

THE ELKIN TRIBUNE
AND RENFRO RECORD

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America's Sweet Tooth

According to the Department of Commerce estimate the American people consumed more than a billion and a quarter pounds of candy last year. At manufacturers' prices this would amount to \$233,306,272, and a per capita consumption of 11.78 pounds. This percentage, it is pointed out is almost equal to the average consumption figures during more prosperous years.

Business charts and graphs are presented in great gobs for the enlightenment of those interested in economic affairs, and who would measure the progress or retrogression of business, but the chocolate drop and the almond bar, are humble auxiliaries of a modern industrial society, that seldom are given consideration.

Yet these figures are significant to others than the manufacturers of sweetmeats. They remind us that while the purchasing power of the nation has been considerably reduced, we still have money to spend for non-essentials, and that among our 122,000,000 people the sweet tooth has a rather firm foothold. The figures also add to the list of industries that are still functioning as actively as ever in this third year of the depression, even though prices may have been cut and profits reduced.

It is significant too, that although we have been told that the nation is on the edge of a precipice of immediate and general disaster, the American people paused long enough in 1931 to eat a billion pounds of candy.

Religious Responsibility

Dr. William Crowe, newly elected moderator of the Presbyterian church in the United States, has declared that it is no business of the church "in its organized capacity to assume the responsibility of defeating any candidate for the presidency of the United States. The prime mission of the church is to make Christian men and women who will enter every phase of the nation's life and battle for righteousness and truth."

For taking this position Dr. Crowe has been both damned and commended. The Atlanta Ministerial Association called upon him to apologize for such assertions, but he declined to do so; much of the secular press has given him a hand for what it considers an evidence of a broader toleration on the part of organized religion.

No less national figure than Newton D. Baker, recently pleaded with the church to approach the solution of political and economic problems by furnishing a more conscientious and intelligent citizenship; to study the question of prohibition in the light of present day conditions, and aid in bringing about the best possible arrangement for handling a manifest evil.

The church need not compromise its ideals, need not pussyfoot on any question, and yet it can remain the effective force for good that it has always been by remaining without the boundaries of political strife that always leaves bitterness and bickerings, almost as damnable as the original sin itself.

Primary Results

The indications are that we will be called upon to enter a second primary in the selection of candidates for the various state offices. This is unfortunate not alone because of the cost involved, but because of the probable additional bitterness that may develop.

Surry citizens were keenly alive to the significance of the result of the campaign for the governorship and for the United States Senate. It has been freely predicted that Mr. Ehringhaus would lead in the race for the nomination for governor, and now that the run-off must be between he and Fountain, it is generally believed that a big slice of the Maxwell vote will be turned to the Elizabeth City man, sufficient to defeat Mr. Fountain. During the first race Mr. Fountain's campaign methods left little upon which to pin the hope that the second contest will be free from bitterness, and for this reason it is a pity that the second contest could not be avoided.

That Reynolds, an avowed wet in dry North Carolina, should lead Senator Morrison in the race for the United States Senate, was a surprise to many. Reynolds ran on a platform that called for the repeal of the prohibition law, yet he qualified his advocacy of repeal with argument that meets the thought of many who look upon our present handling of the liquor problem as anything but a noble experiment.

Senator Morrison's candidacy suffered from several causes, not the least of which was his opposition to the soldiers' bonus, and his approval of Frank R. McNinch for a fat federal plum. His reputed wealth didn't help his cause either. But in the final analysis it can reasonably be concluded that Morrison trailed Reynolds more because the voters were in a humor to vote against somebody more than for someone else. The desire to punish was perhaps more outstanding than the wish to build constructively. Mr. Morrison subscribed to this theory in his opposition to

Simmons, and there is irony in the fact that the medicine must taste the same.

