

BLUE EAGLE EMBLEM MEANS SHORTER HOURS AND HIGHER WAGES

Sparta Business To Take Active Part in Recovery Program.

In his rapid flight over the nation the Blue Eagle of the N. R. A. has reached our town. Numbers of business places are displaying the sign and no doubt that others will do the same as soon as minor technicalities are smoothed out. Establishments displaying the Blue Eagle have signed an agreement with the President to cooperate by using a Code of Fair Competition as approved by the Federal Government. President Roosevelt states the purpose of the plan as follows: "This agreement is a part of a nation-wide plan to raise wages, create employment, and thus increase purchasing power and restore business. That plan depends wholly on united action by all employers."

The President's Reemployment Agreement states that industry shall not employ workers more than eight hours a day nor pay workers less than \$14 a week. That part of the Code applying to Sparta states: "and in towns of less than 2,500 population to increase all wages by not less than 20 per cent, provided that this shall not require wages in excess of \$12 per week." The maximum hours a week does not apply to druggists or other professional persons employed in their profession. Nor does it "apply to employees in establishments employing not more than two persons in towns of less than 2,500 population which towns are not a part of a larger trade area."

The agreement also stipulates that signers are "to support and patronize establishments which also have signed this agreement and are listed as members of N. R. A."

COUNTY CITIZENS PETITION STATE FOR ROAD WORK

Two Roads Serve Important Sections of County.

Petitions have been sent to the N. C. Highway Commission, asking for a portion of the Federal road money to be used in surfacing with crushed stone two important county roads. One of these roads leads from State Highway No. 26 near Glade Valley to Edmonds, a distance of seven and local citizens spent about \$20,000. Several years ago the county 000 in grading and widening this road. It has one of the best grades in the county. Every landowner and leading citizens served by the road signed the petition. They are very anxious to get the road included with other State projects.

The other road leads from State Highway No. 26 at Cherryland thru Bullhead to Whitehead, a distance of seven miles. Many people live along this road, which is practically impassable for motor vehicles during a great part of the winter. This road was graded a few years ago, but on account of lack of funds it has not been kept in a good state of repair. The Federal Government has allotted eleven million dollars for road building and repairing in North Carolina. This money will be spent in road projects in various sections of the State, where it is most needed. So far as is known at present no petitions for these two roads, but definite action has been taken on the part of the Highway Commission will take favorable action within a few days.

HOME LOAN CORP. DOES NOT LEND TO FARMERS

Mayor Crouse Makes Statement to Clarify Situation.

The Home Owners' Loan Corporation, an agency of the Federal Government, does not lend money on farm land or farm homes, according to a statement of Mayor R. F. Crouse who is attorney for the Corporation in Alleghany County. Mr. Crouse gives the information that should be of special interest to the farmer in the following statement: "The development in the matter of loans to farmers that is of special interest to the farmers at this time is the new loan that can be secured from the Federal Land Bank. The rate of interest has been cut down and provision has been made for the Federal Land Bank to lend money to farmers that are in need at this time. These loans are of two kinds, one by the Federal Land Bank through the local association, and this loan will be made up to fifty per cent of the appraised value of the farm. Funds in addition to this can be secured on the same land through the conservator, which loans are made direct to the farmer.

Any farmer desiring a loan on his farm should see Mr. R. G. Taylor, Secretary of the Cranberry Farm Loan Association, or Mr. J. E. Miller, Secretary of the Mt. Zion Farm Loan Association."

George Richardson Injured In Eye

While crushing stones with a rock hammer on Tuesday of last week, George Richardson, from near Hark, received a serious injury to one of his eyes. A sharp fragment struck him in the eye, cutting it, and causing it to become ulcerated. On Monday of this week Mr. C. A. Miles carried him to Perkins and Combs, eye specialists, in Winston-Salem for examination, but they were unable to determine the extent of the injury at that time.

The injury has been giving Mr. Richardson considerable pain. He will remain in Winston for treatment until the latter part of the week.

