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Thursday, February 26, 1931

**FARMERS SHOWING US THE
WAY OUT OF THE DESERT.**

Brevard would do well to take a lesson from the farmers of the county just now. It is springtime, and that means time for planning and planting a crop and crops for harvest this summer and fall. There has never before been such activity on the farms of Transylvania county as that witnessed this season. From the appearance of everything, there will not be a fence corner left in idleness this year.

Business men, boarding house and hotel keepers and property owners having places for lease during the summer season, would do well to look to the preparations being made by the farmer. We can no more have a good business season here this summer, from a tourist standpoint, without preparation and proper planning than a farmer can have a crop without first preparing the soil, planting the seed, tending the plant and reaping the harvest.

It is good to see this great activity on the farms. Little by little our farmers are adding to their livestock, and this is the finest mark of increased wealth. There can be no successful farming where there is no livestock. This has long been an accepted principle of agriculture. Before many years there will be an abundance of livestock roaming these hills, and when that day comes, there will be an abundance of wealth among the farmers of the county.

Julian Glazener and J. F. Corbin, teachers of vocational agriculture in Brevard and Rosman, are mighty forces in this agricultural progress being made in the county.

**ELECTRIC CHAIR CLAIMS ITS
VICTIMS IN PENNSYLVANIA.**

Up at Bellfonte, Pa., last Monday morning, the great state of Pennsylvania took Irene Schroeder and W. Glenn Dague, shaved their heads, placed them in a chair, strapped their arms and legs to the chair, and then turned electricity upon them until they were pronounced dead. They had killed a highway patrolman, and, under our laws, must pay for their crime with their lives. They wrote a letter to their attorneys, asking that no further effort be made to have their sentences changed to life imprisonment, as they preferred death to life imprisonment.

Some day historians will write about such electrocutions, and people in that day will shudder, and wonder how a Christian nation could be so barbarous as to electrocute men and women.

There is little sympathy, however, for the unfortunate pair. They went out of their way to kill a man. Had they been at home, each one at that one's own home, there would have been no dead highway patrolman, nor would there have been any electrocution at Bellfonte early last Monday. This pair felt cocky, impressed with their own importance, and sallied forth to do their will. A highway patrolman was in the way, and they slew him. They simply acted the fool, and now the families of the slain officer, of the woman and of her male companion, must go through life with this taint and stain, trouble and heartache, the innocent really paying the price for the crime of the guilty.

So it is with all murders. Some one acts the fool, and a killing results. Some one decides to lord it over another, or takes a violent dislike to some one, and decides he must beat that one up, and, as a result a killing follows, and then the families of the killed and the killer must pay the penalties in the ensuing years of suffering, the years and years that follow, filled with heartache and hardship.

How foolish it is for the state to take human life, and how much more foolish it is for a fool to start out on an errand that is likely to result in just such tragedy that the state must, under the law, step in and take human life. Our court records are filled with the recorded doings of these awful souls in hell and survivors living lives that are worse than hell.

**CATHOLIC CHURCH MAKING
EFFORT TO WIN THIS
NATION TO ITS FAITH.**

Protestant America is becoming aroused by the effort of the Catholic church to "make America Catholic." This is evidenced by numerous writings and appeals now being made by leading Protestants throughout the nation. No one but he who is wilfully blind can deny the fact that Catholics are making a most determined effort to place their church in absolute control in America. The extensive broadcasting program of the Catholic church, their publications, and the personal work being done by the church and its organizations all point to a well defined program to "take America."

The Catholic church is already boasting of the fact that America, Protestant in its beginning, is now rapidly becoming Catholic.

Some American Protestants say: "Well, what of it?"

Well, it simply means annihilation of our public school system, for the Catholic church hates the public school, and contends that the Catholic church, "the ONE TRUE church," as they call it, should have absolute control of the education of the youth of the land.

It would mean a complete reversal of our present form of government. It would mean a wiping out of the work of Calvin, Wesley, and all of the pioneers in Protestantism. It would mean complete and full and final power of the pope over everything.

One big provision in the program of the Catholic church in winning America, many leaders believe, is the election of a Catholic as president of the United States.

