

# The Journal-Patriot

INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1934

The letters A R C stand for American Red Cross. They stand also for Annual Roll Call. Let us make them mean that in this community All Residents Contribute.

Senator Huey Long wants a two-year debt moratorium in Louisiana. Maybe he doesn't know it but lots of people seemed to have made their own moratoriums, although they are without legislative sanction and do not appeal to everybody, especially the creditors.

Pre-eminently the Red Cross believes in people. It sees them at their finest and best, in the times of tragedy when human nature rises to its highest level of unselfishness and endurance. Because of this contact the Red Cross waits and works for the time when people will be as generous all the time as they are some of the time.

American Red Cross membership dollars are still keeping the promise made to American men who went to war. You as a member are still ministering to the needs of those for whom the war has not yet ended; you are helping his family, his children; and through your membership you are also serving all American sailors at sea and all soldiers, marines or coast guardsmen wherever their parts or posts may be.

### Erosion Control Plan

The plan for soil erosion control outlined in the meeting at Wilkesboro Saturday morning is especially appealing, in view of the fact that it must be conceded that washing away of the soil must stop if farmers are to have a half chance of succeeding.

Although we have not studied the plan closely it looks good on the surface and if there is nothing better we can get we should adopt it. It has become a matter of first importance that the soil be conserved on the farms of Wilkes County.

This is not fanatical raving but the results of study—not by such infinitesimal efforts as ours would be—by the best minds of the country. When we consider that erosion takes away seven times as much plant food as a growing crop we can readily see the importance of erosion control.

Trying to farm successfully on mountain slopes without some system of erosion control is just like sitting on a limb of a tree and sawing it off between where you sit and the tree trunk. The results are the same—downfall. Terracing the lands means making permanent ridges across the slopes at such angles that the water will drift slowly and not wash very badly. On the steeper slopes terraces should be close together in order that they would not be overfilled.

But terracing is not enough. The proper crop rotation will help and putting the steeper land into trees or pasture will help greatly. There is comparatively no erosion of plant food on good sod and forest lands.

A farmer may say that his steeper lands are the best he has for growing crops and he needs to grow corn on the slopes year after year. Soon he will find that the steep slope that was a fertile field will be a labyrinth of unsightly gullies and the land "will not sprout peas." Would it not be better to pasture these steep slopes and improve the better laying land for crops? In improving the more nearly level lands he will be doing something that will be more permanent and isn't security in farming his aim?

The erosion control plan outlined in Monday's Journal-Patriot is worthy of deepest thought. It is what the state of Alabama is using successfully and the federal government is recommending and backing up. If it is what we need the farmers should respond readily and get busy on the sign-up of at least 2,000 acres to be terraced.

### On State Affairs

In the past two years North Carolina has witnessed two stormy sessions of the general assembly and unless our predictions run amiss there will be another beginning in January.

As usual, the biggest fight will be over the question of taxation. It has been truly said that we like one kind of taxes. That being a tax on the other fellow and that we hate taxes we have to pay ourselves.

Without favoring or condemning any taxes we have we can truthfully say that the system of taxation is far from perfect but legislators should have perfection as their aim in raising revenue. In commenting on the tax question the Greensboro Daily News makes the following timely comment:

The long and short of it is that we shall have, D. V., another long parliament of discussion of the sales tax as the text and all other taxes incidentally. The returns as they have been analyzed at Raleigh indicate that opposition to the sales tax will be presented as distinctively a Republican contribution, but it will hardly be disposed of summarily on party lines, as any other paramount proposed by so small a minority would be.

We have had the whole ground gone over at length once and again already. Taxation is the toughest nut for politics and economics to crack; North Carolina cannot have too much attention devoted to it, provided that attention will assay a reasonable proportion of good, hard thinking, of honest and industrious study.

It is a subject that will never be disposed of finally; but the more it is debated by honest men and women capable of some actual contribution to the truth, the nearer we shall be to the formulation and adoption of basic principles that will help in all the future. The old bases of tax policy are shot to pieces. All this struggle is one of reconstruction and addition.

This state cannot operate without a vast amount of revenue but it is generally conceded throughout the world that it is time to call a halt on rising taxes and seek all reductions possible. Only in this way can a tax revolt be held off.

