

THE LINCOLN COUNTY NEWS

W. A. FAIR, Publisher,

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ISSUED TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 1908.

IS HE SINCERE?

Mr. Jonas also says in his article:

"I am for finishing the school building, but I WILL NOT support a measure gotten up in disregard of the law and the constitution, which can be only the breeder of strife and useless litigation. Let's acknowledge it was all an inexcusable blunder, and set about to finish the building in a lawful way. It's not a matter of tax, but obedience to law. We cannot hope to gain anything by advocating a measure that we all ADMIT was gotten up contrary to our constitution."

Is Mr. Jonas sincere in the above statement? Who says this bond issue is in disobedience to law? What remedy does Mr. Jonas propose? How does he propose to raise the money to complete the school building, and to pay off the \$6000 debt already upon it? Will Mr. Jonas, and the other signers of the petition, reach in their pockets and each lend the school committee as much as Mr. Love loaned; if so, then we will have more than enough to pay the debt and complete the building.

Which of the following two motives inspired Mr. Jonas in taking the position he has in this matter, viz:

1st, Is he trying to build up the Graded school and to help our town?

2nd, Or is he trying to build up the Republican party (which is fast falling to pieces) in this section?

Referring to his article, Mr. Jonas also says: "Let it be distinctly understood that the Republicans, as a party, have little interest in the middle, etc."

If he is correct in this statement why is it that J. Mon Hoyle, (Chairman of the Republican County Executive Committee), W. E. Grigg, C. A. Jonas, and J. T. DeLane are heading and leading the opposition to the school bond issue?

"A MESS AND A SCANDAL."

In speaking of the school bond issue Mr. Charles A. Jonas, the "brilliant" leader of Republican forces in Lincoln county says:

"I understand that people who oppose the bond issue for the Graded School are being chided for aiding the republicans. Let it be distinctly understood that the republicans, as a party, have little interest in the middle, except in so far as it bears out their contention all along expressed, that the democratic party may be counted upon to make a mess and a scandal out of every public measure it takes hold of. This is not due to the depravity of the mass of democratic voters, but to the arbitrary disregard for law and decency practiced by the demagogues who control the party in almost every town in the state."

As a matter of fact, is there a "mess" or a "scandal"? Is any one charged with theft or dishonesty, and if so, who?

LET MR. JONAS SPECIFY WHO.

Do the signers of the petition to the Treasurer of the School Board and to the Treasurer of the town of Lincoln make this charge? Mr. Jonas signed both these petitions and perhaps he can state just wherein the "scandal" lies, and who are deemed the guilty parties.

A petition has been prepared and presented demanding the privilege of auditing the books and accounts of the School Board, and also those of the town Treasurer, and "a mess and a scandal" is charged by Mr. Jonas. Do the signers of these petitions endorse Mr. Jonas' charge of "scandal"? Please do not all answer at once.

The government deficit continues to grow larger each month. Uncle Sam himself is feeling the panic, and he will be compelled also to go to retrenching.

COME CLEAN, GENTLEMEN.

In our editorial of last Friday headed "Whom Can We Trust," we said: We think that it is a fact worthy of comment that the opposition to the bond issue and the severest criticism of the Graded School Board is being led by Republicans. This editorial was written two days before we heard of the petition of certain taxpayers to audit the Treasurer's books. We do not wish to be understood as claiming that the petition is entirely a republican document. We had no reference to the petition whatever, for the simple reason that we did not know, at the time we wrote, of such a thing. There are names of some very good democrats on that petition and they are there in perfect good faith, we believe.

We repeat, that the fight on the bond issue is being led by Republicans and here are our reasons for this statement: Several weeks ago Mr. A. K. Loftin came out in an article in this paper and "opened the ball." He used the following language:

"It appears from the personal attacks recently made upon me, that there are those who, in a moment of passion, are forgetful of the safety of the children of the town. But their abuse of me falls short of their mark if they hope to drive me from a position that I know to be right, simply because that opinion runs counter to the wishes of a coterie of leeches who it seems are extracting the lifeblood from the taxpayers of Lincolnton."

