

### The Mountaineer

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 1933

### DOES HAYWOOD COUNTY WANT A COUNTY AGENT?

The above question is of vital importance at this time and if it is to be answered in the affirmative it means that those in favor of such an answer must go out in the communities of the county and "convert" those who are at this time holding out for a negative answer to the question.

The commissioners take the position that they are not justified in spending the taxpayer's money for a county agent when some of the farmers do not want this assistance, while some of the farmers maintain that they cannot get along without the assistance of a county agent.

It is understood that when the farmers of this county show that they want a county agent one will be provided. We do not believe that the commissioners will resume the office of county agent until there is shown to them that there is more cooperation prevailing among the farmers of this county.

Chairman Hyatt stated Monday at the commissioners meeting that the thing to do was to go to the people wanting a county agent and show them the value of such a worker.

With the position of the commissioners clearly in mind, those wanting a county agent should go out and solicit every farmer and get them all to agree on the matter and then present it to the board. At that time we feel that the office of county agent will be forth coming and not before. As we see the situation, it now rests entirely in the hands of those anxious to answer the question above either yes or no.

If Haywood County wants a county agent it is going to take cooperation among the farmers to get one.

### RATCLIFF COVE COMMUNITY FORGING AHEAD

The citizens of the Ratcliff Cove community have undertaken a fine thing by buying the old school house for a community building where they have community gatherings that would not be entirely suitable to be held in a church.

The spirit in which the community went about acquiring the building shows that there is existing in the Ratcliff Cove community a spirit of fellowship and cooperation. We feel that great things will develop from this community house, and that the community will be bound even closer by ties of friendship than ever before.

Other communities in the county would do well to follow the splendid example set by the progressive citizens of Ratcliff Cove.

### BE OPTIMISTIC ALSO PATIENT

One of the most encouraging bits of news recently was the fact that the Bank of Clyde had been authorized to resume work and operate all departments. News of this nature always puts people in an optimistic frame of mind. Regardless of how optimistic we get, we should not expect great things to happen overnight. The business world is just beginning to recover from a breakdown and it will take some time to get back to normal. Even with banks all round us resuming business, we cannot expect business to be as brisk as it was in the days of '26 within a few days after the banks resume work. Let's be patiently optimistic.

### TO LET CONTRACT FOR HIGHWAY 293 SOON

Reports received here indicate that the contract for the construction of the Soco Gap Road will be let in February. This is not as early as some had anticipated the contract would be let, but nevertheless, it is considerably more than others expected. Actual construction should be under way within a few months and that within itself will be a feature worthwhile for Waynesville to advertise.

### KEEPING COUNTY AGENTS

Realizing that agriculture is the big basic business of the nation, and that the county agent is essential to the highest welfare of agriculture, the American Bankers' Association, through its agricultural commission, is advising against retrenchment to the extent of discontinuing or disturbing county agents, or home demonstration agents, and their constructive programs.

"When business comes back", said the statement, "we can not expect it to proceed along the same highway or knock at the same door it did previously. Necessary adjustments are bound to bring about new methods as new devices. Those who are alert will profit thereby; those who are waiting aimlessly for things to just happen may wake up some day to find that the business they have been waiting for is already in the hands of wide-awake competitors.

"Farming is no exception. To avert disaster and to effectively prepare for the future the farmer, like any other business man, needs expert advice. He must have a vital and close contact with his agricultural college and experiment station. The human medium through which this is accomplished is the county agricultural agent. His service is an investment, not an expense.

"Any attempt to save taxes by dispensing with or limiting the efficiency of a good county agent, is a serious step backward. Compare taxes and ability to pay taxes, in counties with and without agents; the evidence is all in favor of the county agent.

"When the battle of economic deliverance is in progress is not time to discard a good soldier or to question the need of an able captain. It is all right to reduce expense, but a reduction that will impair our capital and jeopardize our income may be false economy. If we have a good county agent, let's uphold him and make it possible for him to help lead us out of the wilderness."

