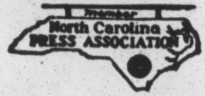


PERSON COUNTY TIMES



A PAPER FOR ALL THE PEOPLE

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News from our correspondents should reach this office not later than Tuesday to insure publication for Thursday edition and Thursday P. M. for Sunday edition.

THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 1941

In Our Time

Speaking editorially, the News and Observer on Tuesday commented on Senator Josiah William Bailey's Wake Forest commencement address as being "deeply religious" in that it contained "hope for peace in our time on (basis of) righteousness in our time."

Having ourselves read an advance copy of the Senator's address, we are, as is the News and Observer, prepared to agree, up to certain point with the Bailey pronouncement that material progress "has been accompanied by a moral deterioration of grave magnitude" in that our people have been "over-tempted and thoughtless, yielding up the spiritual and moral to ambition and worldly success. Still agreeing with the News and Observer, we cannot see where people in our time have been or are in any profound sense worse than were their fathers or grandfathers.

Granting in first place that there may be some question as to right of Senators and other politically public figures to assume commencement roles of preachers, priests and prophets, we would like to remind readers that public, and even private, morality is relative. We may assume that turn of the century citizens were more concerned with preservation of outward forms of piety than are their grandsons, but we do believe that there were in those good days many social sins, particularly with regard to economic servitude, which were then overlooked in the name of orthodox morality.

True it is that we now need whatever bolstering of moral strength we can command, but if the strength is to do us any lasting good it must come from an inward resolution suited to the demands of the day, and not brought over from the past for sake of the past.

Begging Day-To What End?

Survey of Monday minutes kept by our good friends the Person County Board of Commissioners reveals that chief business of the day was patient hearing of various petitions asking for increased appropriations for this, that and the other cause alleged to be vital to further economic and social prosperity and well-being hereabouts.

Slightly sarcastic, if not cynical remark of one of the officials present as to "where the money is coming from" indicates too well the Commissioners are up against what every official charged with "saving and spending" public money is up against, but we are deeply concerned that some way be found to get for Person County some of the items asked for.

One group of citizens of considerable responsibility approached the Commissioners "requesting and urging" the appointment of an Assistant Farm Agent for the county, an office that has since last year been vacant, following resignation of the efficient J. B. Snipes, called to service in better capacity in Wilkes. It was by the group pointed out to Commissioners that Person County expense for an Assistant will amount to at least \$600 per year.

Also heard were delegations or committees requesting funds for schools, for library work and for health and welfare programs in Person county, as well as for NYA and for settlement of the problem of Roxboro Community house, the last two mentioned being solved on the spot by granting for NYA a slight increase in monthly appropriation and by arrangement with Community House trustees to rent the Community House for county purposes at so much per month, subject to approval of a lease to be drawn up by the county attorney.

It is understood that something will be done about the proposed budgets for the County Library set-up, for the schools and for the welfare-health service, but main question here, as with the Assistant Farm Agent job, is what and how much will be done?

We believe sincerely that citizens who are aware of needs for improvements in Person County's public service know that commonsense must be exerted in adjustment of the 1941-1942 County Budget so that there will be harmonious relationship between income and outgo, but we no less sincerely believe that economy for the sake of economy alone is too expensive to be justified. In other words, if employment of an Assistant Farm Agent will enable our farmers and their

families to make more money and to be better and more useful citizens, it is poor economy to let \$600 dollars stand in the way. On same basis, if appropriation of \$500 as an additional sum to the Welfare Department's fund for tuberculosis and hospitalization will reduce illness and deaths among us, it is false economy not to find the cash somewhere, and if our children need better library and school room facilities, it is bad business not to give them as much as we are able to give.

We do contend, however, that the Commissioners or any other public body placed in similar position will proceed with caution for saving which should be shown, until they are informed in no uncertain terms by community leaders and by citizens generally that certain budget provisions must be met with in interest of Person County's financial, healthful and intellectual progress.

The 1941-1942 budget will soon be made. Not all requests can be granted, but those of pressing necessity should be and citizens who care should consult with the Commissioners and County officials before it is too late. They should not only consult with them but should when possible offer ways and means to secure funds required.

Honor Where It Has Not Been

We were this week profoundly pleased by recognition accorded at commencement exercises at Woman's College of the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, to two public school teachers long in service as instructors of youth in this State.

We rather doubt if Miss Queen Carson, of Asheville, is well known in Person county, or that more than a few of us are acquainted with Raleigh's Mrs. J. M. Barbee, but that is not the point to honors conferred upon them. Nor should too much emphasis be placed upon the exact pedagogical meaning of the honorary degrees conferred.