WYTHEVILLE BOOSTER TRIP BIG SUCCESS

Business Men Make Good-Will Tour.

The first booster trip of the Wytheville Business Men which was taken Wednesday, July 26, was a complete success from every point of view and all who went felt fully repaid for the effort. There were 53 business representatives and 22 members in the Austinville band, which accompanied the local crowd, and assisted in making the day the success it was. After the cars lined up on Main Street, the band played several selections, and with Traffic manager Elmer Davis, and Dr. B. A. Wagoner, president of the organization, in the lead the party started for their first stop, Speedwell, and to the R. F. C. Camp near that town. At the first and each subsequent stop Dr. Wagoner made the announcements, and the band played for several minutes.

At Sparta, the real treat of the day awaited the boosters. Ex-Governor Doughton addressed the crowd which had been met and escorted into town by Floyd Crouse and Prof. Rowe. A sumptuous dinner was served to about seventy-five people, after which the boosters formed into a parade and visited all the business and residential sections of the town, and then headed for Independence.

All along the route literature relative to the various business and social advantages to Wytheville was distributed, and information in regard to the Horse Show to be held here August 19—Wythe County (Va.) News

Coxs Chapel News

Those visiting Mrs. E. P. Osborne Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Troy Cox, Mr. and Mrs. Ben H. Phipps and daughter, Anita, Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt Cox and children, Mrs. DeEtte Halsey and son, and Mr. and Mrs. Allen Osborne.

Mrs. Ben H. Phipps and daughter of Bridle Creek, Va., have been visiting many relatives the last week.

Mrs. Burton Osborne is spending several days at her father's, Mr. S. O. Gambill.

Mr. Joe Cox, who is attending school at Radford State Teachers' College, was visiting home folks a few days last week. He was accompanied back to Radford by Mr. DeEtte Halsey, Miss Mazy Cox and Mr. Munsey Cox.

Those visiting Mrs. Jincy Osborne Monday were Mr. and Mrs. Fred Osborne, Mrs. Ruth Parsons and Mrs. Mon Osborne and sons, Jim and Jack. Mr. and Mrs. DonShor es have been visiting Mr. Horton Phipps.

Mrs. Carrie Phipps and son, Horton Mc., are visiting friends and relatives at Grassy Creek.

Mr. and Mrs. Loy Phipps of Independence, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. F. Ward Sunday.

The Epworth League enjoyed a delightful picnic given by Bob Wall's side of the league July 22. Ice cream, cake and many other good things were served.

Local Merchant to Erect New Building

Mr. Ben G. Reeves, owner of the Reeves Variety Store, has purchased a building lot adjoining the Jay Hardin Store building on west Main Street. In the near future he expects to erect a modern store building on the lot and move his mercantile business from its present location into the new quarters. He will carry the same line of goods as formerly, but he expects to increase the amount of stock.

SPARTA CLUB DEFEATS LAUREL SPRINGS 6-2

Thompson Strikes Out 15 Men.

The Sparta ball team won from Laurel Springs Saturday by a score of 6 to 2, behind the effective pitching of "Lefty" Thompson.

The Sparta boys gathered ten hits off Sheets and Pruitt to four for the Laurel Springs boys. Sparta scored three in the third inning, and three in the eighth. Laurel Springs did not score until the ninth—Bare reached first on an error and scored on a hit by Tucker, and Tucker scored on a close strike at the plate. Thompson got 15 strikeouts.

The box score and summary is as follows:

Sparta	Ab.	R.	H.	Po.
Reeves	5	1	0	0
Nichols	5	0	0	1
Joines	5	1	1	5
Carpenter	5	1	2	0
Edwards	5	1	2	2
Bryan	4	1	1	1
Gentry	5	0	2	16
R. Thompson	3	1	0	0
C. Thompson	4	0	2	2
	41	6	10	27

Laurel Springs

Ab.	R.	H.	Po.	
T. Tucker	4	0	0	2
Craven	4	0	1	1
Bare	4	1	0	2
Cox	4	0	0	7
J. Tucker	4	1	1	3
Miller	3	0	1	7
Moxley	4	0	1	3
Bowman	3	0	0	2
Pruitt	2	0	0	0
Sheets	2	0	0	0
Fender	1	0	0	0
	34	2	4	27

Game At Sparta Saturday at 3:30.