Read the following article that appears in the current issue of "The New Age," official magazine of Scottish Rite Masonry. It is enlightening. It follows:

"It is unfortunate that Protestant religions and societies in this country are, seemingly forced to defend their very existence by counteracting the implications, direct accusations and false claims of an organization operating under ecclesiastical banners, cloaked in religious garb and ever working to force people of every made of religious belief to the self-claimed 'one true Church's' way of thinking. But that is actually what is taking place in America today.

"That Protestantism as a whole has been openly challenged was revealed no longer ago than last December when the Rev. Francis X. Talbot, S. J., in addressing the New York Circle of the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae, is quoted in the press as having stated:

"The old Protestant culture is about at the end of its rope. The first settlers of our country established this distinctly Protestant culture, being chiefly from Protestant countries, so that our history from the beginning of the republic has been predominantly non-Catholic. It has given the complexion to the country, entered our legislation, sociology and economics, is the basis of our commerce and industry and, in fact, has formed a great part of the American people. For one hundred and fifty years the Protestant element was strongest, and we admit it.

"This Christian culture is a wave receding, and we Catholics are living in a most important day, with one culture vanishing; another gaining strength. . . . Why can't we make the United States Catholic in legislation, Catholic in justice, aims and ideals? We are the greatest numerically in the country, strong and growing in the arts and education. We are now ready to expand. Now is the time for small groups like this to organize and strike hard to put the Catholic idea before all.

(New York World, Dec. 14, 1930.)

"These statements, startling as they appear, are not new to one who has kept abreast of the publications of the hierarchy and laity. For years preceding him, Mr. Jonas is one of the outstanding lawyers of North Carolina, and could make 'a good living' in the practice of his profession in any city in this state or in any other state.

Because Mr. Jonas was 'defeated' in the last election does not place him in the 'lame duck class' at all. There are many who believe that Mr. Jonas was elected last November, and denied his rightful place because of that sweet weapon so generally used, known as the Absentee Voters Law. It may develop that Mr. Jonas will have opportunity to display his great ability as a lawyer in the prosecution of some of the election thieves who so dearly love the Absentee Voters Law, and its easy manipulation in the purpose of defeating popular demands.

Wouldn't it be the irony of fate if Mr. Jonas should have occasion to display his ability in the prosecution of some of the close personal and political friends of Editor Tompkins? That would be a lame duck story with different feathers, wouldn't it?

You good people have been most liberal in your donations to charity during the winter months. But the leaders of the Associated Charities, tell us that the need is still acute, and that there is much suffering. We cannot stop now. Farmers with food-stuff that can be spared will render real service by making donation to the Charities board.

government affects the nation from border to border, coast to coast. It is a challenge that America will ignore at her peril—an opening wedge (that happily failed of its purpose when a Roman Catholic candidate was defeated for the Presidency of the United States) to "Make America Catholic," just as Rev. Francis Talbot hopes and is ardently working for.

"While the papal encyclical on education did not seriously upset the equanimity of many Americans, the Supreme Council, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of the Southern Jurisdiction, was awake to the actual and at its Dallas Session adopted ringing resolutions solidly supporting the American public school and voicing its disapproval of the Roman pontiff's interference in the conduct of our public school affairs.

"There has been published, as a distinctly Masonic duty, an interesting pamphlet entitled 'The Truth Shall Make You Free,' which contains the papal encyclical, the Supreme Council's resolutions and relative matter. This pamphlet is being mailed without charge to all Scottish Rite Masons of the Southern Jurisdiction and our brethren are urged to read the same and, after doing so, pass it on to an interested brother Mason or to someone outside of the Fraternity. (If extra copies are needed, a postal card addressed to the Supreme Council will secure the same.) This pamphlet should be read carefully and intelligently by the recipients, not only as Scottish Rite Masons but as citizens of the United States. It is a Masonic duty that should receive the studious attention of every member of the Fraternity."

**AN AWFUL INJUSTICE TO
AN HONORABLE MAN.**

Brother Dan Tompkins, wielder of the mighty pen which gives to the world that inimitable Jackson County Journal, has, unintentionally we believe, done violence to the good name of an exceptionally good man. And the fact that Brother Dan published the same editorial in two consecutive issues of his paper makes the matter all the more serious.

