

# Milk Only Food Item Exempted From Tax

## Tax Levy Placed On Meals In Cafes On June First

Raleigh, July 1.—North Carolina housewives today will have to pay the three percent general sales tax on every article of food bought in the State, with the single exception of milk.

With that exception, the 1935 Legislature removed all exemptions allowed under the 1933 act. The sales levy was placed on meals in cafes on June 1.

Department of Revenue officials predict a much simpler task for their collectors and say the chance of evasion of the tax will be fewer, as exemptions are removed today.

The department officially will report today the tax yielded a total of \$14,000,000 during the 28 months it has been in effect. Since the collections reach the department at the end of the month in which the tax is collected from the public, it will be September before the yield of the first month of the revised sales tax will be known.

As the State closed its books for the fiscal year last night, revenue officials estimated that a surplus of from \$200,000 to \$300,000 would be shown for the 1934-35 period.

A. J. Maxwell, Commissioner of Revenue, extended the time for payment of 1934-35 license taxes through Monday at midnight, since the end of the month came on Sunday.

relating tales of starvation and privation because of high food prices. They assert that the packers profited "at our expense" from the AAA drought relief and pig slaughtering.

At the same time reports from several cities tell of court proceedings instituted by various plaintiffs, seeking to restrain the government from collecting hog-processing taxes levied under the AAA.

Farmers in this county, and those elsewhere, might as well keep their eyes open and be ready at all times to repel these attacks upon the present program. They should realize that regardless of the plan undertaken to improve their buying power, there will be adverse interests, some powerful, to fight against it with every legal power and with ample financial resources to carry on the warfare.

The Bankhead bill to aid tenant farmers to buy their own farms, which was before the Senate in April and withdrawn in the face of hostility, passed the upper house last week, although denounced by its foes as a paternalistic and illogical scheme. Forty Democrats, three Republicans and two Independents voted for the measure which was opposed by eighteen Democrats and four Republicans.

With an authorized capital of \$50,000,000 and the right to issue bonds up to \$1,000,000,000 the measure would create a Farmers Home Corporation, with power to make loans for buying farms, farm houses, livestock, equipment, machinery, furnishings and supplies. No bonds could be issued the first year, and only \$300,000,000 in the first three years.

Loans would be limited to an amount paid for an average farm in a particular state. This it is claimed by opponents, varies from 55 acres in Mississippi to 1,195 in Nevada and in value from \$1,818 in Mississippi to \$19,655 in Iowa. Other critics contend that to supply all tenant farmers with farms of average size would cost \$21,000,000,000 and that it is not the business of the government to buy farms for anybody.

While in sympathy with the purpose of the bill to rehabilitate tenant farmers, this writer renders no opinion as to the results to be obtained. Individual farmers, however, are urged to think the matter out for themselves, to watch the workings of the corporation if and when it begins to operate and to be ready to support it, if good, and to kill it, if evil results.

CHEVROLET ACCESSORIES, PARTS SALES SET RECORD

The Chevrolet Motor Company set a new all-time record during May for total volume of parts and accessories sales. The previous record dated back to the boom year of 1929, when August sales reached a peak that stood as a record for nearly six years.

Announcement of the new record was made at White Sulphur Springs by M. D. Douglas, manager of the Chevrolet Parts and Accessories division before a gathering of the leading field men of the division, guests of the company during a three days' stay awarded them in recognition of their success in rolling up regional and zone records contributing to the high May total.

According to Mr. Douglas, the May peak of sales can be attributed largely to a general resumption of touring for pleasure, a natural sequence to the increase in spending power throughout the country.

"The curve of new car sales shows heavy gains over last year," he declared, "and new cars themselves create a demand for accessories—everything from insect screens to radios. However, our May record was far above what could be attributed to the sale of accessories for new cars, and it can be definitely concluded that much of the buying was for old cars.

