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Cooper's Store,

Nashville, N. C.

REVALUATION WORK DID NOT BEGIN UNTIL THIS WEEK

Questionnaires Have Been Mailed to Property Owners to Fill Out.

IMPORTANT WORK

Property Owners Urged to Co-operate With Township Field-Workers On Their Rounds

County Auditor John L. Cornwell, who is supervisor of the work involving a re-valuation of all the real and personal property under the legislation enacted by the last General Assembly, set to work this week mailing questionnaires to property owners. Each letter is accompanied by a uniform letter of explanation prepared by the State Tax Commission in which the full purposes and intent of the questionnaires are set forth, while the questionnaire itself also carries explicit instruction to all property owners.

The first questionnaires have been mailed to the property owners residing in Coopers Township and each person receiving the questionnaire is expected to promptly fill out same and have in readiness for the field workers, who will call within the next few days, take up the questionnaires and secure such other data as will enable them to handle this important question with justice and fairness to all concerned.

It is expected the field workers will complete their personal canvass by Friday, July 25th. Then the questionnaires will be sent to land owners in another township until every township in the county has been covered.

Blank for Listing Land Acreage.

The purpose of this blank is to disclose the fair, actual cash value of the tract of land listed. It carries the guarantee of the state that the purpose is not to increase the total amount of taxes paid, but to find the value of each separate piece of property equally, and by the same standard rule, so that equal justice may be done to each tax payer. The total increase in taxes cannot exceed ten per cent for the state, for the county, for any special tax district. A separate blank must be filled out for each separate piece of real property. The supervisor must require that full answer be made to every question. If you cannot answer any question with absolute accuracy, give the answer that represents your best judgment as an estimate. The board of appraisers will not be bound by your answer as to the actual value of the property. Your answer should represent your best judgment of the value. The assessment will represent the best judgment of the county board of appraisers, which may be higher or lower than yours. You will in any case be notified in writing by mail of assessment made, and will be given opportunity to be heard if in your judgment it is assessed for more than its actual cash value.

County of _____ Township of _____
Name of owner? _____ Name or description of tract? _____ Contains _____ acres. Adjoining lands of? _____ Distance from nearest city or town _____ miles. Name of city or town? _____
Does it adjoin improved graded road? _____ If not, give distance from same road? _____
Number of acres in cultivation, Value? _____
No. of acres in grass or pasture, Value? _____
No. of acres in waste land, value? _____
No. of acres in timber, value? _____
No. of dwelling houses, value? _____
No. of barns, value? _____
No. of other buildings, value? _____
Total value of land and all improvements? _____
In your best judgment, does the answer given herein represent the actual cash value of the tract of land and all improvements on the same? _____ If not, what was the actual cash value of the property at _____

Has timber right been sold and conveyed? _____
If yes, to whom? _____
What was the consideration of sale? _____
Give amount of insurance on buildings? _____
If whole property was rented in 1918, what was the value in money of rent received? _____
If cultivated by owner, or partly cultivated and partly rented, what was the fair rental value of the whole? _____
When did you acquire this tract of land? _____
If by purchase, what was consideration? _____
Were there any circumstances connected with the sale which caused it to sell for more or less than its value at that time? _____
Give cost of improvements made since purchase? \$ _____
Have you sold any part of it since purchase? _____
If yes, at what price per acre? _____
What part sold worth more or less per acre than balance of tract? _____
Have you had a genuine offer for this tract or any part of it, in the last two years? _____
If yes, give highest offer? _____
State of North Carolina—County of _____
I, _____ do solemnly swear (or affirm) that to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, the foregoing statement (or statements) contains a true, full and correct list of all real property owned by me on the first day of May, one thousand nine hundred and nineteen, or which I am authorized or required to list as agent for another; that such property has been fully and fairly described and its true condition represented; that I have in no case sought to mislead the supervisor or his assistants as to the entire quantity, quality or value of the property; that I have, to the best of my knowledge and judgment, valued the said property at its true and actual value on the first day of May, one thousand nine hundred and nineteen, by which I mean the price that could be obtained for said property at private or voluntary sale for cash, and not the price which might be realized at a force or auction sale; that I have made full and true answers to all questions with respect to the value and condition of such property that I have been required to answer; so help me, God

DUTIES OF WELFARE OFFICER AND PEOPLE

Responsibilities Resting Upon Citizens Are Not Considered Trivial.

Just at this time the Board of Education is laying special stress upon and trying to impress upon the citizens of Nash county the responsibilities resting upon them in carrying out the Compulsory Attendance Law, which is published in full elsewhere in the Graphic. The law like-wise imposes certain duties upon the County Superintendent of Public Welfare, who can only make the purposes and intent of the law effective by a hearty co-operation of the parents and public generally. Eight specific duties are imposed upon him by reason of the act, these being:

1. To act as probation officer to the county juvenile court, if there be but one court in the county, and if more, to be the chief probation officer. In this capacity he must be in touch with all the neglected, dependent or delinquent children, and under the direction of the court, investigate their surroundings and such means of protecting them in their own homes or on probation, or of getting them into suitable homes or institutions.
2. To act as chief school attendance officer of the county, in whom will be required by the school officials all children in their respective townships.
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children to school and seek to remedy the cause.

