

**THE ENTERPRISE**

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**OUTSIDE MARTIN COUNTY**

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Thursday, February 26, 1948

**They Say High Labor Costs Are Responsible**

Few manufacturers pass up the opportunity to claim that high wages are causing high prices. Wage increases have had their effect on the economy, no doubt, but the facts do not bear out the claims of many manufacturers.

According to the North Carolina Department of Labor, the average weekly wage in North Carolina manufacturing plants last November was \$40.19. Those persons working in plants manufacturing what is known as durable goods were making an average of \$3.35 per week, while the average wage in the non-durable classification was \$40.69.

Much has been said about workers getting such high wages that machinery costs had to be high. The Labor Department says that the average wage in the machinery manufacturing business last November was \$44.54 per week.

Wages ranged from \$60.31 per week in the pulp and paper industry down to \$19.57 in some non-manufacturing trades. The average weekly wage received by retail store clerks was \$28.51 per week.

These wages may seem high to the farmer and to some employers, but when they are matched against high rents, 90-cent butter, 85-cent steak, 75-cent eggs, doctor's bills and the necessary incidentals, there simply isn't enough to go around.

**Somewhat Silly**

Smithfield Herald

In 1939 taxes paid by individuals and corporations were almost even, with individuals paying \$1,392,000,000 and corporations \$1,278,000,000. In 1947, under the impact of a gigantic war, individuals were paying \$20,808,000,000 in direct taxes, while corporations were paying only \$9,678,000,000. Corporate taxes were slashed considerably by elimination of the excess profits tax in 1945.

In view of the figures, which show the great tax relief already given to Big Business, isn't it somewhat silly for Republican leaders to call President Truman's proposal for an increase in the taxes of corporations an effort to transfer the "load of excessive taxation to business?"

Actually there is nothing unfair in the President's statement that corporations are able and ought to carry a heavier burden.

When the excess profits tax was lopped off in 1945, the stage was set for dangerous inflation. Labor increased its demands for wages, on the assumption that it was entitled to more pay if the corporations were entitled to enormously increased profits resulting from tax relief legislation.

If corporation taxes are increased, one of the major arguments for higher wages will be considerably weakened and that should tend to check the inflationary spiral.

**Oil Profits Escape Taxation**

Labor

The "little fellow" who pays taxes on his modest income may be surprised to learn it is possible to make \$117 million profits—and pay not a cent of taxes.

It's perfectly legal, the Treasury Department said in a letter to Senator Owen Brewster (Rep., Maine), chairman of the Senate War Investigating Committee. Moreover, the Treasury added that it could think of no law to remedy this strange situation.

As previously reported in Labor, the committee investigated the Arabian-American Oil Company, which has fabulous petroleum "concessions" in Saudi Arabia, in the "Middle East." The company is owned by four big American oil companies, three of them Standard concerns.

Among other things, the committee found

that Arabian-American formed two subsidiaries, one Canadian and one British. During the war these two made \$117 million profits, largely on oil sold to the U. S. Navy. No tax on these profits has ever been paid to Uncle Sam, Britain, Canada or any other country. But the companies expect American boys to die in defense of their "concessions."

**Why Some of Us Criticize the Press**

Labor

The "Wall Street Journal" objects to a college professor's blistering criticism of the American press. It says that "despite the faults of vulgarity, sensationalism and triviality that certainly can be found in many American publications," America has the best and freest newspapers in the world and that government control, or ownership, of the press would not remedy existing evils.

We agree with the "Journal." So far as we know, no one is advocating government ownership of newspapers.

What some of us object to is the way that a handful of rich men dominate American newspapers and practically tell the American people what they shall or shall not read.

It's no answer to say that the British press is little better and that the Russian press is worse. What we need in America is a really free press—papers which will give the people all sides of all questions.

We haven't anything like that today. How we are to get such a press remains a problem. It must be met and solved if we are to preserve the right kind of democracy in this country.

**When Uncle Sam Needed the Money**

Labor

Hollywood is facing hard times. Expenses are being slashed right and left. The reasons given are interesting.

