilbert Love and children of Winston-Salem, have returned to their home after spending several days with relatives here.

Mr. and Mrs. George Yelverton, of Greensboro, were week-end visitors here.

## County Attorney R. J. Scott Explains Tax Bill Referred to By Capt J. E. Thore.

Editor Danbury Reporter, Danbury, N. C.

Dear Sir:

There is an article in this issue of the Danbury Reporter in which an accusation is made against S. Gilmer Sparger for introducing a bill in the General Assembly of 1933, to increase the cost of foreclosing delinquent tax payers and in order to keep the records straight, I desire to explain the bill to which reference is made.

In the foreclosure of real estate for taxes, it is necessary to follow the statute strictly in order to convey a good title and the statute provides that an action shall be instituted in the Superior Court of the county in which the land lies and that the parties in whose name the land is listed and their wives shall be made parties defendant and served with civil summons by an officer as in all civil actions. It provides that notice of the action shall be published in a local newspaper for four weeks. The actual cost of the tax foreclosure proceeding amounts to about \$7.65 and this does not include any Attorney's fee. The law passed by the 1933 General Assembly as follows:

"That the total cost TO THE TAXPAYER, including Attorney's fees, shall not exceed \$8.00."

Neither the cost of foreclosing taxes nor the Attorney's fee was changed by the 1933 General Assembly, but the act was so written that the difference between the cost of the foreclosure suit and the \$6.00 limit set under the law must be paid out of the GENERAL COUNTY FUND, or by the tax payers at large.

About 40 or 50 counties in the State were taken out from under this bill by their Senators and Representatives, and Mr. Sparger introduced a bill that would have taken Stokes county from under the operation of this bill and it was done in order that the delinquent taxpayer would be taxed with the foreclosure cost and none of it appropriated by the General County Fund. This bill was defeated in the house by Mr. Phillips.

The County Commissioners of Stokes County in regular session postponed all tax foreclosures because, under the present law, it would have been necessary to have appropriated funds from the General County Funds to pay the difference in the actual cost of foreclosing and the amount of \$6.00 set by the General Assembly. In other words it would necessitate the raising of the tax rate of those who pay their taxes promptly in order to pay the cost of foreclosing the real estate of those who fail to pay their taxes.

Yours very truly,

R. J. SCOTT,  
County Attorney.

Dry weather this spring in Piedmont Carolina has been beneficial to the extent that it has permitted the harvesting of a high quality crop of hay.

## CAPT. THORE NAILS PROPAGANDA

CHARGES BY HIS OPPONENT THAT HE HAS FAILED TO PAY CERTAIN TAXES, DENOUNCED AS FALSE AND MISLEADING—HOLDS RECEIPTS FOR ALL TAXES PRESENTED.

To My Stokes County friends:

I am informed at this late day—two days before the primary—that an affidavit has been issued from the Stokes tax authorities at the instance of my opponent that I have not paid certain tax assessments against me in Stokes county.

I wish to denounce this propaganda as entirely false and misleading, and intended at this late hour to damage me before the honest tax-paying citizens of the county.

I hold tax receipts for every dollar assessed against me for taxes in Stokes county up to the year 1934, and for every dollar of taxes that has been presented to me.

I am surprised that my opponent should adopt such underhand methods to damage me in my candidacy for the legislature in Stokes county. I have fought a clean fight, asking no quarter from any source.

I wish to say that I pay more taxes in one year in Stokes county than my opponent has ever paid in the county.

I have not taken advantage of the facts which I might have used against my opponent, one only of which I might mention, to-wit: That he introduced a bill in the Senate and passed it in the Senate, which but for the fact that Representative Phillips killed it in the House, would have increased the cost of tax foreclosures in the county from \$2.50 to \$12.50, and he is the COUNTY ATTORNEY.

This would-be citizen of Stokes county in spreading his propaganda against me, will not dare to face the voters of Stokes county on his own record.

This false propaganda must, in the intelligent scrutiny of Stokes citizens, fall as flat as his attempt to spread that I was not a citizen of Stokes county, which was dissipated by the legal opinion of the Attorney General of the State, besides a number of the most prominent lawyers in the State, incorporated in the following opinion:

May 12, 1934.

Capt. J. E. Thore,  
Hotel Elkin,  
Elkin, N. C.

Dear Capt. Thore:

In connection with your qualifications to vote and hold public office in Stokes county, North Carolina, we wish to advise you as follows:

It is our information that you were born and reared in Stokes county and resided there until the year 1916. At that time you entered the service of the United States Army and remained there until 1919, at which time you re-

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