

CORRESPONDENCE. THE ELECTION

Sir.—It was with interest that I read the letter from Mr. S. Tombe regarding the non-political part played by the "Teesdale Mercury" in the recent County Council Election.

How could the "Mercury" do otherwise than be strictly impartial on the campaign when there was nothing to write about? No public meetings were held so that electors could hear the views of the two candidates. All we had to guide us was an election address circular compiled by the successful candidate and a similar circular compiled by the party bosses of the unsuccessful candidate.

There was one thing in particular that I did notice about these two circulars. One was printed locally, whilst the other was printed at Ferryhill. Whilst acknowledging the fact that those printed at Ferryhill were paid for out of party funds it did not prevent those responsible from placing their printing in Barnard Castle. I would remind those concerned that there are three good printing firms in this town.

If one desires local support then surely one must support local industry.

Whilst on the subject of Elections I observe there are 24 nominations for the 12 seats on the Urban District Council. I trust these candidates will personally tell us what their views are at a public meeting. Let us both see and hear them. I do not know some of the nominees and I have lived in Barnard Castle for a good number of years. I cannot be expected to vote for someone I do not know anything about.

I hope those elected will well and truly serve the town and keep party politics out of local government.

The problems of local government ought not to be dealt with on a party basis but on their merits. A situation in which members of two or more parties meet in private caucus before Council meetings and decide what they are going to do on each item on the agenda makes discussion in the Council Chamber meaningless.

There can be no party point of view on whether a particular road needs repairing or not; or whether an extra public lavatory is needed; and so on and so forth.

These should be matters for national agreement quite apart from any party affiliation.

Let us have the town governed and our interests looked after by those with a genuine desire to do so and not by those who desire to serve any political party.

So come now, you prospective candidates, let the electors see and hear you in some public hall. Tell us what you are prepared to do for the town. Tell us what you think about local problems concerning the town and its citizens.

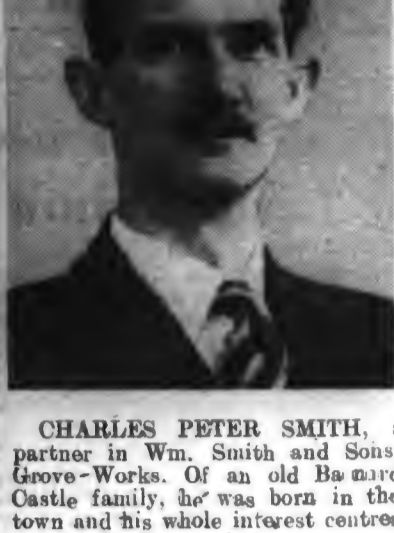
If you want my vote you will have to win it.

Yours, etc., VULCAN.

URBAN COUNCIL ELECTION

THE CANDIDATES

COUNCILLOR F. HUCK took up Council work when he retired from being an assurance superintendent, after 30 years with the Prudential. Has been on the Council s.x years. is vice-chairman of the Council this year; has been chairman of the Works Committee and vice-chairman of the Sanitary and Housing Committee. Has devoted most of his life to public welfare. Was chairman of a Darlington Hospital Committee before nationalisation. Chairman of the Bowls Club. Supports all sporting activities. Is a regular Methodist local preacher.



CHARLES PETER SMITH, a partner in Wm. Smith and Sons, Grove-Works. Of an old Barnard Castle family, he was born in the town and his whole interest centres around it. To acquire training and experience as a mechanical engineer worked at Sunderland and Bedford. Has been actively associated with Grove Works since 1934. A founder member of the Rotary Club. He was his treasurer for seven years. Has been chairman of their International Com.Lttee and is the present chairman of their Community Service Committee. Offers himself as an independent pledged to look after interest and welfare of Barnard Castle.

NORMAN JACKSON. A very young candidate making his first attempt in local government affairs. Joined staff of the late Mr G. Clarkson Harker after attending Barnard Castle School, later qualified as a chemist in 1955 after studying at Sunderland Technical College. Served in the army and after demobilisation returned to Barnard Castle, now acting as manager for well-known firm of chemists. Is a member of the Chamber of Trade, a member of the Allotment Holders and Gardeners Committee. Advocates campaign for increased tidiness in Barnard Castle and additional public amenities.



SAMUEL TOMBE contested the Durham County Council unsuccessfully as official Labour candidate. Native of Northern Ireland. Was educated at Belfast Technical College, later serving apprenticeship as engineer. Served with the Royal Navy and after demobilisation was with the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co., joining the staff of Glaxo Laboratories Ltd. in 1947. Taken very active part in local affairs and ex-servicemen's organisations. Departmental representative on Joint Advisory Council where he is employed. Is chairman of Barnard Castle Labour Party, has been constituency vice-president and played prominent part in the two last General Elections.

