

THE BEAUFORT NEWS

EVERY THURSDAY

Reading Is To The Mind What Exercise Is To The Body

BY W. G. MEBANE

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LISTING PERSONAL PROPERTY UNDER REVALUATION ACT

The Revaluation Act comprehends as complete listing and valuing of personal property as of real property.

This could only be accomplished by removing the discrimination against personal property brought about by the undervaluation of real property.

This discrimination had reached the extreme point that a trustee listed in a North Carolina city personal property yielding an income of \$900 and paid more than \$800 of it in State, county, and city taxes.

An army with banners could not produce a complete listing of personal property under such unrighteous tax methods.

This discrimination has been removed.

Real estate is listed and valued at conservative May 1st cash market value.

The tax rates that will apply on personal property listed January 1st will be but a small fraction of the 1919 rates.

The revaluation Act brings this measure of justice and equity to the owner of personal property and demands a full and complete disclosure in return.

The same guarantee of proportionately reduced tax rates that applied to personal property is to say that the total revenue collected from all property in 1920 cannot exceed by more than ten per cent the total revenue collected in 1919.

Pardon the reiteration, for it seems not yet to be fully understood that this pledge, involving the good faith and honor of the State, applies to the tax rates to be levied by the counties, the cities, towns and special-tax districts, as well as the State tax.

Every tax rate levied in North Carolina, without exception is embraced in its terms, and must be readjusted to the total value of both real and personal property listed.

Personal property will be listed of January first.

Real property that has changed hands since May first will be listed against the new owner January 1st.

If you built a house between these dates exceeding \$100 in value it will be added to the list.

If you had a house destroyed between these dates exceeding \$100 value it will be deducted.

Why the change—May first to January first?

Two good reasons:

First—To give plenty of time for the job. Plenty of time to have the work done carefully and accurately, and plenty of time to make inquiry and investigation if the taxpayer—meeting a state that is totting square—has totted square. Most people tote square when given a chance. They have totted square on their real property and as a general rule have placed a fair value on their real property.

The State doesn't tote square with those who do tote square unless it gives some attention to the lonesome minority who try to dodge even when the State does tote square, and their neighbors are totting square.

The state intends to tote square all the way through, and some time and thought will be given in each county to locating the tax dodgers, and to see that they bear their part.

May first listing permits no

time for this sort of inquiry before the tax books must be made up.

Second reason—The straight calendar year is the logical year. January 1st is the time for everybody to take an annual reckoning and strike a balance. Business enterprises now conduct their business on the calendar year basis. They keep their books on the calendar year basis with reference to all reports to the Federal Government. It is unreasonable and illogical for the State to require an accounting on a different date.

No injustice is done by this change in date.

This was carefully considered by the Legislative Committees. It was considered that there were two particulars in which the change might result in increased tax upon the farmers, and both of these provided against. The farmer needs no special attorney at the seat of government in this state. It has been and will be the policy to give the farmer not only a square but a generous deal.

Farmers make their own provisions, and have more on hand January the first than May first. This was met by going the full limit of exemption permitted by the Constitution on certain kinds of personal property, which includes provisions—three hundred dollars in value. Exemption formerly allowed twenty-five dollars. There can be applied against this \$300 exemption provisions, household and kitchen furniture, wearing apparel, fire arms, agricultural implements, tools of mechanics and libraries and scientific instruments.

The most important difficulty was the fact that farmers would have on hand January first farm products raised for market that would ordinarily be marketed by May first. If in debt the proceeds of the sale of such products would be applied to their debts and they would therefore have less taxable property May first than January first. If not in debt their taxable wealth would be the same in either case as, if property were sold before May first, they would have either the money or some equivalent in taxable property.

This difficulty was met by permitting indebtedness to be set off against the value of "cotton, tobacco, and other farm products, on storage in warehouses, in the hands of commission merchants or agents in or out of the State, or in the hands of original producers, and held temporarily for market."

So with respect to those products the producing taxpayer lists only his net worth, and gets and gives a perfectly honest and square deal.

Governor Bickett Is In The County

Governor T. W. Bickett is spending this week in the county on a hunting trip. He came down Sunday night and accompanied by Jesse H. Davis of New Bern went to Carteret Club on Core Sprund where he is the guest of that organization. The Governor does not claim to be an expert shot but generally manages to get a pretty fair bag of game. The law does not permit more than twenty five ducks to be killed in a day and the Governor says he will not have any trouble to keep within the law.

Capt. Fred Gillikin of Core Banks Station 189 spent Monday here with his sister Mrs Brady Way

Capt Mitchel Hamilton of Portsmouth N. C. passed through Beaufort Sunday on a business trip to Norfolk

WARREN LEAVES RACE

Will Not Be District Attorney, E. F. Adyette Will Get Appointment

Thos. D. Warren of New Bern has given up the fight to be United States District attorney in the eastern district. In a letter recently sent to Senator Simmons he announces that he is no longer a candidate. His name had been sent to the Senate twice but had failed to be confirmed.

