

The Mountaineer

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1932

BIBLE THOUGHT

Every branch in me that beareth not FRUIT He taketh away; and every branch that bareth fruit He purgeth it that it may bring forth MORE FRUIT. He that abideth in Me . . . the same bringeth forth MUCH FRUIT.—John 14:2-8.

HAYWOOD'S APPLE CROP IS WORTH MORE THAN CITIZENS HERE EXPECTED

Last week this paper completed a survey of the apple crop of Haywood county. The results, which were startling, were published in last week's Mountaineer. Quite a few citizens of the county commented on the report and practically every one was surprised that the value of the crop this year would reach such a figure as \$185,000, especially with such prices as are now prevailing.

The editor of the Asheville Citizen thought enough of the report to devote an editorial in Sunday's Citizen-Times approximately two-thirds of a column in length. It reads as follows:

"Probably very few people recognize the growing importance of the apple crop of Western North Carolina. Some figures just made available as to the apple crop of Haywood county the past year are of interest. The showing is a really remarkable one, especially in these times, when all commodity prices have dropped so distressingly.

"Conservative estimates made by apple growers and extension department experts place the value of the Haywood county apple crop this year in excess of \$185,000. And these figures it is stated, do not include the thousands and thousands of bushels produced by small growers and sold direct to the consumer in the various markets of Western North Carolina, nor the other thousands of bushels that are stored for local uses. In making up the estimate as to the value of the crop this year only production on orchards owned and operated by growers who give full time to this phase of agricultural industry has been considered.

"The apples grown by such men as R. N. Barber, C. A. Black, A. T. McCracken, Bolling Hall and a very few others have been taken into consideration. Not less than 450,000 bushels of apples were produced by this group this past year. A large part of these are just now going on the market in the amounts of any consequence. Shortly before the holidays the sale of apples began to be given added stimulus due to the fact that apples of other sections which had not been of good quality and were therefore bringing a rather low price had all been sold. Buyers then began to turn to Haywood county where the better grade apples could be found to fill their orders. Apples produced by commercial growers this past year will bring between \$185,000 and \$200,000 in cash this year. In addition the value of apples produced in smaller quantities and sold directly to the consumer by the grower and those stored for winter use by the farmers of the county, should easily be worth between \$50,000 and \$75,000. These figures prove that the apple crop is not to be disregarded in considering the production of farm profits in the county.

"Statistics show that the apple crop harvested the past fall was about equal in quantity to the crop of the year before. Both crops were considered good from the standpoint of quantity and somewhat above the average. In quality the crop of 1931 in Haywood county was considered better than that of 1930, except in those sections where the crop was damaged by heavy hail, produced a grade of apples in 1931 that was far above the average. In some cases growers say that the quality of fruit could not have been surpassed. In most sections of the county, however, the apple crop showed results of hail damage. In a small section of the apple district the fruit was almost ruined. In other

places the damage was slight. The effect of the hail was to leave the apples with just enough blemish to reduce greatly the production of fancy fruit. Naturally this has brought about a corresponding reduction in the price of apples.

"Few sections of the state can produce an apple of as fine appearance and quality as Haywood county. This fact is due partly to the fact that the soil and prevailing weather conditions here are unexcelled for the growing of apples and the other is that the county boasts some of the best informed apple men in the country.

"Apple growing in Haywood county is no new thing. It is one of the oldest agricultural developments. A generation ago men known nationally had their attention called to the possibilities of apple growing here and one of the first orchards in the state was that put out in Haywood county by the Goodyears, well known in the rubber tire business at a later date.

"Production of apples, however, is only just in its infancy in this section. So great are the possibilities that it is rash to predict that within the next fifteen or twenty years this will be one of the greatest apple producing belt of the United States."

LAUGHABLE IN THE EXTREME

Isn't it funny

That some business men
Will get up in the morning
Shave with an advertised razor
And advertised soap
Put on advertised underwear
Seat themselves at the table
And eat advertised breakfast food
Drink advertised coffee or substitutes
Put on an advertised hat
Light an advertised cigar
Go to their places of business in an advertised car

And turn down an advertising proposition
On the ground that
Advertising doesn't pay?

Isn't it funny—Newport (Ark.) Independent.

IS UNCLE SAM A DEADBEAT?

The Franklin Press has received by mail a copy of the following telegram:

GILLIAM GRISSOM
COLLECTOR OF INTERNAL REVENUE
RALEIGH, N. C.

ALL FEDERAL INCOME TAX FORMS FOR TAXABLE YEAR 1931 WILL BE RELEASED JANUARY 4 1932 SEE THAT FULL PUBLICITY IS GIVEN TO RELEASE DATE

DAVID BURNET COMMISSIONER

Thanks to the Hoover administration, few if any, income tax forms will be needed in Macon county this year.