### Sunday School Lesson

By REV. CHARLES E. DUNN

THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH MEMBER

Lesson for November 18—Matt. 5:13-16; Golden Text, Ephesians 5:30

The average layman does not take his religion very seriously. Church membership is often little more than a badge of respectability. It represents little appreciation of the Christian society as a world brotherhood permeated with the spirit of the Cross. Too many Christians think of their church as a club of congenial folk safely distant from the firing line.

Much of the weakness of our church life is due to the absence of sturdy, intelligent laymen and laywomen willing to shoulder burdens instead of pressing them upon the frail body of the minister. Too often the poor clergyman is compelled to play a lone hand.

It goes without saying that Christians should attend public worship, not expecting always to be inspired, but eager, by their personal presence, to strengthen the cause of organized religion. John Adams felt that four institutions are indispensable to a people's liberty, the town, the church, the school and the militia.

In addition the Christian should enter into common worship with genuine heartiness. Many attend their church with no thought of the contribution they can make to the beauty and inspiration of the service. They go simply to be helped themselves, and are aggrieved if the minister has an off day. What a different atmosphere would be created if folk entered God's house not simply to be fed, but to feed!

Then the Christian should give generously of his means toward the support of the Master's work. How many of the laity are thoughtless and parsimonious in their stewardship? God indeed do they sacrifice something they already desire in order to help their church. A good working rule is to give 10 per cent of one's income to church. To do this requires careful planning, but it is rich in intangible reward.

### Borrowed Comment

A PLEASING SELECTION  
(Morganton News-Herald)

The governor acted quickly and, we think, wisely, in filling the vacancy caused by the death of Dr. A. T. Allen when he named Clyde A. Erwin, of Rutherfordton, as state superintendent of public instruction. The appointment will meet with general approval, especially in this section of the state where Mr. Erwin is so well and favorably known. The new superintendent brings to the place so many special qualifications that it is confidently expected that his administration will be outstanding in educational advancement for the state. He has the enthusiastic interest of youth coupled with valuable teaching and administrative experience. The son of a Methodist preacher he was literally "raised" all over the state and has a broad acquaintance with the people and the educational needs of North Carolina. The schools and the teaching profession will have a fine leader in Clyde Erwin.

Tugwell is making such a success in the comparative obscurity of the farm conference in Italy that he may be kept there.—Indianapolis News.

### This Week In Washington

**Building Enthusiasm**  
Washington, Nov. 12. (Auto-caster)—The biggest noise in Washington just now arises from the enthusiasm over the plans of the Federal Housing Administration to go ahead at full speed with the building of millions of new houses all over the United States.

Under the first section of the Housing Act some 30,000 individual loans have been made by banks and other lending agencies for home modernization. These are instalment loans made by private capital under a Government guarantee against loss. The banks have welcomed them partly because of the guarantee and partly because there is a net yield of nearly 10 per cent profit in them.

**The Second Step**  
Now the second part of the plan, or organizing national lending associations and encouraging existing institutions to finance new building at 5 per cent on long term mortgages, with the same Government guarantees, is being started. Whether it will get under way as fast as the modernization loan part of the plan is still uncertain. The Administration, however, will put all the pressure possible behind it, bent upon three objectives.

First, it wants to get workers in the building trades back to work as soon as possible.

Second, it wants to induce private capital to come out and do some work as soon as possible.

Third, it wants to reform the whole "mortgage racket" and establish an entirely new national system, under which nobody will have to pay more than 5 per cent interest on mortgage loans.

This home-building program is very close to the President's heart. If it works as hoped, it should put many, many billions of dollars into circulation and relieve the unemployment burden as nothing else has done.

**Planning Public Works**

Next on the Federal program for consideration when the new Congress meets is a much bigger and broader scheme of public works than has yet been announced, financed partly by Government loans to localities, partly by direct Government grants of money. The theory is that if the Government spends a billion dollars it will create four or five times as much business, with consequent real work for the unemployed. Nobody knows yet, because the Administration's plans are not complete, how big this new Public Works program will be. There is talk of "five billion a year for five years," but that is only talk thus far.

How to do this and keep on with the other lines of work in which Uncle Sam is spending money, without resorting to currency inflation, is keeping some of the financial and economic experts awake at night. There has been, of course, a great inflation of credit, worked by the same system that was used during the war. The Government sells its bonds to a bank, taking a deposit credit on the bank's books for the price paid. The bank then can, in turn, when in need of currency, "hock" the bonds with the Federal Reserve Bank and get brand-new Federal Reserve notes, which in effect, have nothing back of them but the Government's promise to pay, represented by its bonds.

