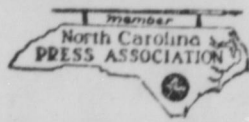


THE ZEBULON RECORD



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OUR TOWN AFFAIRS

Perhaps this paper has been a bit too inquisitive, controversial, critical and what-not about Zebulon municipal affairs. Especially have we sought for a reasonable amount of information about the town's financial condition and something of what was being done about it and current matters. City Clerk Brown has loaned us a copy of an audit made in 1939. We have gone over this and find that the town's financial affairs are in good condition. There are certain suggestions and recommendations made by the auditor which we propose to comment on later.

We are glad to know that plans are perfected for the extension of water and sewer lines to needed sections of the town. This should have been done years ago. Even should a debt be incurred thereby we believe our citizens generally would approve of this project.

Mayor Privette informs us that the bonded indebtedness of the town is advantageously being liquidated. Only a short time ago a '54 bond was paid at a saving of more than 75 per cent. He says that the present setup will gradually pull Zebulon out of debt without an increase in the present tax rate. Our board has done some fine work on a difficult matter. We congratulate them.

We want our people to know all the facts about our town affairs, especially the good things. If we get them we shall be glad to publish them. And — it seems our mayor and his board are now glad to cooperate with us in getting and giving this information to the citizens.

—o—

A GOOD MAN IN A GOOD SCHOOL

The writer wishes he might have been among those at the dedication of the new school building at Cary. Not in any official capacity, but as a friend and as one who wishes the best for that town and community. Twenty-seven years ago, when only one of the Davis children was old enough to attend school we lived for a while in Cary. M. B. Dry, head of the school even then, was no new man in his profession, and each succeeding term has added to his value. We know little personally of his methods. Our small daughter loved him and her progress in fourth grade was satisfactory; our time was filled and there was no need to investigate the workings of the school.

It was in church and community that we learned M. B. Dry. His concern for matters spiritual was deep and abiding. He made of his daily duties no excuse to prevent his accepting a full share of Sunday School and church responsibilities. On seven days of each week his example was more forceful than aught he might have said.

We have not inspected the new schoolhouse, but are sure Cary has just cause for pride in it. However, our own humble opinion is that the town has a greater right to be proud of the head of that school than of any structure of brick and mortar. He has meant more than any edifice and his work is not yet done. Would there were more like him than we have yet found.

We are wholly in favor of the best in equipment, even when obtained at some sacrifice. However, the life of our schools is breathed into them by those who give themselves not to text books alone, but to all other good things also.

GRADE OF "A" FOR DAD

(From Old Gold & Black, Wake Forest College)

The large number of students who received low grades for the first semester has suggested the need for an editorial. But no member of the staff has been able to write one that fits the situation.

This week, however, we were shown a letter, received from his dad by a freshman who foolishly imitated the example of some upper-classmen and fellow-freshmen in loafing. This letter says much more vigorously than we could say it just what we have been fumbling to express.

On the promise that all marks of identification would be deleted, we asked for and received permission to print this letter. It is a straight-from-the-shoulder talk of a dad to his son, and is therefore a human document as well as a piece of good counsel which most of us need in varying degrees.

Incidentally, the son may have flunked his freshman English, but we give his dad a grade of "A" for this piece of writing.

Feb., 1940.

Dear

Your unwelcome letter received. I have been dreading it for weeks. I knew it was coming. You can't talk and kill time and take things so lightly as you have and pass your course. Now I am not going to worry any more about you boys. I'll pull you out of there promptly if there are any more E's or F's and your schooling will be thru. I am now too old and I have done more for you boys than you are entitled to or DESERVE.

Let it be understood that in college only one thing counts—that is your studies. I am willing to pay in full for your course if you make good in your mental work. However, if you cannot carry your present course with football it's a cinch you won't do it without athletics. Candidly, I am ashamed of your standing. You talk too much and have too many alibis. Alibis won't be necessary if you pass.

I would suggest that you room with somebody that carries a heavy course and is working his way thru and has to do real hard work to get on. It might be a good example.

Have the school send me your grades. Don't you know that the quality or honor points are necessary? I don't want to talk to you or write. I am grievously disappointed. If by June you are not up, you are thru. You are there to study.

You ought to be ashamed of yourself in English with all your pre work. Are you a loafer too? I told you repeatedly that your work won't walk into your brain. God damn it, come home if you are not equal to your work.

Cut out your "buts" and alibis and do your work or quit. I haven't another dollar for your kind of work last semester. Stay at school and don't leave there for any place without my permission, or pack up and come home, and then get out of my sight. I mean every word I have said. You are more than a disappointment. Any good student knows where he stands all the time in his work.

Read Wake Forest catalogue or bulletin 1938-39; read pages 34 to 37 inclusive. Repeating a subject is not allowed by me if you expect to stay anywhere. If you want to be a bum right soon, you're on the right road.

