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 INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1940

The Unwelcome Guest

A former official in the United States Treasury was recently quoted to the gloomy effect that government is about a twenty per cent partner in all business. In other words, government through its power to tax has made itself the fifth member of every company's board of directors, the silent partner, the unwelcome guest who eats off the extra plate that is set for each meal by every family in the land.

It's a discomfoting thought: that one out of every five dollars earned by the sweat and toil of average Americans everywhere goes automatically to government. And the more the evidence in the case continues to pile up, the more it begins to look as though any revision of the Treasury official's estimate will have to be in an upward direction.

Now a careful study into the tax situation conducted by the state of Wisconsin puts more of the real and painful facts on the table.

The Wisconsin study shows that in 1938 the 7,800 corporations in that state paid \$112,158,743 in taxes to various units of government, and that those taxes represented \$20,606,913 more than those same corporations earned as a result of their business operations. In other words, when John Smith establishes his own business these days, in the interests of accuracy, the sign on the door ought to read as follows: Government, Government, Government, and Smith, Incorporated.

The same type of survey could probably be repeated, yielding the same or even more disquieting results, in almost every state of the union. It points once again to the flood-like ravages of wasteful government spending. And it shows forcefully how the productive abilities of this country are being turned away from the job of providing goods at low prices in order to pour taxes, taxes, and still more taxes into the insatiable maw of government.

A Bad Start

The king of destroyers, fire, is on the rampage again.

During the first two months of this year, according to the National Board of Fire Underwriters, direct fire loss was about \$14,000,000 higher than in the same period in 1939. If that ratio should obtain for the balance of the year, the increase would be close to \$90,000,000, bringing the total loss to around the \$400,000,000 level. And remember—the indirect loss caused by fire is estimated at three or more times the direct loss. Lost jobs, orders, business of all kinds, are just as serious as burned buildings. Most serious by far is fire's toil of human life, running to 10,000 in an average year.

What causes fires? A few are caused by incendiaries, though their toll has been much reduced in late years due to unremitting efforts of prosecuting authorities and fire prevention groups. A few are unavoidable. And the balance, which includes the great majority of all fires, are caused by the average man—people like yourself. They are the tragic fruits of human carelessness, human ignorance, human indifference. They represent sheer and inexcusable waste of lives and resources.

Fire prevention isn't the other fellow's job. It's your job—your neighbor's job—everybody's job. The seeds of fire undoubtedly exist in your home and your place of business, waiting for the spark that will spell disaster. We can stamp out fire—but we can do that only if all of us cooperate in fighting it.

Next time you read of a home burning, reflect that it might have been your home. Next time you hear of someone meeting a horrible death from fire, think that you or a member of your family may be on fire's future list of victims. Then ask yourself this question: Is fire prevention worth while?

Catching Diseases in Children

Everyone knows that such children's diseases as measles, scarlet fever, whooping cough, diphtheria, mumps, and chicken pox have early symptoms which are quite similar and not very different from the beginning of an ordinary cold and sore throat. An article by Dr. B. E. Washburn in The Progressive Farmer emphasizes the fact that the germs of these diseases are

spread not by things but by persons—through discharges from the nose and throat, and in no other way. Says Dr. Washburn:

"All the diseases are contagious as long as the child is evidently ill or as long as there are discharges from his nose and throat. "A thing to be remembered is that disease germs are not carried in the air, but are scattered in saliva and sputum (spittle). It is very doubtful if any disease is spread through dust; even if a germ could cling to a particle of dust it would quickly perish of cold or light or from drying. But when we sneeze or cough we usually spray the surroundings with droplets of saliva and unfortunate persons who are nearby may be given an infection in this way. When common drinking cups are used, or pencils or food swapped at school, saliva containing germs may be transferred directly from mouth to mouth.

"Parents owe it to the community to isolate a child upon the first appearance of a simple cold, since no one can tell in the beginning whether this may be a forerunner of measles, whooping cough, scarlet fever, or other diseases. Teachers, of course, should send home a child who has suspicious symptoms, otherwise the remaining pupils may be exposed to the danger of a serious infectious disease.

"All cases of catching disease should be reported to the local department of health so that the public health authorities may know of their presence and assist the parents and the school in preventing the spread of the infection."