3. As probation officer and as school attendance officer looking out to neglected and truant children he will come in contact with the homes of such children. Many of these homes, and no doubt, most of them, are homes of poverty, neglect or shiftlessness, and often objects of charity. He must know when charitable help is needed and when it should be withheld, and other means used. This naturally makes him the most suitable person to advise the public officials regarding the distribution of the poor funds, and under the direction of the County Commissioners he should investigate every case where applications for relief are made. Often unworthy persons are on the rolls and worthy persons will not apply because of the stigma attaching to the matter. He should be able from first-hand knowledge to recommend who should be helped and who should not be. In many counties the poor funds have grown enormously and there are but few instances where this is managed systematically, either for the best interest of the poor or for the interest of the taxpayers.

4. He should know of the blind, the deaf, the cripple and the sick children in the county, and see that proper care and attention is given them, and if they are subjects for institutional care or training that they be sent to the proper places.

5. He will visit the county home, the prison, the jail, and make report to the State Board on their condition and assist in making suggestions for improvements. Paroled prisoners in the county will be referred to him, and he will assist in reporting the cases of insanity and feeble-mindedness, and in getting them in State institutions and in helping them in their own homes after they are discharged.

6. In short, he will investigate the causes of distress in any and every form and assist in relieving them, and cooperate with the county and officials and all private agencies and persons preventing unworthy charity and securing worthy help.

7. He will study the subject of recreation and amusement and seek to introduce wholesome agencies and to suppress bad ones and to keep out the vicious. He will encourage the establishment of playgrounds and games, and aid the officials in the enforcement of the laws against vice and bad conditions generally.

8. He will co-operate with the churches, the schools and all other agencies and persons who are seeking to make a better and cleaner community. During the six months when the schools are in operation the enforcement of the attendance laws will consume much of his time, for this must be done with tact and discretion and with a view of helping parents to see the error of not doing their best to keep the children in school. The poor, the sick, the afflicted will always be with us, and it will be his duty to understand how far these causes go towards truancy at school, and to seek to remedy them.

HEAVY RAIN STORMS SWEEPING THE STATE

All Rivers Making New High-Water Marks and Flooding Surrounding Country, Damaging Crops.

The heavy rainstorms which have prevailed throughout the state and especially in all Eastern North Carolina has caused many of the principal streams to reach new high-water marks and is causing considerable damage.

Roanoke River reached a new high record by rising more than 45 feet, great floods of water inundating lands in the vicinity of the State Farm and surrounding country.

The River is a rolling, seething mass of muddy water, far outspreading its banks and has reached a height that has caused much damage in some sections of Nash and Edgecombe counties. At Spring Hope the Hydro-Electric plant has been cut out of commission on account of high water and all streams flowing into the Tar are terribly swollen.

The Yadon, Catawba, Cape Fear and New rivers have shown new high water marks and along the banks of the Tar, the water is so high that it is doing much damage to the crops.

GOVERNOR BICKETT ISSUES LETTER TO "MR. AVERAGE CITIZEN."

FIX YOUR LAND VALUES

Truth Must Be Told If Valuations in North Carolina Are To Be Fairly and Impartially Equalized.

My dear Mr. Average Citizen:

An intimate acquaintance with you extending over a number of years, leads me to write you this intensely personal letter. I know that you love the truth, that you despise injustice, that you are a robust champion of the square deal. The possession by you of the cardinal virtues makes North Carolina a truly great State.

The most vital power of the State is the power to tax, and you believe that this vital power should be exercised with a full knowledge of the truth. You believe that from this full knowledge of the truth there will flow perfect equality in taxation.

For the first time in the history of the State you, Mr. Average Citizen, have it in your power to write the full truth and perfect equality in the tax books of the State. You have never been called upon to do this before; indeed, you have never been permitted to do this before. But now the General Assembly has enacted a law that places the matter entirely in your hands. The new tax law is written on correct principles. The machinery for its enforcement is adequate. The law is so written that it will be easy for the citizen to do right and hard for him to do wrong. But on you, Mr. Average Citizen, rests the responsibility of determining whether or not the wise and just purpose of the law shall be carried out.

Now Mr. Average Citizen, you will receive a questionnaire and will be called upon to swear before God and to all your fellow citizens what is the fair market value of your property. "When you come to take this solemn oath it will be helpful to you, to put to your own conscience this question: "If I did not own this property, but wanted to buy it, what would I be justified in paying for it?" and, again: "If I want to sell this property, not at a forced sale but in the way and on the terms that property of this class is generally sold in this community, what do I really believe I could get for it?"