The question of where the strength of Grist and Bowie will fall will determine the result in the run-off between Morrison and Reynolds, and as the vote for both Bowie and Grist was largely a vote of protest against Morrison, solicited on this basis by them, it is reasonable to suppose that this influence will be turned to Reynolds, resulting in his success. But Senator Morrison is a fighter, aggressive and resourceful, and we may expect a red-hot fight in the second primary.

Bailey and Economy in Government

Congress has awakened to the fact that the American people are demanding an accounting that involves an inventory of its own affairs. The economy committee has presented a special report recommending a flat 10 per cent cut in the salaries of government employes, high and low. In this connection it is only fair to relate the part North Carolina representatives are taking in this important matter.

Senator Bailey has been outspoken in his advocacy of this reduction, and Washington papers have commended him for his courageous stand. In this discussion there has been little of the usual play to the galleries. His arguments are based on common sense facts that are indisputable and convincing.

He points to the fact that living costs have been reduced 17.7 per cent during the period of the depression covering the past 28 months. Incomes have been reduced everywhere, and for the wealthy they have in many cases been entirely wiped out; the great rank and file of American merchants, farmers, clerks, doctors, lawyers have suffered reductions in incomes, not of ten or twenty per cent but of from fifty to sixty per cent.

"I want to make the point," said Senator Bailey, "that the public servant, whether he be president, senator, representative in Congress or the mail carrier on the route, is and must always regard himself as a servant of the people, and if he insists that his estate shall not be impaired when the estates of those from whom he draws his pay have been impaired, I do not hesitate to say that the case for the public servant is going to be infinitely worse by reason of his attitude."

"There are those who tell us that the chief difficulty in our country arises from the fact that commodity prices continue to tend downward. Whatever else may account for this downward trend, there is one cause on which we can place our fingers and that is the disproportionate cost of government in the United States. The tax charge in America is not merely the \$4,000,000,000 federal charge, but it is also the charge of billions of dollars by counties and states of America annually."

"The value of commodities is the value of human labor. When a commodity value goes down, the reduction in that value predicated the reduction in the wage of human labor. We fix all the tax charges of this country, to the extent of 14 billion dollars, on an average of commodity prices 55 to 60 per cent above the present level. If the cost of government is disproportionate to the other costs, if the man who works for the government is receiving more as compared with the man who works on the farm, or in the store or in the mills so long as that obtains, the disproportionate cost of government to other costs tends to depress the commodity prices and the price of labor."

"An essential to the recovery from this depression is the reduction of the cost of government by the United States, by the several commonwealths, by the cities and counties and towns of America. We cannot carry on a government or a civilization with an income of 60 billions, under a tax charge of 14 billion dollars a year."

"It is not a pleasant thing to vote to cut down anybody's salary, but I am spending somebody else's money, not my own. It is not that I think the wages of government employes are high; they are simply high as compared with the conditions under which we labor now, and as compared with the rewards of the farmer, mechanic and clerk. Every tax we levy is after all a toll upon human labor. I do not care where we lay it, sooner or later the cost of government presses down upon the man who produces the articles that make the commerce of a country. We have laid that burden on nation, city, county and state, until the back of American business—agriculture, industry and every form of human activity—is all but broken under the load."

The most formidable argument against this program of economy is that a reduction in the salaries of government employes would be a signal for reduction in wages by industry. Months ago industrial leaders at the request of President Hoover agreed to make no sweeping reduction in wages, in order that the buying power of the country might be maintained at as high a level as possible. But that is merely whistling to keep up courage.

