

# THE ZEBULON RECORD

MEMBER NORTH CAROLINA PRESS ASSOCIATION

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THEO. B. DAVIS, Editor

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## EVELYN WEATHERS DAVIS

She came into our home and into our lives young, delicate and sweet. She tried in a womanly way to fill her place in the home, in society and church life. But like flowers taken from their native sunlight, her frail body could not long hold the spirit. It was transplanted by the Great Gardener to the warmth and richness of his presence.

We miss her and our hearts are sad. She was given to us for a time, then God in His goodness freed her soul from its pain-racked body and it went back to Him. Like the fragrance of beautiful flowers removed her memory lingers. We know that nothing is lost.

We see only the dark repelling side of the door called death. If we could only catch that door ajar or see what is on the other side we would understand more of the mystery of death. Already we know enough not to wish her back. For Evelyn is not dead. Her memory stays with us. The beautiful things in her life and character speak comfort and encouragement. To her have come the earnest desire and the deepest longing of every soul; At rest in peace with God. And we rest our hearts in that certainty.

## PUBLIC SERVANTS

Among the ancient Greeks, we are told, when a citizen was placed in an office or other position of public trust, he was the servant of the people and was answerable to them for all his public acts. In a true democracy today the ruler gets all his authority from the citizens who elect him and he is responsible to them alone for his stewardship.

But within a decade a tremendous change has taken place in many of the so-called democracies of the world. The highest officials have become dictators if not tyrants. No longer are they accountable to the people, but the people have become accountable to them. In our own country many features of the New Deal smack strongly of the dictator. The president himself has assumed authority that belongs to the people. Unconsciously or otherwise this dictatorial trend has crept into our state, into our counties and into many of our cities and towns. These officials, servants of the people, have taken an attitude, or adopted a policy of ignoring the citizen on many matters. This is both a dangerous and detrimental attitude and tendency. Any citizen who discovers this trend, should be quick to call attention to this departure from democratic principles, for the public good.

The power delegated in managing the people's business is temporary to those exercising it and it should be used with discretion and judgment. When a situation arises out of the ordinary, the citizens themselves should be consulted and due publicity given of the proposed measure or action. Such matters as possible bankruptcy, proposed tax measures, questions affecting social, moral and religious life and others should always be tested by the will and judgment of the people. They should not be acted upon hastily even at the urgent request of the few. Not only should all the records pertaining to the actions of officials be available at any time and all times to the people, but condensed reports of the receipts and expenditures

have been reliably informed that this last is required by law.

The governing board of Zebulon is composed of young men—men of good character personally and of proven business ability in managing their own affairs. So far as this paper knows, they have been faithful and used their best judgment in carrying on a difficult and embarrassing debt-ridden town government. So far as we know there is no criticism of this part of their official life.

However, in the friendliest manner, with a warm personal regard for each of them, we wish to point out in a constructive way, if possible, a few acts of this Board lately which we believe ought not to have been done and the results of which no one knows. We do not believe there will be any possible financial gain thereby and there will be immeasurable loss morally to our town and community. When a community has done its best to keep a high moral standard it remains bad enough. Just outside our town limits, we have been informed, conditions are said to be even worse than in Zebulon. Not only should the county officers do all in their power to close up such places and prosecute the operators, but it is every citizen's duty to seek evidence and offer it to those chosen to enforce the law. There is this difference between such an individual and our town officials. He acts as an individual and is amenable to the law only. Our officials act as the representatives of the people and are accountable to those who placed them in office.

May we call attention to two late acts of our town board. Without the knowledge of the people, without consulting with any citizen so far as we know, the local theatre was allowed to throw open its doors on the Sabbath Day. As we see it, there is no more moral ground for this than there would be to allow other business concerns to operate on this day.

We believe our Board made a mistake as officials at least, when they not only permitted, but actually sought the establishment of a liquor store in this community. According to the letter from Chairman Litchford found elsewhere in this paper 45 citizens of Little River township are responsible for the ABC store that will open its doors soon in the heart of our town. The petition was circulated only among those believed to be favorable to the sale of drink in Zebulon. Note: it was signed by the mayor, four aldermen, the town clerk and attorney and 38 other citizens of the township. That is to say, 45 men decided within themselves without conferring or consulting hundreds of other citizens in the township. They were just as much concerned as these forty-five were about whether liquor should be sold in Zebulon or not.

We may be mistaken, but we have always understood that public officials are the servants of the people. They have no right to assume any authority to act for the people in matters of a moral, social and religious nature without first informing the people and consulting with them. Only after the opinion of the majority is known should action be taken and then only according to the expressed will of the citizens. In this way the officials place the responsibility on the community and so cannot be held responsible for any loss or disaster that follows their official action. Thus the burden of government goes back to the people themselves. Resultant consequences are lifted from the shoulders of these servants of the people to the people themselves.

## FAIR SPECIAL COMING NEXT WEEK

In the issue of The Zebulon Record for September 24 you will find much of interest in addition to the regular features and news.

Our Merchants and Business Men will find for you numerous articles of use and value at prices that will justify your close examination and patronage. Watch for the paper - Read carefully - Profit thereby.

The Zebulon Record offers you each week from 16 to 22 pages of reading matter worth more than the dollar asked for it. Subsc

## Everyman Has a Yen for a Den



DEEP in the heart of every man is the father, husband, brother. Is the yen for a den from the living quarters of the household. He wants a room sacred to his interests, where he can find peace and quiet, or work on problems uninterrupted by radio, telephone or family interruptions.

Once the man of the house thought that resorting to the den was the last word. But no longer is that true. The underground cemented den, which the old furnace was has been modernized with heating equipment operating

## The Letter Box

To The Editor:

Please allow me space to bid you Godspeed in your fight against the desecration of our bath, liquor stores, and demoralizing agencies that are holding their heads like so many vipers in our midst.

I found out last week when I read the premium list for the County Fair, that we'll have an instance of Sabbath desecration. The hall will be open for entries.

I've always thought that the Monday p. m. until Saturday was entirely too long. That is all that is necessary. He who tried to co-operate by taking something for exhibit, but cannot do so with a clear conscience. I realize my position will be the fair in the least. But let everyone to know where they stand regard to these things. I believe, or rather, I know that many others who feel the same way.

So why not lend your voice cry aloud and spare not, man upon the wall.

Return unto me, and I will turn unto you, saith the Lord your hosts.

MRS. W. N.

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