

THE ELKIN TRIBUNE

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It's hard to balance the family budget when the thermometer keeps jumping up like it do do.

Those nations that don't know what to do with their surplus populations, should try parking them in flivvers like we do.

From the brand of weather he has been dealing out lately the Weather Man must have gained the mistaken notion that we were warring Russia too.

Elkin's Merchants

The selection of George E. Royall to head the Elkin Merchants Association was a happy one. It assures that there will be a continuance of the same fine progress that has marked the leadership of Joe Bivins, the retiring president, and others who have gone before. It is not as though Mr. Royall has tackled something new, for he has served in this capacity before, knows the responsibilities of such leadership and its opportunity for service, and of course he will measure up. And of course that goes for Vice-President Myers and Mrs. Folger and the able board of directors, the supporting cast.

If the public has gained the impression that the Elkin Merchants Association is a sort of close corporation, designed and organized for selfish purpose, then the public mind should be disabused. The organized merchants are an important factor in the town's progress. It would not be so if they were banded together to squeeze a few extra dollars from their customers, but happily that is not their purpose. One has only to observe the keen competition that prevails in their everyday relationship with the public and particularly during the special events they promote and sponsor co-operatively. That shows very plainly that there is no design on the customers' pocketbook.

Time was when every merchant was for himself and the devil take the hindmost. As a result nobody prospered, not even the customer. Business in these modern times demands organization and co-operation—teamwork. And it is wholesome and healthy for Elkin that here the merchants get together, talk over their problems in a friendly and helpful way, and collectively pull together to higher ground.

It is right and proper that the merchants should act in concert against cheats who abuse their credit when they can. It is no secret that Elkin merchants maintain a credit bureau to which they can turn for information that can come only through such an agency. But there is no hidebound effort to hound anyone from any credit that is deserved. And the paying customer has an equity in this matter, for he or she must help to pay for losses incurred by a too free extension of credit to those who don't deserve it.

A good live merchants association is essential to the progress of any town—essential in many ways that the layman doesn't take time to appraise. Elkin is fortunate in having such an organization, and here's hoping this year will be the best in its history.

Unfortunate

It seems that few incumbents of the major State offices will go to the polls unopposed this time. There is an overplus of candidates for the governorship, and while there is not such a rush for other places, few if any of the major office-holders will feel free to get out and beat the bushes for their favorites for other posts, because they will be busy in their own behalf.

As this is written Senator C. W. Spruill, of Bertie county, has not announced for Commissioner of Agriculture, but Raleigh observers contend that he will do battle with W. Kerr Scott who captured that post from the Graham family whose tenure had covered several decades.

Candidates undertaking to unhorse incumbents usually have some better reason for the swap than merely wanting the job. Mr. Spruill probably will explain later on in the campaign. But from this particular swivel chair it has appeared that Commissioner Scott has kept his campaign promise to make the Department of Agriculture something more than a clerical agency functioning mainly as a liaison between the State and the farmers. He has a number of worthwhile achievements chalked up to his credit, and the notion here is that he is measuring up right acceptably.

If the Spruill candidacy stems from the perennial feud between the Department of Agriculture and the State College Extension service, then it can be counted as unfortunate for the State. As a matter of fact the

cross-bucking of these two departments in itself is most unfortunate. Yet the Raleigh political dopesters have it that Dean I. O. Schaub and the State College groups will throw their strength into the scales against Commissioner Scott, whom they helped to elect last time.

We wouldn't know the least little thing about the merits on either side of this factional feud, but we do know that the farmers whom both are supposed to serve, would be better off if the hatchet were buried, instead of sharpened in preparation for another scrap.

The last legislature took steps to smooth out the differences existing between these agencies, but Governor Hoey for some reason has failed to employ the tools provided and put them to work. And so it seems that we are heading into another campaign with prospects of a lot of sniping from both camps.

Unfortunate is not the word we are groping for—but let it go at that.

Keeping the Records Straight

Earl Browder, general secretary of the Communist Party in the United States, charged with a passport fraud, was convicted and sentenced to four years in a federal prison. His appeal to the higher courts assures that he will be at liberty for a spell.