"That means that motorists are taking to the road in larger numbers than during the recent touring seasons, and are equipping their cars with accessories that will contribute to the convenience, comfort

## Washington News For U. S. Farmers

### Farm Buying Vital Looks For Improvement Fighting The AAA To End Farm Tenancy

The advantage that will accrue to industry from improved buying power on American farms is well illustrated when we reflect that of the 30,000,000 persons dependent on agriculture for their living:

- 73 per cent have to carry water from wells or other sources of supply;
- 77 per cent have to get along with outdoor toilets;
- 93 per cent have neither a bathtub nor shower;
- 76 percent have only kerosene or gasoline lamps;
- 86 per cent are without electricity.

These figures were called to the attention of the plumbers of America, who met in Chicago last week, by Morris L. Cooke, Administrator of the Rural Electrification Administration. You may wonder what it has to do with the plumbing business but it would take the manufacturers of bathroom equipment in this country from seven to ten years of steady production to supply the demand if all farm homes could be brought up to the American standard. Moreover, installation of these, and other fixtures, would furnish employment for many unemployed plumbers.

As Mr. Cooke pointed out, it is wrong to assume that our great farming population goes without the benefits of sanitary equipment because its standards are low. Only the inability to purchase stands between the farmer and the development of a tremendous demand for, not only bathroom fixtures, but many other industrial products and for that reason, it would seem, industry would rally around any program that looks to the improvement of the farm income of this country.

Incidentally, W. I. Myers, Governor of the Farm Credit Administration believes that the rapidly unfolding improvement in agriculture points to a much greater volume of business and that as a result of further increases in farm commodity prices and farm purchasing power there will be less use of time purchases, more credit and other "ox-cart methods" of financing farm production.

Housewives are appearing in Washington to demand a Congressional investigation into food prices, with some of them

and safety. They are making their old cars look new with seat covers, modernizing them with radios, equipping them with spot lights, visors, dual windshield wipers, and other articles that add to the convenience and pleasure of both the driver and the passengers."

## SOUND POLLUTION FIGHT IS WON BY SPORTSMEN

New York, June 30.—The pall of pollution, threatening widespread starvation among wildfowl at Currituck Sound, North Carolina, famed as the greatest winter resort for wild ducks and geese on the Atlantic coast, has been dissipated. Sportsmen's organizations, and state and federal game officials have won their fight to keep closed except for shipping the locks of the Chesapeake and Alabarca canal linking the 300 square miles of nearly fresh Sound waters with the salty and polluted harbor waters of Norfolk, Va.

Virginia crab fishing interests had petitioned the War Department to keep open the canal locks, claiming that while closed they interfered with free migration of crabs. Sportsmen's representatives, demonstrating their power in the country's fight against water pollution, rallied such powerful opposition at a public hearing at Norfolk that the proposal has been withdrawn, according to the More Game Birds Foundation.

Experts of the U. S. Bureau of Biological Survey, officials of North Carolina and Virginia Game Departments and the sportsmen's groups contended that to grant the petition would ruin the vast growths of aquatic plants in the Sound upon which a bulk of eastern wild waterfowl depended for food during the winter.

Clarence Cottam, representing the Bureau of Biological Survey, reported that since the canal locks were constructed in 1932 at a cost of nearly half a million dollars, wideopen grass, duck potatoes and similar aquatic growths had shown a steady comeback. Previous to installation of the locks, according to R. Bruce Etheridge, North Carolina Director of Conservation, pollution coming in through the canal had caused

ed a drop in the annual fresh water catch in Currituck of from 2,000,000 to 300,000 pounds. A decline of 99 per cent in the number of waterfowl wintering there was also shown, according to John C. Huntington, Vice-President of the Foundation.

## CARDWELL'S COLUMN

### PROJECTING PROSPERITY

By GUY A. CARDWELL, Agricultural & Industrial Agent, A. C. L. Railroad Co.

H. J. Schwieter, of Chicago, Vice President, American Railway Development Association, reports his attendance at a recent conference of 200 men and women interested in agriculture, industry and science, who met to collaborate for the purpose of developing new industrial markets for farm products. It was the consensus of opinion of those present that if prosperity returns to this country (and of course it will) it must come by agricultural expansion. It was stated that unless agriculture is prosperous transportation, industry and commerce cannot become prosperous.

