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"If the choice were left to me whether to have a free press or a free government, I would choose a free press."—Thomas Jefferson.

FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 19, 1932

## POPULATION DATA

### CITIES AND TOWNS

Salisbury	16,951	Gold Hill	156
Spencer	3,129	Granite Quarry	507
E. Spencer	2,098	Rockwell	696
China Grove	1,258	Faith	431
Landis	1,388	Kannapolis	13,912

### TOWNSHIPS

Atwell	2,619	Morgan	1,327
China Grove	8,990	Mt. Ulla	1,389
Cleveland	1,445	Providence	2,589
Franklin	2,246	Salisbury	25,153
Gold Hill	2,642	S. Irish	1,251
Litaker	2,562	Steele	1,142
Locke	1,904	Unity	1,406

ROWAN COUNTY 56,665

## TALKING ANOTHER WAR WITH LAST ONE NOT PAID FOR

In The New York Times several days ago Charles Merz had a most interesting and enlightening article on the question of war debts, including the reparations, the war debts foreign nations owe the United States, and the war debts the allies owe one another. The figures are doubly important—because of the coming efforts on the part of the nations to readjust these debts, and because there's a threat of another war in the Far East.

Under the Young plan, Germany was to pay to the allies the sum of \$27,641,000,000 between 1929 and 1988. In the two years since then, Germany has paid \$684,000,000. How much she had paid before the Young plan is in dispute. Germany claims to have paid more than \$10,000,000,000; the commission credited her with \$1,900,000, and the Institute of Economics estimates the amount at \$6,138,000,000.

Anyway, Germany stands today to pay just about \$27,000,000,000 in the next fifty-six years, unless she refuses, or the payments are called off. Germany says she cannot pay, and that the nations should realize that at once.

During the war and in the period immediately following the United States loaned \$10,338,000,000 to twenty nations, but practically all of it went to England, France and Italy. Then those debts were readjusted, and England, it would seem, got less favorable consideration than any other nation. England borrowed \$4,277,000,000. In the debt agreement, she obligated herself to pay over a period of years in principal and interest, the sum of \$11,106,000,000, or nearly three times the amount borrowed, and a billion dollars more than the total amount loaned to all nations by the United States. Of that sum, England has paid back \$1,912,000,000. France borrowed \$3,404,000,000, agreed to pay, in principal and interest, \$6,848,000,000, and has paid \$486,000,000. France's debt, therefore, was just about twice the original amount borrowed. Italy borrowed \$1,648,000,000, agreed to pay \$2,407,000,000 and has paid \$97,000,000. If all the nations paid back according to their agreements, the United States would receive in principal and interest \$22,000,000,000 for the little more than \$10,000,000,000.

France now says that if Germany does not pay reparations, France will pay no more war debts. This year under the Young plan, Germany would pay France \$60,000,000 and England \$60,800,000, and after paying all war debt obligations, France would have \$90,000,000 left from her reparations payments. England, on the other hand, would have only \$3,000,000 left from reparations, while Italy would have \$13,000,000. If all debt payments were to be made according to agreement, the United States would have coming in this year \$285,600,000, and would pay out nothing.

But, some will say, Germany has paid a couple billion dollars in reparations, and should keep it up. As a matter of fact, during the reparations period, Germany has borrowed a billion more from the nations she owes than

she paid them in reparations and war debts. They were letting her have money with which to pay themselves. Naturally, there had to come an end to that some time.

Readers often find figures dull and tiresome, but these Mr. Merz has compiled are of vast importance to the world and especially to the United States. If Germany refuses to pay the allies and the allies refuse to pay us, then what?

## TO TAX OR CUT—?

Caught between a cross-fire of general and special interest, the Congress finds itself almost alone in facing the most serious and perplexing problem that has confronted it in years—the balancing of the budget.

On the one hand its members are assailed with pleas to prevent an increase in taxes. On the other they are deafened by outraged protests against cutting certain appropriations. And just to make it harder hardly a day passes that some member of the Congress does not arise and propose a new nostrum, ranging both ways from the dole, for the country's economic ills.

That the leaders are aware of the problem is indicated by statements from Washington. Speaker John N. Garner, majority leader, Henry T. Rainey and minority leader B. H. Snell are unanimous in their belief that the balancing of the budget is "the most important of all constructive issues before Congress," and that it is "the primary need in economic recovery and confidence."

Speaker Garner expresses the hope that a tax bill to bring in \$1,000,000,000 annually can be framed, believing such measure would balance the budget in a reasonable time. But Mr. Rainey fears demands for relief and protests against proposed economies in appropriation bills will endanger the plan to balance the budget.

It seems that every citizen is protesting against an increase in taxes, and then, as a member of some special group, is even more vehemently protesting against the cutting of some specific appropriation.

The general interest should outweigh the special. The budget should be balanced, if possible, through economies rather than through increased taxes. By all means, let the cuts in appropriations be made when they can be made without endangering too greatly the national welfare.

And don't forget the bureaus when the cuts are being made.

## SMITH IS "RECEPTIVE"

By announcing he is willing to lead the Democratic Party again if nominated, Alfred E. Smith tells us nothing we did not already know. Nevertheless his candid statement must be interpreted as a powerful factor making for a heated Democratic convention. Because they appeal to many of the same groups, Smith and Roosevelt are incompatible aspirants in the race.

Mr. Smith is certain to have a substantial and vociferous following at Chicago—enough probably to prevent the nomination of anyone he does not wish nominated, and not enough to secure the nomination for himself. This does not mean that Smith's strength is certain to be used against Roosevelt, but it does increase the prospects of the dark horses, Baker, Cox, Ritchie, Garner and possibly Governor Cross of Connecticut.

