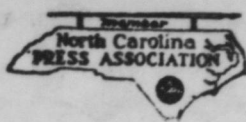


THE ZEBULON RECORD



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NOT WANTED: A PEACEMAKER

In the present European conflict we hear quite a deal about getting a peacemaker to help settle the differences. Our opinion is that neither side wants a peacemaker. If Germany can get Mussolini to act as arbitrator, good; if England and France can get America, good. Otherwise, neither side wants a peacemaker, if he is to decide on the merits of the case. The best thing Mr. Roosevelt can do is to stay out till such time as all powers concerned will be ready to settle their troubles on a basis of justice.

OUR PRISON POPULATION

Nearly 10,000 citizens of North Carolina live in its prisons. During the month of September almost 2,000 more were incarcerated. Such a condition is not only deplorable but it is alarming. With our churches, schools, social service and various other institutions for the betterment of mankind, it seems that people are growing worse instead of better.

We wonder if not only North Carolina, but all other states in the Union would give each prisoner who has as much as three years yet to serve his choice between finishing his sentence or enlisting in a European army, what would happen. That would solve one of our problems and, perhaps, help on the other side to settle something.

A MAN FOR A CIGARETTE

Willie Richardson, a young Rocky Mount Negro, will give his life for an empty pocket-book and a package of cigarettes. So said the lower courts, and only yesterday the Supreme Court reaffirmed the decision. The crime itself was not even a felony, since the articles were probably worth less than \$1.00.

A man's home may be a sacred thing; should be; but we do not believe it is so sacred that a man's life may be the price of entering it. But it is law. For years this law has been on the statute books of our state. In an enlightened and highly civilized country like ours, we feel that it is a survival of the worst of ancient laws and should be speedily repealed. Punishment should be for actual crime, and not based on fiction. Not only do we believe the next General Assembly should repeal this law, but also that of capital punishment on any grounds.

SEEN and HEARD

WHY THE DIFFERENCE?

While talking with a farmer in the bank Tuesday morning he said he was just come from Rocky Mount where he had sold a barn of tobacco. He showed me his sales slip. The prices he received ran as follows: 3, 8, 12 3-4, 18 and 20 cents per pound. It struck me as being a rather low price for even average good tobacco. Then a little later a friend came in the office and wanted to know if we ever advertised the prices paid for tobacco. Then he pulled his sales slip from his pocket and passed it over to me.

I read: 20, 25 and 27 cents per pound for a total of 1356 pounds with a gross price of \$326.10. This struck me as being a pretty good price for the week. And I am wondering after all, should our farmers sell their tobacco at home, if they would not get just as much as they do by carrying it fifty miles away to a bigger market.

NO COURT

One day this week the phone rang in our office and some one asked whether "Mr. Eugene PRIVETTE" was in. On being told he was not here, the next question was, "When will he be there?" It seemed hard to convince the interrogator of our ig-

norance as to Eugene's whereabouts. Finally we tried again to make her understand that this is a newspaper office. "Isn't it the Zebulon Record office," was asked, and we admitted that. "Well, then, don't you hold Recorder's Court there?" But we don't, and no one else does.

BEAUTY AID

A very small boy looked with extreme distaste at a box of fish for sale in a market, and remarked: "There's nothing helps the looks of a dead fish like cooking it." Especially, if the head is cut off.

Punishment lasts only so long as there is consciousness; after that the death penalty means nothing to the dead.

TOWN AFFAIRS

We realize that the public affairs of Zebulon are its own private business so far as those who live outside the corporate limits are concerned. Yet, being indirectly affected now, and a little later directly so, we feel justified in calling the attention of the people to some things that will probably be emphasized differently when the town grows bigger, if not better.

In the article this week from our contributor "Doc", he calls attention to the law as it relates to the public and especially to those in office. There are a number of things that will certainly be brought to the attention of the citizens of this community when the town's limits are extended if remarks made to us are carried out. Among these are the following:

1. An audit will be made according to law each year.
2. The \$300 given to the ball team last year will be repaid to the town by those responsible for the contribution.
3. No official shall illegally hold two offices in the town's government as is now claimed.
4. Those citizens now living in town who have for years been without water or sewerage shall have the same advantages and conveniences as other citizens do.
5. Those forced in will demand every benefit now received by those inside.

These demands, it appears to us, are all just and reasonable. It is certain that the present feeling in the matter and the aftermath of the election will require the authorities to show no partiality and zealously carry out the town ordinances.

RALEIGH'S TROUBLES

Sometime ago Raleigh had a red-hot election and voted in a new government which made various and sundry promises of economy and efficiency. Knowing something of the character of the former officials and having heard a great deal about their successors, we are not surprised that the government is not to the liking of many citizens. A promise of curtailment of expenditures has been fulfilled (?) with a budget that shows some \$28,000 increase. And criticism of the kindness of the city court to the transgressor is growing from session to session.

We have heard that there is no use locking the stable door after the horse is stolen. So it is too late now for Raleigh to protest against what its present officials are doing. It will have to "take its medicine" and wait the next city election to correct present evils of administration unless the officials get so bad that impeachment proceedings be instituted. We hope sometime, all of us may learn that the time to provide for good government is before the election. In a democracy that is the one time when these matters may be settled. The only other way is the Hitler way and few of us want that. The character of the men elected determines the type of government they will give us.

Mrs. M. A. Bunn has returned from Mary-Elizabeth Hospital and is now in Zebulon in the home of her son, Ralph Bunn. Her condition is thought to be considerably better.

EUNIS KANNAN HURT

Between five and six o'clock Thursday morning, Eunis Kannan, of Wendell and Zebulon, was hurt in an automobile wreck. Kannan, who owns cafes in both towns, was proceeding along the highway west of Zebulon and had reached what is known as "the big rock" when it is thought he dropped asleep. His car ran into a ditch and was completely demolished. He himself was knocked unconscious, but it is thought was not otherwise injured. His Negro cook was not hurt and was able to be about his work during the day.

NEW FEDERAL PARK

Fort Raleigh with 17 acres of land surrounding it has become on Roanoke Island a federal park. Provision has been made for continued performance of "The Lost Colony," historical pageant that has attracted thousands to the island during the last three years.

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