

# THE ELKIN TRIBUNE

AND RENFRO RECORD

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Attorney General Brummitt has ruled that the absentee voter will not only have to be absent but he will have to swear it on paper, and that ought to help.

Next Monday Congress will again tackle the "beer-for-revenue" issue but this time our representative will have to talk out so the people back home may hear.

Mrs. Dollie Gann will address the young Republicans at their meeting at Greensboro June 2nd. Hope the lady doesn't raise a rucus about where she is placed at the table.

Unemployment being as it is, "beer parades" are easily formed from groups of men who have nothing else to do. Business of trying to say something bright about the devil's work shop and idle hands.

### Watchful Waiting

To those who are hopefully watching the economic skies for a rift of the clouds that will let a little sunlight through, we point to the fact that Congress expects to shut up shop the early part of June and take a vacation until December. To our mind that will have a good effect on business, if before June our statesmen will have made definite disposition of such measures as they have before them.

Whatever the ultimate tax program provides, it will be better than the present uncertainty; whatever Congress decides to do about a reduction in governmental expense, business and the public will know the worst. Many businesses and industries are marking time, waiting for the final word from Congress about taxes, so that they can build future plans intelligently. Business has always had the happy faculty of adjusting itself to conditions as they are, and there is every reason to believe that a renewed activity will be noted when something definite is done.

By time Congress adjourns the presidential conventions will have been held, and party platform promises pronounced, and that again will contribute toward a clearer atmosphere, even though we must still go through four months of political tempest and turmoil.

Last week when Mr. Hoover brought out his "big stick" and told Congress a few things about the budget, this action was reflected on the stock market in an upward movement of prices, thus indicating the country's confidence in an early solution of the tangled budget and tax problems.

If a mere gesture results in better conditions surely it may reasonably be expected that definite action by Congress will contribute more largely to our economic well-being.

### Fire On the Farms

When fire comes to the farm premises, there is little left to tell the tale. Unless it is discovered in its early stages and when there is plenty of help around to extinguish it, fire usually takes a heavy toll when it visits the farm home. Unlike his neighbor in the city, the farmer must fight his battle alone, unless perchance there be others living nearby. There is no fire department with modern equipment to combat the flames, and so they proceed on their mission of destruction.

It has been this way for a century. The farmer is willing to invest in modern farm machinery; some of them spend much time studying crop-rotation, soil building and soil conservation and short-cuts to profits, and occasionally a new cooking range is bought for the kitchen—but when fire comes there has been little or no preparation against it.

This has become a national error that needs correcting, and needs it badly. Insurance figures show that one-fourth of the annual fire loss is on farm property. In round figures the farm fire loss is given at \$100,000,000. This should not be so. The adjoining hazards are comparatively nil, and the fire that comes to the farm cannot be charged to a neighbor's negligence, not often. Because this is so, it behooves the farmer to do what he can to avert this loss so far as he is individually able.

He should carry a reasonable amount of insurance of course, but insurance seldom covers the entire loss. He can do other things that may save him much inconvenience as well as dollars and cents. He can interest his neighbors in preparing for fire before it comes, and where they are near enough some sort of fire fighting equipment may be made available; the chemical extinguisher doesn't cost much and should be in every home (a gallon of the fluid is equal to fifty gallons of water in fire-fighting efficiency); ladders and buckets should be kept handy, and there are many other ways in which to be prepared against fire. It is a subject that the government could well include in the message it carries to the isolated farm home, but above all it is a matter that should be given thought by the man most interested—before the fire, not afterward.

### Wheat Prices

The Department of Agriculture forecasts the smallest crop of wheat this year of any since the war, with one exception. The figures show a reduction of 44 per cent from the bumper crop of last year, which was dumped on the market to the consternation of the Farm Board. Weather conditions and acreage reduction have played an important part in this anticipated decline in production.

There is a large carryover from last year, and the price level will probably not follow the upward curve to parallel the downward trend in production. But there is encouragement in the fact that there are indications of an improvement in foreign markets due also to crop reduction and weather conditions in other countries, which may be reflected in the price of American wheat. Unsatisfactory crops are reported in Russia and shipments from Russian ports have nearly ceased. France will also have a shortage.

It looks like low prices have accomplished for the wheat farmer what exhortation could not accomplish, which is just another way of saying that the wheat farmer has a little something in his brain that seems to be lacking in that of his brothers in toil, the cotton and tobacco farmers.

### A Good Boost

According to a news story in the New York Times, Banner Elk deserves to occupy a high place in the hall of fame. Mayor J. C. Shell is authority for the statement that in his four years as head of the municipality, no arrests have been made and that the town owes no money and operates with a 40-cent tax rate. The single cop's sole duties are to watch out for sanitary conditions and look after the streets.

The mayor's report goes further and says: "There are no bootleggers, no domestic troubles occur, no petty thieves menace property owners, and the slanderous tongue of gossip has ceased to wag."

Truly Banner Elk is a good place in which to live. Balancing the budget is a phrase that is yiddish to the good people up there, and if some outsider undertook to pull off a petting party, the probability is that a lynching party would be organized forthwith.

It was a good story the New York paper carried, and the long list of advantages catalogued indicate that if North Carolina stands in need of a press agent, Banner Elk doesn't. Two important items were omitted, however: the fact that it is the ancestral home of our good friend George Banner, and further, that excellent trout streams ripple merrily along nearby.

Banner Elk is a delightful little town caged away in the mountains of western North Carolina where a future playground for citizens of the east is in the making. If from the wide circulation of the outstanding paper in America any number of persons are attracted to the town because of the article, it will be no more than Banner Elk deserves, particularly so if the mayor has doped out his boost correctly.

