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North Carolina Press Association

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 1938

**A CANNING EXPERT**

Further recognition of the ability of J. E. Barr as a canning expert and businessman, came recently when he was named administrator of the Tennessee Valley Authority Cooperatives. A position that requires lots of responsibility, and much more executive and technical ability than the average layman would think.

As general manager of the Land O' The Sky Mutual Canning Association, he has built up an organization, and established canneries that are producing under his personal supervision, canned fruits and vegetables of this section that have found a ready market. In fact, many items are sold out long before the actual canning begins.

While conservative, and seemingly never in a hurry, he has a way of getting things accomplished, and always in a successful manner. He is optimistic. But never more than is justified, and he never expresses an opinion until he has gone into a matter thoroughly, and is confident he is right.

In the canning field, only the best will do, and that is the idea Mr. Barr has, and working with that goal in mind, he and his associates are going a long way to put this section of the country on the map by their quality canned goods.

It would not be fair to publish this editorial without at least mention of what the Association has done for the farmers of this area. The money spent with the farmers amounts to thousands of dollars, with plans underway for even larger expenditures. The farmers have profited in cash, as well as by many experiments made by the Association, under Mr. Barr.

While all of us are glad that Mr. Barr was given the position as TVAC Administrator, at the same time, the best news coming out of the appointment was the fact that he will also remain general manager of the Land O' The Sky Association.

**THE BIBLE**

It is fitting that once each year the attention of the nation should be focused on the Bible. Whatever one's shade of religious belief he is bound to pay his respect to the Bible. On the Bible all branches of the Christian church unite. The Old Testament comprises the Sacred Scriptures of the Jews. The Bible was the chief book of the fathers of our country. Out of its teachings grew our schools, our colleges, the customs of our courts and the notable humanitarian enterprises that mark our nation's life. It is inextricably woven into our literature. Its phrases form the title of our most popular books. The Bible has outlived all other books. Emerging from a hoary antiquity it is today the world's best seller. Written in languages long dead it has preserved in its entirety in 174 other tongues and has been in part translated into over 800 more. The vigor with which it is finding its way into the languages of the race is not abating for, according to the American Bible Society, some portion of the Scriptures is appearing in a new tongue at the rate of one every four or five weeks.

This is a phenomenon without parallel in literary history and should give pause to every serious student of our nation's life and the life of the world. No man can consider himself well-posted who does not know this book. Though a volume of more than a thousand pages it can be bought for a few cents.

The weatherman was kind to Waynesville during 1937, in spite of the severe weather in January and in December. He gave us sunshine on 254 days last year, and an average temperature of 53 degrees for the year. It would take a down right hard-to-please person not to appreciate such year 'round weather.

**COLLECTING TAXES**

This week, the board of county commissioners received a report from a public accountant, which showed that 92 per cent of the 1936 county taxes had been collected, as of October 30th.

That record is one never before touched by a county tax collector, and one that will be hard to equal, or surpass again.

During the past 13 months, the auditor's report showed, that \$24,690.78 had been deposited to the credit of Haywood County. Of this amount, the county officials have paid out 76 per cent on the county debt, or \$247,690.00.

Besides collecting 92 per cent of the 1936 taxes, the office, under the direction of W. H. McCracken, also collected about \$11,000 in delinquent taxes.

This report is encouraging from several standpoints: first, it proves that there is money in Haywood, because as a rule, taxes are about the last thing a person will pay when money is scarce; second, it shows that present methods used by the officials are effective; and third, by collecting such a high percentage, the county is enabled to pay off large sums of the county debt, which will mean a reduction in taxes.

Roughly speaking, about 90 cents of the present \$1.33 rate, goes to pay off indebtedness and interest.

The county has certain notes to pay every few months, and the sooner these debts are paid off the quicker we will get a reduction in our tax rate, and unless taxes are collected practically 100 per cent, and added interest on these debts will keep the rate high.

It is to the financial interest of every taxpayer, that all taxes be collected.

**WHAT ABOUT LYNCHING?**

North Carolina has been fortunate this year in that it has been free of lynchings, shown since reconstruction to be one of the most inhumane and degrading practices ever thrust upon the south. There were eight lynchings throughout this year, the same number as in 1936. The total for each of the past two years is decidedly less than that of 1935, when 20 persons were lynched by mobs, and in 1934 when 15 met similar fates.