Laurel Springs and Sparta teams will play at Sparta Saturday, Aug. 5th, at 3:30 P. M.

RELIEF GARDEN CONTEST CLOSES

Mrs. Celia Caudill Wins First Prize.

The garden contest sponsors by the Alleghany County Office of Relief closed August 1, with 533 gardens entered. The contest was very successful and many good gardens were grown. Some of the gardens, however, were damaged a great deal by drought and frost.

The first prize of \$2.00 was awarded Mrs. Celia Gambill, of Whitehead. Second prize of \$1.00 went to Lonnie Hendrix, of Stratford. These gardens had a great variety of vegetables, were well cultivated, and were clean and neatly arranged. It is hoped that this contest will stimulate an interest in producing a great variety of food-stuff in home gardens.

Why Silver Stabilization?

There seems to be a good deal of misunderstanding of silver stabilization. It is feared that it simply means that silver will be given an artificial standard value, at the expense of gold.

It doesn't mean this at all. As a matter of fact, silver has an artificial standard of value now—it is far below any reasonable level. And silver should have as definite a value as gold—to half the world's people it is gold, and the only gold they know. It has been their medium of exchange for centuries, precisely as gold has to some of the western nations. It's collapse has affected them drastically as the collapse of gold values would affect the people of other nations.

Silver rehabilitation is simply an effort to permit a time tested medium of exchange to again do a necessary work in the world.

Wengers Inquire About Old Friends

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Wenger and their two children, Harold and Mary, made several stops in Alleghany last Friday on their way from New Smyrna, Fla., to Fargo, South Dakota. They were looking up and enquiring about the old friends of Mrs. Wenger's father, Mr. R. S. Blinn. Mr. Blinn will be remembered as the engineer who located and built both the Piney Creek and Glade Creek roads. Mr. and Mrs. Wenger were married while the Blinns were living on the bank of Little River, where the high bridge was built.

Mr. Wenger is at present a teacher of chemistry in the State Agricultural College at Fargo, South Dakota.

Mr. and Mrs. Blinn still live at New Smyrna, Fla.

They made numerous enquiries about their old friends in Alleghany, and especially about the men who worked with him. —(Contributed.)

RELIEF EXPENDITURES FOR JUNE DECREASE

Number Families Aided Show 41 Per Cent Decrease Since Winter.

Of the \$928,468 expended for relief in North Carolina during June, Alleghany County used \$2,351. Hyde County spent the smallest amount, \$1,427, while Mecklenburg used a total of \$85,786. The total expenditure for the State represents a decrease of approximately 11 per cent below the \$1,043,666 which was spent during May.

The expenditures for June represent a decrease of approximately 30 per cent as compared with the expenditures for March which was the high month of the winter. The total outlay for March was \$1,323,346.

This decrease in total expenditures has not kept pace with the decrease in number of families aided, the statement made public today said. The number of families aided in June was 97,272, a decrease of 13 per cent as compared with the 111,778 aided during the previous month. The decrease as compared between June and February, when the peak number of 164,000 families were aided, is about 41 per cent.

Since the peak winter months, it is therefore pointed out, the number of families aided has decreased 41 per cent and the total amount of money spent 30 per cent. The explanation, it was pointed out by relief officials, is due to the fact that families now remaining on relief require more aid than in previous months. For instance, it was pointed out, the average expenditure per family in February and March was approximately \$8.00 per family, whereas it was about \$9.60 during June.

In The Wide Open Spaces

This year both Carolina and Duke went to their stadiums for the graduating exercises. Apart from the ample space provided and the fine vision afforded, the exercises of those two universities in the open is a matter of general interest. The southerners have not duly appreciated the out-of-doors for such occasions. We have been forced to live so largely in the fields that our balmy air and fine open skies fail to make proper appeal.

