

Merry Christmas

The Jackson County Journal

\$1.50 Year in Advance in The County.

SYLVA, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1932

\$2.00 Year in Advance Outside The County.

WAR DEBTS, BEER, FARM RELIEF CHIEF TOPICS IN CONGRESS

(Special to The Journal)
Washington, D. C., December 21—The three major topics of public concern in Washington at the moment are European war debts, beer and farm relief.

On only one of these questions is there anything like unanimity. Republicans and Democrats alike, the outgoing President and the incoming President and their advisors, are firm in their determination that there will be no cancellation on the part of this government of the debts which the nations of Europe owe. It is entirely probable that there will be an adjustment of the terms of payments, but they don't seem to be any likelihood of anything which could be called cancellation. Our government's position is strengthened by the publication of figures which show that more than a quarter of the total money lent by Uncle Sam to Europe was for war purposes but was loaned for the Amstutz for internal relief purposes.

Beer Goes Flat

The brewers who have been so confident that they would be permitted to manufacture and sell real beer immediately, and who have had their representatives in Washington trying to lobby a beer bill through, are beginning to wonder whether they have overplayed their hand. Before election they promised that if beer were legalized it would stand a tax which would add a billion dollars a year to the government's revenues. But when that claim was analyzed at the hearings that have been held on the subject, it was discovered that in order to raise any such revenue beer would have to sell for three or four times as much per glass as it used to bring before the war, and just as many glasses of beer would have to be sold. There are still a good many members of Congress who have some respect for the Constitution, which forbids the manufacture or sale of intoxicants, and the question of what percentage of alcohol beer can contain and still be non-intoxicating is one of the things to which nobody has brought forth a convincing answer.

Dirt Farmer Proposals

Farm relief takes on new and more complicated angles by reason of the presence in Washington of the convention of "dirt farmers" from 26 states. This convention asks for an appropriation of \$500,000,000 for the relief of destitute farmers and their dependents, the purchase of farm products by the government for the relief of unemployed in cities, the fixing of farm prices by the government, a debt holiday and a declaration by Congress making illegal foreclosures of mortgages, seizures of property and evictions during the depression. It may as well be said now as later that there is hardly a remote chance of any of these demands being granted.

That is not to say, however, that Congress is not trying to work out some sound plan of farm relief. The scheme which is foremost in the minds of those who are trying to guide the discussions is popularly described in Washington as "the three-point plan."

Under that plan the Federal Farm Board would be authorized to apply either the so-called debenture plan, or the equalization fee plan, or the newest of all farm relief projects, the voluntary allotment plan.

The debenture plan, which has been widely discussed for several years, would provide for bounties to exporters of farm products, equal to one-half of the tariff rates. Thus an exporter about to ship wheat abroad would receive a bounty of twenty-one

TODAY and TOMORROW

(By Frank Parker Stockbridge)
Italy . . . rich in work
I have just got back from a rapid but rather comprehensive tour of Italy. By railroad, automobile and airplane I covered pretty nearly that entire peninsula, and saw for myself the results of ten years of Mussolini.

Italy today is the least depressed nation in the world. Everybody is at work; out of a population of 42,000,000, I was told, there are less than a million unemployed, including the aged and invalids. The whole nation is thoroughly organized and a new spirit of national pride and cooperation has been developed.

The Italian people give every evidence of being the happiest people anywhere in the world today. Measured in dollars, they don't handle much money, but measured in terms of food, clothing and comfort, their workers are better off, on the whole, than those of any other nation.

Housing . . . in Italian cities

One of the biggest things the Italian government has done is to improve housing conditions for workers in the cities. In Milan, which is the New York of Italy, the industrial and financial center and the largest city, I saw literally thousands of new apartment houses, built by private capital with government aid, modern and sanitary in every respect, where workers can rent four-room apartments for \$3 a month. On the outskirts of Rome along the famous Appian Way and just over the eaves known as the catacombs, where the bones of millions of Christian martyrs lie, I saw where the government had provided housing for sixty thousand workers who were moved from the slums of the old city, which have been torn down and made into parks or new highways.

The same thing is going on in many other Italian cities; and every one of these housing developments has as its central feature a new and modern school house, with play grounds and parks around it.

The next generation of Italians will be better educated than its parents were.

Farming . . . every acre counts

One reason why Italy has suffered less from the depression than other nations is that 55 per cent of its population lives on the land.