### America Is Aroused

In the mind of every American there has been the thought that no matter how unscrupulous the fiends were who kidnaped the Lindbergh baby, they would deem it more profitable to preserve the life of the child. No one credited them with humanitarian impulses that would prompt them to consider it a moral obligation to do so.

Because our people had expected this, the shock that followed the news that the child had been found, brutally murdered, pierced their hearts as nothing has done since the assassination of William McKinley more than thirty years ago.

From the grave of this little child has arisen a public sentiment that will brook no obstacle until the guilty dastards are found and justice meted out to them. They will be caught or they will be hounded by human agencies and troubled consciences until they would as well be dead. There is no longer need for caution. The baby is dead, a mother's heart is broken, and a father's troubled brain has all but cracked. There is no further fear that the baby will suffer because of a misstep in dealing with these arch fiends. The deck has been cleared for action by their own brutality, and America is on their trail—and they will eventually be caught.

Because of the brutal killing of this little child a flaming spirit will fire the American people to a relentless determination to set our house in order, to give known criminals no quarter, to bring before the bar of justice everyone who has connived with criminals to evade and escape the law, and thus put our country back into the list of civilized nations.

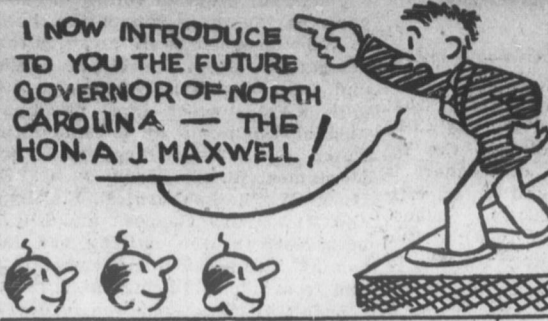
For all too long in our congested centers, organized crime has been able to buy immunity; rackets of all sorts have flourished because the law has shown its incompetency to effectively interfere. Now it will be different. The temper of the American people will make it so. Crime will be shown that it is not above the law, and those in authority, bolstered by a healthy sentiment will begin at the bottom and make America no longer a paradise for criminals.

There has been bungling all along. Men supposed to be versed in the art of apprehending criminals have become controversial and jealous and contentious; greedy newspapers have fed the public maw with detailed information of every step that was being taken, and the criminals were thus able to know how to proceed. It is to our everlasting discredit that we have made such a mess of this affair. But we have learned our lesson and America is dedicated to the purpose of finding these criminals and others—and woe be unto them.

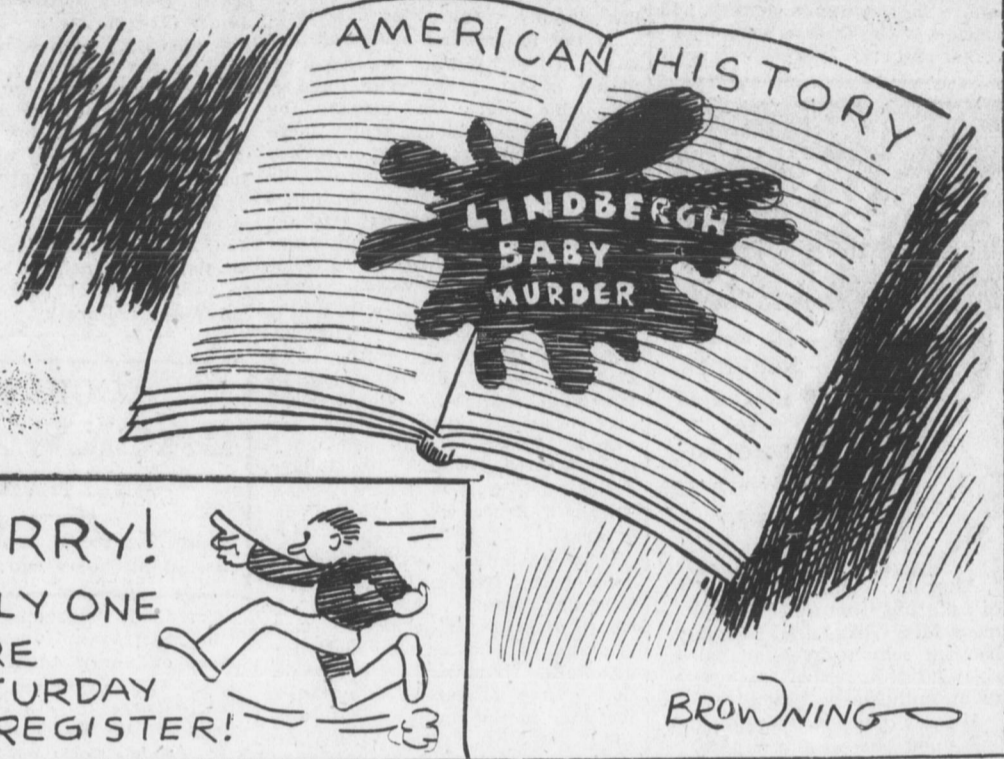
Mrs. McLean's confidence in Gaston Means breeds more public amazement than it does public sympathy.

### Local Sketches From the News

By Browning



BUCK FREEMAN AND J.S. ATKINSON INTRODUCE THEIR RESPECTIVE CANDIDATES.



HURRY!  
ONLY ONE  
MORE  
SATURDAY  
TO REGISTER!

BROWNING

# Advertising VS. Bankruptcy

A trade publication points out that, according to Bradstreet's report for 1930, 95 per cent of all business failures were non-advertisers. One does not hesitate a minute about insuring his home or place of business, but how about the business itself?

The successful business man is the one who goes after business, the failure is the one who sits around and waits for business to come to him. Bradstreet's percentage shows that the going business man is an advertiser.

THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR  
**Advertising**  
IN  
**The Tribune**