

The Jackson County Journal

\$1.50 Year in Advance in The County.

SYLVA, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1933

\$2.00 Year in Advance Outside The County.

Many Protests Are Made Against Proposed Slashing Of State's Expenditures

(By Dan Tompkins)

Most of the important work in the General Assembly, up to this time, has been done in the committee rooms. The two committees that have had the hardest task are the Finance and Appropriations. They have developed into North Carolina's "wailing walls," where all the popular financial problems of the State are being poured into the ears of legislators, who know already a deal of the Depressant on their account.

Before the Appropriations Committee has trooped, day after day, and hour after hour for more than a week, representatives of each Department, Agency, Commission and Institution of the State; and nearly all of them have told the Legislature through the committee, how impossible it is for them to properly function with a reduced appropriation. It is the business of the Appropriations Committee to suggest to the Assembly how much money should be appropriated for the support in the various departments of the State government, and the State institutions and agencies, for the next biennium.

The Finance Committee's job is to find the money with which to meet the Appropriations. Here again is a wailing wall. The railroads, the power companies, the manufacturers, the telephone companies, the private hospitals, the moving picture theaters, the baker and the candymaker, have all been before the committee, and each one of them has told substantially the same story: "We can't make any money; we can scarcely finance our own business; our revenue has been diminishing; we can't pay our stockholders any return on their investments with us; we can scarcely pay our present tax, and most certainly cannot pay any additional tax. This story of distress is given to the Finance Committee by an almost endless array of representatives of a kind of business in North Carolina and, perhaps for the first time in history, it is thought that they are practically all telling the truth about it. Everybody knows that the home owners and the farmers are already taxed beyond their limit, and that they must have some measure of relief.

The General Assembly set about boldly to cut expenses at every turn by reducing salaries, by consolidating commissions and boards, by cutting out all men and women on the payroll who can be dispensed with. But how soon they have met with strong opposition, every bureau, every commission, every department that would have been affected is trying to show to the General Assembly how valuable is the work that is being done by its special services, and how it should not be touched by the general reduction and consolidation. This is true almost through the entire structure of the State Government, from the University of North Carolina and the State Department of Education down through and to the maintenance gangs on the highways, and the county welfare workers of almost every county. The University, the Highway Commission, the Corporation Commission, the Department of Health, the Department of Welfare, the Department of Conservation and Development, the Department of Education, the Prison Department, all and sundry, together with every other known agency of the government, are standing up for the status quo, insofar as it affects the particular things in which each is especially interested. Each of these has powerful friends, in almost every part of the State, who are in favor of the economy program in principle, but who do not want it applied to the agency in which he or she is especially interested.

Almost every man who was elected last November is pledged to the abolition of the 15c ad valorem tax for the six months schools. The members of the General Assembly, who have so far listened patiently and politely to everybody with a complaint or a suggestion, are becoming

restive. They want to do the job and go home. A sales tax is in the offing, to meet the situation; but members of the Assembly shy away from it. It may be that we will come to a sales tax—we may have to; but no legislator should vote for a sales tax in any form, unless and until it is conclusively shown that the effort to balance the budget by funding the present deficit, and by reducing expenditures to the absolute minimum has been made and has been accomplished, insofar as such effort can accomplish this desired purpose. In that event, if the sales tax is the only way out, it then has a chance of passing. Otherwise it will meet with powerful opposition.

It is understood here that Judge Felix E. Alley will hold his first term of court, in Buncombe county, next week. Judge Alley is a strong personal friend of Governor Ehringhaus, and it was known as soon as the much regretted death of Judge Moore created a vacancy on the bench in the 20th District, that Judge Alley would be his successor, if he would accept the appointment.

The bills to exempt certain counties from the dog tax are held up in committee, while they are being studied. So many amendments, seeking to include at least a third of the counties of the State, were sent up to the Speaker's desk, when Representative Cover's dog tax bill came up for passage, that it was rushed back to the committee. Its fate is yet unknown.

Senator Roy Francis went home for the week end. Everybody who goes home, gets in touch with the folks, and learns what they are thinking, and it is helpful. Senator Francis has stood pat on everything that he advocated during the campaign and is recognized as a Senator who is really interested in the folks back home.