During the past year, in a state usually regarded as more northern than southern, three persons were lynched. Florida, a conglomerated state composed principally of residents moved in from other states outside the boundaries of the Mason and Dixon line, found its citizenry hot-headed and morbid in taking the lives of three men. Two were lynched in Mississippi. Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee claimed one each.

According to a report from Tuskegee Institute, all of the eight persons lynched during the year were in the hands of the law; three were taken from jails and five from officers outside jails. Even though peace officers failed to prevent eight lynchings, they did dispell them in 56 instances. Five were in northern states, but 51 were in the south, meaning that the lives of 77 persons were saved. Five of them were white men.

Of the eight persons lynched, according to the report, four were charged with murder; one with rape; one with crime against nature and robbery; and two with wounding an officer of the law.

The facts as presented by the report, reminded that in the south there are still many hot-heads who think lynching, on occasion, to be all right. Time and experience must develop in us all a social understanding devoid of tempestuous and inhumane action.—Sanford Herald.

**IN PRAISE OF SILLABUB**

Then there were the big family dinners which took place during the holiday period in rotation, with all the family connections packed around massive walnut tables, which groaned under the burden of turkeys stuffed with oysters, big boiled hams, cold sliced mutton, and of course, there was rice, cooked with chicken and seasoned with pepper pilace—candied sweet potatoes, macaroni, and great piles of nuts and raisins. Besides a great variety of cakes—pound cake, fruit cake, sponge cake, and angel food cake, there was always the great cut glass bowl overflowing with ambrosia. But the most delicious thing of all, was sillabub.

Wonder if any one in this neck of the woods knows what real silly-bub is? Well, it was made of whipped cream with sherry, or madeira wine, with nutmeg dusted on top, and it would make your hair curl! I am talking about the standard family dinners which were in vogue in South Carolina fifty years ago.—Col. Warren A. Fair, Lincoln Times.

W. L. "Bill" Lampkin has completed 25 years with Southern Bell Telephone Company, and it would only be fair that we offer "double congratulations" on this occasion—to Bill and the company.

**THE OLD HOME TOWN**

By STANLEY



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**Random SIDE GLANCES**

By W. CURTIS RUSS

Not drunk is he who from the floor,  
 Can rise again to drink no more,  
 But drunk is he who prostrate lies,  
 And who can neither drink nor rise.

The above was contributed by Walter Crawford, who credited Justice Mordicai with the ditty.

Several weeks ago, in "Here and There" the question was asked as to whether grits was single or plural. From down in Salisbury, The Post, recently carried the following squib:

Domestic differences—polite language for family quarrels—sometimes result from the most innocent of remarks. . . . As for instance that Salisbury couple we have just heard about. . . . Frinedes called on them the other night. . . . And after they were gone the lady of the house said: "Her niece is rather good looking, don't you think?" And the husband replied, "Dear, never say knees is, say knees are." . . . And the final rounds were not reported, blow by blow or word by word.

And speaking of "Here and There" the column was recently quoted in an Indianapolis paper, the largest in the city, while down in Florida, another daily picked up Uncle Abe's column and printed it word for word. The fame of two of The Mountaineer's columnists seems to be going afar.

Back in the summer, a story was carried about the cannery at Hazelwood canning eighty tons of blackberries. The article was re-printed in a canning trade journal, and as a result, the Land O' The Sky received orders for hundreds of cans of the berries which they could not supply.

Eight years ago, M. B. Francis went to work at the shipbuilding plant at Newport News—he said the common name was ship factory. Anyway, from Mr. Francis, it was learned that at least 25 Haywood men are now at work at the yard. The president of the company, you recall, Homer Ferguson, is also a Haywood man, so is Mr. E. J. Robeson, Jr., who is now director of personnel.

Mr. Francis explained that about fifty millions in work had just been received by the yard, which sounded like a lot of money, and an awful lot of work, but then one battleship costs fifty millions.

And not until this past week, did I know that it was almost impossible to sink a modern battleship.

Just from the little chat with Mr. Francis I learned a lot about the modern ships, for instance, they can make forty-five miles an hour (of course, he said knots, but was kind enough to figure it out in land-lubber language for me.)

I've read of super-heated steam, and just learned that it was invisible heat, made by passing ordinary steam through a special boiler that was heated to a white hot.

I'm interested in ships, so I persuaded Harry Hall, who is a former navy man, and an expert on ships, to write for us a series of articles on modern ships, especially battleships. He promised to start on them soon, and I'm looking forward to them with a great deal of interest.

