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IMPORTANT BILLS STILL IN HANDS OF COMMITTEES

(By Dan Tompkins)

Raleigh, February 8.—The big work of the assembly still lies in the committees; but it is believed that most of the important bills, the work of a considerable period of time, will be reported out within the next week, and that then the assembly will get down to the real task of attempting to carry out the wishes of the people along the line of economy. A bill introduced by Dr. Douglass of Wake, providing for the reduction of salaries in the Highway Department on a graduated scale, is on the calendar for special order of business for February 16. The bill provides for salaries ranging from \$1,500 to \$3,000 shall be cut 10 per cent; those from \$2,000 to \$2,500 by 15 per cent; those from \$2,500 to \$3,000 by 20 per cent; those from \$3,000 to \$4,000 by 25 per cent, and those above \$4,000 by 33 1/3 per cent. This bill would not touch the little folks, but those whose pay is less than \$150 per month; but would work a substantial reduction on all salaries above that figure and the higher the salary the greater the percentage of reduction. When the bill comes up for consideration, it will probably be amended so as to include all departments of the State Government. If this could be gotten through the Assembly, it would result in practically solving the financial problem.

Much talk is heard about resorting to a sales tax; but there is much opposition, and it is believed that the Finance Committee will not report a sales tax measure. Without substantial economies, however, it is believed that the committee will most certainly be unable to do so in the house of representatives.

Mr. Murphy, the veteran member from Rowan county, who represented the North Carolina house of representatives in the inter-state legislative conference in Washington, and his report to the house Monday night in the report he read the house that North Carolina, along with all the other states, must effect substantial economies, and that this is the only way to head off possible disaster to our form of government, and that it is the wish of the people of the state and of the United States. A general tax money for the federal government and for the several states was discussed, and it is thought that a policy can be worked out, which will prevent so much overlapping of taxation.

On Monday night the House cut the price of automobile tags from a minimum of \$12.50 to a minimum of \$8.00 and reduced the price of the license 55¢ per one hundred pounds or weight to 35¢. Chairman Jeffers of the State Highway Commission, was present, and heard his commission get a deal of severe criticism for alleged extravagance, in the matter of salaries and expenditures. All dog tax laws have so far failed to get by the committees. Cover's bill to exempt the county of Cherokee from the operation of the dog tax law was amended by members to include a great many of the counties of the State. It then went back to the committee on education. The trouble in getting a dog tax law passed or amendment lies in the fact that at present the dog tax money goes to the school fund of the State, and members from counties where the dog tax law is not opposed don't like to see other counties exempted from its payment, which, they think, would take money from the general school tax. Senator Patton's bill to allow one free dog to every family has staying in the committee.

The committee on education is considering the several school bills that have been introduced. The one to abolish the county superintendents of schools and substitute district superintendents is receiving careful consideration. It is estimated that the bill will pass a great deal of support. The bill as it is at present would constitute Division No. 2, Macon, Clay, Cherokee, and Graham would be district No. 1. In each of these there would be one

BUNCOMBE BAR WELCOMES JUDGE ALLEY TO BENCH

Brief exercises extending a welcome to the newly-appointed judge, Felix E. Alley, of Waynesville, to the superior court bench were held in Asheville Monday as the February term got under way and Judge Alley presided for his first time.

Judge Guy Weaver, president of the Buncombe county bar association, by permission of the court, took charge of the exercises. Appropriate remarks were made by Judge Weaver and several other members of the Buncombe bar. Judge Alley responded in a brief address in which he expressed his appreciation for the numerous expressions of friendship received since his appointment.

Judge Alley's remarks, in part, follow:

"No words of mine will adequately express my appreciation of the kind words that have been said of me by the gentlemen who have spoken.

"Your attendance here this morning in such large numbers portends, I think, the continued success of the spring term of your superior court. If I shall be able to meet the exacting requirements of this high office, I approach the discharge of my duties with feelings of trepidation and misgivings. That I shall make many mistakes I have no doubt; but with a mind open to conviction I shall have the courage to reverse myself as often as I may be convinced that I have erred."

METHODISTS WILL MEET IN ASHEVILLE FRIDAY NIGHT

A meeting of unusual importance to Methodists of Western North Carolina is announced, to be held at Central church, Asheville, on Friday and Friday night, of this week.

Letters have been sent out, in the past four weeks, to representative members of the church throughout his area, from the office of Bishop J. D. Mouzon, in Charlotte. The pastors of all the churches are expected to attend, together with laymen and women representing every pastorate in the counties west of the Blue Ridge.

