

THE WARREN RECORD

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THE QUESTION OF TAXES

There can be no question more vital to the interests of the people of this State and of Warren county than the question of public taxes. In this day of many and varied taxes; of taxes for schools and taxes for roads, taxes for bonds, taxes for pensions, taxes for every public enterprise, either directly or indirectly laid; the question of a fair and just assessment is one of the highest importance. We believe that the tangible, the visible property now bears more than its share of taxation. The farm, the cow, the horse, the pig, the dog, the House hold and Kitchen Furniture cannot escape... The Railroad and the Corporations cannot escape with their property. But the evidences of wealth in the form of notes and mortgages escape their fair share, if not their entire share of the burden.

"For every evil under the sun There is a remedy, or there is none."

We believe we have a remedy—a simple and just remedy by which the tangible as well as the hidden property may be put upon the tax books, and the rate on all property lowered. It has been an amazing thing to us that year after year the men whom we send to represent us in the Legislature "march up the hill and down again," and leave the burden of the taxes upon labor and not upon wealth.

Our Remedy

We have stated it in previous issues of the RECORD and we again call the attention of our people to its simplicity and to its practical value.

We would have in the office of the Clerk of the Court a book or register in which shall be entered the name of each party holding a note or other evidence of credit, the amount of such credit and the name of the party making the note. For instance:

John Brown holds the note of Peter Smith in amount of \$150. Now John Brown has persuaded himself that this note of Peter Smith's is of doubtful value; that he may not pay it, and that the security may die or burn up, or become worthless. Therefore when the tax assessor asks him to list his notes, he is SO SURE of the worthlessness of Peter's note that he fails to list it. The note comes to maturity and PETER PAYS IT. \$150. of justly taxable property has escaped taxation. Now John Brown has no right to be the judge of Peter Smith's solvency to the extent that he shall fail to give the note in for taxation; he alone should not be the judge of its value. The County Tax Assessor and the Board of Commissioners should have the privilege of passing upon said note, and only upon sworn testimony that he regards the note as worthless shall he be allowed to exempt it from taxation, and evidence of its payment at any time in the future, shall automatically list it for taxation. Every item should be listed—all notes, mortgages, bonds, stocks and every item now classed as invisible property shall be so listed. The penalty of failure to list shall be 25 per cent of the face value of the note, and the suit shall be brought in the name

name of the County Tax Assessor, one half of the penalty to go to the school fund and the other half to the maker of the note. This plan will not work a hardship to any man who desires to pay his just part of the burden of civilization; his just part of the benefits and protection of law and order. It will enable the rate to be made lower on all real property and should save much ill feeling brought about by the knowledge that invisible wealth is escaping taxation.

"For every evil under the sun There is a remedy, or there is none"

This book of record (open only to the Tax Assessor and Board of Commissioners) is the remedy (with a heavy penalty for failure to list) for this evil of invisible wealth escaping taxation. It is right that wealth should pay its full share of taxes. The Cow, the Sow, the Dog, the Horse, the little Home, the wife's Sewing Machine should not be taxed unto death, and other wealth because of lack of machinery to bring it to light escape taxation. Simple justice demand this, and should be content with nothing less.

HIGHWAY COMMISSION

The bill creating the Highway Commission goes into effect the 1st of April. The following citizens have been named in the bill as members thereof: Nutbush, John W. Dowling; Smith Creek, J. A. Meeder; Hawtree, Dr. T. J. Holt; Six Pound, J. M. Coleman; Judkins, W. R. Vaughan; River, T. D. King; Fishing Creek, C. S. Tharrington; Fork, John S. Davis; Shocco, June Clements; Sandy Creek, S. J. Pritchard; Roanoke, H. L. Wall. There is a provision in the Act that will automatically place Warrenton township on the Board by a majority vote of its present local Commission. The Highway Commission has charge of all roads of the County (Warrenton township excepted until it "comes in"). This Commission takes the place of all local boards; it handles all finances, lays off all roads and has the duties and powers now belonging to the Board County Commissioners in respect to roads, Ferries and Bridges. It has charge of the Convicts and works the County under the unit system. Of course all local taxation for bonds must be applied locally, but it is expended under the direction of the Highway Commission. With an effort to get convicts from adjoining counties a large force for working the roads could be built up. BUT, in the opinion of the editor of THE RECORD the first expenditure of money should be for road drags and the division of the county in patrol districts and have each patrolman responsible for the good order of his district. These districts not to regard township lines. The National Highway between Oxford and Durham is under charge of patrolmen who have commendable rivalry, as to who shall keep up the best district, taking into consideration the character of soil and original roadbed.

