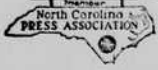


THE HERALD

Of The Twin Cities
ROANOKE RAPIDS—ROSEMARY



CARROLL WILSON, Publisher and Editor

Entered as Second Class matter April 3rd, 1914, at the Postoffice at Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina, under Act of March 3rd, 1879.

PRINTERS, LITHOGRAPHERS, ENGRAVERS

THE NEW TAX PAYING SYSTEM

The County Commissioners of Halifax County took seriously all that was said recently by the taxpayers of the county regarding lower taxes.

It is easy enough to talk about lowering taxes but when it comes to the actual task of cutting expenses and appropriations, the only way to obtain lower taxes, it is not quite so easy, nor does the public appreciate the difficulties.

For when the work with the axe begins, somebody's friend or somebody's pet interest is bound to feel the sharp edge or at least be hit by flying chips. And even flying chips sting a bit.

In adopting the new tax paying system, the County Commissioners had in mind first of all, economy. There is no argument to the fact that five men, all on salary, will collect the taxes for less than eight men did in the past. There will be sympathy for those who lost their jobs, but there is no room for sentiment when taxpayers demand a cut in the tax rate and get it.

The new plan was also adopted because of its efficient methods. It is copied from plans now used with success in other counties. The payment of real estate taxes, by far the bulk of the taxes, will be made direct to a chief deputy tax collector at Halifax. Instead of eight men or more handling the major portion of the tax money, with all the errors natural where large and varied amounts of money pass hands several times, one man will thus be responsible for the bulk of the tax money.

Poll and personal property taxes, most difficult to collect because of the multitude of small accounts, will be handled by the collectors, who will make weekly reports of collections to the chief deputy, he in turn to the Board of Commissioners. In this way, a complete check can be kept at all times and weekly settlements will go far toward checking mistakes or losses.

Owners of real estate may feel an added burden because they must mail their tax money or take it in person to Halifax. But that is the way all big counties and cities must handle their tax collections. It is the way you pay your State taxes and your national income tax. It is, in fact, a simpler method than being dogged by a persistent collector. On the other hand, these same collectors, having been our personal friends, have let us slide by from day to day, putting off the inevitable until the last minute, sometimes getting into trouble over our delinquency.

The new system has worked with success elsewhere. It can be made to do the same in Halifax County. It is only a single step in the progress which the county must make in the years to come if this business of running the county is to be a business and not a plaything for political playboys. We might add that our own Commissioner, W. F. Joyner, played no small part in bringing about this change of system. Some of you will recall that his ideas about a business manager and a business like administration were booted at a meeting of the Taxpayers League, yet it appears now that those who came to scoff have remained to praise.

IMPROVED FIRE DEPARTMENT

Slowly but surely we progress. The latest acquisition of the city government is a powerful centrifugal pump for the fire truck which has been tested and not found wanting.

A test was made at various parts of the city and the pump made it possible to throw two heavy streams more than one hundred feet up in the air at terrific pressure. Both streams were coming from the same fire plug.

The fire department will now have sufficient

pressure at any time to throw water over any building in the community. The force with which the water is thrown will, in itself, hasten the end of any normal blaze.

As a further test, water was pumped from Chocokoyotte Creek with the new equipment and this test was also successful. It did not take the fire fighters very long to understand the mechanics of the new equipment and they are now manipulating the heavy pressure hose like old timers.

When the two communities become one, it is the plan to have a similar truck in the other end of town, so that a fire can be reached in the shortest possible time. The other truck, of course, will arrive to do its share of the work, but fire-fighters will tell you that those precious few minutes at the beginning of a fire spell the difference between successful stoppage and total loss.

AN IMPORTANT AMENDMENT

If it be true that the constitutional amendment which will be voted on by the people of North Carolina in November will be the means of lowering the State tax on money and savings accounts, then we are for it.

The amendment referred to is that one to classify property for purpose of taxation. This refers to personal property which is now lumped under one general classification.

