Edna Ferber

Illustrations by

Irwin Myers

SPRING IS CAUGHT

THAT'S ALL .

And They Get Away With It

IT'CL ONLY

MINUTE TO FIX

TAKE ABOUT A

LTWELVE DOLLARS!

'N' TRY AND GET IT

FOR LESS.

ALRIGHT. DO ME & TWELVE DOLLARS!

WELL _THERE'S ONE

BORN EVERY MINUTE

AWFUL PRICE

TO ANY JEWELER WHY THAT'S AN

The Franklin Press

Published every Thursday by The Franklin Press At Franklin, North Carolina

Telephone No. 24 VOL. XLVI Number 1 BLACKBURN W. JOHNSON.....EDITOR AND PUBLISHER Entered at the Post Office, Franklin, W. C., as second class malter

SUBSCRIPTION RATES One year

Obituary notices, cards of thanks, tributes of respect, by individuals, lodges, churches, organizations or societies, will be regarded as advertising and inserted at regular classified advertising rates. Such notices will be marked "adv." in compliance with the postal regulations,

The Press invites its readers to express their opinions through its columns and each week it plans to carry Letters to the Editor on its editorial page. This newspaper is independent in its policies and is glad to print both sides of any question. Letters to the Editor should be written legibly on only one side of the paper and should be of reasonable length. Of course, the editor reserves the right to reject letters which are too long or violate one's better

Weekly Bible Thought:

Rejoice in the Lord always: again I will say, Rejoice Phillipians 4.4

The Tax Delinquency Evil

L AST week's issue of The Franklin Press carried 82 notices of foreclousre sales for 1925 and 1926 taxes-taxes due five years ago but still uncollected.

In some of these cases it is thought that, with money scarce and property values depressed, the land will not bring as much as the taxes and penalties that have accumulated over this period. In other words, the county will have to bid it in, thereby in- kna back again? At on him and, friendly; a tall angular woman will creasing its unproductive acreage and decreasing its source of revenue. And, of far worse consequences, Hart town sprans up on the part on the parchment of her withere some poor farmers will be deprived of nearly all they | me , needs once I sling black; on checks. possess.

Why is it that taxes are permitted to run for so Dance halls. Brothels Gunmen long? Is it because the officials charged with their Brawls, cear thes. Litt. Crime all your folks?" collection think they are bestowing a favor upon a man to allow his assessment to go unpaid? True, it oftentimes is necessary for an individual to defer pay ment of his taxes. But is it necessary or right to permit him to disregard for five years? Is it helping human seem of each new oil town sun, a scarred thing, flies buzzing him? Is it helping the county government? Is it was like the soun of the Run, over it, the oil drooling down its fair to other taxpayers who settle more promptly?

to allow the taxpayer a respite; but to let his taxes powered motor cars, bumped over sordid. A red-cheeked young Harto pile up year after year, all the while accumulating the terrible reads, creating a red vard engineer was their official dust barrage. large penalties, will amount in the end to confiscation the is all due to our rotten Okla rimmed glasses and a very blue of property. Many of those who have not paid their bona state politics," Sabra ex- shirt that made his pink cheeks 1925 and 1926 taxes could have done so several years plained to the great senator from pinker. That is what I wanted my was battered and blood-caked. Field and the dirt, in her little peared Blackburn W. Johnson, who, ago, when times were good. But now, with no money and the secant editor from New great wrench at her heart. I left hand, and the hand and arm to law great wrench at her heart. many delinquent taxpayers will have to stand by and see their homes and farms sold under the hammer,

As for the county, long definquent taxes mean a home is still a territory in very pine shack that served as county two at an editor were just behind They were gazing down at some depleted treasury. And a depleted treasury means higher taxes. It is safe to say that if this county's frontier days of forty years ago- stinking, was already crowded. Men battered features. He pouted like fell back before this white-faced of the aforesaid publication for the far better financial situation today than it is, and that a larger reduction could be made in its 1931 rate. Furthermore, it would not be necessary for it to delay meeting pledged payments on bonds.