You had no business getting a cold. Colds have nothing to do with your standing. Your standing is regulated by conscientious work from the first day. You were too free Xmas time with your spare time and didn't do a bit of work. If you want money for books, say so outright and how much and don't send home for things to use in outside sports. You have too much now to be a good student. I want those marks up at once and word from someone in authority there that you are going to make good, or must quit. I am sorely disappointed in you and your behavior in your school work. Let it be understood again, I don't care about football or anything else if your scholastic work is down. I kicked B..... out for good and you will be next.
Dad.

Today's Economic Highlights

It was recently pointed out that this is one of the extremely few general election years since the Civil War in which the public hasn't had a pretty sound idea of who the Presidential candidates would be. Generally the country has known long in advance who was going to be battling for the White House—the nomination of Hoover, Wilson, Hughes, Franklin Roosevelt, Al Smith, etc., were practically dead certainties many months before the convention was called to order. Single recent exception to this rule was when dark horses Cox and Harding opposed each other.

The rumor always goes around about this time that some vague and immensely powerful political bosses have the key to the puzzle, and will put their candidates over with ease and dispatch when the time comes. But if that is so, every political observer in the country has been fooled. Both parties are divided within themselves to an abnormal degree. And the ranks of both are alive with self-starters, favorite sons and others who are simply itching to take the oath of office from Chief Justice Hughes next year.

Starting out with the party in power, everything hinges on what the President will do. If he wants the nomination, it is hard to see how he can be kept from getting it, despite the growing disaffection of many prominent Democrats in public office. Working on the assumption, which many do, that the President does not plan to run again, and is keeping silent only because he wants to keep his party under control, the outlook for the Democrats producing a solidly backed candidate is not bright. The McNutt candidacy seems to have blown up. Garner could carry the Solid South and would get considerable conservative support, but he is not warmly regarded by the strong New Dealers. There was considerable talk about the possibility of running Robert Jackson some time back, but he does not seem to have attracted any considerable public following. Frank Murphy, who used to be talked about also, is on the Supreme Court and out of active politics. Secretary Hull would probably have the best chance of cementing together the warring wings of the party, but, due to his job, he has had nothing to do with domestic questions for eight years, and his stand on many big issues of the day is not known. At the moment, however, Hull and Garner seem to have the inside track.

On the Republican side, Tom Dewey has started his campaign in earnest. It has long been said of him that no one knew much about his views save in the matter of criminal law enforcement, and he is offering this by making a series of major speeches covering our principal problems. Strongly in his favor is his voice and radio personality. Against him is the fact that men high in Republican councils would prefer some one older, and with a longer and more varied record in public office. So far, the political experts say he has been no whirlwind in whipping up general enthusiasm for the cause of the GOP, but he has done better than anyone else.

Vandenberg is out for the nomination—and he has the advantage of a long and capable record in the Senate, plus an established machine. But he, like Senator Taft, lacks color, which in this day of the radio has become one of the most important political assets. At the moment, these three men are in the lead, with the other prospects far behind in the race. But, as in the case of the Demo-

crats, anything can happen. There is an off chance that a deadlock might result in the Republican convention and lead to the nomination of some extremely dark horse.

The recent polls indicate that the Democrats still have the edge in popular fancy. They also indicate that the President is still the most popular candidate. But they do not give him any overwhelming majority—if he did win, the polls say, it would be by a comparatively tight squeeze. Rarely has it been so difficult to forecast whether the next administration will be Republican or Democratic.

War may not come to the little European neutrals—but its shadow grows larger. The action of Britain in seizing English prisoners from a German ship anchored far inside Norwegian territorial waters has thrown a scare into all the small nations—they know that is the sort of thing that could make them battlegrounds. England's action was clearly illegal under international law, but in modern war laws and treaties seem to mean little.

The experts look forward to spring with ominous expectation. Then will come good flying weather—and then, it is felt, will come Germany's great bid for victory, with air attacks of unprecedented fury on Allied ships, coastal points and industrial centers. The Allies will respond in kind, the experts are sure—and the most potentially destructive war in history will enter a decisive phase.

WENDELL THEATRE

Matinees Mon., Tues., Wed. and Thurs., at 3:30
Night Shows start 7 P. M.

Friday, March 8—
"DESTINY RIDES AGAIN"
with James Stewart
and Marlene Deitrich
Also News and Cont. Picture

Saturday, March 9—
"NEVADA BUCKAROO"
with Bob Steele
No. 6 "Dick Tracy's G-Men"
and Comedy

Sunday, March 10—
"THE EARL OF CHICAGO"
with Robert Montgomery
and Edward Arnold
Also Added Short Subjects

Mon. & Tues., Mar. 11-12—
"THE MARINES FLY HIGH"
with Richard Dix & C. Morris
Also Comedy

Wednesday, March 13—
"ARIZONA KID"
with Roy Rogers
No. 7 "Mandrake The Magician" and Comedy

Thurs. & Fri., Mar. 14-15—
"GREEN HILL"
with Doug Fairbanks, Jr.
and Joan Bennett

Coming—
A Musical Comedy,
"Ma, He's Making Eyes at Me"
"Hunchback of Notre Dame"
"Music In My Heart"

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