

The News-Record

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NON-PARTISAN IN POLITICS

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Farmer's Wife Angry, Too

Believe it or not, a farmer's wife gets just as angry about high food prices as does the wife of anyone else.

One reason, of course, is because she feels the pinch when she goes past the check-out just as much as a city housewife does.

But she's got still another reason to be unhappy. She knows how little the farmer benefits from these higher prices.

For example, from 1952 to 1972, farm prices of food products increased less than 11 percent while retail food prices went up about 46 percent. During this same period of time, the farmer's costs of production increased around 109 percent. However, wage increases have soared upward by around 130 percent.

It's no wonder she gets angry!
So why do your food bills keep climbing? Because of inflated prices for all goods and services and because a lot happens to the food between the farmer and you. For one thing, it's made easier to store and to handle and to use—the way you want it. There are foods that are canned, frozen, concentrated, dehydrated, ready-mixed, ready-to-serve, heat-and-serve, in individual servings—and you name it. This built-in "maid-service" helps push your food bill still higher.

Amid it all, it might be easy to overlook the fact that if it hadn't been for the farmer's amazing production efficiency, food prices would be even higher than they are.

Knowing all this probably won't make you any happier about food prices, but we want you to know that farm families are just as concerned about it as everyone else.

Raleigh Report

The Easter Bunny, born in pagan England many centuries ago, was put to death in Raleigh last week—that is, if the Senate concurs in the passage of a House Bill that prohibits the sale of rabbits, chicks, and ducks for pets, before they are eight weeks old.

The bill was introduced by Representative Charles Webb of Greensboro, was approved by the Wildlife Committee, and was argued about over a period of two days by the House. The bill's introducer conceded that proving the age of a chick, rabbit, or duck could pose a problem in case some one is hailed into court for violating this law.

A bill now being considered by the House Election Laws Committee will make absentee voting easier, faster, and simpler, and will still retain as many safeguards against fraud as are contained in the present law. And absentee voting will be permitted in primary elections as well as in general elections. Any one who is unable to vote in person on election day will be permitted to go to the office of the County Election Board, make application for a ballot, get the ballot, vote, and have the ballot notarized, all in one visit.

The application and the ballot will then be retained in the Election Board office until it has been approved by the Board. The members of the Election board, with members of both parties present, will be permitted to begin counting the absentee ballots sometime during the afternoon of election day, so that by the time the polls close, the absentee ballots will all be counted. During the last election, counting the absentee ballots after the polls closed delayed reporting election returns in some of the larger counties for several hours.

This bill should be reported out by the House Election Laws Committee this week.

The bill to require the political composition of County Election Boards to conform to the party voter registration in the county was withdrawn by Representative Gerald Arnold, its introducer. He said the bill had become too controversial and was bringing about a major split between the Executive and the Legislative branches of State Government.

The timing for the bill was all wrong. Four years ago, the bill would have been a good one; four years hence, it will be a good bill. But his year, it was too controversial.

Next week, a subcommittee from the joint House and Senate Appropriations Committees will take over the task of putting the State's first annual budget in order.

The General Assembly is tentatively scheduled to recess around May 11. It may meet this deadline, but a lot of work is going to have to be done first. Still ahead are No-Fault Automobile Insurance, Liquor-by-the-Drink, revision of the Highway and Wildlife departments, implementing the second stage of the reorganization of departments of State Government, and the disposition of a lot of tax cut bills—which Representative Laston Ramsey says would reduce the State's revenue by \$200,000,000 per year.

Last week the location of the Art Museum was a hot issue in Raleigh. This week the bill that would have required the Museum to be located in the

City of Raleigh, rather than near the Polk Prison Center, rests in the Public Buildings and Grounds Committee, from which it may never emerge.

The General Assembly may have solved the Capital Punishment issue last week, when the House passed a bill which simply says that first degree murder is punishable by death. No other crimes are involved unless first degree murder was connected with the crime.

At the end of last week, 1,000 bills had been introduced in the House and 650 in the Senate.