Then, too, a habit of tax delinquency is like a contagious disease. One frequently hears the comment. "Well, so-and-so gets by without paying his taxes, so I am not going to pay mine." And there begins a vicious cycle. The county can't function properly because the people don't pay their taxes and the people suffer because the county can't operate an like he is the only one. Of course dress that parodied the fashions efficient government without collecting taxes. The it is hard for a man to know that a pathetic green poke bonnet very fact that taxes go unpaid year after year tends in ha lost what he had worked to depress the value of property and, hence, diminish the source of taxes. When one can go to the court house door and buy a farm for less than its real value, under a tax foreclosure suit, John Jones doesn't stand much chance of getting \$20 an acre, though it may be worth that much, for the surplus acreage he wants to sell. So John Jones has to keep more land than he needs. It would be ruinous for him to try found that they were a lot happier, to meet tax foreclosure prices. So he holds on to more land than he profitably can cultivate in the blind hope that some day, some how things will be different.

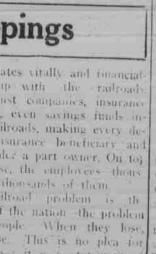
It would be a wise policy for every county not to the best you could allow taxes to go unpaid for longer than two years, the only one who has failed. Your Such a policy soon would prove beneficial to all con-linure was not your own fault cerned

Editorial Clippings

INTERESTED IN RAILROADS. United States vitally and imancial people are in sympathy.

this selfish, socialistic tendency to The ratiroad problem is bleed big companies and corporas problem of the nation the problem tions we suddenly realized the hor- of the people. When they lose, rors of the predicament in which we all lose. This is no plea for railroads went to the wall-which facts. - SPAKTANBURG HER they never will, because of freight ALD. and legislation against motor trucks to be brought on by public opin

The typical American reaction to by tied up with the railroads any organization that has reached Banks, trust companies, insurance the size of railroads is to take out companies, even savings funds in as much as possible, put in noth vest in railroads, making every deing. But the railroads have been positor insurance beneficiary and striking it so tough recently the policy holder a part owner. On to of all these, the employees thous Why Because in the mids of and and thousands of them. we would find ourselves if the big business; it is a statement of



ever surging up in interpret of cups, hot and strong and refronplaces, branches the days of its ling. The waitress was delt and discovered pool there redlowed has something frank and engages; rush and scramble. Another Last about the two circles of vertailed shacks hard a one-street sillage, said to her, the clank of machinery. The roar The senator from Ohio winked i traine boiling over a road nev- at Sabra. or meant for more than a plodding all right." whom Nitto stycerin cars bearmy their deadle trencht. Overalls, ed them everything, pitilessiy. Th cordurers, blue prints, engines. The dreadful town lay in the hot June har harder, crueler, more wolfish face, a slimy stream. A one-street of the dance-hall girls, squatted on heard others call whim Sim or weekly at Franklin, North Carolina As a temporary relief measure, it sometimes is wise The miposing party, in high- of the old territory days, but more

(Continued from last week)

CHAPTER XIV

aughol at. The capitol is 'rotten workmen's shanties. The trial of ron. People who have fixed in founded in the windows.

broke in effect they said, "Well, They let it slide, started over in faces. a more modest way, and soon Now, brother, as the ex-You couldn't buck a world-wide deression. The Bank of Emiland is proke, the U.S. treasury is broke North Carolina is broke, Union ounty is broke, Monroe is broke a buck up and say, "I am brok a ond company As all went broke regenter and o'll all ser over it together it me val "- MONROE JOURNAL

To this solution adds while stiring constantly, a line cream made that?" or mixing a heaping quart of good "That's Bill. He's in jail. H But he's dying. Chest all caved in ply, all unknowing, she murmured IN D . . . GOOD COMPANY slaking 2 1-2 pounds of fresh quick for carrying concealed weapons We know a man in this county lime and straining through a wir It ain't allowed." There are 75,000,000 people in the who is broke. Of course there is fly screen.

