

The County Board Speaks

The Wake County Board of Education, which has consistently sought to perform its duties in a democratic manner, has been besieged this year for funds for buildings, maintenance, and teacher allotments for public schools, libraries, and physical education. The Board appreciates the need for additional funds, but hesitates to obtain these funds without the manifest endorsement of the people of the county. Yesterday the group issued a comprehensive statement covering the need for funds, and methods of raising the necessary money. The statement follows:

The Wake County Board of Education goes to the people of the County for supplementary requests in excess of \$100,000. Calls have come to the Wake County Board during the present school year asking the Board to call an election on the question of voting supplementary tax in Wake County Administrative Unit.

Additional Teachers

Practically all requests to the County Board are for additional teachers of music, health and physical education, librarians, and grade or subject teachers to relieve overcrowding of pupils in certain grades and subjects.

Total Requests Large

Specific requests furnished the Board of Education amount to \$117,000.00. Based on taxable valuation of approximately \$42,900,000.00 in the County outside the Raleigh Township School District, a tax levy of 2.7 mills or .27 cents on \$100.00 valuation would be necessary to provide the funds called for.

Board of Education Powerless

The Board of Education has no power to levy taxes. The County Commissioners have been called upon to levy taxes for building purposes and have responded with levies of .26 cents for the past two years. This levy has been divided equally between the Raleigh and Wake County Units. If additional levies are to be made for current operation, a vote of the people will be required.

Current Costs Up

During the past few years the County Commissioners have been levying .08 for Current Expense Items in the school budget, divided on a per capita basis between the Raleigh and Wake County Schools. Every effort has been made to keep school plants in good repair, but high costs of material and labor have made it impossible to meet the minimum needs.

Needs For Repairs And Improvements

The demands for repairs and improvements being made on every hand are not unreasonable due to the fact that there is a lag of about five years of such improvements. Funds for such improvements are fixed and constant, whereas, costs fluctuate and fluctuate upward all the time. The Wake County Board of Education has been working on a cash basis for seven years. During this period no money has been borrowed and payments on interest and principal of the school indebtedness have been made as follows:

Wake County	\$ 832,116.67
Raleigh Township	1,112,527.50
Total	\$ 1,944,644.17

People of County to Decide

In view of the facts briefly set forth above, it seems that the people of the County will have to decide the means to be used of going forward. There seems to be a 5-year accumulation of building needs to which must be added the normal needs for the next 5 years, making a total of 10 years' needs to be met within the next four or five years. In addition to building needs, the call comes for additional personnel to provide a program of education superior to the minimum provided in the State program.

Margarine vs. Butter

Southern farmers, especially those of North Carolina who must plant cotton instead of tobacco this year, view with regret and some little anger the action of the United States Senate in maintaining yesterday the prohibitive tax on oleo margarine. Small consolation can be obtained from the fact that the margin of defeat—twelve votes—was the smallest yet recorded against the measure, which would place southern farmers on the same competitive basis as northern and western dairymen.

There is not a man in our community who is not affected by this action. He who does not farm at least makes a living by trading with the farmer. Since we must plant cotton and soya beans in place of tobacco denied us by the Department of Agriculture, the price of cotton seed and beans is of great concern to us. If a fair basis of taxing the process of transforming them into margarine is developed, our economy will be considerably improved.

We have been taught that right is might and so shall prevail; but sometimes, as in this matter, there is unseemly delay in triumph of right.

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This, That and the Other

By Mrs. Theo. B. Davis

Twice this month I have heard our magnolia soulangeana called a tulip tree. It is the magnolia which blooms early in spring before any leaves come. The flowers are white inside and rosy purple outside, shaped somewhat like tulips.

The tulip tree is the yellow poplar which grows in this section.

There is—or used to be—a large one in the woods just northwest of our house. It bore hundreds of greenish-yellow blossoms after the leaves were about grown. These bear a marked resemblance to tulips. But a poplar tree takes lots of space and grows ever so large in time, so don't buy one for your yard, expecting to be able to reach the flowers. Unless you are a good climber.

The magnolia soulangeana blooms get frost-killed often here; but when it does have a good year, the tree is such a lovely thing one wants to keep it growing. It may be rooted from cuttings. At least, Mrs. Eger Massey has one she rooted; but Mrs. Massey has a "green thumb" and all of us may not be able to do so well.

Now that peach, plum and pear trees are blooming, you may take some sprays inside for your vases,

if you like, and your husband is willing. Loveliest of all are the blossoms of the pear tree, but it's better not to take any of them inside. If you do, you are liable to be sniffing around wondering what in the world has happened to or in your house. I can't understand why the pear develops such a peculiar odor. It never is apparent to me outdoors, but in a close place soon becomes almost unendurable.

When you want to do so many different things it may save time to let the breakfast dishes wait till you are preparing lunch and have to be in the kitchen anyway. The trouble is that on the days you do this some one is sure to come into the kitchen before you get it straightened; and you never do feel a caller is quite sure your house doesn't always look as it does when she sees it.