Inside a prison or out of it, Earl Browder will pose as a martyr and many there will be who will fall for it. But he is in no sense a martyr and that is a fact that should be understood by Americans everywhere, no matter if they live in remote corners of the nation where Communism is not an issue and where the Browder poison has not spread.

Browder is not a martyr, because his conviction and sentence does not stem from the fact that he is the head of an undesirable group whose purpose is to undermine our government. In other countries that alone would be enough to send him to prison for keeps. But Browder broke the passport laws of this country and admits it; admits that this fraud in securing passports had been committed several times.

Congress, as it has the right to do, had fixed a maximum penalty of ten years in prison for this offense. Browder broke this law, heedlessly and needlessly. As an American citizen he was entitled to a passport in his own name, yet he chose to travel on a faked passport for reasons best known to himself—unhealthy reasons, one must assume. His act was a simple defiance of the law and he must pay the penalty.

The very fact that the trial judge gave Browder less than half the maximum penalty, is reason enough to convince that Browder was not being persecuted—that he cannot justly claim martyrdom.

As we said at the start the Browder case holds little interest to the citizens of this county, to the readers of this paper. But it is well to keep the records straight. For people everywhere should know and understand that civil rights for minority groups cannot be stretched to cover CRIME, not even in this nation which leans over backward in its tolerance.

Jim Farley

Postmaster General James A. Farley's address before the Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce last week is generally admitted to be that of a statesman. Certainly it was on a higher plane than one would expect from a mere politician.

These two brief paragraphs lifted from Mr. Farley's speech are an index to the man:

"I want to make it clear that if at any time I am confronted with the issue of the welfare of my party, on the one hand, or the welfare of my country on the other, that that issue has already been decided. I love my country better than the Democratic party."

And again—:

"My conception of government and business is that government should act as an umpire and we all know that the first duty of an umpire is fair play and no favorites, to call fouls when fouls are committed, and to follow the ball without prejudice or bias."

You may call the first a broad bid for nomination for the presidency if you like, but we are convinced that it comes from the very soul of the man. As for the last, Mr. Farley's conception of government's attitude toward business should appeal to both capital and labor and the in-betweens—to all who are not looking for special consideration from government.

And it should appeal because it comes from a man who is dependable and who has proven his dependability over and over again. In these columns before we have counted Jim Farley as a statesman. We challenge anyone to recall a speech he has made that was not meaty with serious purpose, or which did not contribute something worthwhile to what he was discussing.

Our people have never been able to understand the reported estrangement between Mr. Farley and the man he put in the White House. But one thing they know: as hard as it must have been under the circumstances he has displayed a brand of loyalty that inspires his fellows.

They are talking of Jim Farley for president, and we are sure that, measured up one side and down the other, he stands head and shoulders above any man either party has trotted out.

Will Rogers called Jim Farley "an honest politician." Nobody has ever printed or said a word against his morality, and we have ample evidence of his sincerity and ability. "But," you say, "he is a Catholic and that would cook his goose in the South." And more's the pity—for the South.

This Week IN WASHINGTON

Washington, Jan. 30 — The Congress has begun to give evidence that it is really economy-minded. The first major appropriation bill to come before the House of Representatives had been cut in committee nearly 95 millions below the amount the President had requested, and the members not only sustained the committee but did a little more trimming.

The outlook is for a cut of some 500 million in the requested Navy appropriations. On both sides of both Houses, Senators and Members are scanning the budget, hunting for other places where reductions from the estimates can be made.

This is a most unusual procedure in an election year. The ancient political axiom that the best way for the party in power to keep itself in power is to distribute all the Federal funds possible in doubtful districts shortly before election, seems to have been discarded. One reason is that unless the estimates are trimmed there will have to be an additional tax levy of close to half a billion dollars, and new taxes are more dangerous in election years than reduced appropriations.

Public Economy-Minded

The strongest urge to economy, however, is the conviction of Congress that the public in general is economy-minded. There is evidence that the voters are beginning to realize that Federal spending has gone far beyond anything anyone ever dreamed of a few years ago, and are ready to call a halt.

From the political angle, there are ample signs that the Republicans intend to make economy one of their chief issues in the Presidential campaign, so Democrats are joining with Republicans to cut expenses. The President thus far has shown a different temper toward economy than he did last Summer, when he expressed his irritation at the refusal of Congress to support his lending-spending program in no uncertain terms.

