

AN OPEN LETTER FROM J. E. THORE

CALLS THE ATTENTION OF THE PEOPLE TO THE UNFAIRNESS OF THE ATTACK MADE UPON HIM TWO DAYS BEFORE THE PRIMARY — APOLOGY MISLEADING AND UNSATISFACTORY.

To the citizenship of Stokes County:

On May 30, 1934, the following article or affidavit was published in the Danbury Reporter and Stokes Record:

Is Captain J. E. Thore A Citizen of Stokes County?

State of North Carolina, County of Stokes.

AFFIDAVIT.

I, Nell Binkley Meroney, Assistant Tax Supervisor of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, first being duly sworn says: That she is Assistant Tax Supervisor of said County and State aforesaid and that she has access to the tax books and records of said county.

Deponent further states that she has examined the tax books of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, with reference to the listing and payments of poll tax and personal property tax by Capt. J. E. Thore and the original tax records disclose the following facts:

1928—No poll tax or personal property tax paid or listed for taxation by Capt. J. E. Thore.

1929—No poll tax or personal property tax paid or listed for taxation by Capt. J. E. Thore.

1930—No poll tax or personal property tax paid or listed for taxation by Capt. J. E. Thore.

1931—No poll tax or personal property tax paid or listed for taxation by Capt. J. E. Thore.

1932—No poll tax or personal property tax paid or listed for taxation by Capt. J. E. Thore.

Deponent further states that the original tax records of the County and State aforesaid disclose that Capt. J. E. Thore listed his 1933 taxes in person before F. R. Stone, Auditor of Stokes County on the 10th day of May, 1933, and gave his address at Twin City Club, Winston-Salem, N. C., and over the words "Age and Poll Tax" the letters N. R. were written.

Deponent further states that the original tax records of the aforesaid County and State disclose that the 1933 taxes of J. E. Thore were paid on Nov. 29th, 1933, at which time, no poll tax was listed or paid, however, the records do disclose that the 1933 poll tax of J. E. Thore was paid on May 11th, 1934.

NELL BINKLEY MERONEY, Asst. Tax Supervisor of Stokes County.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 17th day of May, 1934.

MALLARD ALLEY,

Notary Public.

My commission expires April 5, 1936.

I was a candidate before the primary of June 2 for the nomination for the legislature, and above affidavit appeared just two days before the primary, not allowing me time to see the people of the county to answer and denounce the false and damaging statement published against me.

I have been a life-long and true Democrat and citizen of Stokes county, and therefore feel that I am due my friends and the citizenship of the county this explanation, and to bring to their attention the un-Democratic and underhanded methods which were used to defeat my nomination on June 2.

It will be noticed that the affidavit above quoted was dated May 17, but was not published until May 30, showing that somebody carried the instrument in their pockets or elsewhere, deliberately withholding the same from publicity until such time as its effect could not be neutralized.

Mrs. Meroney, who signed the affidavit and who at the time it was framed, was employed in the county tax office, had meanwhile quit her job and removed to Winston-Salem.

As soon as possible I went to Winston-Salem and in the presence of her husband requested to know of Mrs. Meroney her authority for the charges embraced in the affidavit.

Mrs. Meroney informed me that she did not write the affidavit herself, that she had nothing to do with preparing it, that she acted upon the presumption that the same was true.

In this interview with Mrs. Meroney, she gave me the names of those who, she said, did prepare the affidavit. She offered to get up an explanation and apology.

On June 27, there appeared in the Danbury Reporter and the Stokes Record the following statement:

Card From Mrs. Meroney

June 13, 1934.

Capt. J. E. Thore,

Hotel Elkin,

Elkin, N. C.

Dear Capt. Thore:

Complying to your request of recent date, I am making a statement with reference to the affidavit made by me as assistant tax supervisor of Stokes county on May 17, 1934, and which appeared in the issue of the Danbury Reporter and the Stokes Record on the 30th day of May, 1934.

At the request of S. Gilmer Sparger, information was obtained from the tax records of Stokes county as to the listing and payment of poll and personal property tax by you in said county from the year 1928 up to and including the year 1933. The tax records of Quaker Gap township, the township of your legal residence and the proper township for the listing of poll and personal property tax by you were examined and the records of said township disclosed that you had not listed poll or personal property tax for the year 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, and 1932, and your poll tax for 1933 was not listed nor paid until the 11th day of May, 1934.

I have made further examination of the tax record since the publishing of this affidavit and find that you have paid your poll tax and personal property tax for the years 1931 and 1932 and that same were paid in Sauratown township and I am glad to correct the error and state that it was not intentional on the part

of the office of the Tax Supervisor and was not made to mislead anyone as to the true facts.

Assuring you that it is a pleasure to correct this error and trusting that this will clear the matter up, I am

Yours truly,

NELL BINKLEY MERONEY.

In her apology, Mrs. Meroney refers to my taxes as having examined the books for ONE township, when I pay in three different townships; namely in Quaker Gap, Yaddin and Sauratown. My legal residence having been established by me in the year 1930 in Walnut Cove where I have voted and given in taxes—real and personal.

I wish to say here that while Mrs. Meroney's apology is evasive, misleading and unsatisfactory, that I am attaching no particular blame to the young lady affiant, whom I believe to be innocent of any intention or purpose to damage me, yet I must censure her for allowing herself to be used by those whose purpose and intention was to damage me, to discredit me with the voters, and to injure my character as a citizen of Stokes county.