The real meaning of the Smith announcement; then, seems to be that the Democratic convention will not be a one-ballot affair for Roosevelt, and that the chances of the less aggressive entries are enhanced considerably.

## MONETARY SYSTEMS OF HAMILTON AND MELLON

The following is an excerpt from a letter recently received by a United States senator:

Secretary Mellon is or was often spoken of as a "second Alexander Hamilton." Here are their respective monetary systems:

- Hamilton's:  
Ten mills make one cent,  
Ten cents make one dime,  
Ten dimes make one dollar,  
Ten dollars make an Eagle.
- Mellon's:  
Ten mills, not one working,  
Ten cents, a drug-store lunch,  
Ten dimes, one day's wages,  
Ten dollars, a rich man.

Maybe the world wouldn't have so much trouble in solving its problems if it could get the real facts established.

Farmers seldom starve; that's why there hasn't been an agrarian revolt in the United States in the last five years.

What's become of the fellow who used to tell about how much he made on the market's daily advances?

## His Spirit Still Leads Us

By Albert T. Reid



## THE WATCHMAN TOWER

capable supervision, has been conducted in an exceptionally efficient manner.

GOVERNOR MATTHEW ROWAN.

## COMMENTS

### THE EASY WAY OUT

To the Editor:

There is a very easy solution of the prohibition muddle, which can be effected as soon as the country has proceeded a little further on the way to sanity. By the amendment Congress is granted concurrent power with the States to enforce its provisions. It has been decided that the States are under no obligation to exercise their concurrent power. From this it immediately follows that neither is Congress. The language of the amendment is clearly permissive, not mandatory. All that is needed is to elect a Congress with sufficient fortitude and wisdom to repeal the Volstead act. This would leave enforcement to the discretion of the States, where it belongs.

Dr. J. L. Morgan, President, North Carolina Lutheran Synod, Salisbury, N. C.

My dear Dr. Morgan:  
I congratulate you upon the honor conferred upon you by the North Carolina Lutheran Synod in your reelection to the presidency of that body.

As you have served as president of the synod on several prior occasions, your election again not only indicates the high esteem in which you are held, but also the approval of the service rendered in the past as head of this body.

GOVERNOR MATTHEW ROWAN.

To the People of Salisbury and Rowan County:

The National Safety Council has announced that on January 1 the number of cities to enter its Traffic Safety Contest had passed the 125 mark.

Six of the 13 major cities—those with more than 500,000 population—have enrolled, as have 17 of the 24 cities of between 250,000 and 500,000. Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles, Baltimore and Pittsburgh are among the competing metropolises, and at the last report local parties were working to obtain the entries of New York, Boston, Philadelphia, San Francisco and Cleveland. When all entries are in about one-fourth of the entire population will be directly affected by the safety drive.

The contest is of inestimable benefit to the communities participating. It demands an accurate check of fatal accidents, and stresses the importance of adequate traffic law enforcement. It does an immense amount of good by making the public generally conscious of the responsibility every motorist should feel and live up to.

Last year 35,000 people lost their lives because of carelessness, incompetence or recklessness at the wheels of automobiles. This mounting record of death and accident has just forced an increase of automobile liability insurance rates in 14 states, based on the average loss cost per car from 1927 to 1930, inclusive. Now responsible motorists are promising themselves to do their part to lower the rate in 1932—and the National Traffic Safety Contest will do much to keep this pledge fresh in their minds.

GOVERNOR MATTHEW ROWAN.

To the Mayor and City Council of the City of Salisbury:

Your report showing that over 50 per cent of the 1931 taxes have been collected, deserves commendation. The figures reveal that \$202,233.23 out of a possible total of \$397,720.02 have been paid to date. Few cities in the state can boast of a similar record.

In spite of the recent disruption of the tax office, the work under your



### THE PLOW

By Richard Hengist Horne

Above yon somber swell of land  
Thou seest the dawn's grave orange hue,  
With one pale streak like yellow sand,  
And over that a vein of blue.

The air is cold above the woods;  
All silent is the earth and sky,  
Except with his own lonely moods  
The blackbird holds a colloquy.

Over the broad hill creeps a beam,  
Like hope that gilds a good man's brow;  
And now ascends the nostril-steam  
Of stalwart horses come to plow.

Ye rigid plowmen, bear in mind  
Your labor is for future hours!  
Advance—spare not—nor look behind,  
Plow deep and straight with all your powers.

criminal. Yet electricity and tools are as indispensable to the people as the lessening of the severity of the laws of manslaughter are to justice.

ERNEST HACK.

## SHOULDN'T IT BE RIGHT & JONES, INC.?

To the Editor:  
As this is an era of equal rights for women it is surprising that the women are willing to submerge their identities when they are married.

I have a suggestion to make to the fair sex whereby they can place marriage on a business basis and thus maintain their equal rights. Under the present system if Mr. Henry Jones marries Miss L. Right then she becomes Mrs. Jones, but the correct method is to become Mr. Henry Jones and Miss L. Right, Incorporated.

H. A. P.

## -: ST. PAULS ITEMS :-

The Yost Grange gave an interesting program Friday night, Feb. 12, with a large attendance; they also had plenty of music.

Mulbury school played Yost in a game of baseball Tuesday, Feb. 9, the score being 7-10 in favor of Yost.

We are sorry to learn the death of Clarence Wilhelm Saturday, 13, son of Blain Wilhelm. His death came almost instantly when the car in which he was riding overturned.

Dales Cauble Julian, son of S. H. Julian, was also killed by an automobile Saturday, Feb. 13.

Mrs. Mary L. Goodman visited Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Goodman Sunday, Feb. 14.

Mrs. H. A. Fesperman and Mr. R. D. Fesperman visited Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Goodman Friday evening, Feb. 12.

The best thing to do with worry is to divorce it.