It would mean that money would have a separate rate which could be made more in keeping with that of nearby States. Especially is that necessary in our own and similar communities near the State line. It is a well known fact that thousands of Halifax and Northampton dollars lie in Virginia banks just across the border, because of the exorbitant and wholly unreasonable money tax in this State.

Why there should be such discrimination and burden placed on thrift and the ability to acquire and save is beyond us. It is like making a sin of virtue. No wonder it is difficult to borrow money when it is almost a crime for anyone to have it to lend.

THE THINNING RANKS

Altho Roanoke Rapids is a new town compared with others of the country, the Grim Reaper is gradually cutting wide swaths in the ranks of those pioneer citizens who built the town and to whom goes the glory rightfully possessed by those who carve new communities from the defiant wilderness.

Last week saw the passing of William Edward Britt. He came here with his father from Weldon when the bulkhead was being constructed. He was one of the first to be employed at the old Roanoke Mills Co. He was the oldest member of the Roanoke Rapids Methodist Church. He was interested in school, church, lodge and political activities of the community for years. He receives that highest praise which can come to any man from his fellow men: he was a good citizen.

POLITICAL SPEECHES AND POLITICS

The newspapers say that President Hoover, in his two speeches at Boston and one at Kings Mountain this week, avoided mentioning politics. Our first reaction to that report was that the President had been given some pretty sound advice beforehand. With the Republican administration tottering, with economic conditions as they are under Republican prosperity, with even the faith of the old liners wavering, the President would have been an ass to mention politics.

But this tour of his, these public utterances before partisan crowds, this front page publicity, just prior to the November elections,—that's politics of the first water. The President's speeches may not mention politics; the President's tour is politics.

For the fifth time gallant Sir Thomas Lipton has failed to lift the American's cup, his latest challenger, the Shamrock, having been defeated in four straight races by the American sloop Enterprise. He is now 81 years old and will probably abandon his efforts to capture the coveted trophy, begun 31 years ago. His fine sportsmanship has won the admiration of the world, however, and the esteem in which he is held by his fellowmen is worth more than a hundred prize cups.

THINGS THAT NEVER HAPPEN

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MARTINIQUE—16th St. at M, Northwest. Ideal for motorists. Single with bath, \$3 to \$4. Double with bath \$5 to \$6.

HAMILTON HOTEL—14th at K St. In the heart of the city. Single with bath \$3 to \$5. Double with bath, \$5 to \$8.

CAIRO HOTEL—Que St. at 16th — Washington's tallest building. Single with bath \$3 to \$3.50. Double with bath, \$4 to \$6.

Re-Sale of Land

Pursuant to the provisions of a certain deed of trust made by J. C. Smith to the undersigned trustee on December 9, 1927, as appears of record in the office of the Register of Deeds for Halifax County, in Book 381 at Page 489, default having been made in the payment of the notes thereby secured, and the holder of said notes having requested me so to do, I will at 11 o'clock a. m., on Saturday, October 18, 1930, on the premises sell to the highest bidder for cash those four certain lots of land situated on the West side of Roanoke Avenue in the Town of Roanoke Rapids, shown as lots Nos. 36, 37, 38 and 39 on map of record in the office aforesaid, in Map Book 3 at Page 64.

These lots were sold previously, but an advanced bid was made within ten days after said sale, according to law. Therefore these lots are being resold as above stated.

This the 2nd day of October, 1930.
T. W. M. LONG, Trustee.
Long & Crewe, Attorneys.
21-oct-9.

Mrs. T. C. Carshall of St. Paul, Minn., was asked in court how she knew her husband was drunk, she replied, "Because he put his shoes on the hall rag and took his hat to bed."

Lain eA. Thompson of Timmons-ville, S. C., and Hilmer Abrahamson of Ashland were man and wife within one half hour after their first meeting.

Ernest Stokes of Stourbridge, Eng. was fined two cents for assaulting Roland Woodhall, who had gossiped about Stokes' wife.

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