

THE ZEBULON RECORD

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Theo. Davis Sons, Telephone 2561



Pictured is Staley Denton, linotype operator for Theo. Davis Sons, at work on a statistical table for a set of associational minutes. The local printshop is the largest producer of these minutes in the South. The tabular work is painstaking, with thousands of figures on the smallest tables. Each figure must be correct, and for perfect alignment the lines must be accurate to .007 inch horizontally and .0005 inch vertically.—Record staff photo.

Staley Denton Is a Linotypist, But He Also Qualifies as an Old-Timer

This article is the second in a series designed to acquaint you with the men and machines that produce your newspaper.

Some of the workers at the Theo. Davis Sons plant have been with the printshop since it was founded, but Staley Denton goes them one better. He has been in the printing business in Zebulon longer than there has been a permanent printing establishment

D. D. Chamblee Makes Talk on Agricultural Progress in Community

"This whole community will be hurt," D. D. Chamblee told the Zebulon Rotarians Friday night, "if the farmers do not learn diversified farming before the bottom drops from under tobacco prices." D. D. explained at length how the one-crop system is a one-way ticket to poverty.

Members of the club were called on for comments regarding what best can be grown in this part of the state to replace to some extent the tobacco now planted.

Sweet potatoes were cited as an excellent money crop when properly grown and graded. "But," warned Early Moser, "it takes smarter farming to grow sweet potatoes for the market than it does to grow tobacco."

D. D. advised that much of the land now going to waste in Wake and surrounding counties could be successfully used for cattle, but he reminded the club that before cattle can be grown at a profit here, a market where they can be sold must be available.

in the town. Staley started his printing career back in 1921 under A. L. G. Stephenson on the old Zebulon News. He moved to Siler City in 1924 when Baylus Whitley carried the News, shop and all to that town, and returned to Zebulon in 1937.

Staley first saw the light of day in Franklin County (he was born near Pilot), but his parents, the E. P. Dentons, moved to Zebulon when he was so small that the first thing he remembers is seeing the few buildings in town around 1907 or '08.

Old Buildings Listed

Among them were John Bunn's wooden building which burned some years ago, located on the lot next to Bunn Electric Co., the Bank of Zebulon edifice, the old frame N. B. Finch store, Robertson and Nichols' store (now City Market), L. R. Temple's grocery, W. G. Cone's store (where Worth Hinton's dry cleaning plant is now located), the hardware store building, the old drug store (now occupied by Martin's Cafe), A. G. Kemp's store, and the old Zebulon Supply Store.

At that time from Martin's Cafe to the present bank building there were no stores at all, and there

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Town Board Votes to Drill Deep Well, Make Extension of Sewer

In their first official meeting, Zebulon's new Board of Commissioners ordered wells to be drilled immediately to replace the present water supply system of the town. The motion was unanimously passed after costs of operation and maintenance of the present system were discussed. Construction of sewer lines costing about \$4700 also was ordered by the Board.

Mayor R. H. Bridgers spoke strongly in favor of drilled wells as a source of water, telling of his

Cannery Contributions Returned to Donors By Local School Board

The Wakelon School Board, meeting Monday night, June 2, voted to return all funds given to the school cannery project, and checks were mailed Tuesday by Principal Roy Lowry to the original donors.

A total of \$699.04 was contributed by residents of the community during the 1944-45 school term for use in equipping a cannery in cooperation with a federal government project. The government, however, withdrew its support after the local community lived up to its part of the agreement, and after the county school board had agreed to assume part of the cost of construction and equipment.

Foods canned by the school unit were to be used, in part, in the school lunchroom. (At present the Wakelon lunchroom is cited throughout the state as an outstanding example of school cafeterias, and was selected last year by the State Board of Education as a model unit to be shown to the Finnish minister of education, then on an inspection tour of American schools.)

The local school board retained the funds for nearly three years hoping that the federal government might reverse itself again, but with no prospect of building the cannery in the near future, the decision to return the funds was made.

Six More New Homes In Zebulon Soon to Be Ready for Occupancy

Six new homes in Zebulon are nearing completion, and will be ready for occupancy in approximately a month. Exterior work on the Fred Beck residence and the R. L. Phillips residence, both on Arendell Avenue near the school house, has been completed, as it has on the Earl Horton home south of Zebulon on the Morpheus Bridge road and the Ferd Davis home on Sycamore Street.

