

NOAH NUMSKULL
FOR RENT
I SAW IT FIRST!
I SAW IT FIRST!
I SAW IT FIRST!

DEAR NOAH = DO GHOSTS HAVE TO WORK FASTER THESE DAYS TO HAUNT A HOUSE BEFORE ITS HAUNTED WITH PROSPECTIVE REATERS? MRS ORVAL JENSON - HUNTINGTON, W.VA.

DEAR NOAH = ARE BOOK MATCHES CONSIDERED HOT READING? J.R.K. - ALLENTOWN, PA.

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LOOKING AHEAD
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You Pay for It

Other day that classic journal of ours, the Arkansas Gazette, commented: "The government has it all figured out what people do with every penny of their money. Now, if only the people could figure out what the government does with it." That is a real poser! To be sure, government has to spend a lot of money. We are a big nation. Moreover, we find it necessary to take on obligations in many foreign lands.

But whether the government (specifically the federal government, where they throw around big sums) spends no more than is needful is important to everyone. Government is not a luxury; it is a necessity. Yet, to read the budget figures you would think all operations were on a luxury basis.

Government Spends

That government is expensive was proved again by John T. Flynn, who showed in *Reader's Digest* that TVA, a government project, forgot to include certain items in its bookkeeping. Instead of the indicated profit, there was a real deficit of \$130,000,000 to June 30, 1944. Flynn shows there was an actual loss in sales of power to that date of \$15,000,000. This demonstrates that efficiency is a quality unknown to government operations.

Here's a prophecy. Wait until the budget is presented to this Congress, then watch the departments and bureaus fight any reductions. Increase the appropriation and swell the payroll - but shrink the swollen department? Never.

Way to Depression.

This kind of selfishness means meager tax savings. It permits little tax reduction for folks who so much need relief. The more we tax and the more we spend for government, the nearer we get to depression.

Taxes of all kinds are too heavy these days. Corporation taxes on all levels are too high. The individual income taxes cut down the rewards of the wage earner, keeping him from saving and investing. Instead, his tax payment is earmarked: "government expense." Some people oppose tax reductions for corporations and individuals, without realizing that continued heavy taxes will undermine our economic system and their own standard of living.

Decisions Lie Ahead

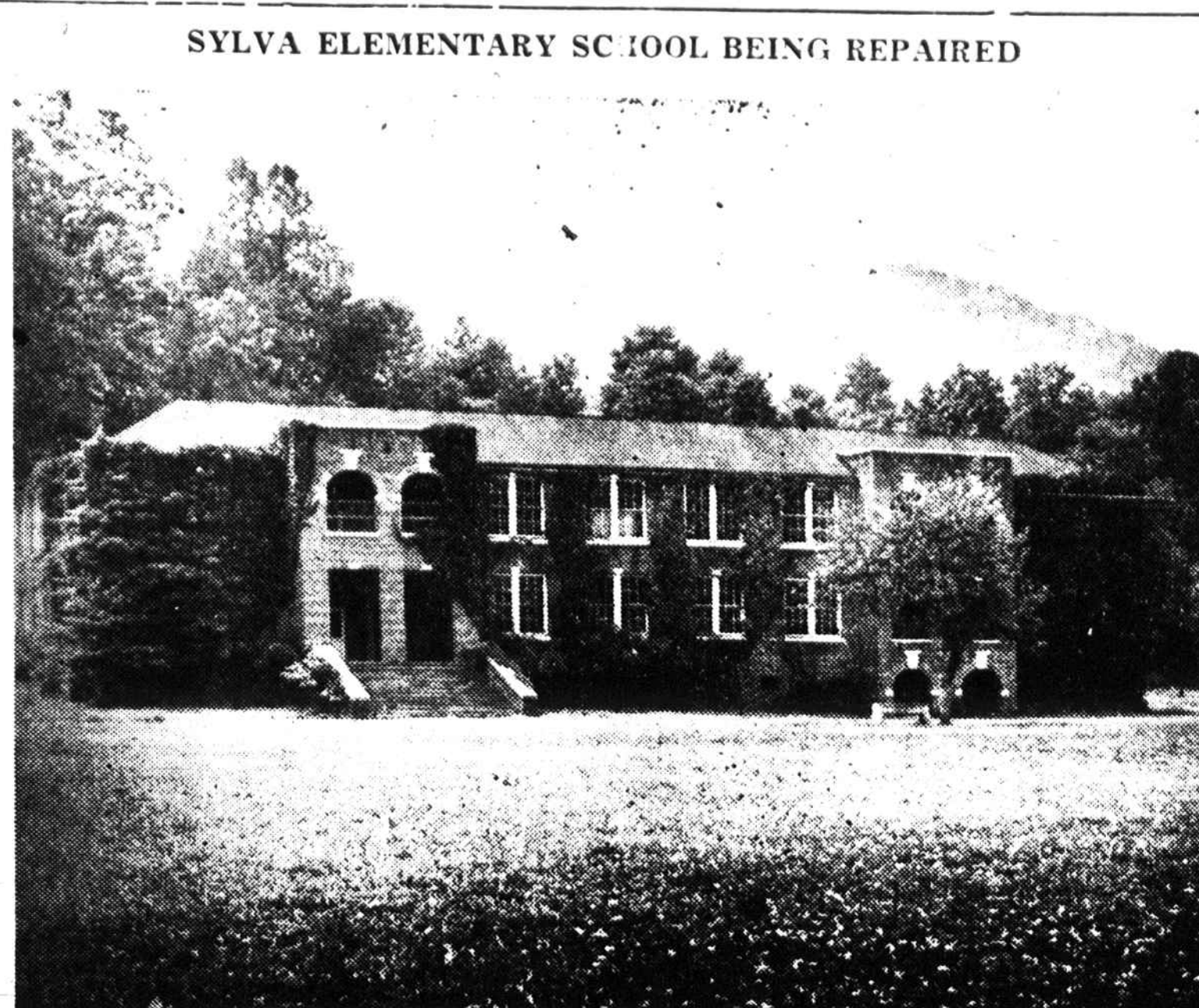
Obviously, one of the quickest ways to halt wasteful and unprofitable bureaucracy is to stop feeding fuel to its fires. Government, without a plentiful supply of tax money, could hardly be wasteful government. Congress has the power to say what the government shall spend and what amount it shall collect in taxes. It is up to us to see that our Congress keeps a proper rein on collections and expenditures.

