

The Mountaineer

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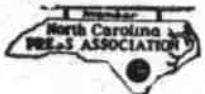
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Everybody Can Help

Tuberculosis Christmas Seals go on sale for 1941. In this great work even those with only pennies to give, can help the sales. Last year there were six deaths in Haywood County from tuberculosis, and some of these might have been prevented.

A quarter of a century ago tuberculosis ranked first as a cause of death in North Carolina, but thanks to the great fight waged by the State Board of Health against this disease, it now ranks eighth in the number of deaths it causes annually in the state.

Out of every dollar's worth of Christmas Seals sold in this county, seventy-five cents is kept here for local work. Most of this is distributed among the needy and undernourished children through the lunch rooms of the schools.

To those fortunate ones whose children have all the milk they need for their health's sake to drink, this seventy-five cents out of every dollar may not mean much, but to the mother and father who cannot furnish this necessary food product to their children, it means a great deal.

It would be hard to estimate what these preventive measures in feeding undernourished children, who eventually would have either become tuberculosis suspects or inflicted with the disease, had it not been for this extra food allotment given them through the schools.

When you watch your own child drink his glass or maybe two of nourishing milk today, think about those less fortunate, and when some school child hails you and says, "Please won't you buy some Christmas Seals", dig down in your pockets and buy generously.

Remember the slogan of the year, "Food For Defense" and this is one very definite way that you can help.

Pinch Of Prices

Maybe we would notice the rising tide in prices in this vicinity less, if our community was being fed by defense "money", but with only the regular "flow" of money it seems a real problem.

There is nothing new about the condition, as those old enough in the community to remember the First World War reaction can testify. We are told that wholesale prices had risen 66 percent before the United States got into the World War, jumped some 18 more points before price control measures were first instituted, and eventually went 13 points higher while price control machinery was being developed.

A recent article in the "Rotarian" points out the remedy and explains the price control bill introduced in Congress which is designed to avoid a repetition of the experiences of the First World War, when the "sky was the limit", and ordinary commodities were out of bounds.

Canada, we are told, is putting a "ceiling" over all commodity prices, both agricultural and industrial. All rents are being frozen as of date to be specified. We have not reached this stage, but authorities tell us that if we act promptly in this country we may yet be able to forestall some of the effects of inflation.

Let us hope that Congress will not stage too many oratorical contests and forget the urgent issues at hand in the speech making, for this is an emergency problem and should be treated as such before it is too late to remedy.

When a price ceiling leaks an umbrella is just an ornament.

From Darkness To Light

Instead of having to wait until December the 15th for the blackout to end it came to the relief of most people two weeks earlier.

We are particularly happy that it came ahead of time. We feel that in view of conditions the "blackout" over which there has been so much agitation as to whether or not it was necessary, had a depressing effect as a "prelude" to Christmas.

We tried to make the best of it and take it in a patriotic spirit, and when we found ourselves wishing for the usual bright lights, our thoughts turned to England and Europe, we were humbled at our complaining attitude.

But whether or not it was a necessity, it no doubt gave us a touch of what we might expect in case of a more "urgent defense", and showed us that life can go on just the same.

Maybe we will appreciate the bright lights more since we had to do without them, and certainly the "Christmas lights" will have more meaning for us after a "blackout".

Good Advice

Miss Harriet Elliott, associate administrator of the Office of the Price Administration in charge of the consumer division, has been handing out some excellent advice to American citizens and to women in particular.

Some of it is just as applicable in peacetime as in a great emergency. Certainly her recent appeal to "waste nothing" should be a motto for the housewife at all times.

Miss Elliott points out that "the food we eat, the clothes we wear, the things we buy, the things we use, the dollars we spend, the pennies we save—all these are as much a part of defense as guns, tanks and airplanes."

A New Test

We note with interest an experiment recently put on in Kansas City when twenty-eight motorists were invited to have free drinks and then to demonstrate the effects of the alcohol by driving specially provided cars with prearranged maneuvers.

The host of the occasion was the local police department, which has gained national attention for its campaign to curb drunken driving and has arrested more than 1,000 persons during the year on such a charge.

The "human guinea pigs" included salesmen, truck drivers, reporters and a race-car driver. Each man was given a certain amount of whiskey at 30-minute intervals. The five-drink-stop was reported to have found the group highly confident of their driving prowess, and that most of the errors were made during "this cocky phase."

The seven-drink stage showed the men improving in driving because they realized they were nearing a dangerous state.

Final results will not be announced for several weeks. Maybe the findings will help establish some convincing facts that may be used by other groups interested in safety on the highways.

Any Whistles Today?

There was once a boy who—supposedly—paid too much for his whistle. But who can set a price on a whistle—really? How much for a boy's cherry whistle as he plunks the paper on your doorstep? How much the whistle of the early bird at your feeding tray? How much your own whistle as you set about your daily task?

Whistles are with us always. The whistle for work. The moon whistle. The whistle that lets the workers out. The day seems patterned with the flute-like trillings. The pink-cheeked traffic policeman on the corner. The train at the crossing. Two tramp steamers saluting in a pea-soup fog. People whistle because the sky is blue, and the air is crisp. Or even in the rain.