The Jackson County Journal was commenting upon the appointment of Hon. Charles A. Jonas to the high office of United States District Attorney, succeeding Hon. Thomas J. Harkins, resigned, and said:

"So far as we have been able to see, Mr. Harkins has been making a most acceptable district attorney. He is popular in Western North Carolina. The Democrats like him, although he is a Republican in the republicans. All of which makes us wonder just how, why, etc., when the spring time began to come (Gentle Annie), and with it the end of the term of the Honorable Charles A. Jonas, in the Congress of the United States, Mr. Harkins should have developed an urge to quit the office he was holding, and why, almost immediately, Mr. Jonas was appointed to it, effective two days before the hour of March? People up in this parts of the district, at least, prefer the distinguished Mr. Harkins. But a roost must be prepared for lame ducks, and Mr. Harkins is perfectly capable of making a good living without a public office.

We most heartily agree with all that Editor Tompkins says about Thos. J. Harkins. He is popular. He is capable. People who know him, like him, regardless of political affiliation, and he is most worthy of every friendship, every good opinion, every good word, that he possesses or that is held for him or has been said about him.

But the insinuations that Mr. Jonas needs a job in order to make a living is preposterous, and must have been made by Mr. Tompkins in a moment of thoughtlessness. Charles A. Jonas is a most capable man, and has rendered service to North Carolina equalled by but few men. He did more for his congressional district, than all the congressmen preceding him. Mr. Jonas is one of the outstanding lawyers of North Carolina, and could make 'a good living' in the practice of his profession in any city in this state or in any other state.

Because Mr. Jonas was "defeated" in the last election does not place him in the "lame duck class" at all. There are many who believe that Mr. Jonas was elected last November, and denied his rightful place because of that sweet weapon so generally used, known as the Absentee Voters Law. It may develop that Mr. Jonas will have opportunity to display his great ability as a lawyer in the prosecution of some of the election thieves who so dearly love the Absentee Voters Law, and its easy manipulation in the purpose of defeating popular demands.

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**WHAT YOU GOING TO DO
WHEN PAY-DAY COMES?**

Once again we call attention to the fact that time is passing, and, as yet, nothing has been done in the way of getting summer people here for our community pay-day in July and August. It is now almost springtime, and no action at all has been taken on this important matter.

Is the town so absolutely dead that no concerted action can be taken on the one important matter of bringing summer folks here?

What else will relieve this community, except that relief which can come only through a good summer season?

How are we to have a good summer unless we make some effort to bring the summer people to this community?

The farmers are doing their part. Every foot of tillable land in the county is being plowed, preparatory to planting crops.

The camps are busily engaged in filling their lists for the camping season.

All has been done along industrial lines that can be done now, and success has crowned the efforts of those who have worked so diligently in this field.

But what about the tourist business, the one best bet for ready cash this summer?

Where is our Chamber of Commerce?

Are the men to sit idly by during another season, and let the women do the work?

Wake up, you good old scouts, and get the old fire back in your eyes, and the old pep that once was so manifest here, and let's get to work for this community.

**EASY PICKINGS GONE, IF
SIGNS MEAN ANYTHING.**

History is being made down at Raleigh, where the spotlight is being turned upon county and municipal governments. Regardless of all else that may or may not be done, one thing is being accomplished that will mean much to the future of the state, the counties and the municipalities of this old commonwealth. It has to do with county and town governments.

For a great many years now it has been the custom of cliques and clans to obtain a hold on county or town government, and gouge the public to the quick. When sufficient money could not be raised by taxation, then the gang in power would sell some county or town bonds, fill the treasury, hire their kin folks for one job and another, and go merrily on their way. Usually, some squarehead who could not make a living in the competitive field of his activities, became the leader of the gang and established a dictatorship, bossing the town or county in much the same manner that a convict boss wields his power over the gang. It has been no rare thing to see half a dozen members of one family in a small town government on that town's payroll.

Queerest of all twists and turns in connection with this system has been the fact that the gang having full reins in public affairs has assumed the position of owning the town or county which such gangs had in their icky palms. But things are changing now, and the public, always slow to turn yet a most determined factor when it does turn, is now putting the screws to the gangs and cliques and self-appointed bosses of public business. Hereafter, the pathway of these grifters and grafters is not to be so rosy. Old Man Public is now saying to them: "If you work for me, you are my servant, and I am your boss. You must make report of all activities to proper authorities in your state government, and you cannot ever again issue bonds and execute notes unless and until you obtain the okay from men who must know that said notes and bonds are an absolute necessity."