The above is sound and timely advice that should be carefully weighed by those charged with the expenditure of public funds. No penny-wise and pound-foolish policy should be followed in our efforts to lower taxes and conserve public funds. The county agents and home demonstration agents are necessities—not luxuries.—Southern Agriculturist, Jan., 1933.

### BILLS TO ABOLISH OFFICE OF TAX COLLECTOR

Senator Francis and Representative Howell seem to be of one accord in regard to the office of tax collector. Bills have been introduced to the General Assembly by these two Haywood officials asking that the salary of the tax collector be reduced from \$4,500 to \$3,000 a year, and also abolish the office effective December 1, 1934. If these bills are passed, it will mean, we understand, that the sheriff would become tax collector. At present the sheriff of Haywood County is the only sheriff in the state who is not on a salary, according to information reaching us. No doubt the idea the two Legislature members have in mind is to abolish the tax office and give a portion of the present salary now going to tax collector to the sheriff. Anyhow, even if the bill is passed upon, it won't affect the present men in office, as the bill specifies that it become effective December 1, 1934.

### FOR THE SAKE OF BOY SCOUTS

Next Wednesday and Thursday evening the Rotary Club is sponsoring a three-act comedy, "Once In A Blue Moon" at the High School auditorium for the benefit of the Boy Scout work that is sponsored by the club.

Needless to say, the club could not have selected a more worthy project than to provide leadership and activities for the boys of this city. To carry on this work as it should be done, it takes a certain amount of money. Often boys join the organization from families without the necessities of life, and these are really the boys the club is trying to encourage, and it means that funds must be provided for them by the club. The members of the club feel that they need the financial cooperation to carry on this work, but instead of asking for donations they have brought here a member of Southern Arts Studios to train 150 local people for the play which will be presented next week. The play is highly recommended and should be worth much more than the admission price besides the help toward a worthy cause. Let's help our Boy Scouts by enjoying ourselves.

When wine enters the stomach, secrets usually fly out of the mouth.

### LETTERS to the Editor

Editor of The Mountaineer:  
 I am enclosing a letter clipped from the Raleigh News and Observer. I think it will be of interest to your many readers if you see fit to publish same.

A READER.

### JUICY STATE DEPARTMENT JOBS

To the Editor: It appears that Mr. Thaddeus Eure, Principal Clerk of the House misunderstood my letter printed in The News and Observer Thursday, regarding the ease with which I said I had observed certain gentlemen, who were holding nice juicy state department jobs snapped up the few choice plums the legislature had to pass out. I did not charge that these men were receiving pay for two jobs. I merely asked if they were.

I stated in my letter and I reiterate here that I think it was a downright shame that these men should have been appointed to those legislative positions, when there are hundreds of other deserving Democrats who find themselves without means of making a living for themselves and their families at the present time.

To give you and the public some idea of what nice jobs these legislative plums are, I beg to submit some figure which a newspaper friend gathered from the records of the State Auditor.

Auditor's records show that Mr. Thaddeus Eure, Principal Clerk during the 1931 session, received \$1,601 for his services as clerk; \$400 for indexing the House Journal, and was given \$500 as extra compensation. This makes a total of \$2,501, compared with the \$300 received by the legislators.

Mr. Leroy Martin, Principal Clerk in the Senate during the same session, received \$987 for his services as clerk; \$400 for indexing the Senate Journal and was given \$500 by the Senate as extra compensation.

Prior to December 31, last, records show these gentlemen were on the State payroll as follows: Eure \$3,000 per year as assistant personnel director; Martin, as secretary to the Equalization Board, \$4,200.

Again I repeat: If these gentlemen can be spared so easily from their regular jobs in order to let them work the soft snags in the legislature, their positions in state departments must be very unimportant, and, in the interest of economy, they should be abolished. If they are important, let's give their state department jobs to some other Democrats.

