

Hertford County Herald

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FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 1923.

PUBLISHING TAX LIST
GOOD BUSINESS

Fixing tax rates, always directly dependent upon the amount of taxable property listed, will soon become the business of county and municipal authorities. The better plan, for advertising purposes not to mention the always to be desired truthfulness in the tax books, is to place a true value upon property, real and personal, and keep the tax rate as low as possible.

Why people should raise such a howl about high taxable values cannot be accounted for, unless it is for a lack of understanding; ignorance, if you please. High values produce a low tax rate; low values make for a high rate; and the actual amount of taxes paid in is not affected in either case.

Aside from that feature of tax listing time, there is another problem more serious than the average value—that of getting all taxable property on the lists. Real estate, although it cannot be hidden or stuffed away like personal effects, is often allowed to go untaxed, for the reason that the lister cannot be expected to know the boundaries of every parcel of land in the township. Of course, he needs to be on the alert always, but, like other ordinary human beings, he cannot see all and know all.

In that case, if the taxpayers who make no effort to deceive, and they are in a vast majority, would report to the lister any real estate unlisted, the just taxpayers are in line for a slight reduction.

Equalizing values is the bone of contention, and the one real grievance of the conscientious complaining taxpayer. So long as man administers the affairs of state there is bound to be more or less inequalities. Boards of commissioners do not make any pretensions to infallibility; the unequal values will always be there in some slight degree at least. How to decrease them to a minimum is one of the big jobs of the supervisor, and the final arbiter, the board of county commissioners.

Out in Minnesota, an admirable plan has been in practice, and, according to the Monthly Bulletin of the National Editorial Association, the result has been that taxes have been equalized. It is in short the publication of the entire personal property list.

Commenting upon the law in that State, the Long Prairie Leader says: "It is the best system possessed by any state in the union and has done much to secure better assessments, finds taxable property and check up tax dodgers."

"During the month of May when assessors were at work, the Leader received many calls for copies of its issue calling for the personal property tax lists from citizens who wanted to check neighborhood assessments and tell the assessor what they knew. Doubtless

OFFICE CAT



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Do they read the HERALD? I say they do!

Lawyers questioning Hertford County freeholders at Winton last week vouch for that latter exclamation. Out of 118 persons asked "Do you read the Hertford County Herald?" 114 answered "yes", another said he subscribed to it and had it read to him, and the other three did not subscribe. And, why not?

Ninety-some-odd votes don't mean a thing out of a total of 300. My municipal ticket is still undaunted, expects to win the election, and ain't going to stop at nothing short of making Ahoskie streets "safe for jitters." Candidate Rosh Askew (all hail the Mayor!), lifelong pedestrian, expects to soon ride in the Ford-wagon of triumphant democracy.

The Black Cat Quartette has already been engaged to help in the gigantic celebration planned for the victors. Another peculiarly tasteful delicacy for the celebrants will be the meat of those "regular candidates" who will be trodden under foot on May 7th. All together for the CAT line-up now!

I would discuss the "regular" line-up; in fact, I have heard enough dope going the rounds to fill this here column more than one time with readable stuff. My close proximity to one of the "would-be's" has hedged off my running gab on the convention nominees. I'm leaving that to the vote solicitor and rumor spreader.

My ticket has announced its platform—one big platform, "Service at any time, night or day". I hereby call upon, solicit, and cry aloud for the plank, planks, shingle, or what not the other crowd expects to support them in this election.

One of my biggest disappointments of 1923 was to stand by at that Coast Line train Tuesday morning, to see that Ahoskie "Fresh Meat" pull out for the hot sands of New Bern. In a way, it was a sad occasion, to look upon those half-smiling, half-grinning bunch of fellows who face the ordeal outlined and lying in wait for them at New Bern.

The sailor must have spent a night Quite wild, to judge afar; He looks a wreck and so no doubt. He struck a hidden bar.

A high brow magazine says that Thomas Edison says "That he doesn't care what time it is." We wonder if he'd be interested in a second hand dollar watch. We've got one that orta suit him.

