



Washington — the urgency for balancing our Federal budget and halting the dangerous trend of recent years toward a growing Federal debt is to be found in a study of the gross Federal debt and interest in fiscal years 1933-61.

Federal Debt. When President Franklin D. Roosevelt assumed office on March 4, 1933, the gross Federal debt was \$20.9 billions. The depression was sinking the country in despair; the foundations of our free enterprise system were threatened. Drastic action was demanded; it came. During the period of the recovery, a justification can be made for unbalanced budgets. From 1933 through 1940, the debt had increased to \$48 billions. The war years raised the national debt from the 1940 figure to the mammoth figure of almost \$270 billion at the end of fiscal year 1946.

Efforts At Debt Reduction. President Truman's administration was able to make three significant national debt reductions, the largest being in fiscal year 1947 when \$11.5 billion was applied to debt reduction. The following year the reduction was \$6 billion, bringing down the gross national debt from the World War II high of \$270 billion to \$252.7 billion. In 1949, there was a half billion dollar debt increase; in 1950, a \$4.5 billion jump, followed by a debt reduction of \$2.1 billion in 1951.

With the coming to power of the Eisenhower administration, the national debt increased, the first year's increase reflecting the cost of the war in Korea. But the disturbing factor is that the national debt continued to rise, soaring to the highest point in our nation's history. In 1955, the figure was \$274.4 billion. In 1956 and 1957, the Eisenhower administration was able to reduce the national debt to only \$270.6 billion. Since that time the gross Federal debt has again soared, setting another all-time record for fiscal year 1960 at approximately \$285 billion.

Outlook. The outlook for significant Federal debt reduction is indeed bleak. President Eisenhower told the Congress that he foresees a \$4.5 billion surplus in fiscal year 1961, which would be applied to reduce the national debt. I share the views expressed by Senator Harry F. Byrd of Virginia with respect to the predictions by the President. It seems unreal to forecast this surplus when so little effort is being made by the Administration—as well as others—to curtail expenditures. Moreover, any such rosy figure is predicated on the assumption that Congress will increase postal rates, gasoline taxes, and reduce certain features of the farm program.

Blame Shared. My view is that both the Executive and Legislative branches of the Federal government manifest a high degree of financial irresponsibility. It is shocking to realize that our national debt has risen in 28 years from \$20.9 billion to \$285 billion. In only five of 28 years — three under President Truman and two under President Eisenhower — has there been any debt reduction. During this period, the taxpayers have paid \$122 billion for interest on this national debt. This fiscal year, the taxpayers will fork over \$9.3 billion for interest on the national debt.

Will Debt Be Reduced? It is exceedingly difficult to reduce governmental expenditures because more and more is demanded of the Federal government. Foreign aid demands are soaring as reflected in President

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Eisenhower's message this year. Defense expenditures will have to remain high and little progress has been made toward unification of our defense effort which could help reduce our expenditures considerably.

Weekly Devotional Column

By JAMES MACKENZIE

The message from our Lord Jesus Christ to the saints at Laodicea (The Revelation 3:14-22.)

Last week we finished discussing the church at Philadelphia, the best of the seven churches addressed in chapters two and three of the book of the Revelation. Today we shall begin consideration of the church at Laodicea, the worst.

Laodicea, a sister city of Colossae, was located about 43 miles southeast of Philadelphia, about 100 miles from Ephesus. It was founded in 250 B.C., by Antiochus II, who named it for his wife. Let us hope for his sake that she was a better woman than her namesake was a city.

It was a wealthy town. The banking and clothing center of Asia-Minor. Indeed, it was the Paris of its day, the home of fashion. All the best-dressed women of the time came from Laodicea, and all its men were fashion-plates. The chief god of the city was Men (pronounced "mane"), whose specialty was healing. In keeping with this "phrygia," a famous remedy for weak and ailing eyes was manufactured at Laodicea (which will help explain the last phrase in verse 18).

What kind of a church was there? Ultra-dispensationists tell us the church at Laodicea is a type of the church in our present day, and while I do not agree with their viewpoint in this respect, there are certainly some remarkable similarities.

The church at Laodicea was, first of all, "rich and increased with goods." (verse 17). They had everything they wanted—they had need of nothing. The members were wealthy and prominent—they did not have to sacrifice to pay their church's bills. It was a wealthy church—the kind of church every preacher would like to pastor—the kind of church that will ultimately drive its pastor to despair.