**Central Bank, In Effect**

So far the above system has not strained the Government's credit very much, if at all; partly because of the huge gold reserve. It has, however, created a new and more intimate relationship between the Treasury and the Federal Reserve Bank system, amounting in practice, though not in name, to a central banking system such as prevails in most European countries.

As a result of this wide extension of the Treasury's sphere of influence, some Washington folk are beginning to call Secretary Morgenthau "Minister of Finance." Mr. Morgenthau seems to be growing more and more the President's chief reliance, certainly in financial matters. Donald Richberg, head of the Federal Emergency Council, also has the President's ear and his advice is listened to. Of the other Federal executives, the most in favor appear to be Harry Hopkins, relief administrator; Secretary Ickes, who runs the PWA and is also Oil Administrator, and Miss Perkins, Secretary of Labor.

**Leveling Out Policies**

The Administration's relations with organized labor are beginning to show signs of shifting. The Federation of Labor is not pulling such a strong card as it seemed to be a few months ago. There is tendency toward conciliation of labor disputes, which was not apparent last Spring. A noteworthy example is the ease with which the troubles between the unions and the Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company were adjusted. Less emphasis is now being placed by the Administration up-

on the importance of raising wages and prices, and more upon the desirability of selling goods at prices that will move them and putting and keeping people at work at the best wages industry can afford, under depression conditions, to pay.

The new NRA Board has done little that is spectacular. Washington misses the "comic relief" that General Johnson furnished. On the surface, at least, it looks as if serious and practical business men were exercising a good influence. At any rate, in the NRA and in all the rest of the Federal agencies and departments there is much less of the "Hurrah, boys, let's go!" enthusiasm that marked the first year and more of the present Administration, and more thoughtful, sober-minded consideration of ways and means.

The outlook now is that there will be much more wild talking and impractical enthusiasm displayed on Capitol Hill when the new Congress meets than will be heard from the Executive departments.

### Aged Slave Passed Away November 11

Sherman Tugman, Slave Of Fair-Plains Community

Sherman Tugman, who was 85 years of age and was a slave for 12 years before the war between the states, died at his home at Fairplains Sunday.

The aged man was well known among his race and many had gathered frequently to hear him tell of by-gone days.

He leaves the following family of children: Nannie Ferguson, Freeman, Roscoe and Robert Tugman, Ellen Hays, Ethel Mae Williams, Arthur, James, Mabel and Grover Tugman.

Funeral and burial services were held Tuesday at Pleasant Hill Cemetery with Rev. Carlton in charge.

### SIX FATALLY BURNED IN BLAST OF POWDER

Avalon, Catalina Island, Calif., Nov. 12.—Six men were fatally burned and two others critically injured by searing flames when 7,500 pounds of blasting powder became ignited at a rock quarry on the southern end of the island today.

The valve of a crop rotation with legumes has proven valuable in Alexander county where corn yields have increased from eight to 60 bushels an acre since the work started.

### Bargains — Bargains — Bargains

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MODEL T FORD SEDAN	\$19.00
CHRYSLER SEDAN	\$69.00
DODGE SEDAN	\$69.00
FAST 4 DODGE SEDAN	\$89.00
1929 MODEL A FORD ROADSTER	\$99.00
ESSEX COUPE	\$89.00
1930 MODEL A FORD TOURING	\$149.00
1930 PLYMOUTH COUPE	\$149.00
1930 MODEL A FORD COACH	\$199.00
1928 MODEL A FORD TRUCK	\$ 99.00
1931 MODEL CHEVROLET	\$199.00
CHRYSLER 65 SEDAN	\$199.00

## Motor Service Store

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### To Conduct Meeting At Friends' Mission

Services Will Start On Sunday Evening And Continue For Several Days

Rev. Gurney E. Laws, pastor of the Friends Church, will begin a series of evangelistic services at Friends' Mission on Sixth Street Sunday evening at seven o'clock.

Services will be held at the same hour each evening for several days. The public is invited to be present at each service.

### To Stage Beauty Contest On Friday, November 23

On Friday night, November 23, a beauty contest will be staged in the Wilkesboro school auditorium. The contest will be produced by Ted's Productions and is designed to be a most interesting event. Further announcements will appear later.

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