They were "Doctors of Education" long before they became so by public pronouncement and there are in our cities, towns and hamlets many others as deserving of recognition. Even so, we are pleased that two servants of a system more frequently generative of petty jealousies and political fusses have been accorded recognition more generally reserved for those who consider themselves higher up in education circles.



Far From One-Sided

Durham Morning Herald

We are ready to believe Tom Bost, Raleigh representative of The Greensboro News, has heard it noised around that certain persons, including members of the board of trustees of the University of North Carolina, would like to see Dr. Ralph McDonald, associate director of the extension division, disciplined by the trustees for his political cavorting.

We are just as ready to listen to Mr. Bost' theory that those who would like to see Dr. McDonald disciplined will decide, when the time comes, that he clipped his own wings, so to speak, when he pulled so hard for the Reynolds boat in the national committee-manship race.

Finally, we are ready to listen to the point of Mr. Bost's paper, The Greensboro News, that if the university administration, including the trustees, is cornered over and wishes to examine into Dr. McDonald's title to his position and pay, it might measure his labors in behalf of university extension against his political extension.

But granting all of that, just how clean are the hands of the doctor's political antagonists, the university administration and all who may have stones to cost?

Who, after all, hired Dr. McDonald, for what, under what circumstances and why?

The position Dr. McDonald holds was created when he was hired. It was created on the motion of, or certainly with the consent, of officials of the State and of the university administration.

If promises concerning political activities were asked or given, no one has admitted as much but all principals have entered denials. Any way, if such pledges figured in the employment, the question "who is qualified to cast the first stone" is pertinent.

So, responsibility for whatever devilment attached to the enlistment of Dr. McDonald extends to the hirers as well as the hired and until and unless the "off with his head" boys embrace that starting premise, their yelling is as inappropriate as any political venturing they assign to Dr. McDonald.

In short, the hirers knew what they were doing and made their own choice. If they are surprised it is evidence of their own dumbness.

CANDIDATE;

By H. W. Thomas, of Edenton

The News and Observer

To the Editor: I give you nine-year-old David Braswell, a happy faced, blue eyed foundingling in the Oxford Orphanage and hailing before that from the mountains of Western Carolina, near Tapecho, if you are searching for a real fifth grade history of this noble State to supersede the rather blundersome one friend Jule Warren missed out on.

Take one item from the boy's diary of a recent singing class visit to Manteo—"there were some stones found about the Lost Colony but they were only stones."The Saturday Evening Post used 12 full pages

and paid Boyden Sparkes \$2,500 for telling less. The boy has it in him.

Fifty or more years ago when I was a kid beyond David's years I became fed up on Bible stories upon which I was reared and finding "Oliver Twist" one day stuck to it in horror until I had finished. Oliver and The Artful Dodger and Fagan and Nancy Sykes have me creepy since about orphanages. They have always seemed hateful places to me, and my sympathies have ever gone out to the tykes within their walls. But David has disillusioned me. He was in Edenton the other night with his singing class compatriots, none over 12 years, and along with Robert Holliday, who was orphaned near Raleigh, stayed at the hotel here.

A pair of bright, wholesome youngsters they were, smiling all the time and happy as larks. No Fagan or Nancy had ever laid it on them. They missed nothing with their eyes and forgot nothing that went in their ears. David was the most talkative and I talked with him.

Every night before going to bed, and they had been "on the circuit" steadily since March and had another month ahead of them before getting back to Oxford, they described the towns they had been in each day and the hospitality showered upon them. David's diary was a wonder. I offered him a shining new dollar for it in the selfish thought I could get a real story out of it, but he spurned the bid. It was complete, more so than many elderly historians could tell of the State. No detail seemed to have been missed.

Three From This County Graduate Monday Morning

Greenville, June 2 — One hundred eighty one seniors including Walter Rogers and Alice Humphries of Woodsdale and Annie Willkerson of Roxboro, walked across the stage at East Carolina Teachers College this morning to receive their diplomas from President Leon R. Meadows and have conferred upon them the degree of Bachelor of Arts. Most of these were June graduates but a number had completed the work for the degree either in December or in March.

This closed the commencement activities of the college, which had begun Friday night with the dance for seniors and alumni and continued through Alumni Day on Saturday, recital of the music department on Saturday night, commencement sermon by the Reverend S. L. Blanton of Wilmington on Sunday, the Y. W. C. A. - Y. M. C. A. vespers, service Sunday evening, and the commencement address by Edgar

G. Doudna, secretary of the Board of Regents of Normal Schools of Wisconsin, before the graduating exercises on Monday morning.

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Get Ready For HOSPITALITY WEEK It's Coming Bigger And Better Than Ever Before. INVITE YOUR GUESTS NOW June 22nd - 28th A GRAND OCCASION Teas, Dances, Picnic, Parades, Parties.