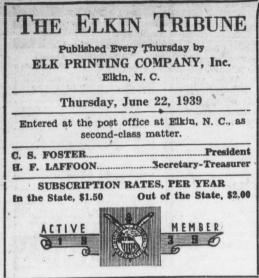
THE ELKIN TRIBUNE, ELKIN, NORTH CAROLINA

Thursday, June 22, 1939



Lower Taxes

Assuming that the tentative budget adopted at the last meeting of the board of commissioners is officially and finally ap-proved at the July meeting the tax rate will show a reduction of fifteen cents from the rate of \$1.50 under which we have been operating.

That ought to listen well to the taxpayers of Elkin. It is not a big reduction, no, but it is big enough to be noticed on the tax receipt. And what is of as much importance, a start has been made toward shaving a rate which, while it was in line with many other neighbor towns, was plenty high. This indicates that the members of the board sense the importance of every consistent economy and are willing and anxious to work to that end.

But we would remind that a minimum tax rate should not be the goal of either the board or the taxpayer. For no tax is too high if we get value received and likewise no tax is low if we don't. There are services that are essential. In the main they are services that are actually profitable to the taxpayer in that they enable him to earn more easily, and from which he clips coupons of value, in one way or another, every day in the year. That should be remembered when one is inclined to grumble about the total that appears on the tax bill. It is only when those services are not balanced by consistent and careful spending, that the taxpayer is justified in griping about the tax rate.

That was a rather important meeting last week. The decision not to have part-nership with illegal slot machines will meet the approval of the majority of our citizens. Unfortunately the State has opened the gate, invited the pilferers in, and aside from collecting the license fee, will have little or nothing to do with their supervision. That is left to the community and the local officials. It appears that Elkin means to measure up. Other places will not, and soon we will be seeing slot machines, legal and illegal, operating where enforcement officials are lax and where public sentiment just plain don't care.

The bus franchise approved means a definite convenience to many of our citizens. A rather important meeting, we say again.

The Court Disposes

The action of the State Supreme Court in dismissing Paul Leonard's suit brought to test the validity of the three per cent. gen-eral sales tax did not come as a surprise. The surprise would have come if the Court had over-ruled a tax upon which the State has come to depend so definitely.

One unversed in the technicalities

General Assembly enacting it was unconsti-tutionally constituted would have automat-ically invalidated every other law passed by it. Such confusion was unthinkable, and so the constitution was stretched a wee bit to avoid it, just as it has often been stretched before.

Solving Their Own Problem

The medical profession is vigorously op-posed to the Wagner national health bill because the doctors charge that it is "fraught with danger and will not accom-plish its objectives." As a matter of fact the doctors, in the main, are opposed to any sort of national legislation looking to the establishment of any sort of government-controlled health service. It is an encroachment which they claim will destroy initiative and so mechanize the profession that progress will be halted. The encouraging thing about it is, how-

ever, that the doctors are admitting that everything is not exactly as it should be, and, if sweeping must be done, they prefer to use their own broom. And who can say that this is not as it should be?

There is a large slice of humanity suffering for lack of medical attention for which they cannot pay, and this in spite of all the splendid service the medicos are rendering gratis, and with all the sponging they are subjected to. They are a magnanimous lot, but their magnanimity, of necessity, cannot be spread wide enough to encompass all who are denied adequate medical care. That is why the public interest the government plan to lend a hand.

Realizing this trend the Medical Society of New Jersey, the oldest organization of its kind in the nation, is making plans for a non-profit medical care insurance organization, calculated to point the way to self-regulated improvement, if it does not actually forestall government encroachment.

The New Jersey program would set up a medical service plan as a separate corporation with a subsidy from the parent body, and will take voluntary subscriptions at a premium rate of about four cents a day, in return for which the plan will provide care in case of need. Subscribers will have free choice of doctors who will be paid not by clients, but by the corporation.

The program is to try out this plan for an experimental year in one of the larger cities. The result of the experiment will determine whether it will be continued or not

Some sort of program that will assure medical care to those who need and cannot pay is bound to come, ultimately. By all means let the doctors try first to work it out if they can.