Representative Randolph of Swain county has a bill in which he seeks to have the State take over a sufficient amount of the bonded indebtedness of Swain county to compensate that county for the lands taken from the tax books by reason of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

The town of Whittier is no more. The bill to repeal its charter has passed both houses of the General Assembly and is now a law. It is understood that this meets with the approval of most of the people of Whittier.

Mr. S. W. Black and Dar Bryson were here the first of the week from Bryson City.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben N. Queen of Sylva are in town.

A sub-committee on Game is redrafting the game and fish laws of the State, and will submit the bill to the whole committee within a few days. This effort is being made in order to try to get a hunting and fishing law that will command the respect and the cooperation of the people of North Carolina. It is generally conceded that the present one does not arrive at that desired objective. And it is also conceded that if the propagation of fish and game is to reach such proportions as to become a really valuable asset to the State, that the forces working to that end must have the cooperation of the people, and that the law looking to that end must command their respect.

Mr. F. H. Coffey, furniture manufacturer of Lenoir, and Mr. Francis Garrau, a Valentinian from Burke while serving their first terms here are able representatives of the people.

The representative from Jackson county has introduced a bill to change the May term of superior court of Jackson county from a civil term to a mixed term, in order that the criminal cases that come up be tried in February and May may be tried, without having to wait until October. It is believed that this will save the county the expense of boarding prisoners awaiting trial for so long a time.

The educational forces, under the name of the North Carolina Congress of Parent-Teacher Associations had their ining in Raleigh yesterday, in the form of a great mass meeting in the auditorium, for the purpose of discussing the "education-

CALLS MEETING ON TEMPERANCE FOR TUESDAY NIGHT

A mass meeting of the citizens of Jackson county has been called to meet at the court house, next Tuesday evening, February 7, at 7:30 o'clock, in the interest of temperance. The call for the meeting is embodied in the letter, which follows, sent out to citizens of the county, by Rev. J. Gray Murray, pastor of the Sylva Baptist church.

"A mass meeting will be held in the court house at Sylva next Thursday night, Feb. 7, at 7:30, in the interest of temperance. The purpose of the meeting is to arouse the good citizens of the county against the liquor interests. I deliberately say arouse, because it looks like we have gone to sleep.

There will be no paid representative of any organization there and there will be no official connection with any organization unless the citizens present at this meeting decide to make such a connection.

"There will be no collection taken unless those present want to help pay for sending out this letter and such incidentals as may be connected with this mass meeting.

The meeting is interdenominational and non-partisan. The sole purpose is to organize against the liquor crowd. If you are for liquor and beer, and all the crime, shame and lawlessness associated therewith, then don't come. If you are for sobriety, temperance, law observance, happy homes, education and material prosperity, then come to this meeting. Something is going to happen and you will be on one side or the other. Which do you want to be on? We must act immediately or we will lose over night ground that it took the godly people who lived before us on hundred years to gain. We cannot be traitors to those who have passed to their reward."

EPISCOPAL SERVICES SUNDAY

Services will be held at St. John's Episcopal church, here, Sunday afternoon, at four o'clock, conducted by Rev. Albert New, of Waynesville. The public is invited to the service.

MRS. CHARLIE L. ALLISON DISMISSED FROM HOSPITAL

Mrs. Charles L. Allison, who has been a patient in the C. J. Harris Community Hospital, for several weeks, following an operation, has recovered sufficiently to be moved to her home, last week.

DR. CANDLER-BUILDING OFFICE

Dr. C. Z. Candler is erecting an attractive addition to his residence, on Main street, to be used as offices. Stone steps and walk, effecting an entrance from the street to the offices have been constructed.

CLUB TO MEET THURSDAY

The Twentieth Century Club will meet with Mrs. T. W. Fernald, Thursday, Feb. 9th, 3 P. M. All members are urged to be present, as it is the meeting of the year, and elected for the coming year.

PARIS SALE EXTENDED

Because of inclement weather and bad roads, which has made it exceedingly difficult for country people to get to town, the Paris sale will be extended to February 11, according to announcement made by Mr. A. M. Simons.

FRUIT STORE IS MOVED

Stovall's Fruit Store has been moved from the location it has occupied since its establishment here to the building across the street, the jewelry shop of J. A. Parris and the dry cleaning plant of Moore's Cleaners.

al crisis" in the 1920s. Mrs. E. L. McKee of Sylva, former senator from Jackson, addressed the meeting, among others.