Pay too much for a whistle? It isn't likely. In fact who would sell one if he couldn't get it back?—Christian Science Monitor.

Newspaper Expands

Tuesday The Hendersonville Times-News held the formal opening of their new home, a modern newspaper plant, where Hendersonville's daily is published. J. T. Fain and C. M. Ogle, publishers, have done a remarkable job in that they have given Henderson County a local daily since 1925. The Times-News has grown steadily, and today carries under the name plate on the front page "Largest daily circulation of any newspaper in North Carolina in proportion to population."

The Mountaineer rejoices with the publishers and their staff in getting the new plant—they deserve it, and have earned it by years of hard and steady working at their tasks.

AMERICA AT THE CROSSROADS



HERE and THERE

By HILDA WAY GWYN

We see that unpeeled potatoes are to be served the German army and Labor Corps three days a week from now... the explanation given is that peeling robs potatoes of 15 per cent of their nutritive value... now that may be a hardship in Germany... but here in Waynesville with us... that sounds like anything but... we have always contended that baking was the most delicious way to prepare a potato... and that the peeling was the best part... we are surprised that they are just finding this out in Germany...

Now since the lights are on again... we'll have to admit... that we were having a very bad time trying to make up our minds to be philosophical about a "blackout" at Christmas... now if we were at war... actually declared... we could have celebrated in the dark with the finest spirit of patriotism... however we have talked to some of the town officials... who do not seem very encouraging about Christmas lights on the streets... something about wiring and priorities... and so on... but if we can have only a half dozen bulbs... where we once had a dozen or so we vote for having them... if for nothing more than to watch the sparkle in the eyes of little children... whose hearts and minds are filled with Santa Claus... to bring such a glow of happiness... is worth the price... and whether or not we split our pocketbooks open this year as a community and go on our annual spending spree... we feel that encouraging the Christmas spirit is very important this year... with all the depressing news about us... we need to be reminded and uplifted by Christmas... and its significance... For his teachings have been forgotten in too many places of the world today...

Mrs. W. T. Crawford called us during the week and said... "I have a suggestion to make in answer to your request about what you might publicize at the next woman's press meeting you attend... I want you to tell them that we have the best water in the world... but of course you have to go away from home to appreciate it... out in California... I recall how hard the water was... how unpleasant it was to bathe in... then up in Boston... you have to soften it with chemicals... and down in Texas you have to treat it before you can bath in it... and the soap it takes two whole bars of soap in Texas to do an ordinary bit of laundry that would take maybe a half a cake of soap to get the garments thoroughly clean... there is nothing too good to tell

them about our water... and then don't forget the good taste of it"... thank you, Mrs. Crawford... we are inclined to agree with you... for both external and internal use we have never found better water.

Contributed by a reader of this column... who contends she's tired of outsiders getting us all wrong about "you all"...

"Come all of you from other parts, Both city folks and rural, And listen while I tell you this: The word you-all is plural.

"When we say 'you all' must come down, Or 'we all' shall be lonely, We mean a dozen folks, perhaps, And not one person only.

"If I should say to Hiram Jones For instance, 'You-all's' lazy; Or 'will you all lend me a knife?' He'd think that I was crazy.

"Now if you'd be more sociable And with us often mingle, You'll find that on the native tongue, You-all is never single."

Increased Taxation Will Be Deliberate Ban On Spending

By CHARLES P. STEWART (Central Press Columnist)

Chairman Walter F. George of the senate's finance committee, has predicted that next year's taxes will be terrific. From all indications his forecast's no exaggeration. Revenue legislation has to originate in Chairman Robert L. Doughton's ways and means committee, in the house of representatives. The senate committee finally has as much to do with it as the representative bunch, however, and Solon George is thoroughly familiar with what's being cooked up for 1942.

Uncle Sam needs the money, for one thing. He has to have it for his own defensive purposes and for the lease-lending of supplies to the other democracies, including Russia, whether it's a democracy or not. Quite aside from Uncle Samuel's personal requirements, though, the tax-framers deliberately and maliciously intend to impound, governmentally, just as much of the people's dough as they can, to pinch 'em to such an extent that they simply won't be able to spend more than the absolutely essential to provide 'em with the barest necessities of life.

What Is Happening The idea's this: Our producers of all sorts of

Rambling Around

By W. CURTIS RUSS

Bits of this, that and the other picked up here, there and yonder.

Voice OF THE People

In view of the critical situation in this country and in the world do you think we should observe Christmas in our usual manner this year?

Mrs. G. W. Colkitt—"I think we should observe Christmas normally for the sake of our children, but not spend unnecessarily."

Mrs. Ernest Akers—"I think we should rejoice for the many things we have to be thankful for this Christmas and at the present time, for who knows what next year will bring."

Mrs. I. J. Brown—"No, I think we should not observe Christmas as in days gone by, but more reverently than we ever have before in this country. I do not approve an extravagant spending of money on foolish toys either."

Bill Prevost—"I think we should celebrate more than usual. The occasion is important enough to make us forget the war for the time being."

Dan Watkins—"You've picked a big question to ask me with as many children as I have expecting Santa Claus, but I really think that we should observe Christmas as we have in the past."