JOHN MARQUISS is a native of Barnard Castle and was educated at Bishop Auckland Grammar School. During the war he served in the army and saw service on European front, attaining the rank of sergeant. He is a leading member of the Barnard Castle Operative Society and is associated with ex-servicemen's associations in the town. Employed by Messrs Glaxo Ltd. as a skilled process worker, and has contested the U.D.C. Election in 1949. A Socialist candidate.



JOSEPH WILLIAM WATERS came to Barnard Castle in 1911. Saw service in the last war with the Royal Engineers in Italy, Greece, and the B.L.A. For ten years a Clerk of Works for the War Department. A member of the British Legion and the Ex-Servicemen's Club, being a committeeman and for two years secretary of the latter. His knowledge of the town and his ability must make him a sound choice in an area where housing and the welfare of both young and old are points of necessity. A Socialist candidate.



ARTHUR EDWARD EASON, who is well-known locally as the hon. area secretary of the National Savings Committee, which covers an area of 40 square miles, again offers himself as candidate. A native of Kettering, he has been in Barnard Castle since 1942 and married a local girl in 1944. Has been active in public affairs since released from army in 1946. Was for five years the benevolent secretary of the British Legion, dealing with pension and welfare cases for local people. A very prominent public speaker for the Conservative cause and is an active worker and member of Congregational Church, being a local preacher. Member Operative Society and on the Joint Advisory Committee of Glaxo Laboratories, where he works as a skilled process worker. Stands as an independent.



A. M. HARVEY submits his name before the electorate as an independent. He was a member of the Council 1946-49. Has lived 10 years in the town and displayed a keen interest in most local activities. Has been secretary of the British Legion is the president and founder of the Burns Club, and is listed as a registered speaker for the Burns Federation. Was until recently chairman of the Town Band for two years during the period they reorganised and was mainly responsible for the New Uniform Fund. Contested his first election in 1938 and was elected to a Ward Committee of Gorbals, Glasgow. Has broadcast on traffic and transport problems and lectured extensively on local government problems. Is 42 years of age.



ROBERT RAITON. Mr Robert Raiton has a long association with the dates and is a man of many interests. During the war he was an Assistant County Staff Officer in the A.R.P. Organisation. He is a St. John's Ambulance Instructor, a vice-president of the Divisional Liberal Association, and is well-known as a local preacher, holding several offices in the Newgate Methodist Church. Other voluntary activities include youth club work, Glaxo Sports and Social Club, the Gardeners and Allotment Holders Association, and Chairman of the local branch of Toc H. His responsibilities during the war, years required great organising ability and his wide experience as a lecturer and local preacher has helped to make him an acceptable public speaker well able to express his views on a platform and in committee. Naturally his varied activities have brought him into contact with people of all classes and given him a first-hand knowledge of many problems confronting the public today.



GEORGE WRIGHT resided in Maryport in West Cumberland until 18 years old. Before the war he was employed by a multiple firm of grocers and worked for them in several towns in Cumberland and Durham, Northumberland and Yorkshire. He served in the H.L.I. during the war. He is now employed by the Darlington Co-operative Society in the Barnard Castle branch. At present the secretary of the Barnard Castle Labour Party. A Socialist candidate.

COL. W. I. WATSON, T.D., one of the outstanding personalities of the town offers himself for election. Was until his retirement last year commanding officer of the 6th Battalion D.L.I. Has been associated with the D.L.I. all his life and was on active service throughout the war. Is Deputy Lieutenant for the County of Durham and until the recent reorganisation was an elected representative of the town on the Board of Trustees, Bowes Museum, for many years. Was chairman of their Finance Committee. Among his many activities: Chairman Advisory Committee, Y.M.C.A., Clerk to the Ancient Select Vestry, Clerk Governors Barnard Castle School, Foundation Manager of the old C. of E. Schools, Governor of Bowes Grammar School, Lord in Trust of Mayor of Bowes, Vice-president D.L.I. Association, member British Legion. Of an old Barnard Castle family, his father and grandfather were on the Council.



ROY WATSON, well-known Barnard Castle sportsman, seeking re-election after serving the town as a councillor for a number of years. Elected chairman of the Council in 1949. Recently elected treasurer of the Cricket Club for 21st successive year, and is a former captain and vice-captain of the club. Old Boy of Barnard Castle School, and church choir member. Is a farmer and cattle dealer with a comprehensive knowledge of the town, particularly from the agricultural standpoint.

We regret that no pictures were available of Councillors Huck and Watson and Mr C. E. Eden. The photos of Messrs G. A. Carter, H. E. Raine, R. Holroyd, N. Jackson and Roy Watson were specially taken by Mr Leslie Greenbank, Horse Market.