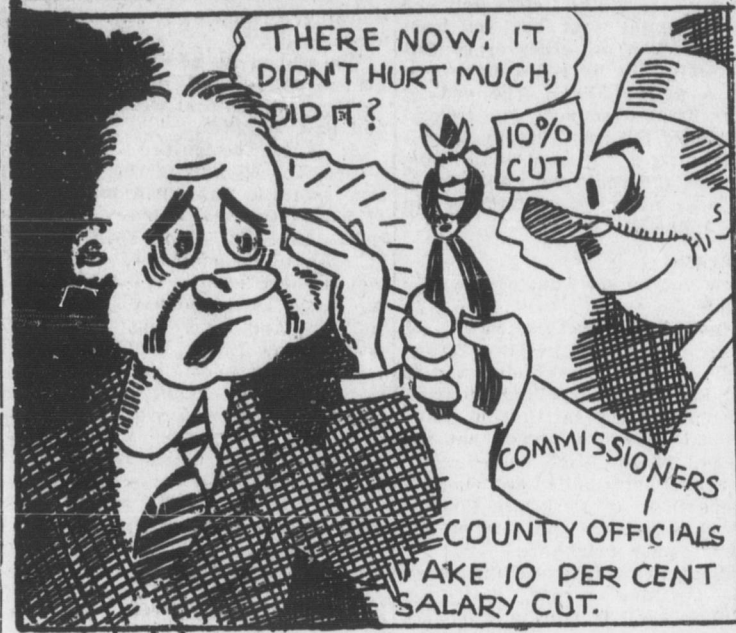
If industry is paying a higher wage than it can stand, it is only a matter of time until it will crumble, agreement or no agreement. By the same token if governmental costs are too high, the sooner there is a re-adjustment the surer government will be that it can safely steer the ship of state away from the rocks.

But this matter of salaries is only a part of the program of economy that Congress will have to concern itself with. The millions that are annually dumped into the pork barrel will have to be scrutinized more carefully. The people back home are aroused as they have never been before; they are giving more attention to state and national affairs, and political leaders know that questions will be asked and that they will have to be answered not by empty promises but by action that is indicative of real statesmanship. Senator Bailey has made a commendable start.

The "Little Brown Jug" is forgotten lore, but some of these days a national ode will be dedicated to the half-gallon fruit jar.

Local Sketches From the News

By Browning



OUTSTANDING NEWS EVENTS —of the— PAST WEEK

Indicted for Bonous' Death
Alvin Eller, arrested in Los Angeles after confessing to aiding in robbery and killing of Gus Bonous, Valdese merchant, was named in a true bill for murder returned Monday at Morganton. Dwight Beard, named by Eller as an accomplice has not yet been arrested.

Girl Is Badly Burned
Unable to escape from a burning home because of her crippled condition, Elizabeth Plemmons, 17, was badly burned at Mars Hill Monday. She was finally carried out by her mother who sustained some burns also.

Drowns in Henry River
Bathing in Henry river, near Hickory Sunday, Robert Crafton, 26, stepped into a deep hole and was drowned. He could not swim.

Killed By Freight Train
Trying to board a fast-moving freight train at a Burlington crossing Sunday night, Claude Linnens, 17, fell beneath the wheels and was instantly killed.

Blind Auto Victim
When a car in which he was riding was sideswiped by a car with only one light burning, J. K. Arvin, 27, Greensboro, was fatally hurt six miles east of Graham Monday night. Two other occupants of the car were hurt.

N. C. Merchants Meet
The 30th annual meeting of the N. C. Merchants association opened in Asheville, Monday, with 250 attending and Arnold Schiffman, Greensboro presiding.

State Meeting Convenes
The state convention of the Sons and Daughters of Liberty opened in High Point Wednesday for a two-day session, with State Councillor Carl H. Clapp, Burlington, presiding.

Held For Tax Evasion
Charged with evasion of payment of around \$6,000 in income taxes, John M. Coble and John M. Coble, Jr., Burlington, were held under \$4,000 bond Saturday for appearance in federal district court at Raleigh.

Youth Is Drowned
Monroe King, 16, was drowned in a small pond near Zebulon Sunday, while swimming with companions.

State School Funds Set
Distribution of \$15,482,279 in state school funds for support of the six-months term was announced Sunday by the equalization board. Reductions of \$172,985 were ordered in general costs to partly offset an increase of \$203,082 in instructional service approved.