Unwise spending and taxing could take this nation into the bankruptcy of communism. It could do it more quickly than anything else. Indeed, the power to tax is the power to destroy. We must see to it that America keeps an efficient and well-managed government, not a wasteful bureaucracy. That will be a powerful factor in deciding, in the coming months, whether America will remain prosperous and economically stable.

Twenty-nine American varieties of hybrid corn are now being tested in Europe.

Smut continues to be a major wheat disease even though adequate control measures are known.

Interest in farm ponds continues to grow in Rowan County.



SYLVA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BEING REPAIRED

This is a picture of the Sylva Elementary school building which was condemned and ordered pad-locked by Judge Don Phillips at the February term of court. The building has not been used since that time. It is now undergoing repairs for the purpose of making it safe to resume use as a classroom building.

The contract for the repairs was let to William B. Dillard by the Jackson County School Board last week. Cost of making the necessary repairs will run into several thousands. The amount of the contract price was not revealed.

A crew of men began work Monday morning and the work will be pushed with the hopes of having it completed and ready for occupancy within 90 days.

Faulty material and poor workmanship is given as the reason for the bad condition of the 19-year-old building.

NEW POULTRY REGULATIONS ADOPTED

Armed with two new regulatory measures, the Veterinary Division of the State Department of Agriculture is determined to protect North Carolina's thriving poultry industry against infectious diseases which have caused heavy losses in many other states.

Both measures were adopted at a recent meeting of the State Board of Agriculture after Dr. L. M. Greene, a member of the department's veterinary staff, pointed out the dangers in existing regulations. He said the state could not afford to ignore tax control measures to curtail an industry which in 1947 brought an income of more than 70 million dollars to its farmers.

One of the new regulations is aimed primarily at preventing the promiscuous use of live virus inoculants by inexperienced persons in the treatment of Newcastle disease, a new poultry malady of a highly contagious nature. There have been some instances of Newcastle disease in North Carolina, but it is far more prevalent in some other states, Dr. Greene said.

Uncontrolled use of live virus in inoculating against Newcastle, he added, could easily result in spreading the disease rather than controlling it. At Dr. Greene's suggestion the Board adopted a regulation requiring permission in writing from the state veterinarian, Dr. L. J. Faulhaber, before live virus or bacteria inoculants capable of producing disease in animals or poultry are shipped into or distributed within the state.

