

Consider Children's Welfare

By Eloise Potter

It is very difficult to be impartial when a controversial issue such as school consolidation is placed before the public. Although I have long favored the consolidation of Wakelon High School with one or more neighboring high schools, I have tried to keep an open mind about whether combining two, three, or four schools would be best for the children involved. Please notice that I said *children*—not property owners, businessmen, politicians, teachers, or school administrators. When Attorney Foster Finch began publicizing a Wendell-Zebulon high school, I thought his plan had much to commend it. Certainly such a possibility must be considered and compared to the four-school consolidation favored by the Wake County School Board. Monday night in Raleigh Mr. Finch had an opportunity to present his plan to the board, but he refused to reveal the details because supporters of the four-school plan were present. He said that he did not want his plan "picked to pieces" before he could finish stating it. People from Knightdale, Wendell, and Rolesville agreed not to interrupt; but they asked an opportunity to give their views following Mr. Finch's presentation. Still Mr. Finch refused to divulge details of his plan. Several times Mr. Finch provoked laughter by calling the

board chairman "Your Honor." There was also some restlessness during legal hair-splitting by Mr. Finch and Philip Whitley of Wendell, but I sincerely believe everyone would have listened respectfully if the spokesmen for the Zebulon-Wendell consolidation had stated their proposal forthrightly.

I personally attended the county board meeting Monday night not only to hear what Mr. Finch had to say but also to find out what people from Wendell, Knightdale, and Rolesville had to offer in the way of criticism and other plans. Since county school board meetings are by law open to the public, I am sure proponents of other plans will be present whenever Mr. Finch and Mr. Philip Whitley finally decide to speak their pieces.

There has been much gossip in Zebulon about the meeting in Wendell which enabled Wendell, Knightdale, and Rolesville supporters of the four-school consolidation to decide on a tentative site for the proposed high school. The meeting was called only after Mr. Finch had indicated in a news story that people in those three towns did not want the four-school consolidation. The purpose of the meeting was to find out whether anyone did really favor the four-school plan and to agree on a site deemed worthy of consideration by the county board.

During the meeting in Wendell a few suggested that Zebulon be left out of the consolidation, but the majority believed that a Wendell - Knightdale - Rolesville high school would be no better than a Zebulon-Wendell school. A site too near Knightdale was rejected as being unfair to Zebulon. Rolesville people asked only that the school be placed, if possible, on the road connecting their town with Highway 64. Finally an area on the Billy Weathers' property just a little bit toward Rolesville from Martin's Center was agreed upon because it is not too far from the geographic and population centers of the four school districts and is thought to be on the route of the proposed relocation of Hwy. 64. According to my county map, the area is (on existing roads) 3.8 miles from Wendell, 4.3 miles from

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Banker Makes Agribusiness Tour

Agribusiness advances in Mississippi, Texas and Louisiana dramatize the challenge facing the Southeast in efforts to increase per capita income, Robert D. Massey, cashier of Peoples Bank and Trust Co. said.

Massey was one of 150 caravanners who saw last week how gains in farm efficiency, in the processing and marketing of farm products and in community, industrial and ports development are providing increased income opportunities for people in the Deep South and Southwest.

Johnston County Native Awarded PhD Degree from Lehigh University

The brother of Mrs. John Ihrrie, John Furnifold O'Neal, was awarded a Ph. D. degree February 1 from Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

He is a native of Johnston County, being born in 1926 in the Antioch community in O'Neals Township. He is the son of Mrs. Adolphus O'Neal and the late Mr. O'Neal. After graduating from Glendale High School in 1943, he received a B. S. degree in science from the University of North Carolina in 1960. While at the University he was initiated into Phi Beta Kappa.

He taught chemistry and biology



John Furnifold O'Neal

at the Berryhill High School near Charlotte for two years. In 1952 he received a Master of Education degree from the University. From 1952 to 1954 he was principal of the Efland Elementary School in Orange County, and from 1954 to 1957 he was principal of the Huntersville Junior High School in Mecklenburg County.

O'Neal enrolled as a doctoral candidate at Cornell University in 1957. As a graduate assistant in the School of Education, he helped supervise elementary student teachers for one year. In the fall of 1958 he was appointed as a part-time instructor at Elmire College, Elmira, N. Y., where he taught educational psychology and supervised elementary student teaching.

Beginning in September, 1959, he assumed duties as an assistant professor of education at Lehigh University where he taught courses in school administration and curriculum. Also at Lehigh he served as assistant to the head of the department of education and director of the summer sessions.

He completed all requirements for the Ph. D. degree at Lehigh in September, 1960, but this was too late for a September degree, so the degree was awarded to him in February.

He has been married five years and became a father on September 1, 1960.

Twenty members of his family attended his baccalaureate service and Mrs. Ihrrie was one of them.

The ZEBULON RECORD

VOLUME 36, NUMBER 21, ZEBULON, N. C., JUNE 29, 1961

Wendell-Zebulon Consolidation Plan Not Presented at Meeting

Tempers flared. Blood red faces addressed the medium.

Words flowed like hot white heat.

The air conditioning, however, purred gently in the ceiling of the committee room of the Wake County Schools Building in Raleigh Monday night.

Delegations from Wakelon, Wendell, Rolesville and Knightdale school districts were present for a mass meeting to discuss consolidation.