The death of Senator Borah leaves only Senator Hiram Johnson of California alive of the block of isolationists in the Senate who prevented the ratification of the Treaty of Versailles and the entrance of the United States into the League of Nations, twenty years ago.

The timeliness of that observation lies in the refusal of the Senate to sanction the sale of arms and munitions to Finland, even though Finland and Russia are not officially at war and this country is technically neutral as between them. Moreover, Finland is the only European nation which has not defaulted on its debt to this government, and so is not barred by the Johnson Act from borrowing money for any purpose it desires it, in this country. Private lending institutions, however, think the risk is too great, and the proposal that the Export-Import Bank should give Finland a credit of 60 millions to be spent how and where it pleases met with much favor when it was first put forth.

Borah Against It

Senator Borah's great influence was exerted against it, on the ground that it would be a first step toward America's entrance into the European conflict. Whether that belief will be changed with Senator Borah's passing from the scene is doubtful. The feeling is growing, however, that keeping entirely clear of all complications arising from the present war is something easier said than done. Those who remember the war of 1914-18, before this country got into it, are calling attention to the similarity between the situation now and in the early years of the first World War.

For a long time, in 1914, 15 and 16, there was such friction between the United States Government and that of Great Britain that several times it seemed as if war between the two nations was inevitable. Now, although the general feeling of friendliness toward England and France is much greater than it was then, the State Department has felt compelled to protest to the British against their high-handed interception of United States mails bound for foreign countries. An exchange of sharp diplomatic notes has been begun which is reminiscent of the vigorous notes which William J. Bryan as Secretary of State under President Wilson used to send to the British Government.

Recalls Last War

Though the determination to have no hand in the European

mess is as strong as ever at both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue, those who recall the condition of 1914-17 see many similarities. The United States went into the war in 1917 not because of any love for England and France but because our own national safety and independence was threatened by a German victory, which was imminent when we put in our ear. Now the feeling is growing that we cannot afford to let Russia conquer Finland and then overwhelm Sweden and Norway and so establish herself as a great naval power with free access to the Atlantic.

"Inside" information, probably no more accurate than most of the dope of that sort which is always being whispered around Washington, is that the Germans are beginning to fear the domination of the Baltic by Russia and are making motions toward the United States to induce our Government to step in and help make peace with Britain and France, to save them all from Stalin, who seems to have made a monkey out of his erstwhile sidekick, Adolf Hitler.

Whatever truth there may be in that rumor, it sounds reasonable to some careful, experienced observers of international affairs. Should anything come of it, it might result in a line-up of the rest of the world against Russia.

Publicly, however, the State Department is indicating more interest in the Japanese situation than in Europe. Our commercial treaty with Japan was cancelled as of Jan. 26. Washington expects some radical change in the Far Eastern picture because of that, possibly an embargo on all shipments to Japan.

Salisbury-Mount Airy Bus Starts Daily Operation

Beginning Wednesday, the Salisbury-Mount Airy Coach company was scheduled to begin the operation of the bus line between Mount Airy and Salisbury. The line will serve the towns of White Plains, Dobson, Elkin, Boonville, Yadkinville, and Mocksville along the route.

Connections will be made at Salisbury for those traveling to Concord and Kannapolis; Lexington and Thomasville; Albemarle and Wadesboro and all points beyond. Connections will be made at Elkin and Mount Airy for northern and western points.

The coach company has purchased a new, all-steel 20-passenger bus. According to the announced schedule, the bus will leave Salisbury daily at 7:25 a.m., arriving in Mount Airy at 10:30 a.m. A return trip will then be made.

LATHAM'S CORN LEADS

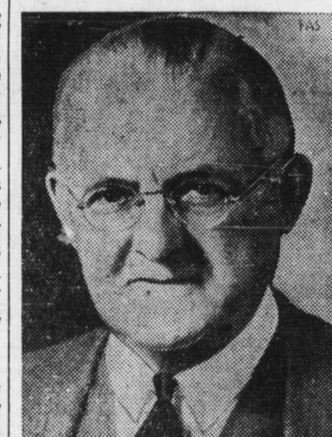
Fourteen varieties of corn tested on the farm of Peter Spencer, near Seaboard in Northampton county shows Latham's Double in the lead with an acre yield of 46.5 bushels. Cocke's Prolific ranked second with a yield of 40.4 bushels.

