

**THE Roanoke Beacon**  
and  
**Washington County News**

**PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY**  
In Plymouth, Washington County,  
North Carolina

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**Friday, February 25, 1938**

**"Freedom" and The Farmer**

All these folks who are so concerned about "freedom" for the farmer as a result of the passage of the new farm bill might well do a little reflecting about the "freedom" the farmers had back in the days of 1931 and 1932, before any control programs were passed by the Congress.

During those years farmers were absolutely free to plant any crops they desired and as much as they desired. The only drawback was that the crops they did plant would not return enough to hardly more than pay for the seed, to say nothing of the fertilizer or the labor. There were no bounties then for soil-improvement, and the land was being rapidly worn out by producing money crops over and over again, without any regard for future fertility.

Take a look at the figures for farm income back in the days of unlimited "freedom" for the farmer, and then compare them with last year's figures. One way to cure a lot of this breast-beating bewailing of loss of liberty might be to let those who rant about their freedom plant just as much of any crop as they want to and then pay them off at 1932 prices. After a couple of seasons of this procedure little criticism would be heard from that quarter, because a man who starves to death is just as dead as one who dies from any other cause—the only difference is it sometimes takes longer.

**Changing Times and Tunes**

Senator Josiah William Bailey, defending his activities since the 1936 election, recently made the statement that he had not changed; that he stands for the same things now he did before his election.

Maybe he hasn't changed since 1936, but his tune certainly has. And the one he is singing now sounds about as much like the one he was using while seeking votes in the last primary as "The Rock of Ages" sounds like "Tiger Rag."

**Homestead Exemptions**

Back in 1936 the voters of North Carolina ratified a constitutional amendment providing for exemptions on real estate of homesteaders in an amount not exceeding \$1,000. After lengthy debate at the 1937 session of the legislature no action was taken but a commission was named to study the question and report its findings so the 1939 legislature could base legislation on the findings presented.

This matter will likely be the center of a lively controversy at the next session. The Association of County Commissioners has announced its opposition to any legislation along this line, and there is some measure of sympathy for their views, because exemptions on homesteads will mean that a heavier burden must be placed on other classes of property to make up for the loss the counties will sustain.

On the other hand, there are many things in favor of providing these exemptions. It will encourage home owning, for one thing, and it will furnish tax relief to a class of people who doubtless need it most. But the compelling reason is the fact that the people of the State have shown their approval by directly amending the constitution to provide these exemptions.

There was no indirection in this mandate. The proposition was simply stated; it was submitted at a general election in which all qualified voters were eligible to pass judgment on it; and the answer was clearly returned. Of five questions submitted at this election, the homestead amendment was carried by far the greatest majority, 312,976 to 166,752.

Regardless of personal views on this matter, lawmakers elected to the next session of the legislature should take steps to provide for homestead exemptions. It may not be practical to grant the full \$1,000 exemption at one time, but a beginning must be made, and the people would do well to inquire of candidates for the Assembly how they stand in this respect.

**Losing Our Foreign Markets**

The New Deal is coming in for a great deal of criticism because of its so-called "economics of scarcity," in connection with its farm program. Almost every night some nation-saver takes to the ether to bemoan the loss of our foreign markets, and the daily press is filled with columnists taking cracks at the same policies of the administration.

All of which may be exactly as they say. We do not profess to have any deep understanding of the science of economics.

But there is one thing that puzzles us. Would these critics sacrifice all farmers—the largest single class of working people in the nation—upon the altar of foreign markets? That is just about what it would amount to if farmers were not only permitted but encouraged to plant more cotton, more tobacco, more wheat, and so

on. It was just such a policy, or lack of policy, that brought about the demand for the various forms of control legislation.

It has been fairly conclusively demonstrated that large crops of farm commodities bring ruinous prices to the farmer. American labor is given some measure of protection from competition with cheap foreign labor through the tariff laws, and it seems to us no more than fair that the farmers should be given the same benefits if possible.

