

TAXES . . . time to halt

I don't know of any community, county or state in which taxes have not gone up in the past two or three years. Certainly there is none in which taxes are not materially higher than they were ten years ago. I've just got my tax bills for 1934, and perhaps I'm unduly concerned; but I can't help coming back to the belief I have long cherished, that sooner or later we've got to abandon the tax on capital and find other and more equitable ways of raising money with which to run our various governments.

The real estate property tax is a tax on capital. Nothing like it exists anywhere else in the world, so far as I am informed. It was adopted in America in the pioneer days when there wasn't anything else, much, to tax except land. I like the English system much better. There property is taxed on the basis of what it earns—the income tax carried down to the income of everybody who owns a piece of property that is rented. Of course, there are other taxes, but they do not constitute a lien on real property.

INCOMES . . . the average

The average income in the United States is said, by Henry Wallace in his new book, to be about or under \$1,500 a year. That includes everybody who works for a living—except farmers. He figures that the average farm income has been cut down from about \$1,300 a year to something like \$500 a year.

Of course, Mr. Wallace is talking about cash incomes. Out of his \$1,500 a year the industrial worker has to pay for food and lodging. If he has \$500 a year left he is either a financial wizard or just plump lucky. But the farmer, out of his \$500 cash income, has to pay taxes and, like as not, mortgage interest, to say nothing of insurance and other items he can't "work out," so it's about as bad as it is long.

The fallacy, it seems to me, lies in comparing the farmer with the wage-earner. The proper comparison is between the farmer and the business man, owner of his own business. The farmer is a capitalist, and subject to the risks that all capital is subject to. That isn't to say that he doesn't have plenty of trouble, but at the worst, he is not in such imminent danger of starvation as the unemployed industrial worker.

STAMPS . . . for all taxes.

I don't know how many kinds of Internal Revenue stamps there are, but it strikes me that the easiest and most painless way for any government to collect taxes is by making it illegal to sell anything that doesn't bear a Government stamp. I know that's merely another way of saying "sales tax," which is a phrase that always makes politicians see red. Nevertheless, some of our most important sources of revenue are from the sales taxes, already in force.

There are revenue stamps on every bottle of liquor, ever barrel of beer, every pack of playing cards, every pack of cigarettes or box of cigars. Shares of stock cannot be legally transferred without sticking revenue stamps on them. Everyone is familiar with the sales tax on gasoline.

The only reason why stamp or sales taxes are not imposed upon flour, potatoes, shoes, hats and canned goods, is the fear of the politicians in power that the ordinary man would thus be forced to realize that he is paying taxes, and would vote the politicians who imposed them out of office. There isn't any other reason at all.

DRINKING . . . and accidents

Vermont reports five times as many automobile accidents since the repeal of prohibition as in any year previous. Vermont newspaper and officials are unanimous in blaming this on liquor. The Government collected \$86,000,000 in taxes on distilled liquors and \$169,000,000 on beer in the year ending July 1, but only \$4,000,000 on wines. Better wine is made in the United States than in France or Italy, but we are not a wine-drinking people.

The dream of sudden prosperity through repeal has proved merely a dream. Hundreds of concerns that got liquor licenses in New York, thinking everybody was going to rush to the bars, have abandoned them rather than pay the high license fee. Many liquor dealers have gone broke.

It took a hundred years of education to arouse public sentiment against the abuse of alcohol. Now the effort seems to be all in the other direction. Prohibition was unworkable as a national program. It will take a couple of generations to bring us back to a sane, balanced understanding of the liquor question. Meantime, drunk drivers will kill off a growing percentage of sober folk.

Twenty Catawba County Jersey breeders have signed up to have their cattle tested for Bang's disease. Others are expected to join the movement.

J. J. Honeycutt of Cabarrus County harvested 200 bushels of Italian rye grass seed from ten acres planted.

Becomes a King



Belgrade, Yugoslavia.—Above is the last picture of Peter II, as a carefree boy of 11 years, seeing London sights. The photo was taken 13 days before he became the boy King of Yugoslavia through the assassination of his father, King Alexander, while on an official mission in France.