ERNEST MARTIN.

Editor of Mountaineer:  
 We seem to be living in a time when the powers to be are ambitious to realize great incomes for the nation, state, counties, and towns. We have developed a type of citizens who seem to measure their greatness and usefulness by the appropriations they can get from the legislature or institutions they can set up at the expense of the taxpayers.

New institutions call for increased appropriations every year and old ones call for bond issues every time the legislature meets with little regard for the object of taxation or the welfare of the people and less said of the obligation to reduce rather than increase the burden of taxation. Nothing is said of budgets to what money is actually needed and the purpose of the appropriation but they seem to measure their greatness by the bigness of the appropriation they vote for rather than the care with which they discharge their trust as custodians of the taxes of the people.

The legislature reaches the state not in quest of economies but in quest of new revenues. Every time the legislature meets there is a cry for more and expenses have increased under responses to this cry at incredible rate until we have reached the constitutional limit leaving us with the necessity in order to maintain the pace we have been following for the past ten years to vastly increase valuation.

In 1919 while the state was instituting our present tax policy, one J. W. Bailey, now United States Senator from this state, pointed out its dangers and its tendencies and results in watching the trend of taxation. Since that time it is very apparent that men have forgotten that among other blessings of the state, the blessing of low taxes is one of the chief ornaments of a commonwealth and is the jewel of economy, that among the foremost virtues of government is to govern only so far as shall be necessary and just. But in our beastly prosperity we like sheep went astray and today we realize our blunder in not heeding the warning of Mr. Bailey. Now the truth of his warning words is apparent. Many thousands and farms have been sold for taxes and the end is not yet. The bonded indebtedness of North Carolina has increased at the rate of two million dollars a year for the past four years and now meets a deficiency of twelve million dollars which will call for additional revenue which our legislature, now in session, will have to provide from some source or issue bonds to meet this deficiency and as the state is bonded very near the limit it is doubted whether bonds could be sold or not and all property is taxed to the limit and beyond, so this is a perplexing problem which will confront our law makers. It is hoped that they will use some judgment and not while their time away in needless activity, but get down to business of some constructive legislation that will benefit all classes.

Now a peep into county conditions. First we notice in 1919 the county was practically out of debt. In thirteen years the bonded indebtedness of the county had reached the sum of one and one-half million dollars. Drawing interest at four per cent per annum,

this would amount to \$60,000 annually. Add to this the local unit towns, towns and districts, we have a bonded indebtedness of over one and one-half million more drawing interest at the same rate making \$1,250,000 annually amounting to \$-0,000 per month or \$333 per day. With the taxable wealth of the county around twenty-five million dollars at the present tax rate would bring in something like \$12,500 in revenue not including fines, forfeitures, licenses, and other miscellaneous incomes. Now with this enormous amount of interest and every thing tangible taxed to the constitutional limit, where or from what source will this revenue come without increasing the valuation of property or increasing the tax rate? These are difficult problems to solve and should claim the serious consideration of our law makers and all who have control of the financial affairs of the country.

J. A. FRANCIS.

### An Expensive Race

A candidate for county commissioner in a New York county in the recent election has filed the following statement of his campaign expenses and expenditures:

"Lost 1,349 hours of sleep thinking about the election—which should be worth \$1,349. Lost my two best front teeth and a lot of hair in a personal encounter over the tariff—worth \$45. Donated one beef critter, four shoats and five sheep to a barbecue—say \$36. Gave away 14 pairs of suspenders, 18 dresses and 46 gingham aprons—worth about \$87. Also \$5 in cash and 14 baby rattles—total \$6.40.

Kissed 157 babies—no charge for this but would never do it again. Tried to kiss the mother in one case—and also will never do this again. Kindled 14 kitchen fires and 18 fires in rural schoolrooms—say \$32. Put up seven stoves—say \$7.

