#### THE GREENVILLE DAILY NEWS

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#### Tuesday Afternoon, August 14, 1917.

#### JUSTICE TO ALL; CARPING AGAINST NONE

Criticism is the legitimate weapon with which wrong is righted and abuses is corrected, which would otherwise flourish unchecked and unrestrained. The glare of newspaper publicity upon the acts of public officials has always been the best 1682 guarantee of a free government, and to that end the framers of the Constitution jammed it in that 2325 J. Milton Johnston instrument that the "freedom of the press shall 1702 Peter Joyner ..... Farmville not be infringed."

But there are two kinds of criticism: construc- 2822 Elias King ...... Greenville tive criticism, which aims at remedying an evil and substitution for it good; and destructive criticism, which seeks to tear down and destroy for the 1346 Chas. E. Kennedy ..... Chicod mere pleasure of destroying. Constructive criticism has a purpose in view for the welfare of the 1347 Jesse Kennedy ...... Chicod community, while destructive criticism is the mere 3844 Stephen Little ..... Greenville idle carping of habitual knockers whose hammers 1004 Andrew Little ...... Stokes must not be allowed to become rusty from idleness.

An illustration of this character is the unjust criticism directed against the Board of Aldermen for their action in attempting to dispose of the Water and Light Bonds. A plain statement of the facts will do much to clarify the situation, and to 2890 Julius Moore ..... Greenville relieve the Board of much of the unjust stigma

that has been plastered on them.

The Board had decided that it was necessary to 1455 Jas. H. Norville ... Macclefield issue bonds to enlarge and repair the Water and Light plant here, since the power was inadequate 2025 Benj. B. Owens ..... Fountain and the water almost undrinkable. Accordingly the bonds were advertised and bids asked, but after this formality had been done twice, there had been no offer high enough to justify their sale, 96 being the highest offer made for the bonds.

Mr. Forbes, cashier of the National Bank, then offered to take the matter up with a Toledo, Ohio, 2937 John Perkins ..... Greenville house—a reputable concern—to endeavor to get a higher price for the bonds. After several ex-3108 R. M. Pillgreen ..... Pactolus changes of telegrams the Toledo firm agreed to 1022 Julius Page ...... Parmele purchase the bonds at par, with six per cent interest, payable semi-annually, the town to receive 2989 a refund of interest on the money so long as they did not use it.

Mr. Forbes, upon receipt of the telegram, at once saw several members of the Board and asked them if the bid was acceptable, in order that he 2022 W. Cassie Murphy .. Fountain might telegraph that the bonds were bought, as the offer was liable to be withdrawn. Upon being 1913 Willie H. Moore ... Farmville told that the offer was accepted, he telegraphed his house to that effect.

Upon the following meeting night, a wire from a firm whose rating in Bradstreet or Dun is reputed to be very low, and who is alleged to have 2453 Raymond A. Stokes. Greenville thrown up several series of bonds in this section, stated that they would give a bonus of \$500 for the 3174 bonds. There was no check put up, no bond to insure the carrying out of the contract, nothing but 3013 a verbal offer which did not constitute a legal and 1968 binding offer. Upon the strength of these facts, the Board refused to rescind their bargain with 1765 the Toledo house, and awarded the sale of the bonds to them.

As for their sale being illegal, it cannot be a sale 2491 Noah S. Tyson ..... Greenville if it was not according to law, and the firm that bought the bonds will be the first to find out this 1560 point. If there is any legal irregularity in the sale, it is a sure bet that the Company that was to buy the bonds will never part with their money until the irregularity has been corrected.

There is an apparent irregularity in their sale, 2509 Zebulon Whitehurst . Greenville but it is due to the complicated municipal laws passed by the last Legislature, rather than to the crookedness of any of the Aldermen. A judge of the Supreme Court has stated that it is impossible to determine what the law really is until a case is brought to the Supreme Court. Under such conditions not very much censure can be attached to 2102 R. Wooten ...... Fountain \$2.00 per month aldermen for their failure to decipher it according to Hoyle.