Mr. Warren has been acting as district attorney but as there appeared to be no hope of the Republicans in the Senate allowing him to be confirmed he has decided to withdraw. As is generally known the reason the Republicans opposed his being appointed is that in the election of 1918 he advised Democratic workers to see that all Democrats who were too sick to come to the polls should be voted any how. His letter of instructions was gotten hold of by Republicans and used against him with the effect that he lost the office which he aspired to hold.

The fight against Mr. Warren was not based on lack of legal ability as that was not questioned but purely on account of using questionable methods to bring about a Democratic victory. E. F. Adyette of Elizabeth City a well known attorney will get the appointment.

Mr. Wade Leaves

Mr. T. C. Wade who resigned as cashier of the Bank of Beaufort several days ago to accept a similar position with the Bank of Morehead City left Monday for the latter place to resume his new duties. Mr. Wade has been connected with the Bank of Beaufort for the last two years and since that time the bank has been steadily forging ahead. Mr. Wade gave universal satisfaction, to both the officers of the bank and the public and it is with considerable regret that Beaufort is to lose such a valuable citizen.

Mr. John Hornaday, Jr., has been elected as stated before in these columns to succeed Mr. Wade and is now at his post of duty. The new cashier is well and favorably known in Beaufort and there is no doubt but that the directors made a wise selection when they secured his services.

Stone Front Now Being Placed

Mr. John Rummell of Philadelphia arrived here several days ago for the purpose of erecting the stone front to the new Bank building now in the course of construction for the Beaufort Banking and Trust Co. When completed this will be by far one of the handsomest and most modern bank buildings in the Eastern North Carolina. The constructioners expect to have the building ready for occupancy by early spring.

Jones-Garri

Mr. B. L. Jones and Miss Ida Garrison both of Berkley, Va. were quietly married here at the Methodist parsonage by Reverend R. F. Bumpas on January 8th 1920. They spent a week here with relatives after which time they returned to their home in Berkley.

Miss Hellen Goes To Raleigh

The many friends here of Miss Bertha Hellen will be glad to know that she has been offered and has accepted a position as teller with the Merchants National Bank in Raleigh which means a promotion and a better salary for her.

The Daily Times of Wilson, N. C. gives the following account: Miss Bertha Hellen, the courteous and efficient lady teller of the Branch Banking and Trust Company has been offered and has accepted a position in Raleigh as teller of the Merchants National Bank and will shortly leave for Raleigh to enter into her new duties there.

Miss Hellen was for a number of years teller in the Beaufort Banking and Trust Company Beaufort, N. C. She resigned her position there to accept one with the Branch Banking and Trust Company here, where she has served for the last few years.

The many patrons of the Branch Bank who faced this young lady across the tellers window will regret her leaving but will join us in extending our congratulations on her securing a higher salaried position.

Real Estate Transfers

The following deeds were recently recorded by the Register of Deeds.

R. T. Willis and wife to J. W. Sanderson, lot no. 4 in the town of Morehead, consideration \$600.

S. D. Edwards and wife to Bessie G. Herrington, 2 tracts in Newport township, con. \$1,600.

E. M. Green and wife to C. E. Herrington tract in Newport township, consideration \$1,648.

Wm. M. Miller and wife to S. E. Comstock, lot no. 12 in town of Morehead con. \$100

Damon Guthrie and wife to Randolph Smith, tract in Newport township, con. \$300.

C. D. Taylor and wife to C. J. Taylor, tract in Harlowe township, con. \$2,200.

Walter Gaskill and wife to Wallace H. Willis, one acre in Hunting Quarter township con. \$10.00

C. R. Wheatly to Nannie H. Thomas, part lot no. 25 in town of Beaufort. con. \$800.

L. C. Tolson and wife to A. E. Gray, lot in town of Newport, con. \$600.

J. H. Parker to Meyer Jones 8 1/2 acres in White Oak township consideration \$500.00

Simon Smith and wife to Geo. A. Conway lot No. 2 in Morehead City consideration \$700.00

M. A. Hill and wife to J. F. Perkins lot in town of Newport consideration \$1800.00.

C. H. Hobbs and wife to C. T. Whitehurst 146 acres in Morehead township, consideration \$10,000.00.

G. H. Willis and wife to A. D. Harris lot No. 4 in Morehead consideration \$1000.00.

Mitchell Davis to Allen and Clem Davis 1.3 acre in Hunting Quarter township consideration \$25.00.

Belle Taylor and others to W. O. Williams Jr. all right and title in tract of land in Portsmouth township consideration \$5.00 ect.

W. N. Russell and wife to G. G. Taylor ten acres in White Oak township consideration \$135.00.

PRITCHARD FOR PRESIDENT.