Narrow Escape for II Duce
An attempt to assassinate Benito

Star Middy



Richard S. Mandelkorn of Peoria, Ill., winner of the highest record in the graduating class of the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis.

Mussolini, Italian dictator, was frustrated Sunday in the arrest of a young Italian with a pistol and two bombs on his person as he stood outside the dictator's office. He admitted he had planned to kill Mussolini.

Tax Bill Is Signed
President Hoover on Monday signed the \$1,118,500,000 national revenue measure two hours after the senate had given its final approval to the measure as it emerged from a conference report with the house.

400 Die in Earthquake
Over 400 persons died in Mexican earthquakes which hit the province of Guadalupe on Saturday. Many were injured, the number unknown.

Six Drown in Oklahoma
A swirling flood followed a 10-inch downpour at Oklahoma City on Friday and the homes of 700 families were swept away, six people drowning.

CHIPMAN IS OUSTED

(Continued From Page One)

gun Monday by G. H. Adams, certified public accountant of Charlotte, and the task is expected to be completed within a week or ten days. The arrangements in regard to the tax collecting job are not expected to be inaugurated until the audit is completed and published.

The commissioners recommended to the city school board that every effort be made to reduce expenses in every way possible, the same recommendation being made to the water commissioner.

No action was taken as to the pool room question, it was said, although the matter was discussed.

Shortly after the meeting got under way, J. G. Abernethy, local druggist, was sworn in as commissioner to succeed E. S. Spainhour, who resigned from the board several months ago.

Angry widow, after learning husband left her nothing: I want you to take 'Rest in Peace' off that tombstone I ordered yesterday."

Stone cutter: "I can't do that, but I can put something underneath."

"All right, put 'Till I come!'"

LATE ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM NATIONAL NEWS

(Continued From Page One)

a group of Senate Republican prohibitionists but no conclusions were reached.

The band of prohibitionists held their unannounced conference in the office of Senator Borah of Idaho, who already has opened fire on the resubmission proposal for its omission of a specific substitute for the Eighteenth Amendment.

FINAL REVISION

New York, June 7.—Final revision of the analysis he made for Governor Roosevelt of the case of Mayor James J. Walker, was started by Samuel Seabury tonight with the expectation it would be in the governor's hands tomorrow or Thursday.

THREE-CENT STAMPS

Washington, June 7.—The Bureau of Engraving and Printing today began printing 4,000,000 three-cent postage stamps in anticipation of the new three-cent rate which goes into effect July 1st.

May Top-Dress Tobacco If Conditions Warrant

If the tobacco has started to grow off slowly with large plants and small plants, weak plants and vigorous plants in the same portion of a field, it might pay this season to side-dress the crop with an application of some quick-acting nitrogen material in an attempt to get plants of uniform growth and quality.

Usually the department of agronomy at State College does not recommend side-dressing tobacco but it may be safe to do so this year where the plants are all mixed as to sizes and conditions of growth and where not so much fertilizer was used at planting time. Particularly is this true of the lighter sandy soils.

E. Y. Floyd, extension tobacco specialist at State College, has been besieged with inquiries about this subject this season. Some growers did not use all the fertilizer purchased early in the spring for the reason that they did not have enough plants. Many wanted information about using this fertilizer around the tobacco.

"Where growers have used from 600 to 800 pounds an acre of an 3-3-3 fertilizer at planting, it would be safe on the lighter, sandy soils, where too much growth has not been had in the past, to mix up some quick-acting nitrogen material with some sulphate of potash or sulphate of potash-magnesia and use this at the rate of about 75 pounds an acre around the tobacco," says Mr. Floyd. "A mixture made of 50 pounds of nitrate of soda or 40 pounds of sulphate of ammonia with 100 pounds of the potash material would be good for this purpose."

After the tobacco plants have reached a height of from 12 to 15 inches, it is dangerous to use any kind or amount of side applications of fertilizer, Floyd says. If top-dressing is to be done, it should be made at the first cultivation and not later than the second plowing.