The answer to these questions will point with reasonable accuracy to the fair market value of your property. This fair market value you must write down in your questionnaire, else you will cease to be Mr. Average Citizen and become Mr. Undesirable Citizen.

When you, Mr. Average Citizen, tell the truth about your property, it will do no good for your neighbor Mr. Undesirable Citizen, to tell a lie about his property, because when the books show truly what the property of Mr. Average Citizen is worth, this evidence will clearly and conclusively show what the property of Mr. Undesirable Citizen is worth. The local and district assessors, when they come to fix the value of property, will be governed by the sworn testimony of Mr. Average Citizen.

And when you, Mr. Average Citizen, tell the unvarnished truth about your property, that truth will wipe out every discrimination and every inequality in taxation in North Carolina. True values are always equal values, but the greatest expert cannot equalize a series of falsehoods.

When all the property in the State shall be placed on the books at its fair market value, many benefits will accrue to you, Mr. Average Citizen.

1. You will have the great satisfaction of knowing that the record written by all the people of the State is a record and not a lie on the commonwealth. This knowledge will wonderfully strengthen the moral fiber of our people.

2. You will know that every discrimination in taxation is wiped out, and that every citizen is carrying his fair part of the burden.

3. As the values go up the rate of taxation will go down, hereafter North Carolina will be known far and as a wealthy State with a low rate of taxation. Instead of a poor State with a high rate of taxation.

4. The General Assembly has made a pledge not to raise taxes unless the proposed new valuation of property, as shown by the true facts, requires the raising of the tax rate.

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lected under the present false values. This means that the total revenues collected by the State shall not be greater than ten per cent in excess of the total revenues collected under the present law. This most emphatically does not mean that no particular citizen will have to pay taxes in excess of ten per cent of the amount he had heretofore paid. A particular citizen may pay less taxes than he has paid before. He may pay double what he has heretofore paid. This depends on whether or not he has heretofore paid his fair share of the taxes according to his true worth. If he has paid more than his fair share the increase as to him will be less than ten per cent; if he has paid less than his fair share, the increase as to him will be more than ten per cent.

You, Mr. Average Citizen, will at once perceive the essential justice in thus equalizing the public burden. I call on you to lend your vigorous support, first, by example, and then by precept, to this attempt by the General Assembly to build up a taxation system in North Carolina grounded on perfect truth and perfect justice. By so doing you will help to practically demonstrate that it is profitable in money and in morals to a people as well as to an individual to tell the truth and shame the devil.

Sincerely yours,
T. W. Bickett.
Raleigh, N. C., July 11, 1919.

JUDGE AUSTIN DESCRIBES CENTENARY

In an Interesting Discourse He Portrays Imposing Scenes Enacted at Great Jubilee at Columbus.

An interesting and instructive occasion was the address of Judge Samuel F. Austin in Nashville Methodist Church last Sunday evening and in which Judge Austin gave a brief yet very graphic description of the great Centenary Jubilee held in Columbus, Ohio, some days ago and which he attended. In recounting those incidents of the Jubilee which made an impression upon him, Judge Austin dispensed quite a bit of interesting information touching the customs of the peoples of the earth who had assembled in Columbus bringing with them trophies and relics of practically all nations. His description of the great Pageant staged for the edification and instruction of attendants upon the Jubilee and which was a portrayal of biblical history touching the incidents in the life of Christ from the humble manger in Bethlehem until the Crucifixion was indeed impressive and instructive.

MORE LIBERAL CASH PREMIUMS THIS YEAR

State Fair Association Materially Increases Cash Prizes For County and Individual Exhibits.

At the Fifty-Eighth North Carolina State Fair, to be held in Raleigh on October 20 to 25, the Fair Association is planning to give away over \$1500 in prizes to farmers making the best display of field and garden crops. One thousand dollars of this money will be awarded for county exhibits made under the supervision of the county agent of the Agricultural Extension Service, or someone else who has been authorized by the County Board of Commissioners.

As it now stands, at least four counties have signified their intention of competing for this prize money. The additional sum of \$500 will be distributed in premiums for the best collected agricultural exhibit by any individual farmer in North Carolina. In this case, all of the products exhibited must be grown on the exhibitor's own farm.

The county winning first prize in its display will be awarded \$300 in cash; the second premium is \$200; the third \$150; the fourth \$100, and the next five \$50 each. The best farm display will be awarded \$100; the second \$75; the third \$50; and the next \$25 each.

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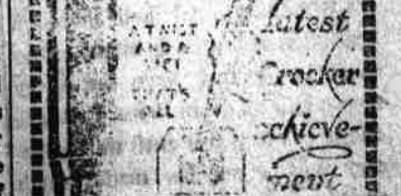
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