Our Part In It

Remembering Munich and what appeared to be the selling down the river of a had followed our first impulse we plucky little nation, and continually reminded of Britain's willingness to bow in the face of Hitler's every demand, it is easy for us here in America to arch our brows in wonderment. What we don't seem to realize is that we are contributing as much as the next one to international strife, and in more ways than one.

There isn't any doubt that a majority of the people of this country stand with the President in his desire to help Europe's menaced democracies in every way possible short of war." Yet we insist on hog-tying him with a neutrality policy which, in effect, puts us on the side of the strong against the weak; the heavily armed against the poorly armed, the aggressor as against the victim. In short our neutrality weakens the influence of the United States for peace: actually contributes to the pur-



To talk enough, to talk persuasively, to establish and main-tain friendly relations with those around us, is of supreme importance to effective living.

Nevertheless, it is easy to talk too much, at the wrong times, or with the wrong objective. Innumerable proverbs exist to show that folk-wisdom has always recognized a danger in excessive "Speech is silver, siwordiness. lence is golden"; "Much talk, lit-tle work"; "A barking dog never bites.'

Without making too much of a point of the matter, a few of the reasons for counselling silence may be worth examining.

Every great religious discipline insists on the wisdom of learning the control of speech. Several Christian sects observe silences some are vowed to perpetual si lence.

When the Unconscious has us fully at its mercy we talk not as we should voluntarily choose to talk if we could see all the consequences of our speech, but from a need to relieve some half-perceived pressure.

So we grumble humorously about our difficulties, and make ourselves self-conscious by doing so Or we excuse ourselves defi antly. Or we complain of a trif ling injustice, and are sometime startled to see how much more pity we invoke than the occasion warrants.

Once we have found a wellspring of pity and indulgence in another, we are seldom mature enough not to take advantage of it. thus reinforcing our infantilism and defeating our growth.

One of the worst wiles of the Will to Fail is that it forces its victim to ask for unnecessary advice. Here again, the universal deep motive for asking for advice (unnecessarily, it should be emphasized once more) is that by so doing we can go on feeling

protected and cherished even though we are no longer children. But that again means that we are being provided with advance excuses for failure. If we act on the advice of another and are unsuccessful, obviously the failure is

not ours but our consellor's; isn't that plain? So we can continue to day-dream of successful action, to believe that if only we

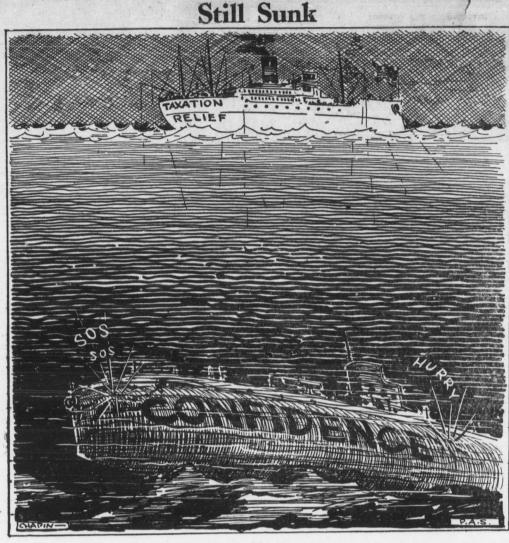
could not have failed. motives can be Since such

present, it is wise to scrutinize every impulse to ask for advice. If the origin of the desire is above uspicion, then there is only one further question to ask before seeking help with a clear concience: "If I worked this out for myself, would I consume only my

own time?" If the answer to that is "Yes," then it is generally better to work out the problem independently, unless the amount of time so expended would be grossly disproportionate to the importance of the result. If you are a creative worker,

remember that time spent in

finding an independent technique is seldom wasted. We are accustomed to think of the succes of a man like Joseph Conrad, a Pole, in writing the English language, or of the work of an electrical genius like Steinmetz, as savoring of the miraculous. To have had to work out their problems alone - what a tremendous obstacle to over-On the contrary: the necessity for independent action was one of the conditions of their success The working out, however la-



afternoon guests of Mr. and Mrs Robert Davis. Miss Zelda Caudle, who grad

uated from the City Memoria hospital in Winston-Salem las month, is spending a two weeks vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Caudle.