J. C. Patrick—"I think we should observe Christmas as in the past, and keep the Christmas spirit, for we need it now."

F. E. Worthington—"I think we should keep the old Christmas spirit, for there is no reason for us to change in America, and it might affect other nations if we did. Another reason we do not know what another year will bring, and we might as well enjoy this one."

Mrs. S. H. Bushnell—"I think we should observe Christmas with more spirit than ever before, but less material extravagance in view of the present situation."

Mrs. Joe Graves—"In view of the condition in the country and in Europe, and in consideration of what may happen, I think we should not have our usual Christmas celebrations."

Mrs. Tom Campbell, Jr.—"I think we should observe Christmas as usual, showing the world that life moves in a normal manner in this country, and another reason for celebrating this year, is that next Christmas we may not be able to follow our annual custom."

stuff in edible, wearable and other usable forms are so concentrating upon defense and lease-lending stuff that there's bound to be an awful shortage of everything for which there's a civilian demand. Scarcity naturally makes for higher prices. The economic name for 'em's inflation. If would-be buyers' incomes all inflated themselves correspondingly it wouldn't make so much difference, but most incomes don't. If not, and prices do, an income that previously was pretty good, won't buy nearly as much as previously; comparatively it shrinks. That's hard on consumers. It may get terrible.

The government can fix nominal compulsory top limits on prices. In fact, it's starting to do so, with Price Administrator Leon Henderson bossing the job.

But, as prices start to push up violently from underneath the prescribed ceilings over 'em, there can't but develop an almost irresistible tendency on the part of dealers in merchandise for which the public is hollering itself hoarse, to bootleg their commodities at whatever figures they can get.

When bootlegging becomes rampant, it's just as much inflation, even if illegal, as if no control had been attempted at all.

Finally the emergency will pass, and then inflation will pop, with a fearful crash and a long subsequent period of abominably hard times will ensue. It's the inevitable historic rule.

Now, is there any scheme by which inflation can be prevented at its source?

The tax-framers think there is. Their notion's to soak consumers with such treasury levies that it just naturally won't have enough left to buy more than the skimpiest modicum of what it wants.

Among other items, income taxation will be enormously hiked.

That may not quite do the business, though. It'll work so far as millionaires and big companies are concerned. They'll look ahead and save up in anticipation of collection day. The trouble will be with the smaller fry, who'll be apt to spend as they go along, will be flat broke at collection time—and even Uncle Sam can't extract moisture

Once a month, newspapers Western North Carolina discuss their problems, outstanding publishers take Such an occasion always inspiration, and ideas to home.

Saturday night Miss Cobb, secretary of the N. C. Association, and successful lisher, was in charge of gram, and as we expected, something to think about Cobb perhaps knows more in this and adjoining than any other person not confine her friends to newspaper field, however, has a hobby, it must be making friends, and that ried her far into the political and the office of state national mitteewoman.

She is optimistic over for 1942, and Saturday stressed the importance of ready for what looks like a year for all lines of business advice from a person with towards the more conservative of things added much weight statements.

Several months ago, the centered around editing, various uses of words, which upon the fact that the English usage is confusing in more than one. We always pity from another country to master the English language the other day we happened this clipping, and we are will agree as the clipping of that "the English language funniest language you see."

Help! Figure it out!

We'll begin with box, plural is boxes.

But the plural of ox is oxen, not oxes.

One fowl is a goose, are geese.

And the plural of moose is moose.

And the plural of juice is not jeece.

You may find a lone mouse whole nest of mice.

But the plural of house ed houses, not hiee.

If the plural of man is men.

Why shouldn't the plural be pen?

The cow in the plural is cows or kine.

But if a bow, if rope never bine.

And the plural of vine is not vine.

If I speak of a foot show me two feet.

And I gave you a book a pair be called beet?

Why shouldn't the plural be tooth?

You have seen a lone whole school of children.

But the plural of will is not wildren.

But, though we say most never say motheren.

If the singular's this plural these.

Should the plural of kine ten keese?

If the plural of that is those.

Why can't the plural of hose?

A pat, if repeated, is rose.

And the plural of rat is rose.

Then the masculine pronoun he, his him.

But imagine the feminine shis, shim.

So, the English, I think all agree.

Is the funniest language you did see.

from an already pressed Hence evolution of the salary payroll tax plan.

Say you're a hired man employer who slips you a or monthly envelope or check system will be to have the duct a percentage from the stallment and turn it over government; what he pays be just that much less.

Like Social Security No doubt you already familiar with such deductions.

That, however, has been I per cent deduction, amounted to a handful of or at most, to a handful of silver. Fifteen per cent's mentioned now. And when day arrives, if you've a little egg in some sort of bonds, out'll come that 15 per cent from the check you get company's treasury.

It's referred to as a pay It isn't a tax, though, wad that the boss pays on what you were expecting coive.

Big companies are taxed because the government cash than in order to economical. You, the little aren't taxed so much for to fix you so you can't freely as you've been doing.

Self pity is a luxury to enjoy and it should be them.

THE OLD HOME TOWN

By STANLEY