Then Mr. "Equity" piped up, and while we do not really know just who Mr. "Equity" is, yet Mr. W. E. Grigg handed in both articles and he is the man who is responsible to us for them. Some pretty lively "side-stepping" is being done about these articles of Mr. "Equity" and until otherwise advised we hold Mr. Grigg responsible.

Then comes along Mr. J. T. DeLane under the nom de plume of "Justice," and, to his credit be it said, he was man enough to come out in the open and show his colors when asked to do so.

Mr. Chas. A. Jonas then "butts in" and has begun writing about "a mess and a scandal," but he is not dodging behind a false name. Every communication, so far, implying that "there is something rotten in Denmark" has come from a Republican.

The questions asked by "Tax Payer" were handed in by a Democrat, but one who is an avowed enemy of some of our town officials. These questions are, however, no more than what the public is justly entitled to know and which have been answered by the School Board as far as is practicable in a newspaper, and for further detailed information they invite anyone who so desires to inspect their books and accounts.

From the above we think it is pretty conclusively shown that the bond issue is being fought by some Republicans who have the support of a few Democrats who are hostile to certain men on the Board. We want the good people of Lincolnton, and the outside world too, to know these facts. They are very important facts when it comes to forming an opinion on this grave question. Honest men are prone to believe other men are honest too, and such insinuations as have been made here in Lincolnton recently concerning men on our town and School Board by men who have standing and influence are listened to by those who are not thoroughly informed. This is why men who are not unfriendly to the members of the town and school Boards have signed these petitions as they say, to get at the facts in the case. They want light in order to make up their minds in unbiased and unprejudiced judgement. And this is alright.

But instead of going and inspecting the books, as invited to do by the school Board, this self-constituted committee asks "to audit" etc., as follows:

"We, the undersigned, tax payers of Lincolnton, respectfully request that we be permitted to inspect and AUDIT the cash book-ledger-minute books,

cancelled checks-vouchers check books-pass books and to make a general examination of all papers pertaining to the school board and new building, and to examine any and all papers showing receipts and disbursements, and also the contract for erecting the school building, through a committee consisting of W. E. Grigg, Chas. E. Robinson and such other help as they may deem necessary."

Now, as we understand it, no individual or committee has the right to demand these books, papers, accounts etc. to be given over into their keeping for the purpose of "AUDITING" them unless charges of a sufficiently serious nature are preferred to justify the Courts to order such a course. So it would seem that this committee has proceeded prematurely, and they have demanded the privilege of auditing these books, yet they have preferred no charges. Insinuations and vague hints are not charges.

The News wants to see fair play in this matter, and we say, come clean, gentlemen! If you have charges to prefer, make them like men. Do not beat about the bush, but state your specific charges. If there are any grounds for charges the News certainly has no desire to suppress them. We want to see the matter cleared up finally. If we have one dishonest man on our School Board or on our Board of Aldermen the News would be delighted to have him pointed out, for then we could all join in "cussin" him to a stand still.

LET THE UN-COMPLETED SCHOOL building stand as it is; let our people lose this magnificent piece of property; let all the debts go unpaid and let our BOYS and GIRLS go without an education! WHO CARES FOR PAYING DEBTS! WHO CARES WHETHER OR NOT OUR TOWN GETS A BAD NAME! WHO CARES IF OUR SCHOOL PROPERTY ROTS AND DECAYS—WHAT IS ALL OF THAT TO US, JUST SO WE CAN SPITE THE MEN WHO HAVE WORKED AND SLAVED FOR US; JUST SO WE CAN PREVENT THE MEN WE HATE FROM GETTING THE MONEY THEY HAVE LOANED FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUR SCHOOL; JUST SO THE MUGWUMPS CAN JOIN WITH THE HANDFUL OF REPUBLICANS HERE IN THIS TOWN AND CREATE STRIFE, DISCORD AND DISSENTION SO THAT THE DEMOCRATS MAY BE DEFEATED IN THE NOVEMBER ELECTION. SO SAY THE OPPOSITION.