If our foreign markets can only be maintained by forcing a whole class of our people into abject poverty, then it would seem that they are not worth the cost. Calamitous it may be to lose these markets, but it is equally as calamitous to maintain them at this price.

**The Road To the Cemetery**

When the final and official figures are tabulated, it will probably be found that the automobile death toll in 1937 reached a new all-time record, exceeding the 1936 slaughter with its 37,000 victims.

There is no reason for being surprised at the continued increase. Each year cars are made faster and more powerful—and a dangerous percentage of them become the property of drivers who couldn't be trusted to operate a bicycle safely. Roadways and surfaces are improved, thus offering a new temptation to excessive speed.

This doesn't mean that the automobile accident toll cannot be reduced. It can be—but it is going to take action, not words. The individual responsibility of each motorist when he slides behind the wheel of a projectile weighing a ton or two and capable of doing 80 miles an hour, must be driven home. Law enforcement must be strengthened. The "fixer" of traffic violations must be eliminated. It must be realized that driving a car on the public highway is a privilege, not a right to be abused—and license laws must be more stringent. Finally, there must be swift and sure punishment for the reckless or drunken driver.

There are several hundred thousand graves in this country that constitute mute testimony to our past laxity in controlling the automobile. Unless public demand forces a change you may fill one of the thousands of new grave that, figuratively speaking, will be dug by motorists in the years to come.

**At the Top**

News and Observer—North Carolina, there she stands: Among the ten top states in highway fatalities among all the States of the nation.

There are more than ten states ahead of North Carolina in wealth. There are more than ten states ahead of North Carolina in education.

But in all those factors that enter into highway killings, recklessness, carelessness, favoritism, laxness, complacency and ignorance, North Carolina is running right along.

**Rambling R...About**  
By THE RAMBLER

**Why A Crowd Is Needed—**

Everybody who has the interests of Washington County at heart should attend the meeting here next Wednesday, when the attempt to impress upon the highway commissioners the importance of paving the Turnpike road will be made.

The importance of having a large attendance cannot be overemphasized. Highway commissioners and state officials owe their jobs to votes, and whenever a good-sized crowd of voters get together and demand something, more attention is paid than when only a few appear to be interested. If you doubt this, get out your highway map and check over the sections that have the most improved roads. You will find that those sections also have the most voters who are vociferous about their needs.

So, come to Plymouth Wednesday, and let's impress upon this group of highway officials that we not only know what we want and are entitled to, but that we are also united in our determination to secure our fair share.

**Scouting Expanding—**

The progress of the Boy Scout movement during the past few weeks is indeed gratifying to all who have the welfare of the boys of the county at heart. Roper has already organized a troop, and a like organization is in prospect for Creswell, with the possibility that Cherry, Mackeys and other sections may be included later.

Supervision by experienced men in this work is practically assured as the result of the commendable action of the Lions Club in agreeing to help raise the \$300 necessary for official registration. This will mean not only a lot for the Scouts themselves, but such service is of invaluable aid to the various local men who have interested themselves in the Scout movement and are taking an active part as Scoutmasters and leaders.

Scouting is well on its way in Plymouth and Washington County. Now show your appreciation for this fine work by encouraging the boys and their leaders whenever you have a chance. It will help the Scouts, their leaders, and, most of all, yourself—particularly if you give them just a little time and find out what it's all about.

**Spelling Lesson—**

If you want to know how well you can spell, have someone read you the following sentence, clipped from an exchange, and try to write it:

"It is agreeable to note the unparalleled embarrassment of an harassed saddler and peddler seated on a cemetery wall gauging the symmetry of a peeled potato with genuine ecstasy."

If you can do it with less than three errors you are good.

**"The Status Quo"—**

Colored folks usually get credit

**Letters to the Editor**

**A FEW QUESTIONS**

To the editor: Dear sir: May I be permitted to ask a few questions through your excellent paper. Viz: Should the anti-lynching bill pass, would it benefit the Negro race? Should it not pass, would it harm the race? I have more logical reasons to fear, should it pass. Can morals be legislated. I think not.