Yes, the day of the little swelled-up, big-headed, self-appointed public "boss" is dying. He belongs to the race of vanishing men, and tax payers will be relieved when he is gone, for he has done more than all other influences to cause taxes to increase to the back-breaking point now experienced.

Eighteen men have been indicted by the Buncombe county grand jury in connection with the closing of the Central Bank & Trust company. Three are former county commissioners, a mayor and two city commissioners, a county treasurer, and officers and directors of the Central Bank. Bonds were made, ranging in size from \$15,000 down to \$8,000. Some of the outstanding men of Asheville and Buncombe county are among those indicted.

The use of farrowing houses on clean land has paid W. E. Smith of Scotland Neck well this season. He lost ten pigs from five sows in the old pens and only two runts from eight sows in the houses on clean ground.

**POKING FUN AT
MRS. MCKEE**

(Greensboro News)

It was observed yesterday morning, of the taxation bill introduced by Senator McKee, that it evidences a willingness on the part of the senator to accept her share of the responsibility for a taxation shift she had favored, and to that extent is commendable. The Daily News was not then and is not a day later prepared to assert the bill is a bad one. It must be judged as a whole; and the possibilities of amendment must be taken into consideration.

A part of what the senator proposes to the general assembly is that it levy a tax on water; H₂O; presumably, drinking, cooking and washing. The general assembly might levy a worse tax than that.

The window tax has been commonly considered as the most unwise in principle and the most oppressive in fact imposed in any civilized country since the dark ages. It is a tax on God's free air, whose gases are necessary to sustain life; on His free sunshine, whose chemicals are necessary to the health of human beings and especially children; on His free light, the tonic of the spirit. Whereas a water tax is merely a tax on cleanliness. There is possibly a great deal of nonsense in the present-day cleanliness preaching and practice. Be that as it may, it seems clearly demonstrable that except for the small amount used for drinking, which would hardly count in any taxation scheme, air and sunlight are much more necessary than water.

The taxpayers might do worse than to tax water. But not much worse.

MRS. MCKEE'S UNJUST BILL

(Asheville Advocate)

Because of the multiplicity of interests involved it would be impossible to propose any new form of tax revenue that would meet with the approval of everybody.

There is no form of painless taxation unless it is that paid by joyriders on gasoline, and so every new proposal that is dumped into the legislative hopper at Raleigh brings forth a storm of protest from one quarter or another.

Now it is Mrs. McKee, the lady senator from Jackson county, who would have the multitudes showering down to the tune of five per cent on their gas, electricity, water, telephone, and other utilities.

Heaven knows that these bills are high enough already, and mortals here below know that the users of gas, electricity, telephones and other utilities grow less every day.

In other words the utilities are bearing about all the charge that the traffic will stand without reflecting an ever-lessening use of these commodities.

Ask the telephone people how many people have given up their phones during the past two years. Ask the gas people and the electric people how consumption is falling off among domestic users. Asheville water rates are too high already and higher rates fail to bring in more revenues. In fact the reverse is the case.

And yet Mrs. McKee—and many like her—would levy a five per cent tax against these commodities, a levy which is not going to be paid out of the pockets of stockholders in the corporations but will come out of the dwindling earnings of old Mr. Ultimate Consumer as sure as shootin'.

A tax levy on utilities has the same defect as any consumption tax—the little man pays more in proportion.

The smaller the income a family has, naturally, the larger the per cent of that income must go for the necessities of life. (This makes any tax on consumption greater in proportion upon the lowly than upon those more fortunately bestowed with this world's goods.)

One wonders why the legislative grid hasn't been swamped with bills that would remove the tax exemption from foreign and domestic securities! It would be a move in the direction opposite to that which the bulk of so-called tax relief has taken so far.

And so the Legislature flounders and flounders, and appears no nearer anything that looks like tax relief than it was in the beginning.

The 1931 assembly seems to have become a sort of training school in taxation for the legislators, many of whom have learned all they have learned (if anything at all) since taking up their temporary abode in Raleigh.

CONDEMNNS MRS. MCKEE'S BILL

(Lexington Dispatch)

A proposal has been made in the Legislature that a tax be placed on all water, electric and gas bills paid by consumers. It is a proposal that deserves to die a death of ignominy, for it would be class legislation of the rankest, meanest and narrow sort. If there must be sales taxes let them go where they will not merely fall on one group.

