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 INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 1940



The Farmer's Biggest Crop

The biggest crop of which the average American farmer is conscious is neither wheat, cotton, or corn. It's taxes—and taxes are the hardest annual of them all. When he is confronted with increasing taxes—Federal, state, and local—the farmer can, of course, reflect that he's faced with a difficulty common to all citizens. But when it's a matter of cash on the line, and more hard work to gather the cash, that represents a pretty small source of satisfaction.

Last year's report of the Secretary of Agriculture discusses certain aspects of the farmer's "tax crop" in the following words:

"This of course is an old story, but its importance does not diminish. The general-property tax is the largest tax that farmers pay. Properly, according to accepted economic principles, a tax on land values should fall on net rent. The farmers should be able to pay it out of the income that accrues to the land as its share on the farm returns. In practice the farm real-estate tax varies greatly from such a purely land tax. (1) In addition to the permanent element of the land, the tax covers improvements and also perishable land elements that require upkeep. (2) It is haphazard: assessment is often nearly a blind guess at the value. (3) It is regressive; in other words, blind guessing at the value tends to overrate land of low values and to underrate high values. (4) It varies greatly in the 48 independent State systems, which include more than 160,000 semi-independent local jurisdictions."

"The Helpful Hen"

Speaking up for "the useful hen" the Christian Science Monitor editorializes as follows:

At a time when America's farm lands are still stirring drowsily following a long winter hibernation, when winter wheat manifests but faintly the activity which will culminate in July harvests, when the summer corn is as yet unplanted, an animated and decidedly vocal crop is emerging from its shell and heading toward maturity.

Baby chicks, tomorrow's income-producers on thousands of farms, now are being hatched in yet uncounted quantities. Time was when the production of poultry was considered a side issue. A flock of chickens had always been a part of the farm picture, but the husbandman raised them much as he grew a vegetable garden, with the thought of supplying his table, or, possibly, because his parents having maintained a group of hens, he was used to "seeing them around." Whatever was derived from the sale of eggs, he was inclined to consider as "pin money" for the farm wife.

When economic clouds darkened the sky, when crops were scant and their prices low, the agriculturist realized, through the small but dependable trickle of welcome cash derived from the sale of poultry or eggs, that "the helpful hen" was indeed living up to her alliterative appellation.

With the incubator and brooder largely taking the place of the traditional temperamental setting hen, and egg production attaining new highs with the development of improved strains, the old-time "chicken yard" has come to be recognized as a distinct asset in the multi-phased activities which make up today's diversified farming.

Housing Shortage

During the past five years far more homes have been constructed than in the period between 1930 and 1935.

Yet there are not nearly enough houses. It is true that everybody is sheltered some way or another but many people would live in better houses if better houses were available.

Commenting on the housing subject, The Oxford Ledger carried the following editorial:

"The immense increase in home building in most sections of the United States during the past three or four years has only begun to relieve the nation's housing needs.

"Just last week a widely known building executive made the statement that the nation's housing shortage was equivalent to 125 homes for each 10,000 families. When the 130,000,000 citizens of the United States are sub-divided into families, one readily sees that there are millions of

hours of labor for builders and those who provide materials for use of builders.

"There is, perhaps, no town of equal size in the state that is in greater need of new housing facilities than Oxford. Overcrowded conditions are to be found in homes occupied by white as well as colored citizens. Such conditions tend to create moral degeneracy, particularly among the colored population and to endanger health. "Home-ownership was not written into the precepts of democracy by the nation's founding fathers, but it is an essential contributing factor. Practice of thrift, encouragement of civic resourcefulness and good citizenship are not the least of the many reasons for encouragement of home ownership.

"A continuation of low interest home financing, erection of better homes through careful planning for maximum utility and execution of plans whereby families of low income can become home-owners through monthly payments makes a bright outlook for home construction."

Borrowed Comment

HELPFUL HUSBANDS

The government is not the only penetrating questioner. The Association of University Women has been asking wives some questions which prospective husbands may resent. Their survey brought out the fact that 57 per cent of the husbands who had been brought up on farms helped their wives with dishes or other housework. Of the city-bred husbands only 40 per cent did so.

This is a little hard to understand. Farm boys surely have less early training in kitchen tasks than city boys. Chores begin early in the day and must be done again in the evening, with other outside work in between. The farm boy isn't usually in the house much during the day to help.

Perhaps that is just the reason he's more willing to help in the house after he's married. He has never developed any complexes on the subject, for one thing. For another, any indoor job must seem fairly pleasant in some kinds of weather to a fellow who has always had to do outdoor jobs regardless of rain or snow or howling wind or extremes of temperature.

ABOVE THE BATTLE

(From The Christian Science Monitor)
 As a light that shines out of darkness, one of the most heartening signs of these times is discerned amid the disheartening moral half-light that war casts over Europe. To the New York Times, Anne O'Hare McCormick reports that in both France and Germany churches are filled not only on Sundays but often on weekdays, and that among the soldiers religion is an increasingly vital force. Others have observed similar conditions in England.

Among young French soldiers religious thinking is reported assuming almost the dimensions of a youth movement. And in the German army the religious attitude of older officers is reasserting itself against the demands of a paganized State religion. Most of the German youth has been inculcated with a fanatic faith in Hitlerism which would preclude the independence of thought requisite to true religious experience. Nevertheless, as Mrs. McCormick states:

In recent weeks . . . the Nazi government itself appears to have been encouraging religion in the army. At least, authorities have not interfered with efforts made in that direction by the military command. This change of attitude is said to have been forced on the government by the High Command as a safeguard against demoralization of the army.

