

THE FARMER'S CHOICE

It is interesting to note that 75 per cent of all Federal farm loan business done in North Carolina during the last fiscal year was done by the three joint stock land banks of the state.

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doing a larger business in the United States than all of the association, or farmer-owned and farmer-operated, banks. Our farmers do not like to be troubled with business details.

Federal and state laws have created ample machinery for marketing crops and for financing the farm through farmer-owned banks. It is the farmer's choice to determine whether he shall use the machinery that provides for him greater economic freedom or continue to enrich the coffers of those who do for him what he could and should do for himself.

Hundreds of Dollars in Tariff Taxes To One in Income Taxes.

(By Richard Linthicum) Writing to the New York Times, Abraham Benedict of New York, calls that paper's attention to the necessity for reducing the tariff as well as other taxes. The "paeon of praise of Secretary Mellon's program of tax reduction" should not be permitted to drown the complaint that the Republican Administration evinces no intention to lay siege to that citadel of privilege, the protective tariff, says Mr. Benedict.

"For every dollar exacted from a limited class by the income tax, hundreds are abstracted from the whole people by the system of indirect taxation farmed out by the Government to favored classes," Mr. Benedict wrote, and added: "President Coolidge has classified himself as a standpatter who will never flutter the doves of privilege."

GARNER'S TAX REDUCTION PLAN BETTER THAN MELLON'S

(By Wallace Bamford) Washington, D. C. Jan. 15.—To see the amount of propaganda pouring into the offices of Members of the House one would get the idea that Secretary Mellon and his "plan" are as sacred as the white elephant of Siam.

The efforts of Mr. Frear, Republican from Wisconsin, to investigate the conduct of the two sons of General Leonard Wood in their stock market and oil-promoting operations, are reminiscent of an interesting chapter in the life of their father, now Governor General of the Philippines, but at one time—just after the Spanish War—in charge of Santiago Province in Cuba and a little later Governor General of the Island. In this latter job he succeeded General Brooke. Wood was a medical officer who caught the fancy of Colonel Roosevelt. After the latter became President he made great efforts to have Doctor Wood jumped ahead 25 numbers, with the result, he had been able to put it over, that Wood would eventually be head of the army for something like twenty years, as he was a young man at the time.

On the other hand, the Garner rates, which will receive the support of the Democrats and most probably many of the Progressives, give first relief to the smaller fellows, those who pay on incomes from one thousand to twelve thousand. At present a married man without dependents pays \$100 on an income tax of five thousand; under Mr. Mellon's schedule he would pay \$75, but under the Democratic plan he would only pay \$40. That is a fair sample of the differences in the smaller incomes. The Democrats, on the other hand, would make less reduction of the taxes than Mr. Mellon when it comes to the big incomes.

Mr. Garner, in discussing his proposals, draws attention to the fact that the people are being taxed more heavily under the Republican tariff law than under the income tax law. It is doubtless true that there would be great and widespread demand for the lowering of the tariff rates if the public understood how it is being mulcted by this insidious indirect tax, unseen, but deeply felt in the high cost of living. It was Sir Robert Peel, the man who caused the downfall of the English tariff system, who said that it is possible to tax the coat off a man's back through a tariff tax while he doesn't know what is hurting him, but that a tax of equal amount, if collected as a direct tax, would cause a bloody revolution. Mr. Garner rightly says: "These monstrous high rates constitute a surtax upon the masses even higher than the income surtaxes on individuals. It would be absurd and dishonest for an official to pretend to support general tax relief and to limit it to a small group of citizens and to one sort of taxation. . . . A special tariff measure carrying substantial reductions on most articles the people must buy would give relief to the extent of many hundreds of millions of dollars."

The Democratic plan would increase the benefits received by more than six millions of income tax payers, while lessening to several hundred thousands of the larger taxpayer.

TIME TO PRUNE MUSCADINE GRAPES

If the muscadine grapes were not pruned during December they should receive attention at once because if allowed to go much longer the vines will bleed seriously when cut, recommends R. F. Payne, extension Horticulturist for the State College and Department of Agriculture. Mr. Payne says there are a few things that must be observed in pruning this type of grape. To do the pruning properly, he says:

"On old vines trained to the overhead system all dead wood should be taken out and about one-fourth of the old wood removed. The new growth should be cut back to three or four buds which will leave shoots about six inches long on an average.