The farmer who spends his life cutting trees and fighting grass is not inclined to plant grass and shrubbery about his yard and house. Because of this the farmer has missed much of life. But we are gradually overcoming this. Grass and shrubbery have a larger place about our homes and churches and schools. And we are coming to a fuller appreciation of the open spaces.

Our schools and colleges and churches should lead the way in this. The old brush arbor and camp meeting occasions arose out of the exigencies of the occasion. But the value of the open did not pass with the going of these occasions.

The birds, the trees, the fields, the skies, the glory of the morning, the smell after the rain and the softness of summer evenings remain our best and richest possessions. The charm of them all should remain with us. —N. C. Christian Advocate.

HOME OWNERS' CORPORATION TO AID HOMEOWNERS

Purpose to Save Mortgage-Ridden Homes.

Last week The Times carried an announcement that Mayor R. F. Crouse had been appointed attorney and G. Glenn Nichols, appraiser, for the Home Owners' Loan Corporation in Alleghany County. Owners of homes under mortgage may be interested in the facts given by State Manager, Allan S. O'Neal, below:

On June 13, 1933, President Roosevelt approved the Act of Congress creating the Home Owners' Loan Corporation, and the North Carolina Agency of such Federal Corporation has been established and opened at Salisbury, with Branch offices at Asheville, Raleigh and Greenville and a designated attorney and appraiser in each county.

This agency of the Federal Government is for the sole purpose of saving the homes of owners where they are unable, otherwise, to secure money to pay mortgages or deeds of trust, and where the debt holder is threatening foreclosure. It is provided by the Administration as a relief agency to refund with its bonds, and, where necessary, with cash, those home mortgages of record prior to June 13, 1933, in such distress that the lender and the borrower cannot work out their problem.

We cannot make a loan on rental property, vacant lots, farms, new construction, second mortgage, nor if the dwelling is for more than four

SPARTA MAY GET FIRE-FIGHTING APPARATUS

Mayor Crouse to Interview Representatives Soon.

Mayor R. F. Crouse is investigating the possibilities of getting some kind of fire-fighting apparatus for Sparta. He has written a number of manufacturing companies and is expecting representatives to come within a few days to discuss the matter. Since the town has no public water system, any apparatus obtained must necessarily use chemicals. If suitable equipment can be bought, it is expected that it will be in charge of a volunteer company. Fire insurance rates are excessive at present because the fire hazard is great. It is thought that suitable fire-fighting equipment will lower the fire hazard, and thus lower fire insurance premiums.

Help The Schools

The National Education Association issued a most discouraging statement during the past month. It discloses, among other things, that 2,269 schools in 11 states were closed before March 1, 1933, and that many of them have no prospects of reopening this fall.

Upwards of 103 city school systems were compelled to reduce their terms this year by 20 or more days, and the schools in rural sections shortened their terms 30 or more days.

The expenditures for public schools in 1926 was \$2,026,308,190, with 24,741,468 pupils in attendance. The expenditure for the year just closed was \$1,961,900,000, with nearly 27,000,000 in attendance.

Because of the suspension of building operations from about \$400,000,000 annually, previous to 1930, to \$154,000,000 this year, it is estimated that 250,000 pupils were obliged to attend on a part-time basis, and 150,000 were taught in portable buildings.

Four thousand new rural schools are needed and about 18,000 need repairs.

School children are inadequately supplied with text books in many locations. The purchase of these books has dropped 30 per cent since 1930. The old books are badly mutilated and in some cases two and three children are obliged to use the same books in studying their lessons.

The Federal Government has indicated that it will make available upwards of \$2,000,000,000 to rural communities, cities and states in loans for public works. Of course, this money is available for public building operations only, and in amounts of 30 per cent of the total cost, but it is hoped that depressed localities will be able to take advantage of the opportunity to the extent of supplying their necessary school demands.