WATAUGAN DIES IN AUTO WRECK

Blowing Rock Citizen Fatally Injured and Another Hurt When Truck and Car Collide on Lenoir Road, Broken Neck and Fractured Skull.

Henry Greene, 21-year-old resident of the Blowing Rock section, was fatally injured last Thursday in an automobile-truck collision on the Blowing Rock-Lenoir Highway, while three of the four other passengers in the two vehicles were unhurt.

Greene died before reaching a hospital. He suffered a broken neck, fractured skull, several broken ribs, and sustained other injuries.

Clyde Hampton of Lenoir, driver of the truck, which sideswiped the light passenger car, is being held under a \$2,000 bond pending further investigation by Sheriff J. C. Tolbert of Caldwell County.

Adult Educational Work Discussed by Teachers

(By MRS. V. B. MAST)

The teachers of adult education met in Boone on Saturday for the discussion of problems that confront them as teachers in a new field. Unlike regular day school teachers they must face their problems and work them out among themselves.

Pioneers are they—those teachers who are blazing the trail in Watauga County for a new field of education. In years to come they may be looked upon as torch bearers who carried the light into many who had been groping in darkness.

What do they do, and whom and what do they teach? So many people are asking these questions, and it is imperative that they know the correct answer. In the first place the teachers go into the homes of the people and seek to interest them in some phase of education. If they are progressive mothers, they probably will be interested in home-making, child care, music, art, and various other subjects. If enough such mothers are found a class is organized and oh, the fun they have as they sew, hook rugs, learn the do, ra, me, fa's, bake better cakes, arrange the furniture to make the home cozier, and learn to balance Junior's diet.

The fathers are usually interested in knowing how to "figger" a little better so they can transact business to their own liking. Along with mathematics they are taught to write good business letters, government affairs, news of the State and county, and the fundamentals of grammar.

Then those who cannot read and write are sought with a bit more interest. To open to them a new life and to life the veil of darkness that has so long shut out the best that life affords, that is the blessed opportunity that belongs to the teacher of adults.

"Can they actually learn?" This question has been asked. In answer let me say that a group of students who started to night school September 1st, not knowing A from B, can now write a short letter, add, subtract, multiply and in fact know most of the fundamental processes. They are taught health and citizenship along with the three Rs. These students are enthusiastic over their accomplishments and many of them are firmly resolved to carry on until they have at least an eighth grade education.

JAMES LINNEY IS KILLED; BANNER ELK MEN ESCAPE

Cousin of Late Frank A. Linney Literally Beat to Death by Tenant Farmer, George Perkins and Berker Townsend Else Wrath of Assailant; Deceased Was a Former Postmaster, Teacher and Editor.

James C. Linney, nephew of Col. Romulus Z. Linney, and first cousin of the late Frank A. Linney of Boone, was found dead in a public road near Taylorsville Monday and his tenant, W. R. Reavis, was charged by officers with beating him to death.

Mr. Linney was former postmaster of the village of Hiddenite, five miles from Taylorsville.

Officers quoted Reavis as admitting he had engaged in a fist fight with his 55-year-old landlord after a dispute Monday morning, but said he contended Linney walked away from the scene without showing signs of being badly hurt.

When arrested, Reavis expressed surprise upon being told that Linney was dead.

Linney's body was found on a road a quarter of a mile from the farm he had rented to Reavis. A passing motorist picked him up and brought him to Taylorsville.

Several bruises were found on the head and neck but there were no other wounds.

Dispute Over Rental of Farm

Reavis said the dispute arose when Linney informed him he planned to rent the farm to another tenant.

The Hiddenite man was a former school teacher and was once engaged in newspaper work at North Wilkesboro.

He is survived by his widow, a daughter, Ruth Linney, of Roaring River, and a brother, the Rev. W. E. Linney of Wilkesboro.

The difficulty between Linney and Reavis occurred when the former went to the farm about noon accompanied by George Perkins and Berker Townsend, both of Banner Elk, who were interested in renting the farm.