The mass meeting was staged on the eve of the first general meeting of the joint committee of House and Senate, on education, which was

(Continued on Page 2)

REV. T. F. DEITZ IS CHOSEN TO HEAD W.N.C. MINISTERS

The Western North Carolina Baptist Ministers' Conference held its annual meeting in Waynesville, Jan 30 and 31. The Waynesville Baptist church was host to the conference. There were between thirty and forty in attendance. The conference covers seventeen counties west of the Blue Ridge. Most of the counties were represented.

The program consisted of devotional talks, sermons, addresses and round table discussions of practical problems of the pastor.

The conference passed resolutions against any change of our laws against liquor and the passage of the bill permitting Sunday baseball in North Carolina. The secretary was instructed to send copies of these resolutions to the Representatives now in Raleigh who are there from the counties embracing this pastor's conference. He was also instructed to send them to the proper persons in Washington, D. C.

The officers for next year are: Rev. T. F. Deitz, Moderator; Rev. W. N. Cook, Vice Moderator, and Rev. W. W. Williams, Secretary and Treasurer.

The next meeting will be held in Sylva January 29, 1934.

40 YEARS AGO

Asheville—The train on the Murphy branch of the Western North Carolina Railroad which left Asheville Tuesday morning, struck a snow drift on Balsam Mountain. Four extra engines were sent to aid the train in getting over, but nothing could be done, and the train, with its passengers, had to spend the night in the drift, six feet deep where it first struck. Wednesday morning the luck was better, and the drift was removed, the train reaching Murphy in the afternoon.

The train coming to Asheville stalled on account of snow beyond the Balsam, but was finally helped to Balsam, where the passengers spent the night and arrived here 36 hours off schedule. The obstructions by snow are the greatest in the history of the road.

The Road Congress in Raleigh last week was largely attended and great interest in the subject of road improvement was manifested. A committee of two from each congressional district took under consideration the various propositions and resolutions and in its report recommended that the roads should be maintained by taxation, by those subject to road duty, and by the employment of convict labor also. The Legislature will doubtless make a change from the present inefficient system, which Gov. Carr rightly characterizes as a failure.

The weather has greatly moderated since our last issue, the mercury reaching a higher point with each succeeding day. We shall soon have mud to succeed the snow, and while the winter season is drawing to a close, the embargo laid on business of every kind is being gradually lifted. The lifting is gradual because the melting ice and snow during the day is succeeded each night by freezing, so that for half of each day it is dangerous to get about.

Little Mattie Lou, daughter of T. H. Hastings, of Dillsboro, fell on the ice on her father's porch a few days ago and broke an arm. Dr. Wolff was speedily summoned and rendered the necessary surgical aid.

J. L. Monteith, a native of this county and now a citizen of Arkansas, is here on a visit to relatives.

It is thought by some that the extreme cold of last week killed the fruit in the bud, so that there will be no bloom, even, this year.

Mrs. A. W. Bryson and children left Monday to spend the remainder of the winter with her husband, who is merchandising in Asheville.

Winter shows will be sold by Smith & Morris at a reduced price

TODAY and TOMORROW

(By Frank Parker Stockbridge)

Prosperity . . . at Chaska, Minn.

My friend, James F. Faber, city editor of the Valley Herald, published at Chaska, Minnesota sends me a memorandum of the claim of that thriving little city to the title of "the most prosperous town in America."

with 2,000 inhabitants Chaska has a surplus of over \$88,000 in the city treasury. Taxes have been cut 30 per cent. The people of Chaska have almost \$2,500,000 in the two banks and the town never had a bank failure. There are no natives on the poor list, and the city is providing a good living for nearly ninety business and professional men besides their employees. On top of that Chaska has had new businesses opening in each year of the depression and has only five names on the delinquent tax list.

I know of no other town the size of Chaska that can make such a showing. Do you?

Savings . . . in the banks

There is more money in the savings banks of the United States than ever before in our national history. In New York State alone savings bank deposits were more than five thousand million dollars on the first of January. This money is owned by more than five and one-half million depositors.

The people of the United States are certainly not "broke" when savings deposits increase like that. Folks are putting their money into safe places instead of spending it because they are not quite sure yet what is going to happen in the future. Just as soon as conditions seem to be stabilized there will be plenty of funds available for investment in promising enterprises.

Credit . . . and an idea

Taking the country as a whole, the banks are full of money, but it is harder for the average person to borrow money from the banks. The reason for this is very clear. Fewer people than ever before are in a position to give a banker reasonable assurance that they will be able to pay a loan when it is due.