A Department of Education, now as at all times, would be most valuable in marshalling facts concerning the crisis in education and submitting the best thought on the subject for the use of school men, boards of education, town councils and state legislatures.

HOME OWNERS' CORPORATION TO AID HOMEOWNERS

Purpose to Save Mortgage-Ridden Homes.

The premises must be used by the owner as a home or held by him as his homestead. It may be located in city or town. The premises, may, inside or outside of an incorporated city, have a small store or some farm land or other incidental uses, provided it is primarily the home of the owner.

Up to 80 per cent of the value of the home will be loaned in bonds to take up a mortgage, provided such 80 per cent does not exceed \$14,000 and we will also furnish the cash to pay taxes on the home that may be in arrears, all of which will be made a part of the 80 per cent loan.

Should a mortgage holder refuse to accept bonds, and his mortgage, taxes or other encumbrances due are not in excess of 40 per cent of the value of the home, the corporation will lend the home owner up to 40 per cent of the value of his home and take up his indebtedness with cash, and also any taxes due or other encumbrances against such home.

The Corporation can make a new loan for payment of taxes, assessments, repairs and maintenance, in cash, where there is no prior lien, up to 50 per cent of the value of the home.

Interest at the rate of 6 per cent per annum will be charged on cash in exchange for the existing mortgage, same to be amortized over a period of not exceeding fifteen years.

FARMERS TO GET AID FROM NATIONAL FARM LOAN ASSOCIATION

Borrowers Should Make Application To Local Representative

Farmers of this county will be interested in the statement just received by R. G. Taylor, secretary-treasurer of the Cranberry National Farm Loan Association, from Henry S. Johnson, agent of the Farm Loan Commissioner, telling how it is expected there will be a very substantial scale-down in the debts of many borrowers because the farmer getting a loan will be able to offer cash for settlement of debts which he might not otherwise be able to pay.

Commissioner's loans are being made to reduce and refinance farmer's debts on a longer term basis, to supply working capital and to refinance foreclosed farms. The collateral accepted is first or second mortgages upon all or any part of the farm property, real or personal, including crops. Of course, before the Commissioner makes a second mortgage loan he will ask the holder of closure rights in accordance with the firstmortgage to waive fore-commissioner's regulations.

Loans are limited to a maximum of \$5,000 each. These loans plus all prior mortgages or other evidences of indebtedness secured by the farm property may not exceed 75 per cent of the appraised value thereof.

During the first three years the loans are in effect, borrowers will not be required to make payments on the principal if they are not otherwise in default with respect to the conditions or covenants of their mort-

gages. The loan must be repaid in such annual or semi-annual installments as will discharge the debt within the agreed period.

The Commissioner's agent also points out that these are collateralized and not personal loans and that the financial conditions of the applicant as well as his history must be considered, including, of course, the ability of the farmer to repay the loan. The properties are appraised by the Federal Land Bank appraiser and he uses the same general values in arriving at the value of the property to be offered as collateral. The principal difference between the Federal Land Bank loan and the Commissioner's loan is that the land bank perty and can not exceed 50 per cent of the normal, appraised value of the land plus 20 per cent of the insured, permanent improvements whereas the Commissioner's agent may lend up to 75 per cent of the normal value and accept second mortgages and personal property as security.

The agent points out that for the convenience of the public the secretary-treasurer of the local national farm loan association has been appointed as correspondent and that farmers should find it convenient and satisfactory to make their applications to this correspondent, rather than in default with respect to the conditions or covenants of their mort-

SECTION FOREMEN EMPLOY REGULAR DRIVERS

Made Possible by Action of Highway Commission.