If it were not for the good name of our town and the welfare of the little boys and girls we would almost say let the "Republican-Mugwump" crowd defeat the bond issue for the School building, for if this bond issue be defeated the school will not open again next fall, or the next or the next for several years, but all of the tax money that now goes to educate our boys and girls will be used to pay for the building that now stands useless though nearly completed.

J. T. DELANE, C. A. JONAS, W. E. GRIGG and others who are opposing the School Bond issue say that if it carries at the election it will not be constitutional and that no one will have to pay out one cent of taxes on it. If they be correct in this position why are they fighting it; why not let it go and not pay the tax?

MR. CHAS. A. JONAS says that while the Supreme Court has decided that an act passed similar to the School bond issue act is constitutional and that while "good lawyers" say that the present Bond Act is constitutional yet the best lawyer (C. A. Jonas) overrules the Supreme Court and says it is not constitutional.

Somebody is going to lose his reputation as a prophet in this bond issue mixup. Predictions are made with cocksure certainty by both sides, and both can't be correct.

DEMPHOOLISHNESS IN LINCOLNTON.

First Citizen: "I am going to vote against the bond issue for the old town faction that I belong to is against it."

Second Citizen: "Well, I'll vote for the bonds, for my faction is for them."

Third Citizen: "I'm agin 'em; I don't like Mr. — who is on the board."

Fourth Citizen: "I say let's have the bonds; Mr. — who is on the board is a personal friend of mine."

Fifth Citizen: "No bonds for me; I got cured long ago when I voted 'the Holy Bonds of Matrimony for mine.'"

Sixth Citizen: "I say bonds, bonds, bonds; I've tried the Holy kind for these forty years, and I am convinced it was the simplest, best and safest way to suffer."

Seventh Citizen: "No school bonds for me; I think the committee should have let out the contract, EVEN IF IT HAD COST \$5000 MORE TO GET JUST AS GOOD A BUILDING."

"Eighth Citizen: "No; I think we ought to stick to the committee, EVEN IF THEY MAKE THE BUILDING COST \$5000 MORE THAN IT WOULD IF IT HAD BEEN LET OUT ON CONTRACT."

Ninth Citizen: "Why in the h— didn't the committee submit their plans to me and let me see all their bills before they were paid? They didn't do it; therefore I'M AGIN IT!!!"

Tenth Citizen: "Well, I'M AGIN YOU!!! They didn't show me the plans, and I don't know what they've spent, nor where it went, and I don't give a hurrh; but I'm for the bonds."

Eleventh Citizen: "The whole thing's UNCONSTITUTIONAL, because, because,—er— well, I don't know why because—but it is; so count me to vote against 'em, or to stay away from the polls."

Twelfth Citizen: "They're not UNCONSTITUTIONAL, because, because,—er—well, I don't know why not, but they're not; so you'll see me there a-votin'-and-a-votin' fo' 'em, too."

Thirteenth Citizen: "I say kill the issue and make the committee take the darned old building, or lose their money; they went wrong from the first."

Fourteenth Citizen: "Well, I don't know how that is; but they say the town has to pay for the job, blunders or no blunders; and so, I'd rather have bonds and a long, easy time for paying them than taxes so high you couldn't see the stars and the electric lights."

Fifteenth Citizen: "To h— with everybody!"

Sixteenth Citizen: "To h— with everything!"

Visitor: "Gentlemen, gentlemen, what's the row?"

All: WE'RE DAMNIN' EVERYBODY, AND KILLIN' LINCOLNTON."

Visitor: "Good sakes!"

L. E. RUDSHILL.

Death Was On His Heels.