North Carolina Republicans Will Support Judge At Chicago

(Washington Post)
"Pritchard for President" is the slogan of the Republican State committee of North Carolina. The committee last Tuesday issued a call for the State convention to be held in Greensboro on March 3 and adopted unanimously the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the time has come when the South should be represented on the Republican national ticket, and that the membership of the party is requested, when selecting delegates to the next State convention, to express their choice for a candidate from this State to be presented to the Republican national convention and we commend to the consideration of the voters of the whole country North Carolina's distinguished son, Judge Jeter C. Pritchard, for President of the United States."

Former Senator Marion Butler who has just arrived in Washington from the committee meeting, is much pleased with the action. He says that a strong "Pritchard for President" organization was formed to push Judge Pritchard's candidacy in all the Southern States, as well as in all the Northern and Western States where there is no candidate.

"The time has come," Senator Butler said, "when the South should be recognized and especially when it presents a candidate who is the equal in character, ability and every qualification of the candidates from any other section for President of the country."

The "Pritchard for President" Committee, which will have headquarters in Greensboro and Washington City, is as follows:

Judge W. P. Bynum, Chairman; Dan Hill, Vice Chairman, R. H. McNeill, Secretary, and Thos. J. Harkins, F. A. Linney, Zeb. V. Walsler, J. N. Williamson, Jr., Eugene Holt, Marion Butler, C. R. Pugh, J. J. Parker, John M. Morehead, Brownlow Jackson, E. C. Duncan, I. B. Tucker, J. J. Britt, J. D. Parker, J. F. Parrott, J. F. Newell, R. A. Kohless, Hon. J. M. Millikin is Chairman of the Finance Committee.

E. J. Chadwick Dead

E. J. Chadwick, a well known and highly respected citizen of Beaufort R. F. D. died at his home Wednesday morning.

Mr. Chadwick was 80 years old and is survived by three sisters, Mrs. Hellen and Maggie Russell, and Mrs. Carrie Helien of Beaufort and two brothers who live in Florida.

Funeral services were conducted Thursday by Reverend R. F. Bumpas and the burial took place at the Marshall Grave yard here.

Marriage Licence

Marriage licenses recently issued by the Register of Deeds are as follows:

Paul Fenderson, col., and Patricia V. Wigfall of Beaufort.

Willie Jones Jr. and Lucille Willis of Morehead City.

Hugh T. Carraway of Bachelor and Dollie Norris of Beaufort.

Benj. F. Carraway and Laura Gutrie of Eogue.

Laws and Reforms. Laws do not make reforms, reforms make laws.—Chas. Coolidge.

KEEP OUT CATTLE

Higher Rates Charged For Impounding Stray Animals.

Cattle and hogs will not be allowed to use the streets and yards of Beaufort as they please from now on according to an amendment to the town ordinances adopted last Friday night by the Board of Commissioners.

Ponies too are included in this prohibition law, as well as ducks and geese. The charge for impounding an animal will be one dollar and a dollar a day for feeding him. Ducks and geese get off a little lighter as the cost of impounding will be only twenty five cents and fifteen cents a day board will be charged. The town gate and fence will be done away with and so animals from the country as well as those who live in town will be subject to the same conditions.

Those present at the meeting were Mayor Bushall, Commissioners Duncan, Mace and Whitehurst, J. H. Potter Sr. and Superintendent Ferguson came before the board in regard to the rates charged the school for water. It was decided to let the water be used for three months and then get an average as a basis for rate. Jas. Rumley asked to have \$3.28 income tax paid last year refunded. This was ordered done as the town cannot charge income tax. The board decided to have the fire engine house used by the colored fire company connected with the other engine house.

Fire chief D. M. Jones was instructed to buy six chemical engines. A number of bills were audited.

Re-Valuation Board In Session.

The county valuation board is in session here this week Messrs Morton, Fulcher and Wilson all being present.

The board is compelling and straightening out information that has already been obtained and is getting ready to send out questionnaires regarding personal property. This re-valuation is proving to be a much bigger job than anybody had any idea it would be but the work in this county is much farther ahead than it is in many other counties.

First Shad Arrive

The first shad of the season made their appearance here this week. They were two in number a roe and a buck and were handled by Holland's fish house.

The fish were caught in North River. The prices at which shad are starting off on the local markets are forty cents for roes and thirty cents for bucks.

Hickory shad are coming in right along and are finding a ready sale being shipped to points up the State and to Northern markets. About four thousand pounds of black fish have been brought here this week but other fish are rather scarce.

The menhaden fleet has about laid off for the winter. This time last year they were doing well but they have had no success since the first of the year and will not resume work before April.

When Paper Really Was Seized
A bonded paper also paper was no
first in this county that there was no
to get the count (the news)
wrapped up in a large vegetable leaf.