

The News-Journal

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THE RELIEF THE FARM NEEDS.

The Charlotte Observer, which is in fact an observer as well as in name, has been giving some thought to the farmer's plight and to the possibilities of relief from the tribulations that have overtaken farm and everybody else, but particularly the farm, and the Observer figures on taxation. In the last 25 years, from its statements, our taxes have increased 700 per cent, our population about 50 per cent. That is to say our taxes have increased 14 times as much as our population, and the total at the present time of all state, national and local taxation annually is close to six billion dollars. Worse than that insupportable burden the taxes are still rising.

Taxes have increased to 14 times what they were 25 years ago, according to the figures the Observer has presented. To understand the plight of the farmer it is only necessary to say that in the 25 years the prices of his commodities have increased in some things to double the prices at the beginning of the period while in some things the increase is barely nominal. The prices of cotton and tobacco this year promise to be not much higher than during the average low years of the past, although the taxes are 14 times higher. Tobacco

furnishes an example. If the farmer turned over to the state and national governments all the money he gets for the sale of his tobacco it would not pay half the amount levied against tobacco in taxes. The tobacco crop of last year sold for \$285,583,000. The tobacco tax was almost half a billion dollars, or almost double the value of the crop as sold by the farms. There is what kills the tobacco farmer. Take a parallel possibility. Suppose the cotton farmer faced a tax of \$100 on every fifty-dollar bale of cotton sold. How long would the farmer and the country survive? Or the steel mill paying a tax of \$60 on every ton of rails sold for \$30, or whatever the price of rails might be, or the lumberman paying \$40 tax on every thousand feet of lumber sold for \$20. No industry can thrive when singled out to carry such enormous abnormal burdens.

Then along comes another form of crucifying the farmer with taxes. A few days ago the papers were telling of some sales of land for taxes in an adjoining county. With the rest was a pathetic story of an old negro who saw his land offered for sale for possibly twenty dollars in taxes. He could not pay the amount, but some friends among his white neighbors paid the money for him and saved him from losing his place. But

some others of his neighbors were not so fortunate. It is an old story repeated every year in all the counties. Land is sold for taxes, and a farm worth \$2,000 may be sold for thirty or forty dollars to secure that amount to pay the taxes. The unrighteousness of the whole thing is seen readily if we follow it a little way. If the farm will not sell for more than say \$40, it is preposterous to collect \$40 in taxes on it. And the price the farm brings is the best evidence in the world of the value of the place. A farm that is sold from its owner for \$40 should have assessed against it not \$40, but probably a dollar or two. To take from a man his farm as his contribution to the year's taxes is simply a confiscation of the whole property, and it is hard to imagine anything that is more inexcusable or more like absolute piracy. How the constitution of North Carolina can be interpreted to sanction such blackjacking is inconceivable.

Probably three-fourth of the evils that beset the farmer can be traced directly to the plainly unfair and burdensome taxes laid on his shoulders, and the uneven chance he has to get for his products a reasonable price as compared with what he has to pay for what he buys. Everybody is taxed to pay all these vast sums, and from the consumer comes the indirect taxes like the tobacco tax, but money thus taken makes it more difficult for the consumer to buy, and thus lessens the price and the market for what the farmer makes.

Last year North Carolina raised approximately \$100,000,000 worth of tobacco. It is one of our boasts that the

government collected from the manufacturers around \$200,000,000 in taxes on the tobacco manufactured in this state, or twice as much as the crop was worth. And with this, state taxes on tobacco in one form or another added more. The crop this year seems likely to bring less, but the taxes will be the same or maybe larger. That looks like the hole the pig went out under the fence.—The Pilot.

CAMP PRESENTED

G. A. Weaver, of Thomaston, Ga., announced the donation of three hundred acres on Pine Mountain, 20 miles from Griffin and ten miles from Thomaston to the Flint River Council Boy Scouts. The site extends from the top of Pine Mountain to the valley below. A cold Spring out of the mountain and a clear stream at the base make it an ideal camp site.

It will be improved with permanent buildings and a large lake will be built at the foot of the mountain. It is planned to make the camp not only a recreation place for the boys, but a game and bird preserve. J.M. Molder is Scout Executive for the Flint River Council. There are 18 troops in the area, representing half a dozen towns. New troops will shortly be formed in three other towns in the area.