"New vines should be set ten feet by ten feet and trained to the six cane kniffin system. This consists of posts 7 or 8 feet high to which three wires (number ten galvanized) are attached, one 24 inches from the ground and one 48 inches and one 72 inches. One arm is run out on each wire from the main stem, making six arms to each vine. These are allowed to go until they meet the arm from the neighboring vine when they are headed back. The side shoots should be cut back to six inches in length each year. One of these main arms should be removed each year and replaced by a new one. Thus each vine would have one arm one year old, one two, one three, one four, one five, and one six. Always remove the oldest arm and spur the others each season."

ARTIFICIAL AND REAL PROPAGANDA

Demand for agricultural relief and requests for tax reduction are the burden of thousands of letters coming to Senators and Congressmen from practically every State in the Union. A large part of the letters on the subject of tax reduction are the artificial product of the propaganda that has been conducted by the corporations and individuals of great wealth that are the chief prospective beneficiaries of the Mellon plan. The letters urging Congress to enact legislation for the improvement of agricultural conditions are regarded as the spontaneous expressions of thousands of farmers who have been suffering from a combination of low prices of what they sell and exorbitant cost of what they have to buy from others.

Decreases in the tariff on many products and the inclusion of calcium arsenate and other chemicals destructive of the boll weevil are also being urged in hundreds of letters from farmers and cotton growers. Practically all the letters from the West mention freight rates on agricultural products and ask that they be lowered.

SEEKS BETTER TIMES FOR THE FARMERS

But Farmers Are Still Having Hard Time, Says U. S. Secretary of Agriculture.

Unrestricted operation of economic laws in course of time will bring about better conditions for those who farm, Secretary Wallace of the Department of Agriculture told the American Farm Economic Association convention at Washington. "These laws are at work," declared Mr. Wallace. "They are driving people from the farms and will continue to do so until farm production is reduced to a point where the demand for food will compel a fair price. They are compelling farmers who manage to hold on, to follow methods of farming which deplete the fertility of the soil and permit their buildings and equipment to deteriorate at a rapid rate. They are reducing the standard of living in the farm home, compelling hard labor by the farm mother, depriving the farm children of their rightful educational and social opportunities and creating in them a hatred of farm life which will compel them to leave the farm at the first opportunity."

The turn of the tide in American agriculture has come, the Secretary said, but for a considerable time at least the farmer must look for his financial reward not in the increased value of his land but by average annual profits from productive work. "Tariff Question in 1924" a Feature of January Forum. In the January issue of the Forum, Cordell Hull, Chairman, Democratic National Committee, contributes an article on "The Tariff Question in 1924," in which he discusses the principle of tariff making, and which in condensed form comprehends the entire subject of tariff. The January Forum is making the tariff question the first of a series of five articles on party platforms. The editor of the Forum pronounces the January issue as one of the very best this popular magazine has yet issued.

A CHANGING WORLD

"We are living in a changing world. I never thought I could ever be cured of my stomach trouble. Medical science seemed unable to help me. But thank God we are progressing and now May's Wonderful Remedy has delivered me from all stomach symptoms. I am again able to eat anything." It is a simple, harmless preparation that removes the mucus from the intestinal tract and allays the inflammation which causes practically all stomach, liver and intestinal ailments, including appendicitis. One dose will convince or money refunded. For sale by Standard Drug Company and druggist everywhere.

Democratic Committeewomen With Voice and Vote vs. Republican "Unofficial Observers."

(By Richard Linthicum)

At the meeting of the Democratic National Committee in Washington, January 15, women will participate for the first time in the history of American politics in the business of selecting the place and fixing the time of a national convention of one of the major parties. In addition, Democratic National Committeewomen will take an equal part in determining, as for the last three years, the policies and program of the National Committee.

Women "associate members" of the Republican National Committee had no voice in the selection of the city and the date of the Republican National Convention when that organization met in Washington last month. They were simply onlookers while the men of the committee carried out President Coolidge's instruction to hold their party's next national convention in Cleveland instead of Chicago, to which a large majority of the committeemen had previously pledged themselves.