It was a lukewarm church

(verses 15-16). It was not a "cold" church—they had the form of godliness there. Neither was it a "hot" church—they had no zeal, no passion, no fire for the Lord's work. Rather it was sort of an exclusive club that only the "best people" were encouraged to join.

It is understandable for a club or a lodge to be exclusive; though inconsistent when that club or lodge claims to have a "greater light" that will aid in "subduing the passions." But when the Church, which has the glorious light of the Gospel, the keys to heaven, becomes class-ridden and exclusive, it well deserves the admonition of our Lord Jesus, "I will spue thee out of my mouth" (verse 16). (The Greek word translated "spue" is emesai, and literally means "vomit". Jesus was saying to the Laodiceans, "You nauseate me, I will vomit you out of my mouth".)

(to be continued next week)

IN GERMAN EXERCISE

Army Specialist Four James Nowell, 24, son of Mr. and Mrs. William T. Nowell of Edenton, is participating with other personnel from the 565th Quartermaster Company in Exercise Winter Shield at the Grafenwohr-Hohenfels training area in southern Germany. The maneuver is scheduled to end February 7.

Winter Shield, an annual winter maneuver involving 60,000 troops, is designed to determine the combat readiness of Seventh Army troops.

Nowell, a recovery and disposition specialist in the company in Kaiserslautern, entered the Army in April 1953 and was stationed at Fort Lee, Va., before arriving overseas on this tour of duty in August 1959.

Nowell attended Edenton High School.

Commissioners' Proceedings

The Board of County Commissioners met Monday, February 1, 1960, at 9 o'clock A. M., with all members present, including Chairman W. E. Bond, J. R. Peele, C. J. Hollowell, J. Gilliam Wood and Dallas Jethro, Jr.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved and the following bills were ordered paid: Mental Health Clinic, 1959-60 appropriation, \$1,100.00; J. L. Chestnutt, Postmaster, stamps for Sheriff's office, \$20.00; J. L.

Chestnutt, Postmaster, postage for County Accountant's office, \$1.00; W. P. Jones, postage supplies for tax office, \$19.11; Chowan County Board of Education, for classroom construction, \$9,945.09; Ralph E. Parrish, Inc., \$3.50; Edenton Insurance Agency, premium on bonds for G. C. Rioskams, Lena Leary and Evelyn Williams, \$350.00; Edenton Colored High School, band appropriation, \$500.00; Internal Revenue Service, withholding tax, \$604.30; W. E. Bond, expenses to Raleigh, \$9.70; Jordan Yates, expenses to Raleigh for meeting with State Fire Inspector, \$19.60; E. E. Harrell, treasurer Pettigrew Regional Library, 1959-60 appropriation for Shepard-Pruden Memorial Library and Brown-Carver Library, \$874.00; Nathan H. Yelton, Director N. C. Public Employees' S. S. Agency, \$765.44; R. C. Holland, Agent, fourth installment on premium policy No. 172804, \$67.08; District Health Dept., \$983.77; Orthopedic Clinic, \$15.00; H. S. Small, rent for Deputy Collector office, \$25.00; Twiddy Insurance & Real Estate, rent ASC office, \$60.00; Elton Forehand Insurance Agency, rent for Sheriff's office, \$30.00; H. S. Small, rent, \$55.00; William Mayo, janitor service, \$2.50; Mrs. Carolyn C. McMullan, travel, \$37.80; Mrs. Hazel S. Elliott, travel, \$45.36; Edenton Postmaster, advance for postage, \$12.00; The Chowan Herald, office supplies, \$62.00; Belk-Tyler's, shoes for indigent children, \$25.96; R. L. Vann High School, \$5.00; Burkhead-DeVane Printing Co., \$223.34; Byrum Hardware Co., Inc., \$2.17; Bertram Byrum, care of prisoners, \$152.78; Pauline Calloway, telephone services and expenses, \$27.30; The Chowan Herald, \$232.15; Chowan Hospital, for indigent patients, \$734.72; Coastal Office Equipment Co., ribbons, \$7.50; Cuthrell Dept. Store, \$9.81; Commercial Printing Co., \$6.23; N. C. Dept. of Conservation & Development, \$31.41; Eastern North Carolina Sanatorium, \$74.40; Edenton Ice Co., \$242.36; Edenton Office Supply, \$15.10; Elliott Company, \$19.80; Edwards & Broughton Co., 82c; Sheriff M. Earl Good-