More Skill, More Money

It is an accepted tenet of economics that the ability of labor to secure the training needed to transfer from crowded and low-paid occupations to those less crowded and better-paid tends to increase the national income. When workers of energy and capacity must continue in low-paid common labor because of inability to secure training requisite to entering higher-paid callings, the national income tends to be decreased.

Occupational mobility of labor is of increasing importance in a dynamic economy in which new discoveries are continually creating new vocations, many of which involve technical training. Education in the past has assisted in thinning out the overcrowded ranks of unskilled labor by increasing the proportion of workers in skill and professional occupations. Its contributions in this area in the future should and can be made far more effective. This vital economic responsibility is recognized by many leading economists.

Says Fairchild, Furniss and Buck in their "Economics":

"To remove the obstacles which pen the mass of people within the lowest income classes we must rely upon education and vocational training. When a large section of the population is underpaid it is not because the economic function they perform is of little value in itself. On the contrary the labor of society's machine-tenders, clerical workers, and even unskilled laborers is indispensable in the sense that the productive system would collapse if these functions were not rendered. The fault lies, not in the vocation, but in the number of people who occupy it. Any policy whose effect is to reduce the numbers in the low-wage groups by transferring some of them to less crowded occupations will raise the lower incomes and reduce the higher, at the same time increasing the average."

For Successful Farming

The University of Kentucky College of Agriculture made a study of outstandingly good farmers to find out the factors which make for success in farming. The Progressive Farmer reports the following summary of the answers:

1. Since control of expenses is easier than control of prices, successful farmers reduce costs. They produce the most at the smallest cost.
 2. Good farmers also use limestone and phosphate.
 3. They grow winter cover crops on plowed land.
 4. Seed mixed clovers and grasses.
 5. Grow enough vegetables, meat, milk, and eggs for home use.
 6. Keep 40 per cent of tillable land, other than bottom land, in pasture.
 7. Purchase only concentrated feed that can't be produced on the farm.
 8. Keep enough cattle and sheep to use all hay and pasture, and enough hogs to eat all the corn not needed for other stock.
 9. Do or supervise all labor themselves.
 10. Do work on time.
 11. Have fencing and stock water adequate for all fields to be pastured at the right time.
 12. Successful tobacco growers give special attention to curing.
 13. Dairy farmers who succeed, cull, select, and feed for high production.
 14. Those who raise sheep provide small grain pasture, house and care for their flocks.
 15. Hog raisers follow sanitary methods in feeding and farrowing, save most pigs, and push them through to early market condition.
- Each reader might like to ask himself this question; check up and fill in his answer: "Of these 15 approved practices of successful farmers, the number I practice on my farm is"

Legion to Give Medals In School

Wilkes Post Has Interesting Meeting on Friday Night; Activities Planned

The April meeting of the Wilkes county post of the American Legion was held in the Legion-Auxiliary club rooms on Friday night, April 5th. The meeting was called to order by Commander Nelson. The invocation was given by Chaplain Gordon Finley.

The local post was pleased by the report that Miss Ina Lee White, of the Ronda high school, was the district winner of the Eddie Cantor Scholarship contest. In the regional contest held recently Miss White was third.

The Legion went on record as favoring the Girl Scout program and will be pleased to render such aid as may be possible to the local council.

A committee was appointed by the chair consisting of W. J. Bason, A. G. Finley and W. P. Kelly to investigate the work of the Boy's State and report at the May meeting of the post.

The Legion is again sponsoring the school award medal. One school award medal is to be given to a boy in each accredited high school in Wilkes county who excels in courage, honor, scholarship, leadership and service. The medals are to be presented during the graduation exercises of the schools by the Americanism Committee of the Legion, of which W. D. Halfacre is chairman.

Service Officer Andrew Kilby reported that a Wilkes County Veteran had recently suffered the misfortune of losing his home and its contents by fire. Anyone who has an extra bed or bed clothing is requested to please call Mr. Kilby at the Yaddin Valley Motor company and he will be glad to deliver same to the Veteran.

To Hold Student Nurse Examination

The United States Civil Service Commission has announced an open competitive examination to secure student nurses for employment at the St. Elizabeth Hospital (Federal Institution for Treatment of Mental Disorders), Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C. Applications must be on file with the Commission's office at Washington, D. C., not later than April 29 if received from States east of Colorado, and not later than May 2, 1940, if received from Colorado and States westward.

