

Madison County Record
Established June 23, 1904
French Broad News
Established May 18, 1907
CONSOLIDATED NOV. 2, 1911

The News-Record

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THE ONLY NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED IN MADISON COUNTY

VOL XXI

MARSHALL, MADISON COUNTY, N. C. FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16th 1923.

No 6

PRESIDENT'S PAY NOT ENOUGH TO COVER EXPENSES

Costs \$124,000 To Keep Executive Mansion In Even Simple Way.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—It is a good thing that the people of the United States do not follow the precedent insisted upon for the American ambassadors and require the President to maintain his own living establishment, i. e., the White House. If we did, nobody but a millionaire could afford to be President. We pay the President \$75,000 a year, while the expenses of running the White House this year, according to the estimate submitted to Congress, will be about \$125,000.

Nor is this the whole expense incident to the Executive Mansion. This sum merely maintains for the President a house and grounds, heats the house, lights both house and grounds, and staffs the premises with servants. The scale on which the President chooses to live after that is his own affair. In other words, he pays his own grocery bill.

Compared with the palaces in European capitals, or even with the residences provided for some of the South American Presidents, we seem to house our Chief Executive in exceedingly simple and modest fashion. Even visitors to Washington, when they look on the shimmering Greek facade of the White House, must feel that in size and elaborateness it compares unfavorably with the show places in the residential sections of their own cities.

The White House, however is deceptive; it is large and more elaborate than it looks. Few people realize that the grounds enclosed by the White House fence comprise an area of nearly 17 acres, or that it takes about 60 servants to maintain the establishment.

If there ever should come a President of truly Jacksonville simplicity, who would insist upon shoveling the snow off the White House walks, he would have a weeks work ahead of him after each blizzard. There are 11,473 square yards of sidewalk on the White House grounds. There are 29,759 square yards of roadway to be swept, 1,000 linear yards—over half a mile—of hedge to be trimmed, and 391 shade trees to shed their leaves every Autumn. These grounds are a show place, observed by thousands of tourists every year. To sweep the walks and drives, rake the leaves, seed and sod the lawn, and keep the grass trimmed, the Government has to pay out \$10,000 a year.

Yearly Coal Bill A Tidy Sum.

The annual coal bill for the White House itself at the present prices comes to about \$4,400 a year. This sum provides about 270 tons of furnace coal and 85 tons of stove coal. Nothing but anthracite is used at the White House. The government keeps the White House cheerful in dark and cold weather by providing 38 cords of chestnut wood per annum to be burnt in the open fireplaces. The White House gas bill runs at the rate of nearly \$40 a month.

Cut flowers for the White House cost the Government \$9,000 a year. These are produced in the White House greenhouse—16 of them—which, incidentally, consume about

700 tons of coal a year at a cost of \$600. In addition, one greenhouse on the average is rebuilt ever year at a cost of \$9,000. Consequently, the flowers and plants used in the White House actually cost over \$25,000 a year. Great quantities of these flowers are sent to Washington hospitals.

Economy has hit the White House, as it has the other Government establishments. Mrs. Harding herself has taken the lead in keeping down operation costs. The east wing of the mansion is used only on state occasions, and accordingly Mrs. Harding has given orders that it is to be heated only when absolutely necessary. During the coming year the Government proposes to spend \$10,000 removing the heating plant of the White House altogether and hooking up the mansion with the heating system of the State War and Navy Building next door. The latter heating plant burns soft coal at about half the price of anthracite. The reform will also make unnecessary the services of the fireman who tends the furnace.

It is also proposed to cut down the ice bill by installing a refrigeration system during the coming year at a cost \$4,000.

The Government is getting ready to give the White House an extensive remodeling. In 1902 the White House was reconstructed, and the whole lower part of the building was made fireproof; but a recent inspection shows that the attic is still a fire trap, and that some of the roof beams have cracked or pulled loose from their stirrups. The Government is going to spend \$5,000 this next year preparing the plans for the renovation.