The Baptist parsonage and the house being built by Riggsbee Massey next to the Sherwood Chamblee home on Sycamore Street have been stormsheeted, and are ready for brick veneering and weatherboarding.

These homes will make a total of 23 new houses completed within a one-mile radius of Zebulon since last June.

Masonic Notice

Special communication
Zebulon Lodge No. 609
Friday night, June 6, 8:00 pm
for work in the first degree

recent trips to neighboring towns which are supplied by wells.

According to figures given by the Town Clerk, cost of electricity to power the present system in Zebulon runs about \$170 per month. Chemicals cost the town \$70 monthly, bringing the actual operating expenses to about \$240 per month.

In addition, the Board was told, the 1,000 foot water line from the Little River pumping station to the water plant in Zebulon is so filled with sediment that immediate cleaning is necessary. Cost of this is estimated at \$1500. Many sections of the water line are above ground, needing to be reburied. The 2300-volt power line running to the river pumps is in a state of disrepair, requiring immediate attention.

Mayor Bridgers compared these figures with the operating costs of the Spring Hope system, which uses wells. That town, using nearly twice as much water as Zebulon, pays actual operating expenses of less than \$85 per month for electricity, has no chemical costs, and maintenance costs are practically non-existent.

If the drilling is successful and the wells put into operation, the Town of Zebulon will save enough in their operation to pay for the wells and new equipment within three to four years.

Engineer Gives Opinion

Mr. J. D. Davis of Durham met with the Board to give an estimate of the costs of four proposed sewer extensions which were approved by the old Board of Commissioners. Three of the four were reapproved for immediate construction. The fourth, which was planned to run from back of Phil-Ette Motor Company 1,100 feet along Highway US 64 to join with the county sewer line, was postponed indefinitely by the Board. Cost of this line was estimated at \$3,000.

The first of the three lines which were approved will run north along Arendell Avenue to the city limits, the second will go one block to Gill Avenue at the cemetery, and the third one block along Sycamore Street to the corner of Liberty and Sycamore. Costs will be about \$4700.

Bids for the sewer extensions will be accepted until 11 a.m., Monday, June 16, and the Board of Commissioners will meet Monday night to consider the bids and award the contract for the work, which should begin immediately thereafter.

Compensation Studied

The Board asked that a study be made of costs and benefits of workmen's compensation insurance for employees of the town, including the policemen, street workers, and firemen.

The tax rate for Zebulon was again set at \$1.85 on the hundred. After considering the necessary expenditures for the coming year, the Board felt that a reduction in

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Chamber of Commerce Organized Last Night; Fourteen Pledge Dues

The Zebulon Chamber of Commerce was officially organized last night when a group met in the Masonic hall to adopt a constitution and by-laws for the organization. Fourteen members were present at the meeting, and over three hundred dollars in membership dues was pledged for the coming year. Bob Sawyer, manager of Colonial Frozen Foods, presided.

The next regular meeting of the group will be held Thursday night, June 26, at 8:00.

The chairman called the meeting to order and temporary secretary Barrie Davis read the proposed constitution and by-laws as prepared and recommended by the constitution committee. Both were adopted without change by those present.

Committees Appointed

After the adoption of the constitution and by-laws, Sawyer appointed Ralph Talton to head a committee to solicit memberships from businesses. He named Raleigh Alford, Ed Hales, Avon Privette, R. H. Bridgers, and Vance Brown to work with him.

Purpose of the Zebulon Chamber of Commerce, as stated in the constitution, is to promote the civic, commercial, industrial, economic, social and general welfare of Zebulon and its surrounding communities.

Memberships for the Chamber of Commerce will be signed for the next two weeks. Associations, corporations and estates will pay \$25.00 per year, and individuals will pay \$10.00 per year dues.

To sign individual memberships he appointed Howard Beck, M. J. Sexton, Joseph Tonkel, Ferd Davis,

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W. L. Simpson Cites Good Neighbor Policy In Home Community

After preparing his land for transplanting his tobacco plants from the bed, last Friday morning, W. L. Simpson found that someone had robbed him of every plant in his bed. His land was ready—but he had no plants.

But friends and neighbors heard of his plight. Before half a day passed, they had given Mr. Simpson over 3,000 yards of plants. Although he is sorry to lose his plant bed to thieves, Mr. Simpson says he is more than happy to find that there are so many friends willing to help a person in trouble.

One colored friend, on hearing of the loss, told Mr. Simpson: "I ain't through setting my tobacco, but I got 200 yards and we'll both set on that till it's gone."