After Reavis had knocked down Linney and beaten him until he pleaded for mercy, according to witnesses, he turned to Perkins and Townsend, and ordered them to leave. Both ran, stopping at the home of S. D. Cwalter to ask for help.

Perkins and Townsend are being held under bonds of \$1,000 each as material witnesses.

An examination of Mr. Linney's body by Coroner A. M. Edwards was reported to have shown facial bruises and discoloration about the throat. The coroner, who summoned a jury for an inquest has not made known the verdict.

Linney, who had resided in Hiddenite for several years and who taught school prior to becoming postmaster, was 59 years old and a graduate of Trinity College, now Duke University.

Debt Adjustment Board Is Organized in Watauga

Organization of Watauga County's farm debt adjustment committee was perfected Tuesday when the committee appointed by Governor Ehringhaus was called together by J. W. Sears, of Goldsboro, field representative for the State Commission.

The following officers were elected: Chairman, W. H. Walker, Boone; vice-chairman, J. B. Horton, Cove Creek; secretary, Newton Cook, of Boone. Other members are R. T. Greer of Boone and T. C. Baird of Valle Crucis.

Any debtor or creditor seeking a readjustment in the debt relationship with the other, may ask this committee to investigate and make recommendations to either or both parties for the purpose of effecting a satisfactory solution of any existing difficulties.

Grace Hospital Is On Approved List

Grace Hospital, operated as a unit of the Edgar Tufts Memorial Association, Banner Elk, was among the list of approved hospitals recently given out by the American College of Surgeons.

Being on the approved list means that requirements of modern hospitalization have been fully met and that all details for the safety of patients have been carried out. The list is considered a guide for people selecting a hospital in which to take treatment or to enter into nurses training.

In answering the question as to who shall go to an adult school, there is no restriction. We might say that anyone who is not satisfied with his or her store of knowledge may go to an adult school. We wish that more people in Watauga would become dissatisfied with their present education.

There are around 268 adults now attending school in Watauga County.

Soldier-Solon Upholds Administration



Representative Albert L. Bulwinkle of the Tenth District, who gave a comprehensive review of the accomplishments of the New Deal in a public address at the Courthouse Monday evening.

BANK DEPOSITORS GET CHECKS TODAY

\$10,000 Goes to Depositors in Watauga Bank, Representing 26 Per Cent Dividend, New Deposits Reach \$146,000, Says Hagaman.

Those who had business in the Watauga County Bank at the time of its closing on March 4, 1933, are today being given checks in the aggregate amount of \$40,000, the first dividend to be paid to the old depositors. Cashier G. P. Hagaman asks that the depositors call at the bank, receive their checks, and new certificates of stock as provided for in the plan of reorganization.

Mr. Hagaman states that since its opening the bank's business is increasing at a rapid rate and that \$140,000 in new deposits have passed through the windows. Every indication is that the bank is now on a firm footing and will receive the normal support of the people of this section.

Boone High Defeats Wilkesboro High, 13-0

On Friday, October 19th, Boone High School clashed with the Wilkesboro team on Wilkesboro field. The results of the game were 13-0 in favor of the Boone squad.

The Boone boys received the ball on their 35-yard line and after several unsuccessful line plunges, the ball went to the Wilkesboro boys. Although the teams were quite evenly matched in size and weight, the Wilkesboro boys failed to gain and were forced to punt.

No outstanding plays were made until the fourth quarter when Vincent Greer received a pass from Hamby and scored a touchdown for the Boone team. With eight minutes to play, Hamby made a touchdown on a fake pass, and as the try for extra point failed the game ended with the score 13-0 in favor of Boone High.

All the players on both teams deserve credit for the clean sportsmanship shown throughout the contest. The outstanding players for Boone were Desos Barnett for his success in carrying the ball, and Hamby for his strategy in the backfield.

Saturday Last Day to Register for Election

Those who expect to vote in the November 6th election must see to it that their names are on the registration books not later than Saturday if they expect to avail themselves of the privilege of the franchise. Saturday is the last day the books will be open, and Saturday week will be observed as challenge day. No one who has previously voted need re-register. Registration is required only for newcomers, and those just now coming of age. A person must have resided in the State for twelve months or in the precinct for four months before he is eligible to vote there.

