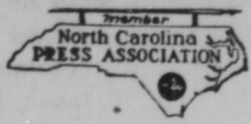


THE ZEBULON RECORD



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THEO. B. DAVIS, Editor
MRS. THEO. B. DAVIS, Associate Editor

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ZEBULON'S DELINQUENT TAX LIST

Elsewhere in this paper will be found an article about our local government and its indebtedness. Every citizen appreciates the very difficult position our town Board occupies. This has been greatly aggravated by long standing debts that are in process of refinancing if not liquidation.

Being a taxpayer, we have for years insisted on reasonable publicity being given through the press of just how the town's business affairs stood. But this has not been done. The people generally are ignorant of both the laws and the financial affairs of the town. If an audit of the town's books has ever been published, we do not know it. Yet, we understand this is required by law. If our present Board of Commissioners will let the citizens know exactly how the town affairs stand, we believe the people will take a deeper interest in cooperating to lighten the Commissioners' responsibilities.

On the other hand, these men have been elected to represent the citizens of Zebulon. They meet frequently and stay long to discuss and devise ways and means of settling knotty problems. The money must be provided for current expenses and also to pay the interest on bonds and other matters. When \$25,000 in delinquent taxes accumulate, there is something wrong with our government. We do not believe the fault lies altogether with the Commissioners. The tax collector has personally requested payment of these back taxes. Paid public notices have been made. Many people have received all this with the same composure, if not indifference, that they would a grocer's bill or other personal obligation.

Mayor Privette, in a private conversation, gave the editor to understand that the time has come to cease crying wolf, wolf, and to seek the recourse offered by the law in collecting these taxes. We believe this is exactly what the average citizen wants him to do. And when it is done, it will be better for all concerned—the delinquent taxpayer and the town of Zebulon. Let's pay up!

Recorder's Court

Two sessions of the local Recorder's Court are included in this report—one held two weeks ago and the other last week.

First Court

It seems that within the Hicks family there was a sort of family misunderstanding and one, Troy Watkins, a relative, armed with "a deadly weapon", namely, a pocket knife, went after Otis Hicks and his son. For his fun if such it may be called, he paid a fine of \$5.00 and the costs.

Will Austin, a colored man forgot his marriage vows by failing to provide bread, meat and molasses for his family. Judge Rhodes ordered him to support his family or else. . . .

Hurley Horton went on a rampage at the Riley Hill colored Baptist church with a shot gun. No

damage was done except a few shot went through a girl's fall hat, yet for such threatening and dangerous business Hurley will work on the highways for one year.

A month ago Guy Dean was before the court for getting cut (?) with a white handled razor in the hands of another. Guy learned fast, got his razor and went after a white man. The razor seems to have slashed only air, so the court fined him \$5.00 and costs. He also must behave himself for one year.

Clarence Morgan made his car go like it was drunk, only it was Clarence instead of the car that was full of booze. He was put on probation for one year and paid the costs of the court action.

Four years ago Harvey Lee Hodge broke into a home and attempted, so the records show, to commit rape. He left the community, but just could not stay away,

or thought the law forgets. On

his return Sheriff Massey nabbed him and he was haled before the court. Probable cause was found and Harvey was sent to the county jail without bond to await the Superior Court's verdict.

When a woman is furious, drunk or sober, men had better beware. Mary Pace filled up on good ABC or bad bootleg liquor and assaulted one, Elmer Harris. She was placed in the town jail to cool-off, but did not cool very fast. She breathed out excessive profanity along with liquor stench. Preston Chamblee, landlord, bailed Mary out, put her in his car and drove away. But Mary had to express her feelings some way, so kicked out a glass in Mr. Chamblee's car. In court she was very sober when Judge Rhodes told her she could go free if she would pay \$43.15 to satisfy the demands of the law.

Douglass Perry was overtaken in a fault, that of operating a

POLITICS SUPERSEDES THE LAW

Two men ran for Congress. Both claimed to be elected. The State Board of Elections, appointed by legislative enactment for such a purpose, sat for days and decided that Mr. Deane was legally elected and so ordered. Judge Harris found the problem too knotty, so passed it on to the Supreme Court. That august body tossed the whole matter back to the judge, the Board, or anybody who could or would legally settle the matter.

After sundry delays of Boards, judges and laws, the matter again came into the hands of politics and three lawyers quickly handed out their decision. It is not known on what they based their decision. On their first round it is reported they differed. Then they decided to agree and declared Mr. Burgin the winner.

This whole procedure of the march of the majority of the law is a sad comment on our election laws and law in general. When the law breaks down as seems to be true in this case, and matters of right and justice have to go beyond the law to be settled, there is something fundamentally wrong with the wheels that grind out justice to the people of our state.

If the State Election Board is not legally competent to rule on such matters as this, pray then what are they competent legally to do? If, when creating this department, our legislature did not provide teeth that could chew such tough problems, then the next should provide them. And we would suggest that it make them two pairs of teeth in case

THE LABOR STANDARD ACT

It is, perhaps, too soon to form an opinion of the value to business and labor of the Labor Standard Act. No doubt it will benefit a great many people, but at the same time there will be others who will suffer thereby. If all men were pegs of the same size, then there would be little trouble in fitting them in holes of equal size. But no one can argue that because all men were created equal, that their earning power is equal. In our own business we have had men physically equal, yet the one could produce twice the product of the other. For the safety of our business we necessarily had to pay the better producer larger wages.

Our opinion is that the effort of the New Deal to "put a floor under the feet and a ceiling over the head" of the working man will never work except in a general way. Whenever it seeks to pay all laborers for the same type of work the same wages the system will fall down. This is a beautiful theory, like a great many other things our government has tried, but it will not work except where men are found of equal ability in filling the same job.

There are thousands of small businesses that will be ruined if Mr. Andrews insists on equality of wage for all men and industries of equal ability and size. If by nature a man is unable to produce enough to justify the wage demanded, then the only fair thing to do is for the government to levy a tax on all business to provide the money to pay the difference in what the

car without a license. Judgment was suspended on condition that he pay the court's expenses for his violation which amounted to \$13.85.

Johnny Warren, his wife, Beadie and Otis Woodard decided to celebrate something or other on a Sunday night. They chose in front of the Baptist church for their celebration. So while the preacher preached inside the church these three carried on outside. Beadie got the prize for the loudest cursing which was a \$10.00 fine and the costs amounting to \$16.00. Johnny and Otis tied on second prize and the judge divided it equally between the two totaling \$10.00 fine and \$21.00 costs.

Carl Mobley of Williamston was in somewhat of a hurry as the records show that he operated a truck at an excessive speed. For the same he paid \$14.85 costs.

Second Court

Thomas Carter and son found that North Carolina still has some laws against bootleg liquor. They were charged with the manufacture and possession of no paid liquor. Tom got 6 months and Dave 4 on the roads. This was pending on payment of \$ costs. They decided they could off with less work or money and appealed their case to the Court.

John Coley was before the court for careless and reckless driving and paid a \$10 fine and costs for his taking liberty with the law.

June Jones and Henry Jones assumed the rights and duties of married folks with the aid of a magistrate or minister. For immoral conduct they were sentenced to 30 days in jail. The sentence was suspended on payment of the court costs.

Allen Perry was before the court for more or less brandy with no tax paid whiskey." He

TO EXPLAIN

The editor of this paper is forced to make public explanation of a matter which might otherwise be considered private.

Recently there came to the office a woman who introduced herself as Mrs. Ruth DeHaven and who wished to secure subscribers on commission for The Zebulon Record. The references she gave assured us that she was reliable and

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