We are fortunate to read "The Congressional Record" daily in our high school which is mailed to us by our Congressman, Hon. Lindsay C. Warren.

Respectfully,  
J. J. CLEMMONS,  
Attorney at Law.  
Roper, N. C., February 22, 1938.

for using a lot of big words without knowing the meaning of them, but if anyone has a better definition than that offered by Parson Brown in the following instance, we would like to hear it:

"Parson Brown had concluded his sermon and was making the announcements for next week.

"And, now, my bred'ren," he said, "Next Sunday I will speak to you upon the condition of the church, and my topic will be the "Status Quo."

"Pardon me, Parson," interrupted Deacon Jones, "but what does dat mean?"

"Well, Deacon," rejoined the parson, "dat's Latin for we's in a hell of a fix."

**LEGAL NOTICES**

**NOTICE OF SALE**

Under and by virtue of the power and authority conferred by that certain deed of trust executed to the undersigned trustee by T. H. Williams and wife, Helen G. Williams, dated the 31st day of December, 1936, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds of Washington County in book 121, page 147, to which reference is hereby made and same made a part hereof, the undersigned trustee will, at 12 o'clock Noon, on Monday, the 21st day of March, 1938, offer for sale to the highest bidder for cash, at the Court House door in Washington County, that certain real property described in said instrument as follows:

Beginning at Jack Weede's line running thence west with Fort Williams Street 100 feet to P. O. Price's line; thence, with his line Bowen's line; thence, south with Bowen's and Weed's line 150 feet, it being that same lot or parcel of land conveyed to T. H. Williams and J. T. Williams by D. O. Brinkley by deed dated December 30th, 1925, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds of Washington County, North Carolina, in book 82, page 478, to which reference is hereby made and the same made a part hereof for purpose of further description. See also deed from J. T. Williams and wife to T. H. Williams, dated September 1st, 1934, and recorded in said Register's Office in book 114, page 490, which is also referred to and made a part hereof.

The bidder at such sale will be required to deposit as much as ten percent of the amount bid in cash as a guaranty of good faith pending confirmation and the right is reserved to reject any and all bids.

This the 17th day of February, 1938.

H. D. BATEMAN,  
Trustee.

**NOTICE OF SALE**

Under and by virtue of a power of sale contained in a certain deed of trust executed by S. L. Davenport (unmarried) on the 14th day of June, 1935, to the undersigned Z. V. Norman, Trustee, and recorded in the office of Register of Deeds in Washington County, in Book 110, page 481, and the holder of the bond secured thereby having directed the undersigned Trustee to sell the property, hereinafter described, for the satisfaction of the balance due on said bond, the said Z. V. Norman, Trustee, will expose at public sale, at the Courthouse door of Washington County, North Carolina, to the highest bidder for cash, on the 21st day of March, 1938, at 12 o'clock noon, subject to all unpaid taxes, the following described property:

A certain tract or parcel of land

**LEGAL NOTICES**

lying and being in Skinnerville Township, Washington County, and more particularly described as follows:

That tract heretofore conveyed to M. E. Leary, known as part of the Silas Snell tract and which tract was abandoned by the said M. E. Leary and reconveyed to the said S. B. Davenport by deed from M. E. Leary and wife Deed, particularly described as follows: Beginning at a canal Snell and Holton's line (a gate), thence running southwardly with that line to a point opposite lead ditch, thence with that ditch westwardly to the Holly Neck road, thence with that Road to the E. H. Leary, now Basnight line, thence westwardly with Basnight Leary line to Frederick Phelps line, thence with Phelps and J. W. Marriner's line northwardly to J. B. Phelps line, thence eastwardly with last named line to beginning containing 30 acres more or less in Deeds referred to recorded in office of Register of Deeds of Washington County.

Also the 30 acres, more or less of Cheson Place described as follows: Beginning in E. H. Leary line on East side of Holly Neck Road, thence northwardly with said road to lead ditch leading out of Snell's now Jethro field, thence eastwardly with said ditch to Jethro and Holton line, thence with that line southwardly to the Snell and Leary corner, thence with Snell Leary line westwardly to beginning, it being that part of Silas Snell land sold Frank Cheson by said Davenport and wife.