There is hardly a square inch of land in Italy that is not under cultivation. Even the mountain sides of the Apennines and the Maritime Alps are terraced, in tiny tracts, as high as vegetation will grow.

Perhaps the biggest thing which the Fascist government has undertaken is the reclaiming of all the waste lands. I saw the great drainage works which have reclaimed the swamps along the Adriatic, the Pontine islands, and the swamps of the Campania, in the vicinity of Naples. Here again private capital and the government co-operated, the reclaimed land is sowed to crops stocked with cattle, sheep or poultry, laid out in small holdings, each with its modern farm house and out-buildings, and sold on easy terms to new farmers while the National Institute of Agriculture, organized much like the American system of county agents, gives intensive assistance in helping the people get a living from the land.

Wheat . . . and tobacco

Italy has set out to grow all of its own wheat, both the durum variety used for making macaroni, and soft wheat for bread.

Ten years ago Italy was importing five-sixths of its wheat. Today it is growing five-sixths of its own wheat. This is a result of what Mussolini has dramatically named the "Battaglia del Grano," the Battle of Grain.

This is something for American



Jackson County Will Not Publish Given Publicity Journal Next Week

Jackson county was the subject of a full page advertisement in the Asheville Citizen-Times on Sunday morning. The page carried a map of the county, a picture of the court house, and valuable data as to the population, wealth, spending power, resources and educational achievements of the county. In addition to the page advertisement, there was another page devoted to feature articles about Jackson county and Jackson county people.

On Sunday evening Jackson county was the subject of a most interesting discourse over Radio Station WWNC, by Prof. Robert L. Madison, founder of Western Carolina Teachers College.

BALSAM

Many relatives and friends attended the funeral of Mr. James Mahaffey near Saunook Friday, the 16. He was the father of Mrs. A. F. Arrington of this place.

Mrs. Banks Nicholson of Brevard was here last week to see her brother, Lloyd Quiet, who had just returned from Angel hospital in Franklin, and is with his sister, Mrs. Carrie Queen.

Balsam received cloth and flour from the Red Cross, through Dr. W. P. McGuire, president, which has been distributed to the patrons of our school, except four bags of flour which was given to other needy families in the community. This donation has been greatly appreciated by these families.

Balsam was visited by a six-inch snow Friday. It rained Friday night and we have had the heaviest sleet that has ever been seen here. Much damage has been done to the timber, the trees breaking under the heavy coat of ice. Traffic was delayed by the limbs falling across the state roads through Balsam. All communication was cut off and had no electric lights. But all this was nothing compared to the beauty of the scene. The limbs of the trees were hanging with myriads of icicles that looked like crystal fringe. Some of our Florida people who are spending the winter in their cottages here had never seen anything like it.

Our school will close for the Christmas holidays Friday with an interesting program.

wheat growers to think about. One of our big export markets, which formerly took billions of bushels of

Next General Assembly To Convene January 4; Is Faced By Huge Task

40 YEARS AGO

Tuckaseige Democrat, Dec 14, 1892

Hon. C. C. Cowan's school at Canton, being out, he returned to his home near Webster, Tuesday.

Gen. Hampton is at Morganton attending the annual meeting of the Directors of the Western Insane Asylum.

Miss Maggie Banks, who has been visiting at Mrs. Stedman's, left yesterday for her home in Raleigh, accompanied as far as Asheville by Miss Sallie Stedman.

The kindly remembrance by the "Allen boys"—Judson, Pierce and Lenoir, who are sojourning in the "Land of Flowers," evidenced by sending us some fine Florida oranges is highly appreciated. The Democrat echoes its thanks to the "boys" with a sincere wish for their continued prosperity and happiness.

Dillsboro: Mr. J. T. Robinson, while out rabbit hunting the other day, accidentally shot off one of his toes.—The young men organized a debating club Friday night. The ladies are also invited to take a part.—Mr. Montgomery has shipped about five or six hundred bushels of apples from his place, and yet has a great many more to ship.—We were very glad to see Capt. Thos. Harris, who returned on Thursday. The Captain has many friends in Dillsboro. He will only be with us a few days.

Washington, D. C.—The Hon. James Kerr, Clerk of the House of Representatives, has compiled from official returns, a list of the Representatives elect to the Fifty-third Congress. It includes all except the two from Rhode Island, not yet elected, and the one from the Fifth Michigan district, yet in doubt. In the list are 217 Democrats, 128 Republicans, and 8 Populists.