Lunch is to be served at the church and lodging over-night will be provided by the membership of Central church.

In addition to local leaders in the territory embraced, Bishop Mouzon is to deliver an address during the day, and Bishop Paul Kern, of Dallas, Texas, will speak at seven-thirty Friday evening.

Several delegates are planning to go from Sylva and there will be representatives from all the churches in Jackson county.

MARKET DEMAND FOR EARLY SPRING LAMBS

Early spring lambs, fattened with home-grown feeds and properly looked and trimmed, will likely sell well this spring.

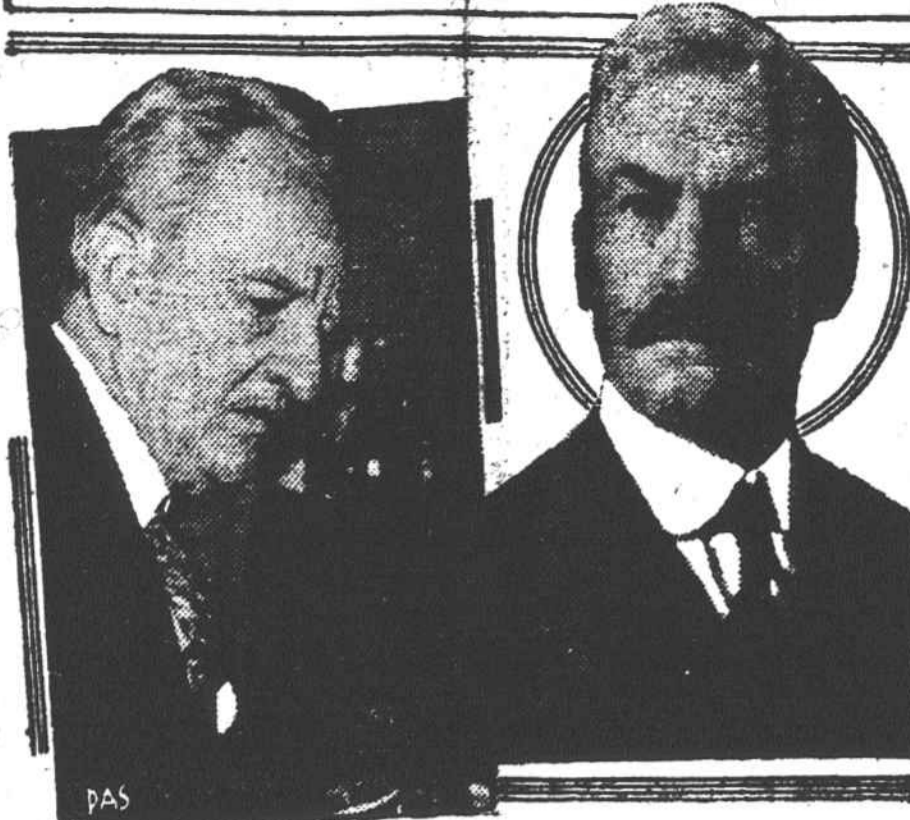
Reports received by L. I. Case, animal husbandman at State College, indicate that market lambs are selling better than any class of livestock or any other farm commodity at this time. However, packers and local butchers much prefer lambs that have been docked and trimmed and will usually pay a premium over those not handled in this way. This operation is best performed when the lamb is a week or two weeks old.

"There is one thing we must keep in mind," says Mr. Case. "There is a large number of breeding ewes in the country at this time and prices must be expected to hold up unless the industrial situation takes a turn for the better. Under this situation, sheep men should take good care of their lambs, fatten them quickly and get them on the early market. To do this, see that the lamb gets plenty of milk from the ewe during its early days of life."

To provide the lamb with plenty of milk means that the mother must be fed for milk production and this calls for feeding her a supply of good legume hay. Hay made from soybeans, lespedeza, clover and the like would fill the bill, Mr. Case says. He also thinks the ewes might be allowed to graze the rye and other green cover crops.

With plenty of legume hay and succulent grazing, the milk supply will hold up well, he says.

Predicted in Roosevelt Cabinet Selections



These two men top the list as possible members of President-elect Roosevelt's cabinet, according to late Washington reports. . . . They are (left) Senator Carter Glass of Virginia, as Secretary of the Treasury and (right) Senator Thomas J. Walsh of Montana, as Attorney General. . . . James A. Farley, is expected to be named Postmaster-General.

