

THE DANBURY REPORTER.

N. E. PEPPER, Editor and Publisher

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The Sales Tax.

The greatest evil in North Carolina today is the sales tax.

At least this is the violent fancy of quite a number of persons who don't know anything about it, or who, knowing, are too unfair and prejudiced to do it justice.

There's many a cross-roads statesman and many a filling station philosopher who condemns the fiscal policy of the State without any evidence except what he heard some hot-air artist say, or read in some biased newspaper.

We suppose if there is any hot-bed of condemnation for the sales tax hotter than some other hot-bed. It is a certain city. Many merchants in that city seem to be "obsessed." They have taught their clerks to remind each customer that buys an article, that the sales tax is responsible for all the ills that the buying public is heir to. The law imposes a sales tax of 3 per cent, but they charge 1 cent on every 10-cent purchase, and when you buy 10 articles you have paid 10 per cent sales tax.

Whether the extra levy of 7 per cent, is rung up in the returns to Raleigh, or credited to the store's profit fund, is doubted.

If the latter suggestion is true, then the merchant is using the sales tax to make unwarranted money.

In Stokes county we have people who actually blame the depression on the sales tax. We heard a farmer say the other day that the sales tax law was the greatest curse ever before placed on the statute books.

This same farmer owns a valuable farm of probably 200 acres on which the tax rate is \$1.54. If the sales tax were abolished, his tax rate would be \$3.63.

Wonder if he would relish the change back to the ad valorem?

They say let the corporations pay the taxes, not realizing that a few giant successful corporations standing like oak trees in a forest where everything most has been blown down in the gale, are already taxed as much as wise and conservative law-makers think they are able to bear.

They say, tax the corporate real estate again—but this will mean taxing the farmer's land again, too, will it not?

The sales tax law was passed after long and painful travail by law-makers honestly searching for sources of revenue to meet the State's necessary expenses. It was passed as the only logical and sensible thing to do under the critical circumstances.

It was passed at a time when the credit of the State was breaking down. Banks refused to lend us any more money, or to renew existing obligations. The State's bonds were below par, and interest debts were pressing hard. Our school teachers were unpaid. The integrity of the State was being seriously compromised.

What was to be done?

What herculean task was accomplished in the face of the State's most serious crisis?

Here it is:

The credit of the State was saved, or standing in the money markets of New York was restored and strengthened, the interest on the State's bonds and obligations was paid, the school teachers received their pay checks, the same time the tax on the farmer's land was taken off, and our Stokes tax rate reduced from \$1.75 or thereabouts to \$1.54.

It is admitted that the sales tax is burdensome. So was the ad valorem tax on real estate, which has been repealed.

There may be a remedy to take the place of the sales tax, but it has not yet been found, and until it is found, those politicians who are trying to defeat the State's fiscal policy in these trying times should close up their mouths.

The fact is that the State is staggered with debts created in boom times, and now we are looking pay-day in the face. Nothing short of an all-embracing system of taxation can cope with the emergency.

The sales tax is the creation of the best minds of the State, and its saving grace is a substitute for chaos.

County Chairman.

It is learned that a fight is brewing over the chairmanship of the Democratic executive committee in the county.

The chairman of the party holds a vital position. He must not be a man upon whom all the factions cannot unite. He must not only be a man of experience and true and tried Democracy, but he must be free from cliques, and animated only for the common weal, and he should enjoy the entire confidence of the voters.

The Democratic party in Stokes has been increasingly successful during the last few campaigns. The chairman is the leader, the standard-bearer. He should always be clear of bias, and not complicated with entanglements which might result in estranging groups from support of the ticket.

If he is the product of spite, malice or ambition, the element of danger to the ticket enters.

Mrs. W. W. Noel Dead Game Warden

Mrs. W. W. Noel, who formerly lived with her husband near Danbury, died suddenly at Germantown and was buried at Sandy Ridge Wednesday.

Lisk Here

W. C. Lisk, assistant State Game Warden, was here today visiting County Game Warden T. L. Booth.

THE BIG STOKES FOREST RESERVE

(Continued from 1st Page.)

and erosion. Second: The government seeks to reforest these denuded lands by aiding nature to restore the timber growth. To do this the government protects the land from the raging forest fires, protects the young growing timber from destructive methods by cutting and moving the mature timber and as the need arises actually reforests the land by planting young trees and seeds.