Walked 4,067 miles—say \$100 for the shoe leather and wear and tear. Shook hands with 9,456 persons—and wouldn't do it again for a dollar apiece. Told 10,899 lies—no charge for this as I am a lawyer by profession.

Attended 17 revival meetings, was converted 14 times and baptized three times by immersion and four times another way—moderate charge for this would be \$38, at an average rate of \$1 each. Contributed \$75 to foreign missions and 15 cents to home missions—total \$78.15.

Made love to nine grass widows—charge say \$1 each. Hugged 78 old maids—\$2 each—total \$156. Got bit by dogs 18 times—charge \$8 as damages to pants and nothing for wounds to myself. Was defeated by two votes because my opponent hugged 80 old maids."

### BRIEF NEWS ITEMS

The seventeenth annual meeting of the North Carolina Beekeepers' Association will be held at State College at ten o'clock Friday, January 27.

Plans for home-made brick brooder house have been developed by C. F. Parrish and David S. Weaver of the State College Extension Service and may be had on application to either of the two specialists.

Iredell farmers using the seed loans for cash buying last season say they saved at least 20 percent on the fertilizer purchased.

### 24 Years Ago in HAYWOOD

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Garrison, formerly of Asheville, have rented Mr. Sam Miller's house and have moved here.

Mr. J. N. Shoolbred left yesterday for England, where he will remain on a visit until spring. He goes for a rest for a few months.

Misses Grace and Julia Bowles left Monday for Atlantic City, where they will spend sometime. They will also visit New York before returning home.

The Unagusta Manufacturing Company after having been shut down for sometime began operations at Hazelwood on January 11 with a full force of hands. This company shows a good report of business last year notwithstanding the panic.

A beautiful memorial volume to Mrs. Mary Love Stringfield Wulbern has just been issued by the Dorcas Bell Love Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. It is handsomely bound in black with gold borders and letters. It contains a biographical sketch of Mrs. Wulbern and many tributes of respect from persons and organizations in this state and others.

### Clyde P. T. A. Hear Supt. A. J. Hutchins

(Contributed.)

Mr. A. J. Hutchins, superintendent of the Canton schools, made a forceful talk at the meeting of the Clyde Parent-Teachers' Association, Tuesday afternoon, January 10.

Mr. Hutchins gave valuable information concerning the response which schools have made to the new economic system of North Carolina. He urged the parents to let their county representatives to the legislature know that they are standing for the schools. The message was so well received that the association adopted a resolution to that effect.

A report was made that relief work is being continued in the community. More than 200 garments have been distributed.

Rapid progress has taken place in the beautification of the school grounds. (Donations were made by various members of the association for trees which will be set out on the grounds.)

The meetings during the year of 1932 were successful, but with the attendance of over 50 enthusiastic members on Tuesday afternoon, it is felt that the influence of the P. T. A. will be even greater.

### MYSTERY SOLVED

Another Remarkable Story of a Puzzling Crime Unravels by the French Detective Police, as Told by Mr. H. Asheon-Wolfe, Former Assistant of the Famous Dr. Bertillon, of the Surete, in The American Weekly, the Magazine Distributed With the Next Atlanta Sunday American.

### JUST A TIP—

You need no longer throw those old shoes away. Just bring them to us and we'll return them to you almost as good as new.

"The Trade Is Not Closed Until You Are Satisfied"

### THE CHAMPION SHOE SHOP

E. T. Duckett, Prop.  
 MAIN ST. NEXT WESTERN UNION

### ALEXANDER'S QUESTION BIRD

*I'm kicking because I haven't my share of good health. Am I wrong?*

**Answers:—**  
 Stop Kicking! The proper remedies and care will revive your health!



Yes, That's Right, we've all got to take our medicine if we expect to prosper and have happy health. At this time of the year we ought to be particularly careful of the health of the little ones. You can make sure that any medicine that finds its way to their little tummies is pure if purchased here. We're particularly careful about our prescriptions.

**Alexander's Drug Store**  
 PHONES 53—54