WELCOME TO OUR GUEST

Warren Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, will be host to a District meeting of the Order which will convene here today. Among the high officials of the order who are expected to be present we name: Mrs. Noland Knight, Grand Matron, Ashville, N. C.; Mrs. Mary C. Whetherly, Grand Secretary, Franklinville, N. C.; Mrs. Sallie Boettcher, P. G. M., Elizabeth City, N. C.; Mrs. E. B. Gay, of Jackson, N. C.; Mr. R. L. Brown, Supt. of the Orphanage, and Mrs. Brown; Mr. John J. Phoenix, of Greensboro, Sect'y-Treas'r. Eastern Star Home; and the "Goat," Mr. L. W. Alderman, so pleasantly known to the Masons of the State as Conductor of the Singing Class of the Orphanage. Of course Warren Chapter is proud of the honor of having the Grand Patron, Prof. J. Edward Allen, and the Grand Organist, Miss Ethel Chandler resident members, and also Mrs. R. J. Jones, District Deputy Grand Matron. Out of town members are cordially invited to be present, and are expected. The doors of the Chapter will be opened at 3:30 Friday afternoon. The work of the Chapter will be under the direction of Mrs. Sallie Boettcher, so pleas-

antly and gratefully remembered as having instituted Warren Chapter.

Warrenton and Warren Chapter extend the hand of fraternal greeting to its guest, with the sincere wish that your stay among us may be pleasant—and that among your remembrances of the evening may be the grace and skill exhibited by the gentleman from the historic town of Oxford as he—strokes with tremulous fingers his goat-horn.

SHALL WOMEN VOTE?

The trend of opinion is in that direction. The old idea that "Men shall work and women shall weep," as the only natural aptitude for life's work is a thing of the past. We are producing a bill drawn by Mr. Gallatin Roberts and introduced in the Legislature. It is not a full suffrage measure. It is merely a local option bill allowing the citizens of a municipality to say whether or no they are willing for women to participate by their ballot in local affairs.

The Democratic party in St. Louis Convention went on Record favoring equal suffrage, but leaving each State to be the judge of the question within its own border. In our opinion Mr. Gallatin Roberts has taken the right view of the matter. There is not one single argument against female suffrage. If we can trust them with our babies, surely we can trust them with our ballot!

ANNOUNCEMENT EXTRAORDINARY

The high cost of paper and other material needed in the production of an eight page all home print newspaper caused us to advance the WARREN RECORD to \$1.50 per year. This was a business necessity. The announcement we make on our front page is a pleasure, because our subscribers will reap the benefit without additional cost. We are going to send you from eight to ten pages each week; BUT we are going to send you half of the quantity on Tuesday and the remainder on Friday. That is to say, we are converting the WARREN RECORD into a semi-weekly. In this day of progress we are not going to lag behind—we are going to give our readers every advantage possible by keeping in touch Semi-Weekly with the news whitt it is news.

It will mean more work for our office force and some additional expense; but it will be worth it to know that Warren county folks have the privilege of bragging a little bit on the enterprise and worth of their County paper—whether they subscribe or not. We are going to do our part in giving you the best, served to you in the modern way. We believe that our readers will appreciate it.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES

We note with interest that Hon. S. G. Daniel has been placed upon the following House Committees: "Banking and Currency"; "Constitutional Amendments"; "Election Laws"; "Emergency"; "Finance"; "Judiciary No. 2"; "Public Roads and Turnpikes"; "Revision of the Laws," and Chairman of "Regulation of Public Service Corporations."

THE GAME LAW

The Game Law for Warren has not changed in any respect except to extend the season from February 1st to March 1st—making it one month longer.

We were please to see Mr. Norman H. Johnson, editor of the MERCHANTS JOURNAL & COMMERCE, of Richmond, Va., in town this week. He was here on the sad mission of attending the funeral of his uncle, Mr. W. T. Johnson. Editor Johnson is a native of this town who has made quite a success in the Journalistic field, and his friends here rejoice in his success.

SPECIAL

Have you read the Literary Digest for last week. If not get a copy and read of the conditions of the Belgian children.

A special collection for these children will be taken at the Episcopal and Methodist churches next Sunday night, and at the Baptist church Sunday morning in Sunday school. Come make your contributions liberal.

W. T. JOHNSON

W. T. Johnson has gone from among us. The summons came to him at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Md., last Saturday night at nine o'clock. That it found him with his lamp trimmed and burning no one who knew him doubts. His life and his example of a just and upright citizen is a benediction to the community. A man cannot live in one community and pass three score years in daily contact with that community without writing large upon the pages of life to be read of all men letters of living achievement—be it in the service of his Master and in business, or in the service of the Evil One. We only pass this way once, and whatever may be our service to mankind it is our service, and from that service is made up the measure of good or evil by which we are judged. Mr. Johnson served diligently and well, and making the wise choice in early life he served his Master and his fellow-man. No man has passed from among us leaving behind him more abundant testimony that he lived in the love and esteem of the people of Warrenton and Warren county. In all probability Mr. Johnson (although not old in years, being sixty-two next May) was the oldest native of the white race in this town. There are men and women residing here older, but they were not born here. Mr. Johnson lived and spent the years of his pilgrimage in the town of his nativity and among the people he loved.

