

# THE ZEBULON RECORD

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## ON VOTING

The most sacred human right and privilege outside one's duty to his Creator, is that of voting. A man who cares not for suffrage rights cares not for his country. He lacks appreciation of the finest things of life offered by his government. In the best democracies laws regulate preliminary preparations for this a sacred duty. The man who does not appreciate his duty to qualify and express his convictions in the operation of government must be beyond the law or a slave to the law.

In the local election to be held May 21 each citizen of Wakelon school district has a duty and a privilege that he should not shirk. We have as registrar, one who we believe will try to legally do his duty in registering the citizens. We are confident that there have been irregularities in almost every registration in the past, either wilfully or thoughtlessly. Accommodating a neighbor by taking his name on the street, accepting it on the word of another, we are told is not regular. The registrar must have the voter to come to the legal place of registration or the registrar must take his book to the individual to register or it is not legal. I have been informed that citizens have registered without going to the school building by giving or sending their names. The registrar was told, I am informed, that this had been done in the past and was legal. As soon as he found that he did not have a right to so register voters, he stopped and corrected all the mistakes he had made wherever possible.

We hope the registration will be so regular and the voting so legal that when the election is over, no matter which side wins that the verdict will be accepted by both sides without protest of irregularity on the part of any one—registrar, voter or poll holder.

I have decided how I shall vote. (If any one wishes to know how I shall vote, I shall be glad to tell him personally). Yet I shall not use the columns of the Record to attempt to influence any citizen directly to vote either for or against the proposed school tax. If he wants a better school for his and his neighbors' children and is willing to pay the price, I commend him for it. If he objects to paying more tax even for the sake of his child, that is his right and I appreciate his following his own judgment as a tax payer in a matter of such concern to his financial as well as other interests. That is his business alone.

This question from the first years of our country's history has been one of serious concern. The patriots fought for their right to say whether taxes were necessary or just and the rights which they purchased with their own blood are a precious inheritance to us to be safeguarded and used for the best interests of all the people. I trust there may be no rancor of hate and bitterness to lift its head out of the results of the election on May 21. Let each citizen vote on that day and whatever the result, let us accept it as the voice and verdict of all the people.

## CALLING A PASTOR

Having been in the active ministry most of my life I have known something about being called by a church to its pastorate. In late years I have also been engaged in business and filled the place more or less of a laymember. Thus I

have had the opportunity of observing and experiencing in some measure both sides of an interesting and important procedure—a church calling a pastor.

We say with preachers it is a call to service; with others it is a look for a job. When a pulpit becomes vacant, the church appoints a committee whose business it is to invite man after man to give a sample sermon till they are satisfied or the supplies are exhausted. Each visitor leaves a following who want him or are willing to accept him. When a half dozen or even a dozen preachers come before a church as prospects, naturally there will be some in every congregation who would like one or the other best. So, the result would be that it would be exceedingly hard for members to unite on any one man and be pleased or even satisfied.

If I were a member of the committee seeking a satisfactory pastor, I would by inquiry and otherwise learn of suitable men. I would first of all want to know if they were consecrated men, if they were lazy, if they paid their debts, if they were good pastors and fair preachers at least, if they were meddlers in outside matters, if they took an interest in every phase of community life, if they held short or long pastorates and various other things that would indicate their fitness as pastor of my church. Then when I had found out who was the best available man, I would want to visit his church some Sunday and hear him preach an average sermon and also talk with some of those who knew him best.

And I would not get a boy preacher, one fresh from college or the seminary. They may be as consecrated as others, but in every profession outside the ministry, the man of ripe scholarship and experience is preferred. These are worth more than the pep and energy of youth to the sin sick and soul hungry.

I do not mean to be unfair to the young preacher. I have in mind only churches requiring a broad service from a man who has training, scholarship and experience that fit him for a task that requires these qualifications.

I understand that a number of preachers have made direct application for the local pastorate, even visiting the town and interviewing members of the pulpit committee. When a minister thus stoops to almost common political methods to get a call, I believe he is lowering the dignity of his calling and reveals elements of character that unfit him for the finest service. It is true that the Lord uses human instrumentality in all matters pertaining to his work, but I believe such methods as these should be discouraged and as a rule if a church knows it will defeat them. We get things by asking for them and seeking them, but I do not believe this is the way to get a pastorate.

When all this has been done, I would ask the church to definitely decide on what salary it would pay and make a canvass of the membership for pledges if this had not previously been done.

An ounce of investigation is worth a pound of hearing when it comes to getting an employee in business or the pastor of a church.

## A CANDID CANDIDATE

A few days ago a gentleman (he looked and acted like one) came into our office and introduced himself. He told us that he was a candidate for the office of coroner in Wake county. He also stated that he was running because he wanted the job and not because of the earnest and continued solicitations of his friends. He said he felt he was qualified for the position and also that he believed the position had been held long enough by the present incumbent.