ed a plump laugh and with elbow nearest Sabra made a little movement that would have amounted to has traval, constessionian a nudge- in anyone but a senator an Oklahisma, had started a from Pennsylvania. "What they companies acards) the descraceful need out here is a woman govercommon of the new oil towns, nor- er, Lipponer. In to the areat With an imposing party of twenty editor.

made up or front-page oil men, Sabra said nothing senators, congressmen, and editors, On the drive out from Osage sin led the way to Bowlegs, new- they stopped for lunch in an olde est and crudest of the new oil prisingly good Junch, the senators thes like Osage were maye a tender steak, and little green cheard in a priace way. But what onions, and near beer, and the se, could a state to when oil was to and coffee served in great thick

Arrived at Bowlegs, Sabra show

The drilling of the oil. The with gratt. Anything goes. Okla- a dancehall girl in the one-room there with the girls. A senator or tool dressers, shooters, pumpers. ding but title. This town of room. The charge, nonpayment of her. and worse. It's like the old Chaar and women filled the doorway, a child, "No, ma'am. I run the woman with the white hair, Osage all their lives don't know judge was a yellow-faced fellow ing in the middle of the floor, crumpled, broken figure. She ilung what goes on out here. They with a cud of tobacco in his cheek, working, and I had the gun right herself on the oil-soaked earth be don't care. It's more oil, more mil- and a single law book on a shelf in my hand. Anybody could see, side him and lift d the magnificent ions. That's all. Any one of as his library. It was a trial by on men, well known as con are, jury. The jurors were nine in could come out there, put on ever- number, their faces a rogues' galalls, and be as lost as though our lery. There had happened to be not vanished in the wilderness." Inine men loafing near by. It The Pennsylvania senator laught might have been less or more Bowlegs did not consider these fine has news in that, for everybody is legal points. They were overally woke. But this man takes it hard, and shirts. The defendant was vals to accumulate. It is hard run in her stocking. Her friends extres impossible to start over. But hall girls in striped overalls and to have known several men in this jockey caps or knee-length ging ham dresses with sashes. Their ages ranged from sixteen to nine teen, perhaps. It was incredible that life, in those few years, could have etched if t look on their

The girls were charming, hospit able. They made way for the im posing visitors. "Come on in," they was pittless on their sick eyes their bad skin, their unhealthy hair Clustered behind the rude bench on which the jury sat, the girls from time to time, leaned a sociable lbow on a juryman's shoulder, oc casionally enlivening the judicia proceedings by a spirited commen attered in defense of their sister and spoken in the near-by ear or aloud, for benefit of the close packed crowd.

She never done no such thing! "He's a d-n liar, an I car

No one, least of all the tobacco chewing judge, appeared to fine It is a soul plan to whitewash these sirlish informalities at al

was a kind of pen made of wood just ran back like an outfielder and on slats, like a sizable chicken coop tranged it with his eye while it and in it, on the floor, lay a man was up in the air, and ran to "What's he there for;" Sabr asked one of the girls, "What I in his two arms, like a baby, right

"hat d lime with water, or b shot a man last night, and he's up They've sent for the ambulance." through her tears the very words

Sabra. And crossed the room, the field, doing odd jobs and drink- STATEMENT OF THE OWNERthrough the crowd. The jurors had ing. They say he used to be quite SHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCUjust filed out. They repaired to a fellow in Oklahoma in his day. LATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF a draw at the side of the road to Picturesque pioneer or something. take their finding. Two or three Some call him old Yance and I've Of The Franklin Press, published the floor, were talking to Bill Simeon or-"

By PERCY CROSBY

YOU SAY YOU ONLY BUNKED THIS

WATCH? LOOKS TO ME AS IF IT GOT L BANGED UP PRETTY HARD I'LL HAVE

WHY YOU MUST HAVE DROPPED THAT WATCH

ON THE PAVEMENT - THE SPRINGS ARE GONE

WE'LL HAVE TO PUT NEW ONES IN AND

THEN THERE'S THE JEWELS - YOU SPLIT

TWO OF THEM.

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?

THREE WEEKS. A WATCH IN THAT

DELICATE THING. MAYBE A MONTH

BECAUSE WE WANT TO BE SURE

17'S O.K.