The hospital offers a 3-year training course for the student nurses, and pays them a salary of \$288 a year with quarters, subsistence, laundry, and medical attention. Those who satisfactorily complete the training course and receive certificates of graduation will be eligible for promotion to positions on the nursing staff, if vacancies are available.

Applicants must have been graduated from an accredited high school giving a 4-year course upon completion of at least 16 units, including certain units of English, mathematics, science, and history. Senior students now in attendance in their last year of high school will be admitted to the examination under certain conditions. They must have reached their eighteenth birthday but must not have passed their thirtieth birthday. These age limits will not be waived in any case.

Full information may be obtained from the post office in this city, or from the Secretary of the U. S. Civil Service Board of Examiners at any first- or second-class post office.

Young Democrats of Fuquay Springs, in southern Wake county, are sponsoring a little "Green Pastures" convention for one day next month. All of the candidates for state office have been invited to attend. They will be fed free, but the rest of the folks will have to pay for their barbecue.

Passing on curves and hills is dangerous practice. After you are caught at it, it may be too late.

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Bethel News Items

RONDA, Route 2.—Mrs. J. T. Triplette, who has been seriously ill at the Hugh Chatham Memorial Hospital at Elkin, for the past week, is some better, we are glad to note.

Quite a number from here attended the funeral of Mrs. C. L. Morrison held at Jonesville Baptist church last Sunday afternoon. Mrs. Morrison, a resident of this community, numbered her friends by her acquaintances. She was much loved with her Christian spirit, kind and friendly personality, being always ready to lend a helping hand where she was needed. We extend much sympathy to the bereaved family.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Stroud of Wilkesboro, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Armstrong and Mr. and Mrs. Louis Ferlazzo, of Winston-Salem, were here last Sunday seeing relatives and to attend the funeral of Mrs. Morrison.

Mr. and Mrs. N. E. Burchette had as their guest the past weekend their daughter, Mrs. Jesse Church, Mrs. Sam Price and Margaret Church, of Greensboro. Mr. and Mrs. Martin Green and children, Gladys, Mary Ann and Jack, visited Mrs. Green's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Durham, last Sunday at Swan Creek.

Mr. and Mrs. Feinster Morrison, of Greensboro, came up to be at the funeral of their grandmother, and visit his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Morrison.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Stroud were the guests of her sister, Mrs. Carl Rose and Mr. Rose, of Arlington, last Sunday.

Miss Elizabeth Longworth, of Roanoke, Va. is visiting her cousin, Miss Mary Lou Mathis, here this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Newman and Mr. and Mrs. Jay Myers spent last Sunday here with Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Morrison.

Mr. and Mrs. T. N. Green visited their daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Finney, and family, last Sunday, of Jonesville.

RONDA, Route 2.—We have just learned of the death of Mrs. C. L. Morrison, a well beloved woman of this community. Funeral services will be held at Jonesville Sunday at 2:00 p. m.

The many friends will regret to learn of the serious illness of Mrs. J. T. Triplette, who is at the Hugh Chatham Hospital at Elkin.

Mrs. Lillie Holloman is very sick at her home here, we are sorry to note.

Misses Ruby Faye Hurt, Nancy Tharpe, Grace Dean Bentley and Vivian Blackburn of Ronda,

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was the guests of Miss Kathleen Gilliam last Tuesday night. Mrs. W. A. Stroud, of Wilkesboro, was here last Wednesday to be with relatives and her cousin, Mrs. Triplette, who is ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Jones visited his aunt, Mrs. J. B. Armstrong in Winston-Salem, last Sunday evening.

Mrs. Jones Vanhoy, of State Road and Mrs. A. P. Woodruff, of Boonville, spent a few days here last week with their mother, Mrs. W. A. Pardue, who has been confined to her room with illness for the past two weeks.

Mr. G. F. Pardue and family visited his sister, Miss Emma Pardue, who is being treated at the hospital at Elkin.

Garden club members throughout the state are every much interested in Candidate Maxwell's proposal to establish nurseries at all of the prison camps for the propagation of native flowering shrubs and trees for beautifying the highways.

Hot weather has retarded the 1940 terracing program in most of the counties in the State, says H. M. Ellis, Extension agricultural engineer.

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