Miss Lorena Andrews left for Greensboro Wednesday, where she will enter N. C. C. W.

Mr. Robert Looper, of the U. S. Marine Corps, is visiting his mother, Mrs. J. P. Smith.

NOTICE!

By order of the County Board of Education on the 8th day of September, a reward of \$25 is offered for sufficient evidence to convict the party or parties for damages to the school building at Mount Pleasant in Little River Township. Hoke county.

Just Arrived

A CAR LOAD OF POULTRY FEED, DAIRY FEED, HOG FEED, TANKAGE, MILL FEED.

Start feeding your hogs, poultry and cattle now and get them in good condition for the cold weather later.

McNEILL GROCERY COMPANY

THE SANITARY FOOD MARKET

Or Raeford Fish Market Next to Raeford Wholesale.

Help For Cotton Farmers

The N. C. Cotton Growers Cooperative Association, through the aid of the Federal Farm Board and the American Cotton Cooperative Association, is now advancing 90 per cent of the average price being paid for cotton on the local markets.

PRESENT ADVANCE NINE CENTS

If, however, your cotton grades better than middling 7-8", you will receive a second check as an additional advance on grades and staples.

NO CALLS FOR MARGIN

There will not be any calls for margin if the price of cotton should decline. In other words, there will be no comeback on the producer when he puts his cotton in the seasonal pool.

We borrow money at extremely low rates of interest, now only 4 per cent.

Our storage and Insurance rates are very low.

NO HANGOVER FROM 1929 CROP

Cotton upon which we advanced 16c last season has been taken over by the Stabilization Corporation. Members who delivered cotton better than middling 7-8" will receive additional payments amounting to more than \$175,000. There will be no loss, either to the Association or its members, if this cotton is finally sold for less than the amount advanced.

Don't Force Your Cotton On An Unwilling Market.

All farmers know that cotton is selling less than the cost of production. Judging the future by the past, they also know that cotton will bring a better price if held off of this depressed market.

14,000,000 bales is not more than the World will consume at a fair price, if marketed in the proper way.

"SELL YOUR COTTON AND KEEP IT TOO."

Whether you raise one bale or 5,000 bales, it will pay you to join the Cotton Association and receive as first payment approximately what your cotton would bring on the street. AND YOU WILL STILL OWN THE COTTON.

For information, see or phone our field representative

A. D. ENNETT, Laurinburg, N. C.

Raeford Warehouse
Jesse Gibson, Dundarrach
W. T. Boseman, Rockfish

Edinburg Gin Co.
Montrose Ginning Co.
R. F. Stewart, Addor

North Carolina Cotton Growers

Cooperative Association

RALEIGH, N. C.

I have reduced the prices of my entire stock. I have based them on 10 cents cotton. I have bought the best merchandise that money can buy and am offering it at the lowest prices you have seen in many years.

Come in and see for yourself.

ISRAEL MANN

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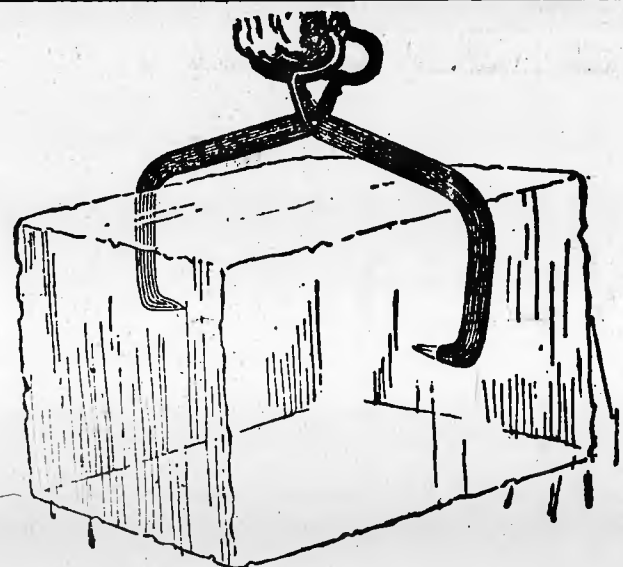
ARE THE LOWEST IN PRICE THEY HAVE BEEN IN FIFTEEN YEARS!

Look over our display of Living Room, Dining Room and Bedroom Suites and you will find what you want at prices that will surprise you. We have a nice new line for your every need and we invite your inspection.

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RAEFORD, N. C.