Paint Fork Bits And Pieces

Spring is truly just around the corner! The onions and tomato plants on my window sill are about an inch tall—I had to plant something as soon as the seeds arrived in the mail. Cresses are coming up in the old fields and road sides and ramps are growing fast.

Let's all give a hearty birthday greeting to Herbert Metcalf who celebrated his name day on March 29!

The Paint Fork Baptist Church WMU met Sunday night, March 25 at the home of Mrs. John Gardner on Route 2. An opening devotion was given by Mrs. J. G. Gardner. Mrs. J. Anderson presided over the business session. Mrs. Paul Moxley aided by several members presented the program composed of several talks on pollution, minority groups, and missionary field work of the Baptist Church. The April WMU meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Oscar Anderson, Sr. who adjourned the meeting with a benediction.

Everyone admired that attractive flower arrangement at Paint Fork Baptist Church Sunday morning. Those exquisite chrysanthemum-like flowers were hand carved out of maple wood by one of Madison County's own artists. Brown Norton of the Grapevine section cleverly fashions wood into flowers. From the rear of the church where I was sitting, the arrangement looked like a live bouquet from the florist.

The Kindergarten Class at Mars Hill Baptist Church enjoyed a trip to the Fire and Police Departments in Asheville Tuesday morning. I chauffeured a group of Will's classmates, and will readily admit I enjoyed the trip as much as the children. My main comment would be to commend the children on their excellent manners. The teacher of this group is Mrs. Jack Grose.

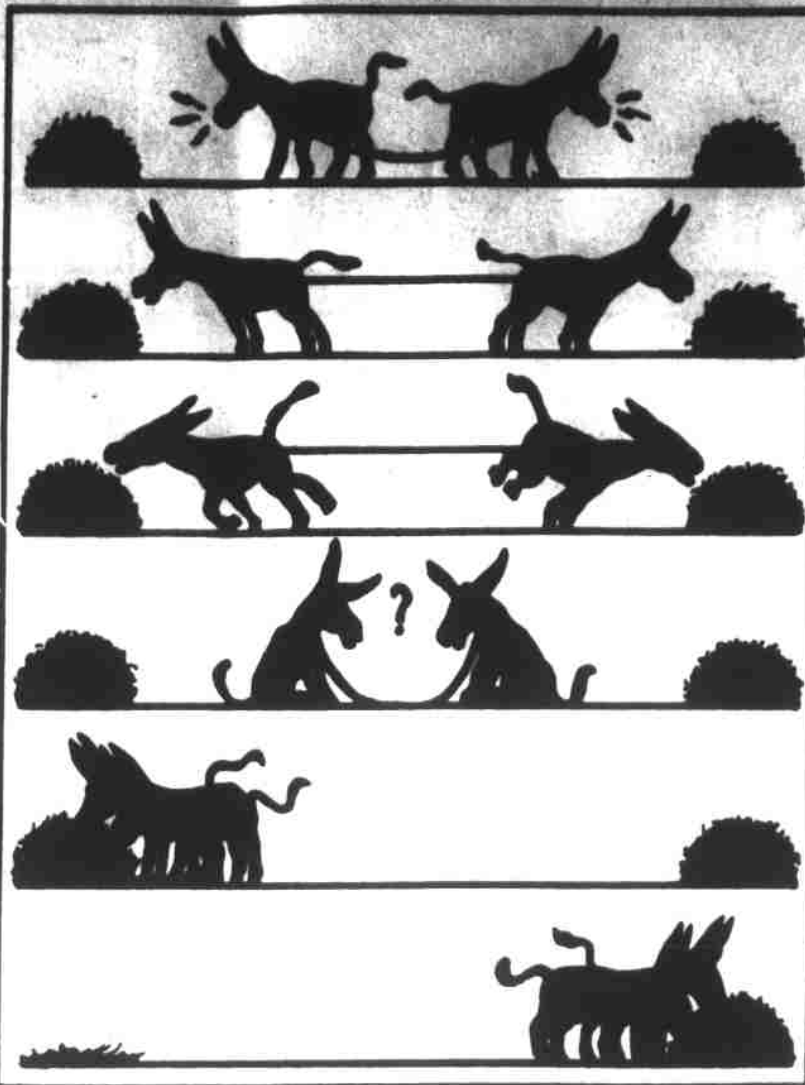
Mrs. Robert Gardner of Route 2 is a patient at Mission Memorial Hospital in Asheville. Our best wishes for her speedy return home.