By order of the State Highway Commission effective this week, the section foremen of Alleghany highways were permitted to employ truck drivers on their sections. These drivers were cut off the State payroll last January on account of lack of funds. With the increase of Federal appropriations many men will find employment on the state roads. Six Alleghany citizens were given employment as drivers. The foremen and drivers are listed below:

Foreman—Driver	Driver
J. R. Hawthorne	Jack Reeves
W. G. Hoppers	Connie Moxley
C. G. Winkler	Clay Carpenter
Clark Higgins	Kyle Edwards
Oscar Richardson	Bob Maines
Jess Osborne	Clinton Young

Exempt Homes From Taxation

Homes valued at five thousand dollars and less are not taxed in Florida. This is constructive to the great office holder's trust, but this is proof of its virtue.

Home ownership is the foundation of dependable citizenship and American independence. Home ownership is the one great fortification against destructive radicalism. It is the home owner who may be depended upon to defend and protect American ideals. Our system of taxation is decidedly discouraging to home ownership. In many places people will tell you that it is cheaper to pay rent than to own. The heavy taxes on land, together with the outrageous penalties for failure to pay on time, tend to penalize rather than encourage home ownership.

The home should be exempt from all forms of taxation. When a man pays for his home, he should be able to say that "no outside power can take this home from my family!" For the government to sell homes for taxes, as has been done in thousands of cases, is really an outrage. This short-sighted policy should be abandoned at once. All taxes on small homes should be abolished.—Southern Agriculturist.

Editor Plyler Speaks

The fight is on in this State against high taxes, especially the sales tax. The burden is heavy. Yet we go on spending in a reckless way. The only limitation set is the amount of money we can get from the government at Washington, as though pay day would never come. The expenditure is much the same as that in war time though for other objects. Then money flowed like water—after which came the deluge. Now we hope to remedy the present situation after the same fashion. There is, however, this difference: Then we put a ban on liquor; now we have opened the floodgates so as to drink ourselves rich.—N. C. Christian Advocate.

LOCAL CITIZEN MAKES FINE VIOLINS

Arthur Wooten Displays Skill In Wood Working.

Mr. Arthur Wooten, of Sparta, has demonstrated his ability as a skilled artisan in wood work by making several fine violins, one of which is on display in Mr. A. L. Rector's store. This instrument is made of the finest seasoned mountain curly maple and spruce. The carving, which was done with a pocket knife and chisel, is intricate and the beautiful grain of the maple in each piece is artistically blended with the grain markings in the other pieces. The violin has a sweet, clear tone, which will grow mellow as the instrument increases in age. A careful examination of the instrument will reveal the craftsmanship of the maker.

Mr. Wooten is now employed in Akron, Ohio.

Cotton Processing Tax Effective August 1st

Commissioner of Internal Revenue Guy T. Helvering has released the following information pertaining to the taxes imposed under the Agricultural Adjustment Act with respect to the basic agricultural commodity, cotton.

The tax on cotton will take effect at the beginning of the marketing year which has been proclaimed by the Secretary of Agriculture as the first moment of August 1, 1933. The rate of tax prescribed is 4.2 cents per pound on the net quantity of the lint cotton, that is, cotton which has been ginned, at the time it is put into processing or manufacture. In determining the net weight the tare, or weight of latches, ties and the jute or other bagging, should be deducted from the gross weight of the bale. All cotton in process, at the moment the tax takes effect, including yarn, fabric, thread, twines, roving, sliver, laps and all other forms, will be taxed at the rate of 4.4184 cents per pound.

The cotton content of any processed product of which cotton is the component of chief value which is held for sale or other disposition on the effective date whether in the hands of processor, manufacturer, jobber or wholesaler, will be taxed at the rate of 4.4184 cents per pound. The same rate of tax will apply with respect to separate retail stocks of cotton products held by retail dealer on the effective date providing such products are not sold or disposed of within thirty days after the effective date.

County Road Receives Layer Crushed Stone

Work of the county road from Bleivins Cross Roads to Barrett, a distance of six miles, was completed Tuesday. A layer of crushed stone was placed on the old road bed. Funds for the project were secured by the County Relief Office, and for two months ten men have had employment. Rocks for the project were hauled to the road by public-spirited citizens of the communities served by the road.