In early life he married Miss Nannie E. Tarwater and they were the parents of Mrs. Norfleet Thomas, now of Hollister; Mrs. John Brown, of Oxford, and Miss Sadie Johnson of Warrenton. She died and Mr. Johnson married Miss Bettie Hall, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Hall and left three beautiful little girls, Elizabeth, Lucy and Willie Hall, who with their mother are bowed in grief over the passing from mortal view of a devoted husband and father. Mr. Johnson was a faithful and devoted member of the Church, and a faithful and devoted member of Johnston-Caswell Lodge of Masons. Lodge night found him in his place with the brethren who loved him for the beauty of his character and far the broadness of his charity.

His widow and the body of Mr. Johnson were met by the Master of the Lodge and other friends including the Rector of Emmanuel church at 3:00 o'clock Sunday night at Norlina and accompanied to Warrenton. Monday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock the funeral service of the Episcopal church was held in Emanuel church in the presence of a large number of his friends, including many members of the colored race who had received many acts of kindness at his hands. "In as much as ye have done unto the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto ME." The Altar and Casket were banked with lovely flowers—mute testimonials of the affection of many absent friends and tributes from Johnston-Caswell Lodge and friends here. His body was tenderly laid away in Fairview Cemetery Monday afternoon to await the "resurrection of the body" in the sweet bye and bye when he and his friends and loved ones will "know as we are known" in the Celestial City.

The Record voices the heartfelt sympathy of the community for the family of Mr. Johnson in this hour of bereavement, and can but point to the life of service and right living as an incentive and as a solace in this hour.

We trust a sketch of Mr. Johnson's activities may be written for the RECORD that the story of a life so nobly lived may be preserved for the emulation of those who may follow along the Pathway of Life.

WISE ITEMS

Mrs. J. R. Paschall, of Richmond, has been spending several days among her relatives and friends at Wise the past week.

Although dark and rainy thirty-nine members of the Wise B. Y. P. U. and many others came out last Sunday night to listen to the program prepared by group one on the subject of "The Christian Inheritance." The program next Sunday will be in charge of group number two, and the subject is "Missionary Planning for 1917."

Invitations are out for a party to be given at the home of Mrs. Hayes by Miss House and Miss Beasley. About thirty young people have been invited.

Do not forget the recital and oyster supper to be given at the schoolhouse on Friday evening Feb. 2ud.

The Sewing Circle met last Wednesday night with Miss Mattie Hicks. Miss Mabel White has been visiting Miss Annie White at Mr. C. C. Perkinson's.

Mr. Robert Williams has returned from Townsend, Georgia.

Mrs. S. A. Tudor, of Norlina, spent Monday night with her mother Mrs. P. H. Perkinson.

WARS OF THE ROSES

The first War of the Roses was a bloody one of thirty years between the rivable houses of York and Lancaster of England and was finally brought to a close by the marriage of Henry VII of Lancaster, and Elizabeth of the York factions. The house of York wore the White Rose, while Lancaster sported the Red.

The present War of the Roses is not

sanguinary, but the friendly competition of two factions of the Betterment Association of our Graded School to see which can raise the greatest sum of money for the improvement of conditions of the Warrenton Graded School. This is a most deserving cause and one which we hope will be heartily supported.

—The thought that our "Soldier Boys" may be at home from the Border in the near future is pleasing indeed.

We are Headquarters for GROCERIES

OUR STOCK IS FRESH AND PRICES REASONABLE

WE ARE ANXIOUS TO SERVE YOU PROMPTLY. A TRIAL WILL CONVINCE YOU

For we keep our goods moving and new Groceries coming in every day.

Our Market carries only the best in Pork, Beef, Sausage and Lamb in Season.

HULLS, MEAL AND HAY CARRIED IN OUR WAREHOUSE.

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JUST RECEIVED

30 Horses

14 Mules (Seven Pairs)

1 pr 2d-hand Mules,

\$200

Will Make as Much Cotton or Tobacco as a pair costing \$500.

Cash or Time

Several Second-hand Horses

Two car loads of Chase City Wagons.

Three car loads Buggies, Surries and Carriages.

Prices Right

Cash or Time

J. J. Tarwater

Reduction SALE

I Have several nice pieces of Silverware, Silver spoons, Plated Knives and Forks, and many pieces of gold jewelry that I will sell at cost, as I do not want to carry them over. If you are looking for a bargain in any of the above goods I can save you money on them.

Your most sincerely,

THOMAS A. SHEARIN,

Jeweler,
Warrenton, N. C.

"Agent for Edison Phonographs and Records"