Those Dainty Dresses
"Pardon me. Did you drop your handkerchiefs during the dance?"
"Oh! I'm so embarrassed! That's my dress."

Definition of a Giggle: That rattle of a lonesome thought in an empty brain.

Man comes into this world with nothing on him, but, according to Sam Applebaum, in a short time everybody has something on him.

With regard to Mr. Harding's ambition to break the solid South, Lawyer Johnson says he'd like to remind him that the boll-weevil has been trying to do it for 15 years.

Dewey Cherry thinks the typist who wrote 149 words a minute and

many others laid away their copy of the list when it came and in May and June used it for the same purpose. There is little question but that the publication of the personal property tax list, thereby giving publicity to the work of assessors, is having a helpful effect in securing better assessments."

carried on a conversation at the same time had nothing on the young lady who powders her nose, chews gum, sings, talks, fixes her hair and writes at the same time."

Not At All
Somehow I always disliked Debs, You know, of course, I mean, I like most of the women folks— But cannot see Eugene!

A bootlegger tells the CAT that when he was siezed with the gripe it kept him in longer than when he was siezed with a suitcase.

In a city you are in danger of being run down by autos, and in a small town you are run down by gossips.

Prosperity will come when men watch their work instead of watching the clock work, according to J. Bailey Barnes.

Mind Vs. Matter
I know a giddy girlie Who dresses like a whizz. And though her mind's not oft made up, The rest of her sure is!

The Old Way Is Better
Now comes the news that in several states on the mainland marriage by radio has been declared illegal.

We can easily see that there would be confusion in the broadcasting of the marriage ritual. By listening in, we might hear something like this:

Minister—do you utu-dah-dah-ta-tahadtadah Eloise lch take this prunes closed firm to be your Texas Gulf Oil preferred 34 bid 36 lawfully wedded titmouse and wood-chuck fable by Millicent Muddle?

Answer—Shake a little shimie on the shoes of Kakkakoo."

Minister—Do you, Clarence, snap-snap-snap-buzz-click take this bedtime story by Kenneth Knee to be your lawfully wedded Sousa's band in new and novel program?

Answer—Good bye, Tootsie, good-bye.

Minister—I pronounce you McKinley high school glee club in songs and instrumental music.

If there's a well-matched pair in married life, it's a horsey man and a nagging wife.

Rosh Askew says he wonders if the earrings the girls wear nowadays are used for stakes to show where their ears are.

G. C. Britton says that whenever a school ma'am turns up her nose and draws down the corners of her mouth at the suggestion of going to a hot dog stand after the show, it's a safe bet that she's been out of college at least ten years.

Springtime says a woman is never too old to make a fool out of some boob.

A father blames pool rooms for his son's downfall when he should blame himself and his own neglect to hold woodshed father and son meetings with the boy.

Sam Vaughn says he who laughs last is usually last to get the joke.

You can explode a theory and you can nail a lie, but you can't drown a rumor, because it floats, thinks Cy Kology.

Dewey Cherry says a newspaper was considered the best source of information and then the woman's club was instituted.

The world over, the most enlightened and progressive agricultural districts are found where livestock provides one of the chief sources of income.

By the fireside still the light is shining, The children's arms round the parents twining, From love so sweet, O who would roam? Be it ever so homely, home is home—MULOCK.

FRESH MEAT WILL
TAKE CONSISTORY

Ahoskie sent up another bunch of candidates for the 32nd degree of Masonry this week. They are Jas. L. Crawford, Dr. L. K. Walker, R. H. Jernigan, J. N. Vann, J. L. Sawyer, T. W. Sears, A. M. Browne, and Roger B. Johnson. These eight men left here Tuesday morning for New Bern where the Eastern Temple is located.

Before they finish with the ceremonial, they will be put through all of the antics attendant upon these occasions, and will emerge from them full fledged Shriners. There are already several Shriners in Ahoskie, and other sections of Hertford County; and talk of a local organization has been started.

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