The electric light bill at the White House comes to \$8,600 a year. The bill is kept down to that figure by virtue of the fact that electricity for the mansion costs only three cents a kilowatt hour, as compared with about 10 cents for the same unit of current paid by the average householder. One of the members of the White House menage is an electrician, who sees to it that the lights keep burning. The light bill includes the cost of lighting the grounds and green-houses as well as the house itself.

In these days of scarcity of servants we hear of fantastic wages paid to household help; but the White House hired girl, the highest paid one there, gets only \$35.00 a month. Perhaps it is the prestige of her position that keeps her from quitting the job cold just as millionaires are glad enough to get the \$12,000 Cabinet jobs.

The maids at the White House, however, are not general houseworkers, but merely housemaids and laundresses. Most of the servants are men. There is a manager at \$1,500 a year, and except for the engineer, who draws the same pay, he is the highest salaried employee. The head butler gets \$70.00 a month. Contrary to what society fiction and drama would teach us, he is not the proud monarch of below stairs but is out-ranked—in pay, at any rate—by the four footmen, the chef and second cook, and the head house-cleaner. The chef gets \$1,280 a year. The \$124,000 spent annually in

A Bill To Be Entitled An Act To Create The Office of Tax Collector For Madison County And to Fix The Salary of The Sheriff of Said County And For The Election of The County Commissioners Biennially And to Regulate The Conduct of The Officers of Said County.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do Enact:

Section 1. That the office of tax collector be and the same is hereby established for the County of Madison.

Section 2. That it shall be the duty of the said tax collector to collect, account for and settle all State, and County taxes of said county of Madison under and by virtue of the law prescribed for the collection and settlement of taxes by the sheriff of said county, provided, however that the sheriff of said county shall collect and settle for all special license taxes as is now provided by law and shall receive the fees for collecting said special license taxes.

Section 3. That before entering upon the discharge of his or her duties as tax collector he or she shall execute and file with the board of county commissioners of said county the tax bond as now prescribed by law and shall take and subscribe the oath of office provided by law for tax collectors; provided, that the county commissioners for said county of Madison may make the bond for the said tax collector in such manner as they may deem to be the best interest of the county.

Section 4. That the said tax collector shall receive as full compensation for his or her services in the collection and settlement of taxes the sum of fifteen hundred dollars, \$1500.00, per annum, payable in monthly installments.

The said tax collector shall pay over to the treasurer or the parties provided by law to receive the money collected as taxes for the said county of Madison, all money collected by the said tax collector each week and take receipt for the same.

Section 5. That said tax collector shall be inducted into his or her office on the first Monday in December, one thousand nine hundred twenty three and shall hold said office for a term of three years and until his or her successor is elected in the manner prescribed by law for other county officers in said county by the qualified voters thereof, and with his or her successor is qualified by the board of county commissioners for said county. That on the first Monday in December, one thousand nine hundred twenty six, the said tax collector shall make full settlement with the board of commissioners for said county at which time the board of commissioners shall turn over the tax books of said county to the successor or said tax collector and the bond of the tax collector herein appointed shall be responsible for all taxes collected by the said tax collector and the faithful performance of the duties of the said tax collector up and until the said first Monday in December, one thousand nine hundred twenty six.

Section 6. That Mrs. Annie Mae White, be and she is hereby appointed tax collector for the said county of Madison to fill the vacancy caused by the creation of said office, and it shall be her duty upon filling the bonds and taking the oath of office prescribed by this act, to collect, account for and pay over and settle the taxes for the remainder of one thousand nine hundred twenty three, one thousand nine hundred twenty four, one thousand nine hundred twenty five, and so much of the taxes of one thousand nine hundred twenty six as she is required by law to collect during her said term of office and she shall be required to collect and turn over so much of the taxes for one thousand nine hundred twenty six as is now required of the sheriff by law.

Section 7. That the sheriff of said county and his deputies shall receive as full compensation for his and their services such fees of his office as is now or hereafter may be prescribed by law, and in addition thereto the said sheriff shall receive the sum of one thousand eight hundred dollars, \$1,800.00, per year payable monthly in the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars, \$150.00, out of any funds belonging to the county of Madison.