Mr. Alfred Wiseman, of High Point, visited a short while with Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Allen while on a visit in Surry county.

Scotty: "She's the most eco omical girl I know."

Mac: "I'll say she is. I gave er a marshmallow the other day and she powdered her nose with

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same by describing and paying

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Route 1.

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has no business taking issue with learned jurists, but a layman will be pardoned if in his ignorance and dumbness he cannot square the court's decision with the facts.

Chief Justice Walter P. Stacy in his able delivery of the Court's opinion points out that the legislature has the right to make classification and exemptions; that the classification and exemptions made by the General Assembly apply alike to all retail merchants affected by the act, and con-cludes that "this is all that is required to sustain the constitutionality of the act." But Mr. Leonard contended that the act

was discriminatory in its provision for a maximum \$15 levy and reminded that the purchaser of a \$4,000 automobile pays ap-proximately one-third of one per cent. tax while his neighbor who can afford only a \$500 flivver pays 3 per cent. The Court sidesteps this issue by reminding that Mr. Leonard's tax payment amounted to only \$3.13 which debarred him from making it a point in his plea for recovery. The tax-payers of North Carolina still do not know whether this differential is constitutional or not.

Mr. Leonard contended the the sales levy in its entirety is unconstitutional because it was laid by a General Assembly that was not legally constituted in that its membership had not been reapportioned after the 1930 census as the constitution requires. To this the Court answers "Quite a devastating argument, if sound, but this allegation in the complaint is but a conclusion of the pleaders and is untenable.'

And right there the layman becomes confused. For many moons he has been hearing a lot about the sanctity of the constitution; the State charter says very plain-ly and understandably that there shall be reapportionment; there has been no such reapportionment, just as the Leonard com-plaint claims—yet the Court says this is "untenable."

One can understand that to declare the see the boys skedaddle. Yo sales ta; invalid on the ground that the the national debt thataway.

pose of war mongers to foment strife.

And again: Right now England is being challenged by Japan at a time when the latter is most certain that Britain is so engaged at her own front door that she will not dare to call Japan's hand. Yet in blockading the British and French concessions in China, Japan is threatening America as well -purposes to make the Pacific a closed sea, dominate the Far East and tell everybody what they shall and shall not do.

It could be argued that we have not enough material interest in China to risk a single life for it. And if renouncing every claim there would settle things it could well and profitably be done. But it would not settle things. Every grab that Japan gets away with but hastens the day when her strength, augmented by her alliances, would make that nation an even more serious threat than ever.

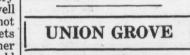
Japan wouldn't last a year with the kind of economic blockade that Britain, France and the United States could establish. But there will be no such blockade because the isolationists here make us an unknown quantity. Full public sentiment would support any move that would help to stop Japan in her tracks, but because it is politically expedient for unfriends of the administration to oppose, it cannot be said that we have a definite policy, and because we are not to be depended upon for anything, we are thus adding to and prolonging the strife.

This night baseball should be a boon to the office boy who had been working that "sick gramma" stuff overtime.

Business of explaining to their Majesties that we hated to miss that garden party, but we had to go see a fellow about a mule.

Suggestion to Mr. Roosevelt: Make announcement that you do not choose to run for a third term and charge admission to see the boys skedaddle. You could cancel

borious, of an original technique is worth the time expended, the loneliness entailed.



Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Harris and children spent the week-end in Thomasville

Mr. and Mrs. Travis Vestal rere week-end visitors of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Hobson. Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Hinshaw spent Sunday with Mrs. Hin-shaw's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Hobson.

Miss Evelin Lackey, of Winston-Salem, spent the week-end at home with her parents. Miss Nancy Logan and Miss

Ruth Caudle were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Davis Sunday

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Sizemore and children spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Sizemore. Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Caudle were the Saturday night guests of Mr. and Mrs. W M. Hobson.

Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Allen and children, and Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Sizemore and children visited Mr. and Mrs. Robert Davis Sunday.

Mrs. Oscar Caudle is improving from her recent sickness, her many friends will be glad to learn

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Wiseman and son; Thad, were the Sunday



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