Said property will be offered for sale and subject to all unpaid taxes, and the highest bidder at said sale will be required to deposit ten percent of his bid as evidence of good faith, and to be forfeited to the hold-

er of said bonds in the event his bid is not complied with upon demand by said Trustee.

This 17th day of February, 1938.  
Z. V. NORMAN,  
Trustee.

**LEGAL NOTICES**

Under and by virtue of a power of sale contained in a certain mortgage executed by John W. Horton and wife Martha Horton on the 20th day of May, 1927, recorded in Book 93, page 14 in the office of the Register of Deeds of Washington County, the mortgagors having defaulted in the payment of the indebtedness secured thereby, the undersigned mortgagee will expose for public sale at the Courthouse door in Plymouth, N. C. to the highest bidder for cash, on the 21st day of March, 1938 at 12 o'clock noon the following described lands:

A tract of land lying and being in Lee's Mill Township Washington County, State of North Carolina and being lots numbers 8 and 9 as appears on the Map of the Sophie and Richard Horton property, made July, 1919 by A. J. Newberry, surveyor, and recorded in Map Book 1, page 6, in the office of the Register of Deeds of Washington County, said lot number 8 containing 3.45 acres and said lot number 9 containing 3.41 acres.

The above described land will be sold subject to all unpaid taxes and assessments of any kind. The purchaser will be required to deposit 10 percent of his bid as earnest money at the time of sale.

Dated and posted this the 19th day of February, 1938.

MRS. T. F. MARRINER  
Mortgagee

S. A. Ward Jr. Attorney. f28 4t

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**Golden Grade . . . . . 3-8-3**


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**W. E. Weede . . . . . A. R Latham**

**ROPER**  
**Dick Phelps . . . . . W. T. Freeman**

**Was the Loss Irreparable?**

Of course money losses are replaceable; more money can be earned to take the place of that stolen. But what can replace grandfather's gold watch, our mother's diary or her favored trinkets? Perhaps these do not have a high intrinsic value. But their sentimental value is often beyond price. A safety deposit box is a small price to pay for ease of mind. A penny a day keeps the burglar away!



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WILLIAMSTON

Thur.-Fri. Feb. 24-25  
JOAN CRAWFORD and SPENCER TRACY in "MANNEQUIN"

Sat. Feb. 26 1 to 11 P. M.  
"The Old Barn Dance" with GENE AUTRY

Sun. Feb. 27 3 and 9 P. M.  
"MERRY-GO-ROUND OF 1938"

with Bert Lahr, Jimmy Savo, Billy House, Alice Brady, Mischa Auer, Joy Hodges

Mon.-Tues. Feb 28-Mar. 1  
Humphrey Bogart, Frank McHugh, Louise Fazenda, Nat Pendleton in "SWING YOUR LADY"

Wednesday March 2  
Danger, Love at Work with ANN SOTHERN and JACK HALEY

**Marco**  
WILLIAMSTON

Fri.-Sat. Feb. 25 and 26  
"The HURRICANE" with Dorothy Lamour, Jan Hall, Mary Astor, C. Aubrey Smith, Thomas Mitchell and Raymond Massey

Mon.-Tues. Feb. 28-Mar. 1  
WAYNE MORRIS in "The Kid Comes Back"

Wed.-Thur. March 2-3  
"52nd STREET" with Ian Hunter, Leo Carrillo, Ella Logan, Pat Patterson, Sid Silvers, Zasu Pitts, and Kenny Baker

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Remodelling with lumber is not expensive—you will like the results—for fine wood has a beauty all its own—and waste space put to good use is an economy in itself.

Estimates on your needs in lumber gladly given.

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WASHINGTON, N. C.

**2 PER CENT PENALTY ON 1937 TAXES**

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*Pay Your Taxes Now and Avoid This Penalty*

**The Law Requires This Penalty and We Must Collect It**

**P. W. Brown**  
Tax Collector — Town of Plymouth