Section 8. That in addition to the compensation allowed to the sheriff of Madison county in the preceding section hereof, that where the said sheriff or his deputies shall seize property under and by virtue of the prohibition laws of North Carolina he or his said deputy or deputies shall receive one third of the proceeds of the sale of such seized property. That if the sheriff makes the seizure he shall receive the said amount or if his deputy or deputies shall make the seizure the said deputy or deputies shall receive the said one third of the proceeds of the sale of the said captured and seized property, or if the property is seized by the said sheriff and his deputy or deputies in conjunction with each other that the said proceeds of captured property shall be divided among the sheriff and his deputies as may be equitable and just to each of them.

Section 9. That the board of county commissioners of said county shall on the first Monday in December, one thousand nine hundred twenty three, annually thereafter, deliver the tax book of said county to the tax collector for collection of taxes as herebefore provided.

maintaining White House proper is but a fraction of the cost of maintaining the President's whole establishment. It costs \$75,000 a year to pay the people who work in his office, and he spends \$36,000 for stationery, telegrams, telephone and books, and other business supplies, including automobiles. He has a \$3,000 printing allowance, and can draw \$25,000 for travel expenses. The Government maintains a White House police force of 30 privates and three officers at a cost of \$59,000 per annum. The total bill, including the President's salary is about \$400,000 a year.—Asheville Citizen.

Section 10. That the officers of the said county of Madison shall personally attend to their said office in such manner as to keep all records in proper shape at all times and to be in their offices during office hours for the accommodation of the public who may have business with said officers or in their said offices, and it shall be unlawful for any officer of Madison county to be intoxicated while on duty and if any of said officers of said county shall be intoxicated while on duty or during office hours such intoxication shall be sufficient cause upon proof of such intoxication being made before a Judge of the Superior Court of North Carolina holding court in said county to declare said office vacant and for the removal of such officer, provided that such officer shall have notice of such proceedings before the Judge and shall have opportunity to make defense.

Section 11. That the terms of all the commissioners of the said county of Madison shall expire on the first Monday in December, one thousand nine hundred twenty four, and their successors shall be elected by the qualified voters of Madison county in the regular election for State and County Officers held in the said county of Madison in one thousand nine hundred twenty four, which commissioners elected at the said election shall qualify on the first Monday in December, one thousand nine hundred twenty four, and shall hold their said offices for the term of two years and their successors shall be elected at the regular elections every two years thereafter, so that the term of a county commissioner of the said county of Madison shall be two years.

Section 12. That any person violating any of the provisions of this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor in addition to the penalties hereinbefore provided, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined or imprisoned in the discretion of the court.

Section 13. That all laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this act be and the same are hereby repealed and so much of the existing law not in conflict with this act shall remain in full force.

Section 14. That this act shall be in full force and effect from and after its ratification.

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Important Capture Of Whiskey

Saturday afternoon Grady Merrill came into inform the officer that there was liquor stored in his Tobacco barn and that the officers should come and take it. Prohibition officer Willard Rector was away in Asheville on duty and so deputies Troy Rector and Chief Powers went out and found the liquor but returned in town to get the Prohibition officer and capture the men. The officers returned about dark and found a car on the hill above Dr. Tilsons and two men farther down the road. Officer Rector and the others waited for some time and later the car came down and stopped and put out the lights. The men had in the meantime in the absence of the officers gone to the barn and looked at the liquor but had not taken it out. Finally after waiting for four hours for the men to go to the barn they went on down and arrested the men and then went to the barn and found 80 gallons of liquor. The two men were Hammond of Weaverville and Edmonds of Tennessee Hammond had a thirty eight Smith and wesson revolver on him and both men had a bottle of liquor on their persons. They were brought to Marshall and were tried and put under 1000 bond each. Hammond gave bond but Edmonds is still under arrest in the jail. This is important as the amount of liquor is large, and the men old offenders in this respect. We congratulate Officer Rector on the capture.

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