CONDITION COULDN'T BE DONE IN LESS

TIME . YOU KNOW A WATCH IS A VERY

THE MECHANIC LOOK AT IT.

and they gave her their own. Tools, Power, Bee.

The dance hall, see? And I was standweation.

poke in a dreadful raucous voice; its place,

"I sure thank you, gents."

Out of that fetid air into the late afternoon blaze. "The dance halls ten, in an aony of pain. Glazed pen about nine," Sabra said now, unseeing. We'll wait for that. In the mean- Then, dying, they cleared. His for the fresh-cheeked Harvard boy, measured verse, Why, where-"

"There's some kind of excitetent," said the New York editor People have been running and shouting. Over there in that field we visited awhile ago. Here comes our young friend now. Perhaps he'll tell us."

The Harvard boy's color was said, "How-do!" - like friendly higher still. He was breathing children. The mid-afternoon sun fast. He had been running. His eyes shone behind the bone-rimmed spectacles.

> "Well, folks, we'll never have a rrower squeak than that." What? They put fifty quarts in the

says pool but before she got lown the oil came up-" "Quarts of what?", interrupted an

ditorial voice.

My G-df"

"It's in a can, you know. hing like a can. It never had: hance to explode down there. I aust shot up with the gas and oil, If it had hit the ground everything unusual in the legal conduct of the for unites around would have been shot to hel and all of us killed, your love!" In the corner of the little roon But he caught it. They say he where it would fall, and caught i stared; were eyes no longer,

> "Who? Who's he?" "I don't know his real name to 'alk to him," said He's an old bum that's been around

through the bars. They asked Sa-Sabra began to run across the State of North Carolina, bra her name, and she told them, road. . .

"Mrs. Cravar! You mustn'twhere are you going?"

running. The crowd was dense "You were carrying a concealed around some central object. They weapon?" Sabra asked, squatting formed a wall-roustabouts, drillers, thing on the ground.

He lay on the ground, a queer wasn't carrying no concealed head gently, so that it lay cushioned by her arm. A little purplish bub The jury filed back. Not guilty, ble rose to his lips, and she wiped The rat-faced girl's shyster lawyer it away with her fine white handsaid something in her ear. She kerchief, and another rose to take

"Yancey! Yancey!" He opened his eyes-those ocean The dance-hall girls cheered feeb- gray eyes with the long curling lashes like a beautiful girl's. She had thought of them often and of-

ing I'll show you their rooms, lips moved. He knew her, Even The rooms is she looked about then, dying, he must speak in

'Wife and mother-you stain-



less woman-hide

She had never heard a line of it. She did not know that this was Peer Gynt, humbled before Solveig, She beed them, gently. She

on his chest. It didn't explode, forgave him everything. Quite simof Solveig.

"Sleep, ...y boy, my dearest boy.

for October 1, 1931

County of Macon.

Before me, a Clerk of Superior Court in and for the state and to law, deposes and says that he is the publisher and editor of The Franklin Press and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 411, Post-

al Laws and Regulations, towit: 1. That the names and addresses a, the publisher, editor, managing cuitor, and business managers are:

Publisher, Blackburn W. Johnson, rankling N. U.; Editor, Blackburn W. Johnson, Franklin, N. C.; Maniging Editor, Blackburn W. Johnson, Franklin, N. C.; Business Manager, Blackburn W. Johnson, Franklin, N. C.

2. That the owners are: Blackburn W. Johnson, branklin, N. C.; Mrs. J. W. Cantey Johnson, Franklin, N. C. trading as The Franklin Press, Franklin, N. C. 3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding I per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: S. A. Harris, Moul-

trie, Ga.; Intertype Corporation, Brooklyn, N. Y. 4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholdets and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the ompany as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any The once magnetic eyes glazed, said stock, bonds, or other securaterest direct or indirect in the ities than as so stated by him.

(Signed) Blackburn W. Johnson (Publisher) Sworn to and subscribed before ne this 1st day of Oct. 1931.

(Seal) Frank I. Murray, Clerk Superior Court Macon County, N.