Jesse P. Morris, of Skippers, Va., had a close call in the spring of 1906. He says: "An attack of pneumonia left me so weak and with such a fearful cough that my friends declared consumption had me, and death was on my heels. Then I was persuaded to try Dr. King's New Discovery. It helped me immediately, and after taking two and a half bottles I was a well man again. I found out that New Discovery is the best remedy for coughs and lung disease in all the world." Sold under guarantee at K. L. Lawing drug store. 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

"How we have changed since the old days!"

"What do you mean?"

"Why today it isn't so blessed to give as it is to be a receiver."

—Life.

An Explanation.

In the statement issues regarding the New School building the Committee states that these plans were given to several contractors for bids but no bids were received. I received a set of plans for an addition to the old school building, but never saw the plans for the new Building. After getting these plans I asked Dr. Yoder if they would require sealed bids, as I did not care to make an open bid against one of the School Committee. He replied that the matter of sealed bids had never been discussed, but he would bring it up in the committee and let me know if the bids would be sealed. I heard nothing further from him, and a few days later Dr. Yoder sent for the plans. This was my reason for making no bid on the work. In my conversation with Dr. Yoder I told him further that if the building would be let on a percentage basis I would like to have a chance at it that way. He replied that this would be a one sided affair. I would have been glad to take this building at 6 per cent.

A. HAYNES.

CREATING AN APPETITE FOR DRINK.

Don't Allow Them to Make a Drunkard of Your Boy or Your Neighbor's Boy.

The following from the speech of one of the officers of the Ohio State Liquor League is both a text and a sermon: "It will appear from these facts, gentlemen, that the success of our business is dependent largely upon the creation of an appetite for drink. Men who drink liquor, like others, will die, and if there is no new appetite created our counters will be empty as will be our money drawers. Our children must go hungry or we must change our business to something more remunerative. The open field for the creation of this appetite is among the boys. After men are grown and their appetites are formed, they rarely change in this regard. It will be needful, therefore, that missionary work be done among the boys, and I make the suggestion, gentlemen, that nickles expended in treats to boys now will return in dollars to your tills after the appetites have been formed. Above all things, create an appetite."—The "Home and State"

That old question: "What is whiskey?" is going the rounds again. It's the hardest thing of all to get the says when you want it real bad. If you don't believe this ask some poor sufferer who has tried.

A man in Michigan tried to commit suicide the other day by eating axle grease. He failed probably because the creamery butter he had been eating had rendered him immune against other preparations of it.

The Lincolnton Market.

Young chickens,	per lb 18
Eggs.....	per doz 12 1-2
Butter.....	per lb 15
Hens.....	per lb 8 to 10
Irish Potatoes.....	per bu. \$1.00
Sweet Potatoes.....	per bu. 90 to 1.00

Charlotte Cotton.

These figures represent the prices paid to wagons April 15 th

Middling.....	10.00
Strict middling.....	10 1-8
Good middling.....	10 1-4



Watch Cleaning And Oiling A Necessity.

If you want your watch or clock to give you satisfaction and last a lifetime, you must have it cleaned and oiled once every twelve or eighteen months. If you will let us do your work, you can always rest assured that it will be done right and the price will be reasonable.

W. M. SHERRILL, Jeweller and Optician, Lincoln, N. C.

NOTICE.

All persons are required to pay their Poll Tax on or before May 1st, 1908, as the Law requires you to exhibit your Tax Receipt in order to vote in county election—this is election year.

JOHN K. CLINE, Sheriff.

PLANET JR.

That Mean's Quality

Don't fail to see the new No. 76, All Steel Planet Jr. Riding Cultivator. It costs more, but it is the BEST made.

Cole's Cotton and Corn Planters

Garden Plows, Garden Rakes, Garden Cultivators. Pittsburg "Electric Weld" Garden Fence. Devoe Paint.

We Have the Goods of Quality.

Reid Hardware Company

The News Office For Job Work All the Time.