Then he gave us an ad. concerning his candidacy to run for several weeks, paying the cash for this service. Now this is another thing that's different. We have had sundry candidates to come into our office, shake hands, give a long-winded announcement for publication, accompanied by—no, not the cash but pictures of their honest faces, to run in the Record. But we have had even a sadder experience with candidates than that. They have asked us to

run ads. totaling more than a score of dollars. Then, waiting till they ran again for office, they came in, paid up and repeated the previous credit course. In some cases we still wait for the prodigal that cometh not to pay up when the election is past.

Perhaps our readers would like to know who this unusual fellow is. You may want to vote for him. His name is Roy M. Banks.

## The Letter Box

### A STATEMENT

By request I wish to say that when I went to register for the election in Wakelon school district for a special school tax, that, after registering my name, the registrar asked me if I wanted him to register my wife's name. I told him that I did, so he registered her name on his books.

K. P. LEONARD

Mr. Editor:

Why should the property owners of the Wakelon School district vote a tax on their property to have an additional grade taught there, when they do not know whether it will increase or decrease property values to a prospective purchaser when it may be offered for sale? We do not know when tax rates may be raised, nor when the State will have to go back to property for more money for taxes.

I say we should demand from the state a high school that trains its graduates so that they may at least enter our state-supported colleges without the handicaps claimed. And if it's the fault of too much teacher load, let the State furnish sufficient teachers, and then don't turn out any high school graduates with just passing grades. I agree with a farmer writer to the Forum—have the grades we now have adequately taught.

Therefore, I urge the land-owning and home buying, overall wearing, mule plowing farmers of this community who pay their taxes every fall as well as land bank notes and Production Credit Association loans and time prices, to think carefully before they vote more taxes on their land and future, and not to be misled by those who are advocating this property tax.

And it is a fact and can be verified by the Wake County tax books that one who is urgently advocating this tax listed less than \$1200.00 for taxes last year. Another one who is able to pay has unpaid taxes against his property, and for a number of years he has not even so much as listed his personal property for taxes at all.

So, Mr. Mrs. and Miss Voter, think before you vote on May 21 for more taxes on your home.

A Tax Payer,

K. P. LEONARD.

TO THE FORUM:

I heartily agree with the "Patron of Wakelon School" in regard to the fairness or justice of persons voting a tax that will not affect them, but will put a burden on another.

And I wonder if all those who are so eager for this tax, those who so strongly advocate it, have kept their taxes paid all through the years. If not, how do they expect to meet increased taxes?

Or perhaps, they intend to continue to spend for themselves all that comes into their hands and leave it for the economic, hard-working citizen who has always paid his taxes, to meet this added expense, also.

Then, too, if this election is carried by "what is called" a ma-

majority it will not be constitutional, for it most certainly will not be a majority of the qualified voters of the district.

Then, if I could only believe that an added grade would make for a stronger Christian citizenry, I'd want every one to vote for it. They have more grades now than they appreciate, or, of which they take the proper advantage. This is how I think and feel about this matter, and I make no apologies for saying so.

MRS. W. N. PITTS.

Dear Editor:

On April 23rd I went to Wakelon school to register in the forthcoming school tax election for an increase of 15 cents on the hundred dollars. After registering, I asked the registrar if I could register my wife who was sick at home in bed and not able to come to register. He replied that I could not do it, that she would have to come and register for herself.

W. N. PITTS.

## SEEN & HEARD

### AIR MAIL WEEK 15-21

Postmaster Sexton has had the postoffice windows cleaned and polished and has decorated them with posters advertising Air-Mail Week, May 15-21. Special envelopes bordered with a design of blue and red are available and all who will are urged to co-operate with the government in making the week a success by using the air-mails for carrying letters. This will cost for each letter only three cents more than regular postage.

### CLEAN, SO CLEAN.

Have you been on the Wakelon school grounds since commencement? And were you there in the afternoon during the last day of commencement? If so, then you appreciated the difference. I was up at the school building last Saturday and was impressed very much with the cleanliness of things inside and out. That man Bowling has done a good job and it looks like he's the man for the job till he goes where things stay clean and spotless all the time.

### GOT HIS NAME IN THE PAPER

A short time ago our fellow townsman, McRae Faison, (I am sure "Mac" must be Scotch), gave up one position to take a better one. He went up to Columbus, O., to learn what it was all about. And the head of the Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Co., asked him to tell of his impressions of his new business. And he did in a short article. The May issue of The Challenger gives his whole story. And it is good reading, too. "Mac" is a good salesman and he is selling what is said to be the best mutual automobile insurance on the market.

### BORN—A COLT!

Have you or have you not seen that brand new colt at M. B. Chamblee's stables? What's cuter than a colt? Go see for yourself.

### IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE

Phillip Massey, who sells a fine line of feeds and seeds next door to the Record office, felt that business was so poor in 1937 that he could not afford to advertise. The Record offered to advertise his business through 1938 for one-half the profits beyond what his business brought in during 1937. Instead of accepting our offer, he began running four inch ads each week. Now he says his business is so much better this year than last he is afraid to stop advertising.