How does the government acquire these lands? Just as any individual would buy the land, if the land within the proposed boundaries are found to be of the proper location, class and quality the Secretary of Agriculture, through the proper agents of the United States Forest Service, negotiates with the owner and if the owner desires to sell, and a price can be agreed upon, the owner signs an option and the government surveys the land, has the title examined, both at its own expense, and if the title is found to be satisfactory to the Attorney General of the United States, the owner signs a deed, and the government pays the purchase price. If the title is found not to be good, the government clears the title at its own expense by proceedings in the United States Court. This is known as a Condemnation Proceeding under the right of Eminent Domain, and has led some people to believe that the government takes the land arbitrarily and without the consent of the owner. This has never been done.

Will the county lose or gain by the establishment of this National Forest? Judging by the results in other sections of the United States and especially in Western North Carolina, we feel safe in saying that Stokes county and this entire section of the State will gain much more than it will lose by this means. It is true that when the government acquires lands they are taken off the tax books and the county and State will of course lose whatever they would otherwise get from the taxes of these lands. Many, however, do not know that under the law, the Federal government must turn over to the counties comprising the National Forests twenty-five per cent. of all revenue derived by the Federal government from the lands, including sales of timber, grazing privileges, leasing and rentals for recreation sites and other purposes. In the old areas this has been found to yield to the counties more than was lost in taxes. In addition to this under the law, the Federal government, through the Forest service is required to expend an additional ten per cent. of the National Forest revenues in the construction of roads within the boundary. Furthermore, under the national Recovery Administration, many millions of dollars have been set aside for additional road building and forestry work, which has been done through the C. C. C. camps, thus giving the communities in which these camps are located miles and miles of additional roads through our National Forests, and in addition therefore instructing the youth of the land in practical forestry, including natural history, geology

and other valuable subjects, to say nothing of the moral and physical training given them.

Will the government take over all the lands within the proposed boundary? This question is impliedly answered above, but it should be kept in mind that the government only purchases land suitable for the protection of the streams, in other words, watershed lands, and lands primarily suitable for the growing of timber, and that it never takes any lands unless the owner desires to sell. Of course, there would be many tracts of farm lands that the government will not even offer to buy nor consider buying, and there will be many owners who do not desire to sell and all such tracts will be left out. If in the future, lands that have not been offered, but come within the classification desired by the government, and the owners desire to sell, the lands will be acquired.

Will government usage of the lands prevent mining and manufacturing within the boundary? No. Anyone who sells land to the government can reserve mines and mineral rights of ways, and even timber, with the right and knowledge of moving same under the proper government regulations. In other words, government ownership does not destroy but greatly enhances the utility of our mountain land. The government has been acquiring privately owned lands to add to its National Forests for about twenty-five years, and a little investigation will convince anyone our government has ever adapted. Long ago the European nations realized the necessity of taking steps to conserve their natural resources, but prodigal America was slow in doing so. A few years ago our farsighted statesmen discovered the alarming fact that at the rate we were going it would be only a few more years until our supply of virgin timber would be exhausted and that our navigable streams would be all filled up. A natural result to that condition would be devastating floods and unequal climate and a country of wonderful scenic beauty diverted into one of unsightly desolation. There are many other features, including conservation and protection of wild flowers, fish and game, that appeal to sense of the beautiful that enter into the question but space forbids their discussion at this time.

Another benefit that our people should not lose sight of is that the establishment of a National Forest means the protection of private property within the forest from forest fires and in other ways and at the same time means an outlet over the good roads for the isolated citizen to market his timber and other products and an inlet to this community to the pleasure seekers and those seeking to purchase the products of the community. It also means that a number of government employees will be stationed in our community and will spend their salaries among us, and that the expenditures made by the government in the acquisition of the lands and in the maintenance of the forest will be of much economic value to our people. It is the policy of the government not to hoard timber in the National Forests, but to put it on the mar-

COURT SERVICE

Jurors For First Week (Criminal) Court, July 2, 1934.

SAURATOWN TOWNSHIP.

T. W. Tuttle.

T. M. Welch.

YADKIN TOWNSHIP.

B. H. Kiser.

A. W. Gordon.

R. A. Wail.

W. A. Palmer.

R. Laws.

Ralph Hall.

J. S. Robertson.

J. H. Sizemore.

J. W. Coon.

Will Moore.

J. A. Boyles.

J. M. Stewart.

B. R. Lane.

J. T. Johnson.

C. Ross Newson.

BIG CREEK TOWNSHIP.

J. C. Frans.

J. F. Overby.

F. M. Smith.

W. A. Christian.

George E. Nelson.

W. R. Mitchell.

DANBURY TOWNSHIP.

J. C. Hill.

J. Tintie Mabe.

PETERS CREEK TOWNSHIP.