QUALIA

Last Week—

Rev. R. G. McClamrock, the new pastor of the Methodist church preached a very interesting sermon Sunday morning from the text "This is my beloved son; hear Him." He was accompanied by Mr. H. G. Ferguson to his appointment at Olivet Sunday afternoon. He announced that he would deliver a Christmas message the third Sunday afternoon and desired the presence of the people of the community.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Hughes on December 10th, a daughter Patricia Ann.

The children and grand children of Mr. J. C. Johnson were guests at a birthday dinner given in his honor at his home on December 4th.

Mr. Buren Terrell arrived home Tuesday morning from Los Angeles, Calif.

Mr. J. M. Hughes, Mrs. J. H. Hughes; Wilma and Jim Ed Hughes visited Mr. C. M. Hughes near Canton, Sunday.

Mrs. L. L. Slaver and son Carroll Gray, Mrs. Chas. Worley and daughter Nora Maggie, Mrs. J. W. Cathey, Mrs. Thos. Varner, Mrs. C. P. Shelton and Mrs. J. K. Terrell spent Thursday afternoon in Sylva.

The teachers from the different schools in this section attended teachers meeting in Sylva Saturday.

Miss Gertrude Ferguson returned to her school at Rock Ridge after a visit with home folks.

Mrs. J. G. Hooper called on Mrs. J. M. Hughes home.

There are a number of big problems facing the General Assembly, when it meets, on January 4, all of which are clamoring for solution.

In the first place, there is a deficit of some twelve million dollars that must be taken care of and the budget balanced, in order to maintain the credit of the State. While there is that deficit, it is not true that the State has spent twelve million dollars more than it has taken into the treasury. The truth is that seventeen million dollars in bonds has been retired, leaving the State five million dollars better off, so far as indebtedness is concerned, than it was at the beginning of the period.

However, the deficit is an actual one, and must be cared for in some creditable manner.

The great majority of the members of the Assembly, and Governor-elect Ehringhaus are pledged to remove the 15c tax on property for the State's six month schools. And here is the rub. If the Assembly fails to remove that tax on property, it will have failed to keep faith with the people. On the other hand, where is the money to come from, with which to pay the school budget, if the 15c levy is removed?

Another matter is the consideration of the new Constitution for the State that has been submitted by the constitutional commission.

There is said to be a movement on foot to modify the State prohibition laws; though the Associated Press has not yet received information from a sufficient number of members of either House to be able to form any opinion as to that. Representative Cover of Cherokee, the youngest member of the Assembly is said to have a repeal measure, which he intends to introduce.

Coming back to the matter of revenue, and that is the point to which the Assembly will always come back, there is much agitation for the reduction of governmental expenditures, though they have already been radically reduced by the budget commission. The consolidation of governmental agencies, thus reducing expenses is being considered. One plan that is being agitated in rather high circles is for the States and the federal government to get together on a plan for a general sales tax to be levied by the federal government, which in turn would return a certain part thereof to the States, in proportion to population, thus making the tax general throughout the country, and preventing bootlegging of merchandise across State borders.

It is certain that the people are demanding a tax reduction, and it is equally certain that there is a great sentiment for doing away with every expenditure that is not absolutely essential to the well-being of the State.

Just what turn things will take cannot be definitely determined until after the inauguration of Mr. Ehringhaus, which event will occur on Thursday, Jan. 5. After that he will deliver his message to the Assembly and make his recommendations. Then the real task of solving North Carolina's difficult problems will begin in earnest.

D. M. Shuler
Mr. and Mrs. Terry Johnson called at Mr. W. H. Hovle's
Mrs. J. C. Johnson is improving after an illness of several days
Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Bird of Cullowhee and Mr. J. K. Terrell were guests at Mr. T. W. McLaughlin's.
Mrs. Dona Davis and Mrs. Laura Snyder visited at Mr. Rufe Oxner's.
Mr. and Mrs. Troy Gibson called at Mr. Garland Oxner's.
Mr. P. L. Reese has moved to the

BANK TO CLOSE FOR HOLIDAY

It has been announced that the Jackson County Bank will be closed on both December 26th and Jan. 2nd, in observance of Christmas and New Year's.

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