If you have more turnip greens than can be used right now, it might be a good idea to can some. It is easier than any other canning of vegetables and you can't tell the canned ones from what you pick fresh from the patch.

I read recently that educators have devised an alphabet with raised letters for use of blind

people who learned to read before losing eyesight. The letters are, of course, to be recognized by touch, and can be learned more quickly than Braille. I feel thankful that this has been done; for often have I wondered whether I ever should be able to memorize all those little pin-pricks that make up the alphabet blind children are taught. Knowing already the shapes of letters, I might be able to remember them, if blind. And that's a comfort.

Last Saturday in the Baptist church here hundreds assembled for the service held because of the death of Mrs. John Cawthorne. Pastor Mitchell chose as a part of the message from the Bible verses from the thirty-first chapter of Proverbs. When he read "and in her tongue is the law of kindness" I felt that the words might have been written especially for Mrs. Cawthorne. For twenty-four years we were either next door neighbors or less than a block apart; and in all of our much talking to each other I never heard her say an unkind thing about anyone. She knew far better than most of us how to "rejoice with them that do rejoice and weep with them that weep." This community is a better place because she lived among us.

Bjork's Tips

By Carl E. Bjork

David Livingston's birthday on the nineteenth of this month, and in the year 1813, causes one to reflect on missionaries and their missions.

Livingston could go; thus he went, and died.

Any number of people have been great, if not greater than the Hero of Africa but their lives were hemmed in, and they were content to pour oil into the lamps that others held.

There was Fred for instance. Once a month the church received a missionary offering. Practically all of the members gave something to express their faith in world-wide propagation of their doctrines.

Fred came always to the front of the church before the morning service. He reached into the clean unpressed blue trouser's pocket; he always brought forth a wrinkled paper store bag which bulged with its contents. This he handed to the treasurer or clerk.

That bag always held several scores of pennies.

Up on the scrabbly hillside set the farm where this man toiled and found a meager living. With-

out any modern conveniences, and less household comforts, he dwelt. All of his pennies secured by trade, or exchange, he stored away for the missionary Sunday.

It was a tremendous sacrifice.

No stone marks this man's last resting place but his monument is somewhere in human lives on this rolling sphere; in the memories of people who saw his offering given; in the enlarged efforts others of greater worth gave spurred by his gracious giving.

Fred was a companion with Livingston in Africa.

The sharp decline in the price of eggs this week recalls the high price that Fred got for his eggs during those days—18 cents per dozen.

They are getting down now to where school teachers can buy a dozen once or twice a month!

School teachers are constantly being called upon to "push"—I think that's the word to use here—practically every effort that is made to raise funds for worthwhile things. In Pilot School this year, I have been asked to take collections, sell stamps, promote

causes, and arrange programs for numerous good movements.

Being a public institution, the school is used through public servants to sustain public ventures. This is perfectly legitimate.

However every teacher I have known usually adds a liberal sum to these charities, besides the cheerful labor of verbal or physical prod.

The most uncovetous people, as a group, are public school teachers.

A covetous person is the lowest, meanest, ghastliest, most sordid, most rapacious, most penurious, most niggardly, most greedy, of all base men.

Pollock in his "Course of Time," pictures the covetous person in hell with the devil pouring melted gold down his throat.

Harold Wilkie, Farm Foreman at The Free Will Baptist Orphanage, near Middlesex, was telling me, on Sunday, about the divergent weather and its apparent effect on the general farm picture for the year.

It seems that the overly cool weather plus a too wet soil may retard, or even destroy, certain plantings, blossoms, or early

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With Other Papers

Unification of the armed forces is no nearer reality than it was a year ago. By statute the Army, Navy and Air Force are now under one cabinet officer, but all that has been accomplished so far is to inject another intermediary between the three services and the President as commander-in-chief.

The question of whether we should have unification is moot. Congress, after a somewhat emotional debate, has ordered it. The question now is whether it will bring the cohesive military policy claimed for it or whether hierarchy.

Secretary Forrestal seems well aware of the fact that the problem has not been resolved. This week he called a special meeting of the various chiefs of staff to delineate the responsibilities of each service, a necessary first step toward making paper unification a reality. If the chiefs of staff cannot agree, Mr. Forrestal comments, he will make the decisions himself as best he can.

We hope Secretary Forrestal will go even further. Implicit in the nature of this conference is a concession that the three services are still separate and are merely to "cooperate" under one head.

Yet there can be no true unification until the three think and plan as a whole.

It is not a matter of one service "swallowing" another. The task is to fuse all three. The initial step having been taken, there is no course now but to follow through. Otherwise there is danger that half-baked unification may cause factionalism among jealous services rather than lessen it.

We would like to feel there is plenty of time to make haste slowly. But common prudence warns us against too leisurely dalliance.—Wall Street Journal.