The domestic consumer pays the top price for current for lighting his house and for gas used in cooking the meals of his family. The majority of this class are composed of dwellers in small homes that have been taxed higher than perhaps any other class of property. These homes bear the full brunt of both county and municipal taxes. There is no calling for passing more of the general burden of taxation there, to the exclusion of those who may use other methods of lighting, heating or cooking. The electric light long ago passed out of the luxury class, and so has the use of gas for domestic purposes. And pure water has never been a luxury.

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CAN'T TAX WEALTH

(Gastonia Gazette)

Joseph Daniels is making a brave and determined fight for Governor Gardner's road and school legislation. The News and Observer contends that the money can be found to finance both the schools and roads without having to tax real estate.

It points to the great amount of intangibles in foreign corporations and to the immense profits returned by the cigarette, tobacco and soft drink industries as sources from which all the money needed to finance both the roads and schools, could be secured. The News and Observer says:

Uncle Sam collects \$231,576,998 yearly from the cigarette companies, which increased their earnings last year sixteen million dollars by paying the farmers eighteen million dollars less for their tobacco. And yet North Carolina cannot secure reasonable tax from them to help carry on its six months school.

One power company poured 2,000 per cent of water into its stock and all of them are earning big money on watered stock. And yet North Carolina cannot secure reasonable tax from them to help carry on its six months school.

The soft drink concerns, at least the big ones, are making millions. Already the News and Observer has printed the earnings of the cigarette companies in North Carolina. The New York World of Sunday has the following:

"Another record breaking year was shown by the Coca-Cola Company's annual report for 1930, placed in the mails last night. Net profits were \$13,515,535 after deduction of federal income taxes and all operating charges. This represents an increase of 3.6 per cent in earnings per share on the common stock over 1929.

And yet we are told it will never do to assess any reasonable tax on soft drinks. "It would ruin the industry of the state" is the parrot cry.

Unless such big paying concerns pay their share of taxes the bent backs of land owners will be broken.

Either big concerns making this money must pay more taxes or more counties like Chatham will sell 1,000 tracts of land at the court house door for non-payment of taxes.

GOOD FOR MORRISON

Rutherfordton News

Senator Cameron Morrison is taking a dry stand in the Senate. His "tilt" with Senator Tydings of Maryland Monday showed that he has not lost his "fire and vim."

Senator Morrison is right. The South will not support a wet candidate for President. The South is dry and is likely to remain so.

Senator Morrison is also right in stating that Chairman John J. Raskob of the Democratic National Committee must "come down." Raskob has been a drawback to the party and should resign. Morrison is right when he says: "Raskob is the monumental mistake of the last Democratic candidate for president." His overwhelming defeat showed that something was wrong.

The News congratulates Senator Morrison on his dry and Raskob stand.

SOMETHING TO SELL? TRY OUR WANT ADS.

Checkerboard Chatter

Volume 1 February 26, 1931 Number 12

Published in the interest of the people of BREVARD and TRANSYLVANIA County by the
B & B Feed & Seed Co.

"I think I'm seeing too much of you," said the sweet young thing after her 8th cocktail.

Just unloaded a car load of lime. See us for all your fertilizer needs.

The office cat says that bragging does not bring happiness, but no man with a large fish goes home through the alley.

We are fortunate in having in our community one of finest registered Gurnsey

bulls in the country, owned by the Brevard Institute. Mr. Bishop in charge of the dairy department, has just completed one of the most modern dairy barns in the state. It will be worth your trip to visit this modern dairy.

Sampson was a man of mighty brawn. A mighty man was he; Delilah owned a barber shop And clipped him—don't you see.

We now have Maine grown seed potatoes.

Tragic Recipe: Take one natural born fool, two or three cupfuls of very bad liquor, and one high powered car. Place

fool in car and soak with liquor. In due time remove the fool from wreckage, place in black box and garnish with flowers.

"Times ain't what they used to be"—but make just as much profit as you used to on pork by feeding Pig Chow. The Purina pound of pork is cheapest. Let us show you.

All varieties flower seeds and bulbs—all fresh.

B & B Feed & Seed Co.
Brevard, N. C.
The Store with the Checkerboard Sign