On the island of Ball corn is strung on ropes and hung high in trees for storage.

Memories



Enters Presidential Race



ROCHESTER, N. Y. — Frank E. Gannett, publisher and a leader in the fights against President Roosevelt's campaigns for expansion of the Supreme Court and reorganization of the Federal Government, who has announced his candidacy for the Republican Presidential nomination.

Bread Museum



ROME, Italy . . . Over two thousand varieties of bread collected from all parts of the world have just been put on exhibition in Rome in what is believed to be the first and only bread museum in the world. Samples of bread of every kind and shape used in North and South America, Europe, Asia, Australia and Oceania are exhibited in the museum.

LOAN IS APPROVED FOR YADKIN SEWER SYSTEM

A loan of \$45,000 for Yadkinville has been approved by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation for the construction of a water and sewer system, Congressman W. O. Burgin, of the eighth district, has announced.

The loan has been pending for some time, but the funds now will be made available so that Yadkin can proceed with this improvement without delay, Burgin said.

NOTICE!

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Elkin-Jonesville Building and Loan Association will be held in the City Hall on TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, at 7:30 p. m. The purpose of the meeting is for the election of directors and the transaction of any other business that may come before the meeting.

This the 17th day of January, 1940.
PAUL GWYN,
Secretary.

CHICKENS PAY

Gurney J. Franklin of Linville Falls, Avery county, says a flock of pure bred poultry will pay any farmer. From 121 hens he sold \$192.94 worth of poultry and \$394.44 worth of eggs last year to clear \$215.59 net.

Read Tribune Advertisements!

WANTS

For sewing machine belts, needles, shuttles and other parts and supplies, see W. W. Whitaker. We also do sewing machine, typewriter, adding machine and cash register repairing. W. W. Whitaker, Grocer, Elkin, N. C. ttc

We buy scrap iron and metals. Double Eagle Service Co., Elkin, N. C. ttc

Bring on your work. I am here at R. M. Fletcher's garage in Boonville ready to take care of your car troubles at a reasonable price. Harvey Wood. 2-8c

Lots for Sale: I have some nice lots for sale near North Elkin school. Also a number of nice lots in Boonville on hard surface roads. One six-room house for sale or rent. See my nice bunch of mules and horses before you buy or trade. I have a bunch of assorted size show cases for sale. If you need one it will pay you to see them at the price. I have one Home Comfort Range, one Heatrola, one Electric Range. Come to see me when in the market for any of the above. R. M. Fletcher. 2-8c

For rent: Five-room house. Also for sale, lots any size you want, 50 feet to ten acres. See M. R. Bailey, Elkin, N. C. 2-22c

For Sale: One pair blue Belgian horses, age 4 and 5 years, weight 1300 and 1400 pounds, well broken. Will sell at bargain. H. H. Warren, Traphill, N. C. Route. 1tp

Found: Pocketbook in my store containing a small amount of money. Owner may have by describing and paying for this ad. Mrs. A. A. Parks, Thurmond, N. C. 1tp

Wanted to repair — radios. Our expert thoroughly knows his business. Prices right. Harris Electric Co., Elkin, N. C. ttc

When selling or buying produce see Early Combs, in the old city jail building. Telephone 308. ttc

Permanent Waves, \$1.00 and up. Shampoo and finger wave, 40c. Modern Beauty Shop, Louise Vestal, Ruby Gray. Telephone 340. ttc

Do you want plenty of eggs from strong, fast growing young chicks? If so feed Panamin. We have it. Abernethy's, A Good Drug Store, Elkin, N. C. ttn

Wanted to buy all kinds of cattle, calves and pork hogs. See Bub Price at Basketer's. ttc

For rent: 75-acre tract; 1.8 acres tobacco allotment; new 4-room house, near Clingman. Cash or share rental. See Arthur Renegar, Route 2, Yadkinville, N. C. 2-8p