Finally, it might be well to state that unless 3064 Wm. Weaver ...... Greenville 1281 Hubert S. Worthington . Chicod Greenville wishes to drink muddy mater for a long 1808 Charles Witherspoon Farmville time to come, it would be well if the Board could 2495 John H. Waldrop .. Greenville manage to sell the bonds at the price offered by 3179 Edward H. Ward .... Greenville the Toledo firm. The repairs at the Water and 2620 Primus Carr ...... Greenville Light plant are imperative, and the price of bonds 3123 John Clark will fell stoodily lever and the price of bonds 2222 Joe Deaver will fall steadily lower as more and more govern- 3559 Wm. S. Fleming .. Greenville

ment bonds are placed on the market. The sale of municipal bonds is already difficult, and it is safe to state that never again in the near future will the town be offered by a reputable firm as high a price as they were offered by the Toledo concern.

These are the plain facts of the case, unvarnished and unpruned, and a fair consideration of MAGAZINES AND PERIODICALS them will leave no ground for the vicious attacks that have been made on the aldermen concerning this matter.

Justice where justice is due, rather than indiscriminate criticism that accomplishes no good.

217 PITT COUNTY MEN

(Continued from page one) 3340 Richard Jenkins ... Hanrahan

919 J. S. James ..... Stokes

1677 James Jenkins ..... Farmville

704 H. B. James ..... Bethel

93 J. B. Jolly ..... Ayden

1705 Will Joyner ..... Farmville

924 J. L. Jones .... Robersonville

2801 Abram Johnson ..... Greenville

1700 Moses Joyner ..... Farmville

344 S. L. Kilpatrick ... Winterville Sam'l C. Kinion . . Greenville

2826 Will Kirby ...... Greenville

1007 Henry Little ... Robersonville

1180 Harvey Lane .... Grimesland

3433 W. A. Sellers ..... Greenville

155 W. J. Roberson ..... Ayden

2423 Joe Ross ..... Greenville

2092 Offie Reid ..... Fountain

2415 Jos. P. Rowlett ..... Greenville

1747 John Postell ...... Farmville 2375 Raymond Moore ... Greenville

593 Bennie Mayo ..... Belvoir

1735 Wm. McLaurin .... Farmville

3462 James R. Newton . . Winterville 2027 C. L. Owens ..... Fountain

2948 Jasper Price ...... Greenville 1740 Roscoe Parker ..... Farmville

1031 Sam Poole ..... Stokes

2955 Robt. Richardson .. Greenville

2414 Clifford Rhodus ... Greenville

738 J. W. Rook ..... Bethel 470 Jno. R. Pillgreen ... Greenville

373 Willie Oden ..... Ayden

390 Haywood Paxton . Winterville

168 Needham O. Stevens .... Ayden

3262 Jim H. Reel ..... Grifton

2421 Robt. F. Rice ...... Greenville

1752 Stanley Robinson ... Farmville

Geo. Smith ..... Greenville

Wheeler Speight .... Greenville

Rush A. Stancill .... Belvoir

Will Ross ..... Ayden

Pet Mitchell ..... Ayden

D. T. McLawhorn . Winterville

Charlie Mills ..... Winterville

June Moore ..... Fountain

1924 Jos. F. Moye ..... Farmville 1956 Ben Stepp ...... Farmville

870 David Staton ..... Bethel

1764 Leslie Speight ..... Farmville 1470 Geo. R. Smith ..... Farmville

3277 Ernest Smith ..... Grifton

3017 Willie Thompson . . . . Greenville

Ed Sheppard ..... Pactolus

Boston Tetterton .. Grimesland

John Taylor ..... Fountain

Johnnie Randolph .. Greenville 3469 Lex Reames ..... Greenville

J. H. McLawhorn

Leon L. Kittrell ... Greenville

Alonzo Kirkman ..... Grifton

Samuel Moseley .... Fountain

General Johnson ... Farmville

Dan'l Johnson .... Farmville

Willie Johnson ..... Farmville

Greenville

Winterville

Bill Jones . . . . . Bethel 1707 W. O. Joyner ..... Farmville 2790 Wm. Johnson, Jr. .. Greenville

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