Following the Republican National Committee's recent meeting, Republican and independent women voters in all sections of the country complained at the way in which the Republican "associate committeewomen" had been subordinated and ignored. This resentment on the part of the Republican "associate committeewomen" and others in the rank and file of the Republican party has greatly disturbed Chairman Adams and other officials and leaders of the Republican National Committee. They felt, it is reported, that some means of mollifying Republican women voters was necessary, especially since the Republican Committee's exclusion of its "associates" was being heartily contrasted with the Democratic National Committee's admission to a full and equal share with Democratic National Committeemen in governing and guiding the Democratic National Committee.

Since the facts could not be concealed from the "associate members" of the Republican National Committee and other women in close touch with the Republican party's affairs, it was left to the official organ of the Republican Committee—the National Republican—to mislead as many other Republican women as possible. Accordingly, the National Republican published an account of the Republican Committee's meeting written in such Delphic language that it might be interpreted by the unsuspecting reader to mean that the "associate committeewomen" had full fellowship, authority and responsibility with the men in the organization's affairs.

"It is the first meeting of any party national committee attended by anything like a full representation of women from the several states," said the National Republican's story. Elsewhere the reader was told that these Republican "associate committeewomen" "represent the greatest and the most complete political organization of women in the world and in all history. As a potential body they challenged consideration."

These superlatives in the National Republican's story were obviously intended to make amends for the slurs to the "associate committeewomen" who were recorded as "present but not voting." As a matter of fact, they were only "unofficial observers"—like the Republican administration's representatives on the Reparation Commission. They are best described with a fragment of one of the National Republican's own fine phrases—"a potential body," not an actual force in Republican councils.

From two seedling pecan trees one farmer of Jones County sold \$73 worth of nuts in addition to those he ate at home and gave away to friends. Another farmer of the same county received \$100 for nuts sold from a dozen young trees about his yard. Others are now planning to put out pecan trees, reports County Agent E. F. Fletcher.

THE HOME PAPER IN VERSE

No news is said to be good news. And no kicks about the paper are likely to be interpreted by the country editor as meaning that he hasn't pleased too many people.

There is one kind of a kick to which the editor never objects—the kick that the paper has failed to arrive at the usual time. An unknown writer in the Waterbury American—we assume in Connecticut, though the exchange from which we picked up the poem doesn't indicate—has humorously described a kicker of this kind: My father says the paper he reads ain't put up right; He finds a lot of fault, too, he does, 'persuin' it all night; He says there ain't a single thing in it worth to read, And that it doesn't print the kind of stuff the people need; He tosses it aside and says it's strictly on the bum, But you ought to hear him holler when the paper doesn't come!

He reads about the weddin' and he snorts like all get out; He reads the social doin's with a most derisive shout. He says they make the papers for the women folks alone; He'll read about the parties and he'll fume and fret and groan; He says of information it doesn't have a crumb— But you ought to hear him holler when the paper doesn't come,

He is always first to grab it and he reads it plumb clean through. He doesn't miss an item, or a want ad—that is true; He says they don't know what we want, the darn newspaper guys; "I'm going to take a day sometime and go and put 'em wise;" "Sometimes it seems as though they must be deaf and blind and dumb." But you ought to hear him holler when the paper doesn't come!

The report of fire chief, A. B. Horney of the High Point Fire Department, showed that the firemen answered 95 calls during the year of 1922. Only 30 of these calls resulted in actual loss or damage, the other blazes being extinguished without damage or very small loss. The total fire loss for the year was \$306,588.

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What will your books show at the end of the year? When you balance your books at the end of the year will they show an accumulation of money or will there be many bright red figures on the loss side? Upon whether you 'speculated' or 'invested' hinges the answer. If you 'speculated' the chances are your red ink will be overworked. If you invested black or blue will prevail. Invest—then your money is safe The purchase of Alamance First Mortgage 6 Per Cent Gold Bonds as an investment will keep the red side of your book clean. There will be no losses to enter. Secured by mortgage on property—yielding 6 Per Cent interest and issued in denominations of from \$100 up these bonds may be bought by small as well as large investors. ALAMANCE Insurance & Real Estate Company Capital and Surplus \$350,000.00 W. E. Sharpe Manager Burlington, North Carolina