Economy Measures Not Likely To Pass In Congress

Washington, D. C., Feb. 8.—So far as measures go which are calculated to bring about important economic readjustments, the outlook now is that few, if any, of the projects being debated in this "lame duck" Congress will become law. The two which now seem to have the best chance are Senator Glass' branch banking bill and the La Guardia bill to amend the bankruptcy laws.

The branch banking bill has been amended so that it will permit national banks to establish branches only in states where state banks have the same privilege. The purpose of the bill is to do away with the multiplicity of small, weak local banks and establish a system such as works so well in England and Canada, of having local branches of strong central banks do the banking business of the community.

The La Guardia bill is expected to have smooth sailing, and its effect is expected to be the relief of debtors from their pressing obligations and heavy interest burdens without the expense and stigma of bankruptcy. It is known that many large corporations, including many railroads, are prepared to take advantage of this law as soon as it becomes effective, and it will apply equally to individuals and partnerships who find it impossible to carry on unless they can get, either an extension of time from their creditors, or a reduction in their total indebtedness, or a reduction in the rate of interest they are paying on their obligations—or all three of those.

The domestic allotment plan of farm relief does not seem now as likely to get through at this session as it did a short time ago. Nor does there seem much of a chance before March 4, for the project of Senator Robinson to form a billion-dollar corporation to make 3 per cent loan to farmers and to buy up existing mortgages for the purpose of extending them at a lower rate of interest. There is little doubt, however, that as soon as the new Congress gets into its stride some broad measures designed to afford direct and immediate relief to distressed farmers will be adopted.

NATIVE OF JACKSON DIES IN CANTON TUESDAY NIGHT

J. Matt Smith, a native of Jackson county and once a citizen of Sylva, died at his home in Canton, Tuesday night, following a long illness of a heart ailment.

Mr. Smith, who was 75 years of age, moved to Haywood county a number of years ago and for twenty-seven years has been woods operating superintendent for the Champion Fibre company. He was twice married, his first wife having been Mrs. Mary Ann Easley Long, who died in 1922. To this union were born three daughters and two sons, who survive. They are Mrs. J. Robert Long, of Bryson City, Mrs. Ed Williams and Charles E. Smith, of Canton; William R. Smith, of Marion and Mrs. Lloyd Jarrett of Asheville. In 1923, Mr. Smith married Miss Elizabeth Compton, of Hazelwood, who with a daughter, Ruth Smith, also survive.

Mr. Smith was a member of the Methodist church for 38 years and a member of the Masouie Blue Lodge of Waynesville for 24 years.

The funeral service was held at the Methodist church, in Canton, this morning at 11 o'clock, with the pastor, Rev. Charles N. Clark, conducting it, and interment was in Locust Field cemetery, Canton.

SCHOOL PAPER APPEARS

The first edition of the Western Carolinian, new student newspaper at Western Carolina Teachers college is now off the press. The newspaper was printed by the Bryson City Times company.

The front page of the paper carries accounts of the death of Judge Walter E. Moore and Miss Elizabeth

TWO HELD FOR LARCENY

Charged with the larceny of sixty dollars worth of clothing from the Acme Dry Cleaning establishment here, Fred Pruett, of Big Ridge, and Victor Connor of Trout Creek, were arrested Monday night. Part of the goods, consisting of nine suits, of men's clothing was found in a truck said to have been wrecked by the two men. The discovery led to their arrest by deputy sheriff C. C. Mason and chief of police James Turpin of Sylva.

The men will be given a hearing before Justice of the Peace John H. Morris, Saturday.

TODAY and TOMORROW

(By Farnk Parker Stockbridge)

Dictator . . . Europe's third Adolph Hitler, leader of the "Nazi" movement in Germany, has become Chancellor of the German Republic, and head of the Government. This makes the third European nation to come under the control of a virtual dictator. Stalin in Russia, Mussolini in Italy and now Hitler in Germany are manifestations of the failure of the peoples of those countries to manage their own affairs successfully.

I hear a great deal of loose talk to the effect that "what America needs is a dictator." I don't think we need anything of the kind, and don't think that the vast majority of Americans want to be organized, disciplined and controlled in the way that people living under a dictator have to submit to.

We have never failed yet in America to work our own way out of our troubles, and I think we are on the way out now.

Socialism . . . are we headed?

We are much more likely in America to come to some mild form of socialism than we are to arrive at either communism or a dictatorship. But we are not likely to call it socialism than we are to arrive at either communism or a dictatorship. But we are not likely to call it socialism any more than England calls her present system of government—which it practically is.