P. E. Lawson.

F. C. Smith.

W. D. Hall.

R. A. Robertson.

C. R. Lawson.

P. H. Robertson.

QUAKER GAP TOWNSHIP.

John T. Simmons.

J. H. Nunn.

S. W. Mickey.

R. A. Hunter.

A. M. King.

SNOW CREEK TOWNSHIP

W. S. Smith.

W. M. Vernon.

C. J. Steele.

J. J. Martin.

Gaston Tuttle.

W. D. Bowder.

Jurors For Second Week (Civil) Court, July 9, 1934.

QUAKER GAP TOWNSHIP.

J. Wesley Pell.

S. D. Simmons.

J. R. Tilley.

YADKIN TOWNSHIP.

J. P. Tuttle.

T. W. Gentry.

A. L. Tilletson.

C. L. Johnson.

M. L. Wall.

W. M. Loggins.

J. M. Smith.

MEADOWS TOWNSHIP.

S. L. Johnson.

S. L. Holland.

SNOW CREEK TOWNSHIP

W. M. Jessup.

J. W. Martin.

H. C. Ziglar.

W. J. Martin.

BIG CREEK TOWNSHIP.

R. M. Hundley.

J. Walter Simmons.

W. E. Collins.

BEAVER ISLAND TOWNSHIP.

J. T. Dodson.

Frank Martin.

SAURATOWN TOWNSHIP.

J. L. Mitchell.

H. H. Fowler.

J. F. Manuel.

ket under competitive bids as it matures. Government ownership of the forest lands guarantees that our timber supplies will not only be preserved, but will be increased from year to year, and will be a continuing source of supply for all times.

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE.

Under and by virtue of a power of sale contained in a certain Mortgage Deed made and executed on the 24th day of January, 1933, by R. C. Pitts, in favor of L. J. Weavil; and default having been made in the payment of the note secured thereby, the undersigned Administrator of the Mortgage will offer and expose for sale to the highest bidder for cash at the court house door in Danbury, Stokes County, North Carolina, at 12 o'clock noon, on—

FRIDAY, JUNE 29TH, 1934,

the following described property to-wit:

Beginning in the Stokesburg road near a hickory in White's line, runs South 64 degrees West 9 chains to a black gum; thence South 85 degrees West 6.50 chs. to a black oak; thence South 71 degrees West 5 chains to a pine; thence South 36 degrees West 4 chains and 63 links to the center of Box Mountain road, near the bridge across Red Bank Creek; thence down said creek as it meanders 13 chains and 85 Creek; thence down said Town links to the center of Town Fork Fork Creek as it meanders 24.35 chains to a stake and pointers at mouth of a branch; thence South 34.75 East 21 chains to center of Stokesburg Road; thence South 43.75 degrees West with said road 55 links to the beginning, containing 34.81 acres, more or less. Recorded in Book 88, Pages 14 and 15, in the office of the Register of Deeds of Stokes county.

This 28th day of May, 1934.

W. C. WEAVIL,

Admr. of the estate of L. J. Weavil.
Swain & Jackson, Attys.
204 Masten Bldg.,
Winston-Salem, N. C.

NOTICE.

State of North Carolina,
County of Stokes.
P. H. Robertson having duly qualified as administrator, c. t. a. for R. M. Robertson, deceased, all persons owing said estate are hereby notified to make immediate settlement, and all persons holding claims against said estate are notified to file the same in due time, or be forever barred.
This 7th day of June, 1934.
P. H. ROBERTSON, Admr.
R. J. Scott, Attorney.
meao bgkq cmfwy mfw yfwwww

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

Having qualified as administratrix of the estate of J. R. Cookus, deceased, late of Stokes county, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at Walnut Cove, N. C., on or before the 26th day of May, 1935, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.
This 26th day of May, 1934.
MRS. ELIZABETH GRUBBS,
Administratrix of J. E. Cookus.
Jos. W. Neal, Atty.

Mr. and Mrs. Greene Entertain

Walnut Cove Route 1, June 12.
—Mr. and Mrs. O. P. Greene entertained recently at their home in celebration of the twentieth anniversary of their wedding.

The home was thrown ensuite for the occasion, and was very attractively decorated throughout with beautiful pink and white roses, carrying out the lovely color scheme of pink and white.

Upon the arrival of the guests they were greeted by Mr. and Mrs. Greene, and directed to the registration book which was in charge of Miss Erlene Greene. An hour was spent in friendly conversation; pleasant memories were revived, and Mr. and Mrs. Greene lived again the happy event of twenty years ago. Music for the evening was furnished by Mrs. Marvin Johnson, Sam Lewis, and W. C. White at the piano, and Harry Blaylock with string instruments.