Now let us speak a word in behalf of ourselves. If everyone took the same attitude toward newspapers as Uncle Sam, newspapers would not exist.

It costs a considerable sum of money—far, far more than subscription revenues—to produce a newspaper, even a humble sheet like The Franklin Press. But Uncle Sam asks the newspapers to give him space free of charge for all manner of public announcements which really should be classed as legal advertising. When a county advertises for taxes, it pays for the space. If this were not the case, few counties would have county newspapers.

If newspapers printed free of charge all of the various announcements sent to them by the government concerning taxes, postal regulations, civil service examinations et cetera, they would be forced to leave out much of the news for which subscribers pay, the real reader-interest news which is the heart of every newspaper.

Yet we believe that such announcements as that from Commissioner Burnet should be printed. It is important that the public be informed on such matters, just as it is important for a man to know if he is to be foreclosed for taxes. It is clearly a case of legal advertising, but the howl comes from Washington that Uncle Sam can't afford to pay for it. Neither can we afford to pay taxes, but some how or other we manage to do it.

Is Uncle Sam a deadbeat?—Franklin Press

HIS FOUR "MONEY CROPS"

The Progressive Farmer-Ruralist gives this timely story of how one farmer, W. G. Mangum, is getting ahead:

"When the local market for country butter and buttermilk became flooded, he purchased a cream separator and began selling cream, increasing his hogs and poultry to consume the skimmilk and surplus grain. Here are his four 'cash crops' now:—

"1. Cows.—He is milking four to six dairy cows that supply milk for the family, skimmilk for the pigs and poultry, manure for the soil, a market for home-grown feeds, and a cash income of \$350 to \$400 per year from the sale of sour cream.

"2. Hogs.—He has four purebred Duroc Jersey sows from which he clears \$150 to \$200 per year from the sale of pigs and meat. He buys a small quantity of fish meal and ship stuff but raises plenty of corn. The hogs also supply the family with meat and lard.

"3. Hens.—He has a flock of 125 White Leghorn hens and is now selling from 50 to 60 dozen eggs per week. He makes a profit of \$250 per year or more from the sale of poultry eggs. He has to buy laying mash but feeds home-grown wheat and corn for grain ration. He plans to build a modern laying house and increase his flock to 300 hens.

"4. Wood.—He sells from \$150 to \$200 worth of wood each year, from timber land and woodlots."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR**THE TAX PROBLEM**

Editor of the Mountaineer:

The great problem to be solved is taxes. Seven years ago when the county tax rate was \$1.70, there was not as much said in protest as there is now at \$1.07. And why?

Every one knows that back in 1925 and 1926, in the period of inflation, \$1.70 could be paid more easily than \$1.07 can be paid now in this painful period of deflation.

But this is no time to argue. What the country wants now is relief, not reason.

Everybody remembers the scenes enacted at Raleigh during the 1931 session of the General Assembly. It was something new in North Carolina, at least, within the memory of the present generation, for men in legislative halls in this State to bring

at one another the charge of giving ear to lobbyists, or of being bribed.

To my mind, that session of the Legislature was the beginning of a struggle in North Carolina over the problem of taxation which will bring in its wake momentous results to the stability of our institutions and interests. Was it the beginning of the fight of the classes against the masses? Time will tell.

Every since the foundation of government, real estate has been the chief asset to be taxed. It is visible. It cannot conceal itself in the vaults of banks or in the strong boxes of millionaires. It is open where all may see. It has been the victim of double taxation in all ages of the world. In this State real estate has been and is TAXED TO THE BONE AND THE BONE LAID BARE.

There must be a change or a revolution will soon be in the offing. The farmer and the home owner will not forever bear the brunt of the tax system and see the rich grow richer and the poor poorer. The burden must be lifted, in peace if possible, but it must be lifted.

To get the needed relief is the chief desideratum. Again referring to the last session of the State Legislature, the question that was uppermost was whether or not the farmer and the home owner should continue to pay the bulk of the taxes needed for support of the State and county governments or the corporations of all kinds called on to pay their equitable share. The sequel was that the State undertook its long deferred task of running the six months school, but found itself unable to finance it without direct aid from the county. With all the wrangling that went on for nearly six months, our solons were unable to extract money from where it is, but had to take it from where it isn't.

Economists generally declare that the income tax is the fairest way to maintain government. The sales tax, both on luxuries and necessities, has its enemies and its friends. Neither of these methods of taxation was called into play to any great extent, because the large corporations objected.

All the methods of taxation will be studied and discussed in the next session of the General Assembly.

Unquestionably the farmer and the home owner must get relief. That statement must be repeated again and

20 Years Ago**in HAYWOOD**

J. A. Francis See
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Faith In Cou

Ed.-Note—this is the second series of articles by Mr. Francis writing his ideas of general.

By J. A. Francis, of Rutherford

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