Revival To Start Apr. 15 At Dry Branch

A series of revival services will begin Sunday, April 15, at the Dry Branch Free Will Baptist Church, it was announced this week by the Rev. Lloyd Chandler, pastor.

The Revs. Alf Taylor and Paul Dockery will be the visiting preachers. Nightly services will begin at 7:30 o'clock and the public is invited.

AN EDITORIAL WITHOUT WORDS



Feed Grain Set-Aside Acres Are Lowered

No change has been made in feed grain program payments as a result of the lowering of feed grain set-aside from an acreage equal to 25 percent of a farm's base to 10 percent, reports Ralph Ramsey, County Executive Director for the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

"The set-aside acreage reduction is automatic," he said, "and producers have no added paper work and no required visits to the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) County Office."

The only change is that the set-aside requirement for producers who enrolled under the 25 percent set-aside plans has been reduced to 10 percent. The affected producers have been notified of the change by the County ASCS Office.

Ramsey emphasized that payments for all participants in the feed grain program are unchanged—whether they signed under what was the 25 percent set-aside plan or under the zero set-aside plan.

He points out that payments are calculated on half the feed grain base times farm yield payment rate.

However, those feed grain producers who signed up to set aside acreage are required to set aside 10 percent of their feed grain base and maintain their conserving base in order to qualify for payment. On their remaining cropland acreage they are free to plant any crop they choose except quota crops.

Those producers who signed up for the zero set-aside plan agreed to accept a reduced payment in order to have use of all their cropland except their conserving base free for planting. They also agreed to limit their feed grain plantings to no more than their 1972 production.

"None of this is changed,"

Ramsey said, adding that producers cannot switch from the set-aside they signed up for.

He also said there is no change in the provision which allows haying and grazing on set-aside acreage, with a reduction in payment. The per-acre payment deductions for haying and grazing set-aside land and for alternate crops remain as previously announced.

"The lowering of required set-aside acreage probably was the least disruptive action that could be made in 1973 feed grain program. Action was required to free up more acreage for planting and livestock use."

Study of the March 1 planting intentions report

showed that not enough corn would be planted—and barely enough soybeans—to provide for anticipated demand and adequate carryover.

"Action was necessary in order to prevent or alleviate a shortage in the supply of agricultural commodities. Set-aside acreage was the only land which could be readily released for crops," Ramsey said.

Reduction of the feed grain set-aside is expected to return from 3.8 to 6 million acres back to major crops, such as corn, grain sorghum, barley and soybeans. The added corn acreage is expected to total 2½ to 3½ million acres. Other acres of released set-aside land may be used for livestock forage.

Historical Society To Visit Greenville Sat.

The Madison County Historical Society will begin its 1973 schedule with a tour Saturday of Greenville, Tenn., once the home of such famous men in history as Andrew Johnson, Davy Crockett and Col. James H. Rumbaugh.

Johnson, born in Raleigh, went to Tennessee as a young man and opened a tailor's shop and built a home in Greenville. Crockett, who lived in Greenville, had many ties with Western North Carolina, including his participation in the famous Vance-Carson duel.

Rumbaugh ran a stage coach line along the Buncombe Turnpike to Greenville, S. C. When the Civil War broke out, Rumbaugh brought his family to safety in WNC and settled in Hot Springs, where he bought the famous Patton Hotel after the war and developed it into a noted

tourist resort. Not only did the Buncombe Turnpike provide the route for great droves of cattle, hogs and turkeys to be taken to the cotton-growing regions of

South Carolina and Georgia, but the building of the railroad along the bed of the turnpike joined Eastern Tennessee to Asheville in 1882 and increased traffic in cattle and lumber going east and west.