The conference appointed a committee of fifteen charged with the responsibility and authority to perfect an organization of a National Council of Representatives of Agriculture, Industry and Science. The commendable hope was entertained that the activities growing out of this gathering would:

1. Result in the gradual absorption of much of the domestic farm surplus by domestic industry.
2. Put idle acres to work profitably.
3. Increase the purchasing power of the American farmer on a stable and more permanent basis, and thereby
4. Increase the demand for manufactured products, thus
5. Creating new work for idle hands to do, reviving American industry; restoring American labor to productive enterprise; and relieving the economic distress of the Nation.

This is an ambitious program and one that is worthy of support, but little can be done to advance the work of rehabilitation of farming and business until those charged with the responsibility and authority outline a cooperative plan of work for both agriculture and industry so that the work may be gotten under in an orderly manner. While American farming and business is no longer in the depths but is on the upgrade, it is going to require time, thought of a high order and plenty of work to coordinate agricultural and industrial plans so that they can be made to progress in a harmonious manner and not in a faltering manner, nor in such manner as will give one a decided advantage over the other.

I will await with interest practical suggestions for the absorption of the domestic farm surplus by domestic industry, the putting of idle acres to work profitably without further increasing surpluses, et cetera. But I am for this group of leaders, and I have sufficient confidence in Mr. Schwieter's practicability to believe he would not endorse the movement if he did not feel that it has a chance to succeed in improving conditions on the farm, in industry and in the field of transportation.

## UNCLE SAM BUILDING UP FIGHTING FORCES

Washington, June 30.—The nation offered jobs in its armed services today to 60,000 young Americans.

The increase will bring the active national defense forces to its greatest strength since the immediate post-war years, officials said.

Made possible by recent Congressional action, Army enlisted personnel will be increased from 118,000 to 165,000; Navy from 82,500 to 93,500, and Marine Corps from 14,900 to 16,000.

In addition, 600 new cadets are being sought for West Point, 250 officers for the Marine Corps, and Navy line officer strength is to be swelled from 5,499 to 6,531. This increase does not include the regular midshipmen appointments for Annapolis or the cadets for West Point, nor pro-

visions for some increases in officer flying personnel authorized in the next twelve months.

The new strength was authorized by Congress in appropriating \$860,682,549 for national defense in the new fiscal year beginning tomorrow. This is the largest defense fund voted by Congress since the World War period. The Navy received \$458,684,379 and the Army \$401,998,170.

Recruiting stations are to be opened tomorrow for enlistments. Instructions have gone to the Army and Navy high command from the White House not to seek recruits from the Civilian Conservation Corps, which is in the midst of a drive to increase its personnel from 300,000 to 600,000. President Roosevelt made it clear that he did not want the CCC used as a "feeder" for the military services.

Enlistments and training of the 47,000 Army "rookies", the 11,000 Navy and 1,100 Marine "boots" are expected by War and Navy Department officials to be completed within six months.

The Army plans no new units, but will use the additional men to bring existing outfits up to full peace-time strength. The Navy will distribute its new personnel on new war craft going into commission during the next twelve months. Additional Marine personnel will be used to build up the "fleet Marine force" to peace-time strength and for detachments aboard new heavy cruisers.

## FORD DELIVERIES PASS HALF MILLION MARK

Dearborn, Mich.—Retail deliveries for the year of Ford V-8 cars, commercial cars and trucks passed the half-million mark during the last 10-day period in May, it was recently announced at the home office of the Ford Motor Company.

May was the third consecutive month this year in which retail deliveries exceeded 100,000 units, it was said.

The last 10-day period in May was the second best 10-day period for retail deliveries in the last five years.

Retail deliveries in the first months averaged better than 100,000 units per month.

The total of retail deliveries of Ford trucks and commercial cars in the first five months was 66 per cent ahead of the total for the similar five-month period last year and greater than the total for any other similar period since 1930.

Retail deliveries of Lincoln motor cars in the last 10-day period in May were greatest in volume of any 10-day period thus far this year.

Religion and politics are too subjects that should be kept apart—even if the preachers have to stay out of politics.

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