GEORGE ARTHUR CARTER. Prominent member and former chairman of the Urban Council on which he has served for the past eighteen years. Was the president of the reorganised Cyclists' Meet which raised a large sum of money for the improvement and development of the Demesnes as a sports centre. Keen supporter of the activities of the Teesdale Billiard League and Amateur Football Club. A Barnard Castle businessman, known throughout Teesdale, who has always taken a leading part in the Council debates.



ROBERT HOLROYD was a candidate at the 1949 Urban Council election when he failed by a small number of votes to secure a seat. Native of Staundrop, spending major part of his life in West Hartlepool before coming to Barnard Castle six years ago. Served in the army for six years. Former chairman of Barnard Castle Chamber of Trade, Rotarian and member of the Operative and Dramatic Society and a founder member of the local Barmer Club. Very keenly interested in the development of the town, in which he acts as manager of a catering business.



JOHN HENRY LAMB. A local employer of local labour also contesting his first election. A Colchester man who began as a farmer, served in the 1914-18 war and in the Home Guard, and after incorporating timber sawing in his work took over a Barnard Castle timber business. Takes an interest in the Chamber of Trade and S.W. Durham Chamber of Commerce. Mr Lamb contests the election at the request of numerous electors, believing that it is the duty of every citizen to endeavour to devote a portion of his time to local government.



GEORGE W. WILKINSON. Aged 34, was born in Barnard Castle and educated at Barnard Castle School. On leaving school he joined a local firm of chartered accountants. During the war he acted as secretary to the Auction Mart and Butchers' Association, taking a prominent part in the organisation of sales with the local N.F.U. which resulted in many thousands of pounds being handed over to the British Red Cross Association. He joined the Accounts Staff of Messrs Glaxo Laboratories Ltd. soon after its commencement at Barnard Castle and has taken an active interest in the Sports and Social Club, of which he is an honorary auditor and secretary of the football section. Mr Wilkinson, who is a member of the D.L.I. Association, and has served in various capacities on the committees of several local societies is well-known as an organiser of sporting and social events.

What kind of town do you want? ALL CANDIDATES are invited to express their views at EYE OF POLL MEETING, WITHAM HALL, 7-0 p.m., MONDAY, MAY 5th.

All the people of Barnard Castle are invited to submit questions to the Candidates.

A free, independent Meeting, organised for the Benefit of the Town. Tell the Candidates what you want. You won't get another chance for three years.

Chairman: EDITOR, Teesdale Mercury. Timekeeper: R. H. ALLEN, Esq. (Messrs Youngs, Jewellers).

Bring Your Questions Listen to the Candidates.

PARISH COUNCIL NOMINATIONS IN RURAL AREA.

Unless any candidates of their own nominations, the elections in several parishes local parish councils. For time since the inception bodies who administer local the election will be by ballot, as previously, by hand.

The nominations so far are: Cookfield (9 seats): John Bell, West End (retired police sergeant); Close, 2, York Terrace (retired); Eva Eliza Deighton, 1, Houses (housewife); Ethel, 9, Mostyn Terrace (housewife); Frederick Linton, Church (schoolteacher); George Linton, 10, Bleak Terrace (miner); Frederick Nodding, Street (retired overseer); Russell, 12, Fell House (retired); Jack White, From (miner); Thomas Cyril V. Mayfield Terrace (miner).

Eggleston (9 seats): Robert Brigham, (farmer); Frederick Clark, Terrace (retired naval officer); Thomas Robson Davison, (farmer); Joan Howard, Patch (householder); Isaac (retired); Gordon Bank (retired); Thomas Moore, (farmer); Edward Smith, (schoolmaster).

Etherley (11 seats): John Balmer, 21 Edge Hill (mechanic); Wilton Hill Hill (miner); Bertie Berechurch, High Etherley (retired engineer); Doris Horne, 8, Etherley Bank (retired); John William Madge, Quarry Heads (retired); Thomas Maddison, 8, (retired grocer); Harry Osborne House (retired); John Riddeman, 115a, (retired worker); Thomas Stephenson, High Etherley (proprietor); Walter Sheehy Etherley (hus driver); William Sutton, Toft Hill (retired); Thomas Edward High Etherley (insurer).

Evenwood and Barony (10 seats): Herbert Hope Hall, (farmer); Robert Isaac Oaks Bank (grocer); James The Oaks (shop assistant); George Stokold Alpine (gardener); William T. (retired); Charles W. (retired); Farncombe Terrace (miner).

Toft Hill Ward (3 seats): William F. Brown, (farmer); Home Farm, Windmill (farmer); Norman Summerbell, (farmer); Fred Rushton, (farmer).

(Continued in Page 5.)

J. MILNER (Packing Station) 64, Calgate, Barnard Castle.

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