I call upon the loyal and true citizens of the county and the honest Democrats to be the judges of the motives and the methods of those who used such underhand methods to defeat me in the primary, and to give it their honest disapprobation and condemnation until justice may be accorded me and meted out to those who have so unkindly and unfairly attacked me.

T. J. THORE.

Death of Mrs. D. A. Binkley

Mrs. Laura Ann Jarvis Binkley, aged 77, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Bertha Binkley Humphreys, here Friday, July 6. She had been in declining health for some weeks, and was paralyzed a few days before her death.

Mrs. Binkley was the widow of the late Rev. D. A. Binkley, of Lewisville, Forsyth county.

She was a consecrated Christian character. Since her youth she had been a consistent member of the M. E. church.

Surviving are the following children: Mrs. Bertha Binkley Humphreys, of Danbury; Mrs. L. A. Reynolds, of Lewisville; R. J. and J. P. Binkley, of California; Mrs. N. B. Sprinkle, of Tupelo, Miss.; W. J. and C. B. Binkley, of Clemons, N. C.; J. M. Binkley, of Winston-Salem.

The interment was at Concord church at Lewisville, N. C.

Architctural Triumph.

Two ladies were attending a concert or something at the Civic Auditorium. Seated in the parquet, they looked about them.

"Nice building," said one lady. "What style of architecture is it?"

"I'm not quite sure," said the other lady, "but I think it's Renaissance."—Pasadena paper.

It will be necessary to measure 16,000 tobacco fields in Surry county to survey the acreage affected by the adjustment contracts signed by growers.

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TWENTY MONTHS FOR ELMER HADEN

SENTENCED TO ROADS FOR BURGLARY — OTHER CRIMINAL CASES DISPOSED OF—KIGER WILL CASE ONLY IMPORTANT CASE ON CIVIL DOCKET, NOW BEING TRIED.

Elmer Haden gets 20 months on roads, for burglary.

Other cases on the criminal court docket disposed of since last week are as follows:

Dolphus Mabe, operating car intoxicated, \$50 and cost. Suspended sentence in v. p. l. case. Plato and Charlie Slate, possession of liquor, as to Plato \$75 and one-half cost; Charlie, \$25 and one-half cost.

Harry Rogers, a. d. w., \$65 and cost; as to liquor in possession, cost.

Alex Rodgers, operating car under influence, not guilty.

W. C. Hairston, a. d. w., \$50 and cost.

Dave Goolsby, c. c. w., not guilty; as to a. d. w., \$50 fine and cost.

Odel Reid, Fred Williams, Otis Mabe, Dolphus Mabe, a. d. w., as to Reid, Williams and Dolphus Mabe \$50 fine and one fourth cost each; as to Otis Mabe, one-fourth cost.

Oscar Cook, sale of liquor, \$25 and cost.

John and Luther Yates, manufacturing and possession of liquor, \$50 fine each and cost.

Jim Thore, v. p. l., \$100 and cost.

Edward Booth, Jr., a. d. w., \$25 and cost.

C. L. Collins, assault on female, cost.

CIVIL DOCKET.

The civil docket this week is occupied largely with the trial of the will case of Laura A. Kiser. This is an action to break the will of Mrs. Kiser. The suit is pending

and will consume most of the week.

Other civil actions disposed of are as follows:

Venable vs. Biggs, divorce. Judgment for plaintiff, Mrs. Biggs.

Bowles vs. Bowles, divorce. Judgment for plaintiff, Mr. Bowles.

Smith vs. Smith, divorce, judgment for plaintiff, Mrs. Smith.

Nunn vs. Nunn, divorce, judgment for plaintiff, Mr. Nunn.

Proctor vs. Proctor, divorce, judgment for plaintiff, Mrs. Proctor.

SURVEYING STOKES TOBACCO FIELDS

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to handle this crop and what allotments should be assigned on each card. Where a man wishes only one card, he will get this without applying for it, but where he wishes more than one he should file his application, stating the allotted pounds to be sold under each, with the County Agent. The total pounds on all the cards issued to a producer for himself and his tenants should equal eighty per cent. of his production even though he may not care to market over seventy per cent. of his base production. The instructions say to have this application back to the County Agent by the 15th of this month. Certainly this should be sent in just as early as is practicable to do so.

It will be of interest to the grower to have the card for himself and his tenant or tenants at sometime prior to the date on which the market opens. Where these allotments in acres and pounds are distributed among growers, no rental or other benefit payments will be made although the tobacco grown under such contracts may be sold tax free.

Forms for these contracts have not arrived but several names have already been filed to be considered for these allotments. Growers interested in securing small allotments should give their names to the committee together with a brief statement of the facts as to why they wish to be considered for this provision. These allotments will of necessity have to be small as to both acreage and poundage, it is believed, but definite information on this phase of the work is not yet available.

More Rental Checks Received. Two additional lots of rental and equalizing payments have been received for local growers. This brings the total number of checks received for Stokes growers up to 2099 and the amount so far received in such payments to \$92,735.01. About fifty checks remain in the office to be distributed to growers. The notices to the payees have already gone out. These are at least fifty more checks, due for Stokes.

S. J. KIRBY, County Agent.

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