It is not shortage of money that is keeping us poor; it is shortage of credit. The few who have good credit can borrow money cheaper than ever before.

I don't know how it would work but it seems to me there is some merit in the suggestion that if the banks would lend everybody enough to pay their debts money would begin to circulate so fast that business would immediately pick up and everybody's credit would be as good as it ever was. That idea is certainly not any more foolish than the good many of the inflationary proposals that have been offered in Congress.

Coins . . . some valuable

Rare old coins still bring high prices. A penny sold at an auction in New York the other day for sixty dollars. It was a copper cent dated 1789.

Among the other rare coins sold at the same time were some copper "hard times" tokens issued from private mints between 1834 and 1841. One of them dated 1837, brought \$22.50.

Coins are not valuable merely because they are old; it is rarity that makes collectors bid for them. The silver dollar of 1804 is so rare that only four or five are known to be in existence, and anyone finding one of those coins can almost name his own price for it. Most of the silver dollars coined that year were sent to Europe for the payment of certain obligations and the ship was lost at sea.

Last year the United States Mint made more coins than in the previous two years; there were more than twenty million of them, worth 60 million dollars. One reason for the increased coinage was the large offerings of gold jewelry and ornaments, which the mint is obliged to purchase and give gold coins in exchange.

in order to close out their winter stock.

The depot at Wilmot has been discontinued and our young friend, C. S. Fullbright, late the capable and popular agent there, is for the present sojourning with us.

20TH AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION OF U. S. RATIFIED

Washington, D. C., Feb. 1.—For the twentieth time since it was adopted in 1787, the Constitution of the United States has been amended again. By the ratification of the "Lame Duck" amendment by 36 states, three-quarters of the total number, the term for which Roosevelt was elected President has been shortened, as well as the terms of all Senators and Representatives. Never again will we be treated to such spectacle as is now on view in Washington, of a President and Congress who have been repudiated by the people still holding office and carrying on the business of the Government.

It took Congress ten years, after Senator Norris of Nebraska first proposed it, to submit the amendment providing that a new President and Congress would take office two months after election, instead of four months, without any intervening sessions of the hold-overs. But it took only a year for the amendment, once submitted to be ratified.

President Roosevelt's term, which begins on March 4, 1933, will end on January 20, 1937. The terms of members of Congress elected in 1934 will end on January 3, 1937. There will be no session of the old Congress between the election and the incoming of those newly elected.

Economic Skies Brighter

The agreement between President Hoover and President-elect Roosevelt to have the State Department make arrangements for the discussion of war debts, beginning early in March, is looked upon here as a step which holds out the hope that there will be no delay after the new President takes office in working out a readjustment of the international financial situation. The British government will send a representative to Washington to thrash out not only the question of what can be done about the money which England owes the United States but also to go thoroughly into all the related subjects such as depreciated foreign currencies and tariffs which impair England's power to pay their debt in commodities.

Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Hoover are in perfect accord on the idea of treating with each of our European debtors separately instead of in a general conference on the subject of debts. As Mr. Roosevelt expressed it, this will not give the European nations a chance to "gang up" against America. At any rate, there is a much more hopeful feeling in the air about the general economic situation.

Farm Relief and Bonus

While it seems certain that the farm relief project providing for bonuses to farmers who voluntarily reduce their crop acreage will eventually be enacted, the bill seems likely to have hard sledding ahead of it so far as the present Congress is concerned.

There have been so many amendments adopted by the Senate Committee which is considering it, that, even though it passes the Senate, it is not regarded as probable that the House will agree to many of the changes which have been made, and since the present Congress cannot sit later than March 4th, there seems to be hardly time to get the differences ironed out.

As the measure stands now, the bonus to be paid to the farmer who reduces production is to be the difference between the pre-war price of his commodity, as recorded in government statistics, and the market price at the time his product is sold. Thus, if wheat was 95c a bushel—which figure has been accepted as the pre-war standard—and is now 40c a bushel, the farmer who agrees to a 20 per cent reduction in his wheat acreage will get a bonus of 55c a bushel above the 40c market price received for such wheat as he actually sells.

This bonus is to be imposed as a tax upon the millers who buy the wheat. They will, of course, pass it on to the buyers of flour. It would make a difference of a cent a loaf in the price of bread to the retail consumer.