Thus even a war that has come to pass partly because of attempts to stamp out religion, presses on men and on governments demands whose fulfillment causes them to turn back to religion. War, as Mrs. McCormick puts it, "is not only a national ordeal but a personal crisis for everyone involved." Were this not so, did not the element of personal crisis force individuals to seek "something above and beyond the battle they are forced to fight," we can imagine that war might easily have annihilated human kind by now.

But the ordering of men's lives is not by mere military command or the behest of dictatorship; it is such that the Psalmist could discern thousands of years ago what is being discerned in 1940: "All nations whom Thou hast made shall come and worship before Thee, O Lord; and shall glorify Thy name."

HELP ON THE FARMS

(Mecklenburg Times)
 In spite of the fact that there are hundreds of public works rolls and relief rolls in this county, the farmers are having a hard time getting help to do the work that must be done at this time of the year. One farmer and dairyman told us this week that he could not hire men to work and that he had more work to do than he could get done at this time.

He has work about the farm, such as caring for the hogs, feeding cattle, hauling, plowing, clearing branch banks, etc., that would provide work for several men for some weeks. A few of the jobs might be permanent, but he still can't get help.

This is a problem confronting many farmers in most all sections of the country at this time. Something should be done about it.

Cycle News Items Of the Past Week

Many people of this community attended the fifth Sunday singing at Sweet Home Sunday and reported a nice time.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Lakey and children, of Boonville, were visitors in the home of Mrs. Minnie Shore, Sunday.

Mrs. Pearl Shore visited her sister, Miss Molly Gray, who is sick at her home near Clingman, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Parks and small son, R. H., Jr., of Wilkesboro, were visitors in the Cycle community, Sunday.

Friends are glad to learn that Mrs. Elsie Shore has returned to her home after a treatment for a few days in the Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Pinnix and small daughter, Joan, and Mr. Shep Transou, of Winston-Salem, were the supper guests of Mrs. Pinnix's parents, Rev. and Mrs. Pervis C. Parks, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Parks and son, Junior, and Mrs. Dewitt Reynolds, of Winston-Salem, spent a short while Sunday afternoon in the Cycle community.

Miss Opal Ashley, of North Wilkesboro, spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Ashley.

Mrs. Evelyn Lawrence spent last week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Shore.

Mrs. Ruth Parks and Miss Foda Parks spent Monday in Yadkinville.

Roosevelt's Trip To Warm Springs Delayed By Illness

Washington. — The White House revealed yesterday that the illness which has bothered President Roosevelt for three weeks is intestinal influenza and said that he would defer a trip to Warm Springs, Ga., at least until April 18.

Aides previously had said that Mr. Roosevelt had a cold, and the President himself had described his illness facetiously as "swamp fever."

Stephen Early, a presidential secretary, said the Chief Executive's temperature had been normal several days but that the "flu" still was slightly in evidence in an occasional gaseous condition in the stomach area.

The postponement of the trip south, Early added, resulted from a combination of adverse weather at Warm Springs, the President's desire to be in Washington while of the trade treaty act, and ad-Senate scraps over extension vice of the White House physician, Rear Admiral Ross T. McInire, against a major change now in climate, food and water.

British Children Back To School

London, April 1.—More than 70,000 London children between the ages of eight and eleven returned to school today for the first time since the outbreak of the war.

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
 North Carolina, Wilkes County
 IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
 HENRY REYNOLDS

—vs—
 CLEM WRENN AND WIFE
 MRS. CLEM WRENN.

The defendants above named will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Wilkes county, North Carolina, for the foreclosure of a tax lien on lands in North Wilkesboro township, for the delinquent taxes of the year 1937 and.

The defendants are required to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Wilkes county, within thirty (30) days from service of this notice and answer or demurr to the complaint in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said action.

This the 3rd day of April, 1940.
 C. C. HAYES,
 Clerk of the Superior Court.
 4-25-4t (t)

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 —SEE—
PEARSON BROTHERS
 FOR THOSE DELICIOUS,
 SUGAR-CURED
COUNTRY HAMS
 ALL SIZES
 ★

Mind Your Mind

Where will you spend the last twenty or thirty years of your life? One of the encouraging trends of our times is relative to economic security for the later years of life. Another is the research being made by preventive medicine along dietetic and other lines to secure information as to how to enable the aged to live the latter part of life healthily. Coupled with this there should be a similar interest in keeping a well-ordered and active mind with which to enjoy the 60's, 70's, and 80's.

It is a matter of grave concern to psychiatrists that so many people are spending these last years in mental hospitals. "Mental disorders are showing tremendous increases over the age of fifty years." One of the purposes of this paragraph is to awaken interest in preventing senile dementia—mental disorders resulting from age. It cannot all be prevented but much of it can.

Mental disorder does not occur suddenly. The obvious break may appear sudden but there are factors leading up to it which have been at work for years. One of the aims of mental hygiene is to help the individual to maintain his mental health so that the last decades of life may be a time of contentment and happy enjoyment instead of dementia.

Editors note: This is the fourth of a series of articles running weekly in The Journal-Patriot. Persons having honest ideas they may wish discussed may address Dr. Watson in care of this paper.

A golfer had lost his ball, and, not unaturally, was inclined to be annoyed with his caddie. "Why didn't you watch where it went?" he asked angrily.

"Well sir," said the boy, "it don't usually go anywhere, and so it took me unprepared like."

Use the advertising columns of this paper as your shopping guide.

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