All the signs of the time are pointing to increasing governmental control, if not ownership and operation of public utilities, natural resources, means of transportation and communication. It would not surprise me if I were here to see it, to find the United States twenty years from now owning all of the mines, oil wells, railroad, telegraph and telephone lines, radio broadcasting systems, electric light and power plants, steamship lines, and other enterprises which are essentially monopolistic in their nature.

And incidentally, if any more people stop paying taxes it won't be long before the nation or its governmental sub-divisions own all the land.

Cooperation . . . in a new way

A group of sixty-three unemployed New York business men are opening up a cooperative store with the aid of manufacturers and jobbers of merchandise of all kinds. They are getting their rent on a percentage basis of sales, and their merchandise on consignment.

This is only one of hundreds, perhaps thousands, of cooperative efforts at self help which are being made in all parts of the United States. Some will succeed and some will not, but out of them may grow some valuable lessons which can be applied when good times come again, and which will make it easier, because of this experience, to meet the next economic crisis.

I heard from an English friend the other day that the members of the great British cooperative society are getting through the depression much easier than the general run of the people.

The hardest thing for most Americans to learn is team work.

Treasure . . . hidden away

If all the money that has ever been buried and its whereabouts forgotten could be dug up and put into circulation, there might be enough to ease the depression materially.

I learned the other day from a Russian friend that he knew the exact spot where ten million dollars was buried just before the Bolshevik army arrived, and if there were any

MILLIONS TO PAY INCOME TAX FIRST TIME THIS YEAR

Washington, D. C., Feb. 8.—Every single man or woman who earned as much as \$20 a week last year, 1932, will have to pay an income tax to Uncle Sam this year. Every married man, or woman who is the head of a family, who earned \$50 a week in 1932, is also liable for income tax in 1933, unless there are minor children to be supported.

Treasury officials estimate that more than three and one-half million persons who have never paid income tax to the Federal government are obligated to pay it under the law passed last year. And what is worrying the Treasury is the question: Do these taxpayers realize that they have got to report their last year's income and pay tax or go to jail or be fined?

It's an impossible game to beat, this Federal income tax. With luck, some few may get away with evading it for a while, but when they are caught the penalties are severe, and the accrued tax is a lien that comes ahead of everything else—mortgages, state and local taxes, grocery bills and all. Uncle Sam's Collectors of Internal Revenue have the right to garnish the salary or wages of anyone liable for Income tax and who does not pay it. The law gives the Federal courts the right to send to prison anybody who fails to report his 1932 income by the 15th of March, 1933.

The tax is not very high on small incomes. If one is single and earned \$1,200 last year, the highest tax possible would be only \$8. And there are exemptions from that. The taxpayer can deduct from net income figures such items as money given to charity or church, taxes of any kind paid to the Federal or local government, interest on business debts and certain kinds of business losses.

A married man without children is allowed \$2,500 exemption; an unmarried person only \$1,000 exemption. Every employer is required to report to the Government how much was paid in salary and commissions to each employee during the year. So the Treasury has a practically complete record, which is sure to be followed up. And when the Treasury agents overtake the individual who has failed to report taxable income, trouble is pretty certain to follow.

"The only safe plan for anyone who wants to avoid trouble," said one of the Treasury officials the other day, "is to send to the Income Tax Unit at the Treasury Department, Washington, for the proper form of report to be filled out and filed. Form 1040A for incomes below \$5,000 a year; form 1040 for income of \$5,000 or more." The proper form must be filed with the nearest Collector of Internal Revenue by March 15, and at least one-quarter of the tax paid at that time.

possible way of getting the money out of Russia he could lead me to the spot. I declined the offer, but I was reminded of it when I heard from down on the Eastern shores of Maryland that a young man who had bought an abandoned graveyard as a site for a filling station had found an iron pot containing thirty thousand dollars in old coins buried in the ground. And from out in Arkansas comes the report that workers for the American Red Cross have turned up nearly six thousand dollars that was hidden by an ancient hermit who committed suicide a few weeks ago, after writing instructions to the Red Cross workers how to find his buried treasure.

Adventurers are still searching for pirate gold on various islands of the West Indies, and dredging the deep seas for sunken treasure ships. It is the most fascinating fame imaginable, but those who play it seldom win.

Security . . . in old age pensions

My friends of the American Association for Old Age Security report that efforts are being made by politicians in several states to abolish their old age pension systems, on the plea of economy, and go back to the horrors of the town and county poor houses. It seems to me that this is about the last place to practice economy. Of course, the poorhouses made

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