First, the British have placed a heavy tax on American films and insist that only a small part of the remaining profits may be taken out of the country. Negotiations are now in progress in London to ease that situation. Apparently the absence of American movies is reducing the revenues of British theaters. Patrons are not satisfied with the more austere British pictures. They like Yankee thrillers.

But the second explanation of Hollywood's woes is the most revealing of all. During the war, when Uncle Sam needed the money, the movie moguls indulged in all kinds of extravagances in order to avoid the excess profits tax. Now they are finding it extremely difficult to get rid of these unnecessary expenditures.

The excess profits tax was applied on that score. Anyone who would throw away his money in order to hamstring Uncle Sam in war times is a mighty poor American. There were a lot of them among big business men during the late conflict.

**Equal Before The Law**

Half the wars of Europe, half of the internal troubles that have vexed European states, from the Monophysitic (pertaining to the human and divine in Christ) controversies in the Roman Empire of the fifth century down to the Kulturkampf in the German Empire of the nineteenth, have risen from theological differences or from the rival claims of Church and State.

This whole vast chapter of debate and strife has remained virtually unopened in the United States. There is no established church. All religious bodies are absolutely equal before the law and unrecognized by the law, except as voluntary associations of private citizens.—James Bryce.

**Service We Alone Can Render**

According to thine opportunity, thou must be the strength of the weak, the refuge of the sorrowful. Thou must have compassion on those within thy reach who are worn with toil. Thou must defend and cherish the young; bless and support the aged; welcome strangers who come thy way; comfort those who are distressed in mind, body or estate. Be assured if thou failest, none other—not nature, nor man, nor angel, nor Creator—will render the service or bestow the love due from thee.—From the words of Stanton Coit.

**Call The Session**

Governor R. G. Cherry is merely pussy-fotting when it comes to doing his duty. He should go ahead and call a special session of the General Assembly where the plight of ill paid State employees can be considered.

If the North Carolina State government was in the predicament the teachers and other State employees now find themselves in, it isn't likely that Mr. Cherry would fiddle around and delay calling a special session.

**NOTICE OF SALE**

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust executed to the undersigned Trustee by T. F. Dawson and wife, Roxie Dawson, to L. R. Everett, Trustee, dated June 2, 1947, of record in the Register of Deeds office in Martin County in Book E-4, page 502, to secure certain notes of even date therewith, and the stipulations in said Deed of Trust not having been complied with and at the request of the holder of said notes the undersigned Trustee will, on the 18th day of February, 1948, at 12 o'clock, noon, in front of the courthouse door of Martin County, offer for sale to the highest bidder, for cash, the following described tract of land:

Beginning on Roanoke River, Willoughby Roberson's corner, and running his line 47 W 166 2-3 poles to a stake, thence along W. C. Harrington's line S 55 E 27 poles to Mary Williams' line; thence her line N 47 E 166 2-3 poles to Roanoke River, thence up the river to the beginning, containing 28 acres, more or less. This 17th day of January, 1948.

L. R. EVERETT, Trustee.  
j-20 4t  
Criteher and Gurganus, Att's.

**NOTICE**

North Carolina, Martin County. In the Superior Court. **COUNTY OF MARTIN Against London Lloyd and others.**

The defendants London Lloyd; all heirs at law or devisees of London Lloyd, if deceased, together with all their creditors and lien holders, regardless of how, or through whom, they claim, and any and all persons claiming any interest in the estate of London Lloyd, if deceased, above named, will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Martin County, North Carolina, to foreclose the taxes on land in Martin County in which said defendants have an interest; and the said defendants will further take notice that they are required to appear before L. B. Wynne, Clerk of the Superior Court of Martin County at his office in Williamston, North Carolina, on 28th day of Feb., 1948, or within 20 days

hereafter to answer or demur to the complaint of the plaintiff in this action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint. This the 28th day of January, 1948.

L. B. WYNNE, Clerk Superior Court of Martin County.  
j 3-10-17-24

**NOTICE**

Having qualified as Executor of the estate of Mary Etta Cowan, deceased, late of Martin County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at Williamston, N. C., R. F. D., on or before January 9, 1948 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This 9th day of January, 1948.