While I have no idea of what fifty million dollars can do, I've always felt that it was too much to put into one boat, but since hearing experts

**LETTERS to the Editor**

**LOCAL TAX AND THE TAX-PAYER**

Editor The Mountaineer:—

For several years, local taxes, both county and municipal, have increased to the extent that the tax-load has become burdensome to the average taxpayer. No fair-minded citizen objects to paying a reasonable tax to support his local government plus the maintenance of roads, streets, schools, hospitals and other public institutions necessary to the progress and happiness of the people. But when the tax load becomes so heavy as to take bread from the mouths of children, eat up the profit of small business, invade the premises of the peasant farmer and small home owner and take from them their birthright, held sacred from time immemorial, it is necessary to sound an alarm.

It is true the tax-payer is, in part, to blame for the high tax burden, prompted in the past by the motive to build roads, streets, schools and hospitals. He was over-persuaded by the progressive, or rather we should say the aggressive, booster and would-be politician to lend his support to the voting of bonds and other items of indebtedness that should perhaps in their field describe the battleships, and their functions, I've changed my mind.

But wait until Mr. Hall's articles appear. They'll be worth your time.

have been scrutinized more closely before action was taken. But, be this as it may, the tax-payer is confronted with tax-burden that must be met and solved wisely if we would save our economic tax system from decay.

Our laws should so be administered as to allow business to make a legitimate profit on the capital invested so that business may continue to exist and the source of revenue continue to flow.

The voters in the last general election voted overwhelmingly in favor of an amendment to the state constitution exempting from taxation one thousand dollars from the home. The general assembly which convened in January, 1937, failed to ratify this amendment so that it could take effect immediately. No one expected the maximum exemption in the first year but a gradual exemption each year thus allowing the one hundred counties of the state time to adjust their financial tax structure without working a hardship on anyone concerned. Perhaps the legislators thought the tax payers were either joking or did not know what they wanted. It is enough to know that the amendment was put to sleep in the attic of our state capitol and our representatives dug deep into the pockets of our tax-payers and pulled out two hundred and fifty thousand dollars to advertise the state of North Carolina. Well, we all know how this money is being spent.

For several years, there has been a tendency on the part of a small minority group to say just how much tax we shall pay and where the money is to be spent. True democracy no longer exists when the majority is governed by the minority and the constitution becomes a joker when tax is not levied according to the people's ability to pay.

The time is at hand when industry, small business, agriculture and labor must join together in a crusade against the invasion of the tax-payer's rights. If there has been graft in our local government, it must be checked. If there has been reckless extravagance in the expenditure of the taxpayer's money, it must cease. We must stand guard, both at the ballot box and the state and national capitols if we would make secure our future from the usurper of our homes. F. E. HAYNES, Clyde, N. C.

After studying world conditions and meditating upon the turmoil and unrest that exists throughout the entire world our minds are perplexed. On the other hand studying the many plans or forces that are being advocated by the people for the improvement of these conditions we decide that many of these plans are destined to be a failure.

We continually hear comments on the question whether the world is growing better or worse. Every would-be analyst thinks he is right, and probably he is for the reason that everyone generally sees what he is. (Continued on page 8)

**"MY FINEST TOBACCO!"**

I HAD THE DANDIEST TOBACCO CROP EVER. THE CAMEL PEOPLE PAID ME THE BIGGEST PRICE I EVER GOT FOR THE BEST OF IT. SO I KNOW THEY USE COSTLIER TOBACCOS FOR CAMELS. I SMOKE 'EM MYSELF. THEY'RE THE LEADING CIGARETTE DOWN IN OUR SECTION.



WHAT cigarette do the tobacco growers smoke? Roy Jones knows that Camel is the favorite with planters. They know Camels are a matchless blend of finer, MORE EXPENSIVE TOBACCOS—Turkish and Domestic.

**"WE SMOKE CAMELS BECAUSE WE KNOW TOBACCO"** TOBACCO PLANTERS SAY

REMEMBER—Baby Can't read Those Prescription Labels. For some unknown reason, bottles and boxes of medicine seem to hold a strange attraction for exploring little hands; and this fact has on many occasions led to serious results. A poison label, or the caution, "For External Use Only," doesn't mean a thing in baby's young life, and none of us can be too careful in keeping all medicines, disinfectants and other household chemicals out of the young fellow's reach.

ASK YOUR DOCTOR

**ALEXANDER'S DRUG STORE**

Phones 53 and 54 Opp. Post Office  
 TWO REGISTERED PHARMACISTS FOR YOUR PROTECTION