Even today many lower Madison County residents use the hospitals and doctors in Greenville and do much of their shopping in that town. The caravan to Greenville will begin at noon Saturday near the Big Laurel River

bridge at the junction of U. S. 25-70 and N. C. 208. The group will have lunch in Greenville, followed by an on-the-spot program. All interested persons are invited.

Sunday School Lesson

FOR APRIL 8, 1973

LESSON TEXT:

Isaiah 53:11 to 53:12;

Matthew 26:1-6, 26-28;

1 Peter 2:21-25.

Our Lesson for today has a very special connotation for every Christian who accepts Christ's saving grace. For Christ, sinless Himself, shed His blood on the cross that He might be saved. This was His purpose in life among men, and He performed it selflessly.

Therefore, how great a debt we owe! Will we ever be able to repay it adequately? "Adequately"? No. In token? Yes! We can answer the call to repentance and renewal, wholeheartedly and devotedly. And that is the only price we are asked to pay for this stupendous sacrifice!

All men, at some time or another, have strayed from God, no matter how devout a Christian they have thought themselves to be. Christ's death on the cross assures them of absolution from such sin. In the shedding of His precious blood they are given another chance, and another, and another. They are given the key to life everlasting.

In the Christlike image they are given an example upon which to pattern themselves, their lives. We cannot do all that He did, but we can emulate Him in our dealings with others. We can exhibit concern for our fellowmen, His love for those less fortunate than ourselves.

When we have done this we have repaid, in part, the debt that His sacrifice has laid upon our shoulders...but only in part.

Reviled, abused, Christ never stooped to retaliation against His tormentors; nor did He succumb to their temptations. His glorious spirit soared aloft and, in contrast, made small men smaller.

Jesus' advent, His life, His death...and the purpose of that death...was foretold even before His birth. Therefore mankind had the glorious promise of salvation long

before the means of that salvation came to pass!

In the Book of Isaiah we find the story of the Suffering Servant. A picture is drawn of a man much maligned, yet silent with the dignity of loyalty; a gentle man...one who would do no violence to any man, no matter what violence was done to his own person.

Is not this Christ personified? He came on earth to serve all mankind; to be intermediary between man and the Father who dwelt in heaven. He was the Good Shepherd who led his flock to safety from the storms of the world; the Shepherd who sought the lamb who was lonely and lost, and about to die, and, finding it, bore it lovingly back to the fold.

In early Biblical times Temple rituals often included the sacrifice of animals; these were felt to be the means of forgiveness of transgressions — forgiveness through sacrificial substitution.

Such was Christ, who has often been referred to in Biblical passages as the "Lamb of God." His death on the cross was the ultimate sacrifice, the final signature on the page of religious history.

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Revival To Start Sunday Paynes Chapel

Evangelist Marvin R. Aronov, of Eastonellee, Ga., a converted Jew, will be the featured preacher at a revival to start next Sunday at the Paynes Chapel Baptist Church.

Nightly services will be held at 7 o'clock, April 8 through Friday, April 13.

The public is cordially invited to attend the services.

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Pharmacy Comments

SOFTEN YOUR TAXES

A new epidemic is sweeping the country. Identified as Taxes it is spread by the "bite" of Uncle Sam's ferocious IRS men and hits the pocketbook like an experienced thief!

Softening the tax bite this year are numerous deductions, not the least of which concern medical allowances. Cost of drugs exceeding 1% of income may be deducted, along with 1/2 of health insurance premiums up to \$150, and all medical expenses exceeding 3% of income. In addition health insurance in excess of the 3% deduction already allowed may be included as medical expenses subject to the 3% rule.

Little known deductibles include cost of transportation to get medical treatments, money paid to maintain a dependent in a therapeutic center for drug addicts, and acupuncture treatments.

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