T. L. ROBERSON, Executor of Mary Etta Cowan. Criteher & Gurganus, Attys.  
j 13-20-27 f 3-10-17

**NOTICE**

North Carolina, Martin County. In Superior Court. **Christine Quick vs. Nelson Quick.**

The above named defendant Nelson Quick, will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Martin County, North Carolina, by the plaintiff to secure an absolute divorce from the defendant upon the ground that plaintiff and defendant have lived separate and apart for more than two years next preceding the bringing of this action; and the defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Martin County, in the courthouse in Williamston, North Carolina, within twenty days after the 21st day of February, 1948, and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint. This 22nd day of January, 1948.

L. BRUCE WYNE, Clerk Superior Court.  
j-27 4t

**NOTICE OF SALE**

North Carolina, Martin County. **County of Martin vs. Annie Outerbridge**

Under and by virtue of an order of sale and judgment made by L. B. Wynne, Clerk of Superior Court, on Monday, January 12th, 1948, the undersigned commissioner will, on Friday, the 13th day of February, 1948, at 12:00 o'clock, noon, in front of the courthouse door in the Town of Williamston, N. C., offer for sale for cash to the highest bidder the following described tract or parcel of land, to-wit:

All those certain lots or parcels of land, lying and being in the Town of Parmele, Robersonville Township, same being vacant lots 57, 58, 72 and 73 as shown by a map of record in the Register of Deeds office in Book No. 1, page 412.

This 12th day of January, 1948.  
E. S. PEEL, Commissioner.  
j-20 4t

**NOTICE**

North Carolina, Martin County. **COUNTY OF MARTIN Against Sandy Locke and others.**

The defendants, Sandy Locke, and wife, Rebecca Locke, Jethro Locke and wife, Rebecca Locke, Thomas J. Locke and wife, Rebecca Locke; all the heirs at law or devisees of Sandy Locke and wife, Rebecca Locke, if deceased, all their creditors and lien holders, and any and all persons claiming any interest in the estate of Sandy Locke and wife, Rebecca Locke, above named, will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Martin County, North Carolina, to foreclose the taxes on land in Martin County in which said defendants have an interest; and the said defendants will further take notice that they are required to appear before L. B. Wynne, Clerk of the Superior Court of Martin County at his of-



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ice in Williamston, North Carolina, on Feb. 26th, 1948, or within 20 days thereafter to answer or demur to the complaint of the plaintiff in this action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint. This the 28th day of Jan. 1948.

L. B. WYNNE, Clerk Superior Court of Martin County.  
j 3-10-17-24

**NOTICE**

North Carolina, Martin County. **COUNTY OF MARTIN Against R. Leary and others.**

The defendants, Addie Keyes, Carolina Keyes, the children of Rachel Mullens & Steve Mullens, all the heirs at law and/or devisees of Effue Barnes and/or John Barnes, their creditors and lien holders, and all persons claiming any interest in the estate of Effue Barnes and/or John Barnes, above named, will take

notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Martin County, North Carolina, to foreclose the taxes on land in Martin County in which said defendants have an interest; and the said defendants will further take notice that they are required to appear before L. B. Wynne, Clerk of the Superior Court of Martin County at his office in Williamston, North Carolina, on Feb. 28th, 1948, or within 20 days thereafter to answer or demur to the complaint of the plaintiff in this action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint. This the 28th day of January, 1948.

L. B. WYNNE, Clerk Superior Court of Martin County.  
j 3-10-17-24

**FOR SALE!**  
One Hundred New Two Horse Walking Cultivators  
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**NOTICE!**  
**Taxes Will Carry Two Per Cent Penalty On MARCH FIRST, 1948**  
This Penalty Will Be Added To All Taxes Unpaid and Increase Each Month Thereafter.

**+ SPECIAL NOTICE +**  
ALL LANDS ON WHICH 1947 TAXES HAVE NOT BEEN PAID WILL BE ADVERTISED FIRST MONDAY IN MAY, FOR SALE FIRST MONDAY IN JUNE.

**PAY NOW!**  
**M. L. PEEL**  
Martin County Tax Collector