win, bills and services, \$368.53; W. D. Holmes Wholesale Grocery, Inc., \$6.50; Hughes-Parker Hardware Co., \$2.70; Leary Bros. Storage Co., \$26.71; R. T. Mills Plumbing & Heating, \$11.64; Mitchell Printing Co., \$34.10; Sophie Mullen, midwife, emergency case, \$25.00; National Association of County Officials, \$30.00; Norfolk & Carolina Tel. & Tel. Co.; county offices and county jail \$12.58, Dept. Public Welfare \$8.75, County Accountant \$9.90, Tax Supervisor \$7.65, U. S. Govt. Soil Conservation Service \$10.75, Negro County Agent \$6.83, Clerk Superior Court \$16.25, Sheriff \$11.70; N. C. Memorial Hospital, \$72.50; National 4-H Supply Store, \$3.15; Louise Obici Memorial Hospital, \$112.00; C. W. Overman, telephone services and supplies, \$22.80; Parker's Drop-In, \$8.00; Ricks Laundry & Cleaners, \$4.06; Jack Rountree, refund on 1950 taxes, \$5.41; Rowson & Blair Funeral Home, \$125.00; Tom H. Shepard, CSC services, \$32.40; John E. Shackelford, services, \$100.00; State Commission for the Blind, \$81.76; Town of Edenton, E. L. & W. Dept., \$43.89; J. T. Twine, \$30.00; W. R. West, \$5.00; Rose's 5-10-25c Store, 85c; General Salaries for January, \$4,637.96; Mrs. M. L. Burch, services, \$3.50; Colonial Broadcasting Co., Inc., \$36.00.

On motion of J. R. Peele, seconded by Dallas Jethro, Jr., and unanimously carried that the bid for County Home property of \$10,700 be accepted, and the Chairman of Board and Clerk to Board be authorized to execute deeds to J. Wallace Good-

win and Marvin Ashley in such proportion as they may desire and to deliver said deed upon receipt of total price of \$10,700.

On motion of Gilliam Wood, seconded by J. R. Peele and duly carried that Sheriff Earl Goodwin be relieved of 1960 tax of Jack Rountree, \$5.41, and same be refunded to Jack Rountree; he was out of the county at the time.

On motion of Dallas Jethro, Jr., seconded by C. J. Hollowell and duly carried that \$34.94 in pickups be charged to the Sheriff.

On motion of C. J. Hollowell, seconded by Dallas Jethro, Jr., and duly carried that action on the Woman's Club project of improving the Green be deferred pending further study and investigation; the Board hopes to be able to come to some conclusion at March 7th meeting.

On motion duly carried that Chairman W. E. Bond be authorized to contact K. M. Floors and Mr. Phelps of Bertie County in regards to an electrical inspector for schools.

Notice of intention to apply to N. C. Alcoholic Beverage Control Board for a permit to sell beer by Joseph K. Swanner to operate at Joe's Drive-In was approved and ordered filed.

Upon request of U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the consent of heirs, the Commissioners have given permission for two graves to be relocated in Beaver Hill Cemetery, as the graves are interfering with the development of new fish hatch-

ery. The following reports were accepted and ordered filed: Treasurer; C. W. Overman, county agent; Harry Venters, assistant county agent; Pauline Calloway, home economics agent; Catherine Aman, assistant home economics agent; Fletcher F. Lassiter, Negro county agent; Onnie S. Charlton, Negro home economics agent; County Welfare Dept.; Sheriff; Chowan County Alcoholic Beverage Control Board; audit report, December 31, 1959 was accepted.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

W. E. BOND, Chairman
BERTHA B. BUNCH,
Clerk to Board

On Monday, February 15th you are invited to attend our **Display Sale** for men and ladies' Tailored-To-Measure Clothes **Mr. Dave Kramer** will be here to show you hundreds of beautiful new fabrics and to take your measurements. **CUTHRELL DEPT. STORE** EDENTON, N. C.

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