The other regulation adopted by the board clarifies an earlier confusion of scarfs and trays, and countless delightful things out of carved wood.

Another provision of this regulation requires that "exhibition birds returned to North Carolina shall be accompanied by a certificate issued by the show veterinarian and approved by the State Livestock authorities of the state holding the show, certifying that the birds are apparently healthy and that no disease outbreak occurred at the show." Isolation of such birds for 30 days before being returned to the home flock is also required.

Another measure known as "Regulation No. 11, Avian Tuberculosis Regulation." It forbids importation into the state of poultry for breeding purposes unless they come from pullorum clean flocks and flocks that have been negative to the tuberculin test within six months prior to shipment. Individual birds imported for breeding purposes are required to have passed pullorum and tuberculin tests within 30 days prior to entry and to be apparently free from other infectious disease.

"You're right, Doctor. Beauty is only skin deep."

License Revocations And Suspensions For July

Raleigh, N. C., Aug. 12—During July, 562 motorists in North Carolina were shorn of their driving licenses because of drunken driving, bringing to 5,065 total drunken driving convictions for 1948, the Motor Vehicle Department announced today.

The July drunken driving convictions were 160 less than for the same month last year, when 722 persons were convicted.

A total of 894 drivers lost their driving privileges during July because of traffic law offenses and practices detrimental to highway safety. Revocations totaled 736, and suspensions 158.

These included 64 persons caught driving drunk outside the State; 53 driving drunk and miscellaneous; 24 driving after license had been revoked; 29 speeding over 75 miles per hour; 21 for transporting liquor; and 12 for two offenses of speeding over 55 miles per hour.

Twenty-one persons lost their licenses for two offenses of driving drunk. A second drunken driving conviction means mandatory revocation of license for a period of three years. Eight persons lost their licenses for failure to maintain proof of financial responsibility, and 11 others lost their driving privileges for being habitual violators of the traffic laws.

During July, 368 persons were convicted of reckless driving, bringing to 2,588 the total reckless driving convictions for 1948. Reckless driving, however, requires no revocation or suspension on first offense.

In addition to the major violations which are cause for revocation and suspension there were 8,540 other violators who were convicted, but not deprived of their driving licenses.

Speeding took the greatest toll, with 3,474 convictions, bringing total speeding convictions for the year to 18,365.

Other offenses: failing to have driver's license, 1,883; faulty equipment, 724; improper lights 415; running through red light, 385; driving on wrong side of road, 91; and failure to stop at intersection, 77.

Of the total violators for July, 7,501 were North Carolinians, and 1,039 were out-of-state drivers.

Nearly 500 Tar Heel farmers have entered the 200-bushel corn production contest for 1948.

Holiday Magazine to Feature Mountain Folk

The story of North Carolina's mountain people, their skills and handicrafts, is featured in the September issue of *Holiday Magazine*. It is the people, rather than the rugged natural beauty of their surroundings, that make the mountains attractive to the visitor, the magazine claims.

"They are a very special breed of folk indeed," it says. "For they are our one surviving link with the strong, resourceful and immensely tough-fibered men and women who got this country started."

In an 8,000-word article the magazine tells how people in the Appalachian Highlands of Western North Carolina still live by skills and handicrafts that have all but disappeared from the face of the earth, and enjoy ancient amusements such as ballad singing, folk dancing, and playing the "dulcimore."

Illustrating the account are 14 photographs, including some of the craftsmen at Bull Creek, contestants at the Mountain Dance and Folk Festival at Asheville, square dancing at Bent Creek ranch, the Campbell Folk School, and the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church.

The article comments on almost every factor in mountain life and culture.

Of the house which a mountain man builds for his family, it says: "It is wind and weatherproof. And there is not only visual beauty but also tactile beauty in the square walls."

On the weaving practiced by the women, it says: "Of all the arts and crafts in the United States, the weaving of Southern Highlanders is the closest to the native and original culture, the purest, the most satisfying to the eye and spirit."

On the versatility of the craftsmen it comments: "The list of things that the mountain people produce is almost a catalogue of the useful skills of man. They make four-poster beds, and candelabra, and silver jewelry and goose-leather fans. They fashion dolls and lamps, mats and pewterware."

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By Donald M. Ramsey, O. D.

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