Attorney Foster D. Finch, spokesman for the Wendell-Zebulon group favoring the consolidation of the two schools, declined to present their side to the Wake

County School Board.

Finch said to Chairman of the County Board C. V. Whitley: "Your honor," (which got a laugh from the audience) "we didn't come here to argue but to present our proposal."

Finch described the atmosphere at the meeting as "hostile to our cause and we have a right to present our side without any heckling or agitation."

Chairman Whitley said: "We still don't know what location the school will be. It is still in the early stages of consolidation. Our plan is to consolidate the four schools."

Philip Whitley, Wendell attorney and ex-legislator of Wake

County, pointed out that the group was not given sufficient notice of the meeting to enable them to get everyone together to speak for their side.

It was indicated by the Zebulon-Wendell group that prominent educators were contacted to be at the meeting but were unable to be present.

Finch argued there was a vacancy on the school board not yet filled which meant they would have to present their plan all over again to the full board.

H. H. Eddins (Bubber) said: "Mr. Whitley, are you biased?" "I certainly am," replied Whitley.

Hardin Hinton, chairman of Wakelon School board, asked Wake County Superintendent Fred Smith if a meeting held June 1 was not to be a curriculum study meeting but turned out to be a meeting of talk about consolidation.

Hinton told Smith only the local school board was notified to attend the meeting, but when they got to the meeting there were delegations from the other three schools.

Randolph Hendricks, newly appointed Wakelon School board member, admitted he attended a mass meeting in Wendell of the schools of Wendell, Rolesville and Knightdale. He would not divulge, however, who invited him.

Mrs. Jack Potter urged that Finch present the alternate plan but it was not heard.

The Zebulon-Wendell group asked that they be permitted to give their side later in a better atmosphere, preferably on "home ground" with a full board present.

Chairman Whitley did not agree to such a suggestion, saying that the proper meeting place was in the Board building.

There were heckles from the opponents and Finch said no plan could be presented in such an atmosphere.

Many persons of the Zebulon-Wendell group felt they had won the round by postponement. No date was set for the next meeting.

Shortly before the end of the meeting the lights went out and because of the tense feeling some persons declared fear that high tempers would break out.

Popular Baptist Minister Dies Here on Saturday



The Rev. A. D. Parrish died last Saturday morning about nine o'clock at his home in Zebulon. He was discovered by his wife. Death was attributed to a heart attack.

The Rev. Mr. Parrish was recently released from Wendell-Zebulon Hospital and was recuperating at his home. He had walked out into his back yard when he was fatally stricken.

He was born December 5, 1900 on a farm in Earpsboro only a few miles south of Zebulon. He was the fourth of 10 children of the late Bryant and Elizabeth (Betty) Green Parrish.

In an interview for *The Record* in April of 1955, he said he felt the call to preach when he was 20 years old. He was licensed to preach in 1929.

Feeling the inadequacy of his meager education (he never finished high school), he began to take college work at Wake Forest College and Duke University. He never received a diploma from either school because he lacked a high school diploma.

He accepted his first pastorate in 1931, serving the Union Chapel

Church. Since that time he was minister of 16 churches.

From young manhood he was always vitally interested in religion. He began his religious work with his community church, Hales Chapel. His first sermon was preached at Hales in August, 1929.

More than 2,000 converts professed their religious faith under him during his ministry. And according to his records, he conducted more marriages and more funerals than any other minister in this vicinity.

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Hospital Notes

The following were patients at Wendell-Zebulon Hospital Wednesday morning.

White

Inez Wilson, Cabell Powers, Addie Winstead, C. B. Eddins, Zelma Pearce, Ruth Lewis, Milton Strickland, James H. Bunn, Mae Barham, Elaine Currin and Millard Strickland.

Colored

Pauline Himes and Naomi Montague.

Wendell Mayor Elected President Of County Mayors' Association

Wendell Mayor Ira H. Johnson has been elected president of Wake County Mayors' Association. He succeeds Ed Hales, mayor of Zebulon.

Other officers for the 1961-62 year are Dr. W. H. Justice, mayor of Cary, vice president; and W. G. Enloe, mayor of Raleigh, secretary-treasurer.

Members of the association, besides the above mentioned, are: W. R. Rand, mayor of Garner; S. L. Lane, mayor of Fuquay Springs; Ben Aycock, mayor of Wake Forest; George T. Rogers, mayor of Apex; E. F. Harper, mayor of Knightdale; Irving M. Gattman, mayor of Holly Springs; H. E. Perry, mayor of Rolesville; and J. H. Robertson, mayor of Morrisville.

The Mayors' Association meets once a month at the Raleigh Y.-

M. C. A. Opportunities, possibilities and problems of all the municipal areas of Wake County are discussed in view of a prosperous future and growth of Wake County, for the welfare of everyone.

New Secretary

Miss Billy Faye Privette, a June graduate of Wakelon High School, became Dr. Lee Sedwitz' secretary June 6. Dr. Sedwitz is surgeon for Wendell-Zebulon Hospital.

Miss Privette, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Billy Privette of Zebulon, will only be associated with the surgeon this summer. She plans to enroll in Watts Hospital School of Nursing in September.

Dance Saturday

Zebulon Recreation Commission is sponsoring a fund raising dance Saturday night from 8:30 to 12 o'clock in the National Guard Armory. Music will be furnished by the Rhythmaires Band for round, square and pop dancing. Doors will open at 7:45. Admission will be \$1 per person.