BULWINKLE CITES NEW DEAL AS BOON TO GREAT MASSES

Tenth District Congressman Answers Republican Charges of Lessened Liberty, His First Political Speech Here, Lauds Bob Doughton And Decries the Liberty of Hunger, Cold And Unemployment in Nation.

Hon. A. L. Bulwinkle, Major in the Thirtieth Division during the World War and representative in Congress from the tenth district for the past twelve years, answered the foe of the New Deal in an address to a large crowd of Wataugans who gathered at the courthouse Tuesday evening. It was the occasion of Mr. Bulwinkle's first public appearance in Boone since 1919, when he delivered an address at a celebration honoring the return of the soldiers from foreign fields.

Repeating the charges being made by Republican leaders that the liberties were being taken from the people, Mr. Bulwinkle entered into a vigorous endorsement of the Rooseveltian era and decried the kind of liberty which brought hunger, cold and general unemployment to fifteen million breadwinners in a land of plenty.

Going back to a bleak day in March 1933 when Franklin D. Roosevelt was inaugurated as President of the United States, the speaker declared that America was groping in the dark—revolution had raised its gory head, the farm belts and industrial centers, the banking system of the country was destroyed, fifteen millions of people thrived the streets and highways in search of employment and food for starving children and the Hoover Administration had proven itself unmindful to the misery which stalked throughout the land.

The Congress was called into session, he said, a banking system was created from the ruins with Federal deposit insurance, the NRA was established and four and a half millions of people were returned to gainful employment, a revolting farm populace regained their sobriety and industry as farm loans saved foreclosures or hundreds of thousands of doomed plantations; the Home Owners Loan Corporation was instituted and seven hundred thousands in the towns were permitted to stay by their own firesides; the Federal Relief Administration yielded the necessities of life to millions, and the cries of starvation were hushed; Public and Civil Works Administrations provided employment to two million, and 750,000 youths were restored to manhood through the Civilian Conservation Corps. Through the AAA farmers in North Carolina are receiving more than double former prices for their cotton and tobacco, most other farm products have risen accordingly, declared the speaker, and yet we would a turn to the "liberty" which precludes these improvements.

Mr. Bulwinkle told of sweat shops in which women toiled for 12 hours for 25 and 40 cents, of the child labor situation in the textiles, and lauded the Administration for forcing the employers to pay a living wage.

Cites Mistakes

Mr. Bulwinkle declared that mistakes were bound to occur in putting over such a stupendous recovery program, especially as regards the direct relief, but stated that the life of one hungry child was worth the expenditure.

Turning for a moment to former President Hoover, the Tenth District Congressman declared that in his recent book, the ex-President scorns regimentation. "During his time, through the RFC, the government was regimented in favor of the privileged few. He didn't say anything when Charlie Dawes drew eighty millions of Federal money for his banks, when railway executives were draining the treasury, and insurance companies were coming in for their dig. But he is opposed, apparently, to help for the masses. If government is regimented now, it is regimented in favor of all the people," he continued.

In the beginning Mr. Bulwinkle paid high tribute to Congressman Robert L. Doughton, and to the many veterans from Watauga County who soldiered with him during the World War.

The distinguished speaker was introduced to his audience by Solicitor Charles T. Zimmerman, and Hon. W. R. Lovill finished with a rousing Democratic speech, lauding the Democracy, lambasting Hoover and Alfred E. Smith, and calling upon the partisans of the section to use every ounce of their power in gaining a smashing victory at the polls.

Board of Education Honors Dr. Allen

The offices of the Board of Education were closed Monday afternoon, the cessation of business being out of respect to Dr. A. T. Allen, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, who died Saturday, and during whose funeral no business was transacted. County offices throughout the State paid respects to the deceased educator in like manner.

Stanly County trench silo owners were busy last week smoothing the walls of their silos and filling them with winter feed for their dairy cows.