

THE ALLEGHANY TIMES

DEVOTED TO THE CIVIC, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF ALLEGHANY AND BORDERING COUNTIES

ALLEGHANY COUNTY, SPARTA, N. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1933

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"It is the people of the United States who have got to put it across and make it stick and they are doing it."
—General Johnson.

FORMER CITIZEN WRITES LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS TO MEET IN CONVENTION AT STATE COLLEGE

Senate Chambers
December 9, 1933

TO THE Editor of the Alleghany Times
I have been thinking for a long time that I would write a few lines to your paper for publication through its columns, so many friends might know something of my whereabouts. I am living in the town of St. John, Washington, where we have resided for a number of years past. At present I am the Mayor of the town and previously served as one of the judges.

Last fall I was named as a state senator from the sixth district, which is comprised of Whitman county. A county that raises more wheat than any one county in the U. S., more than 11,000,000 bushels annually. Whitman county is often called the "bread basket of the world." We are fifth wealthiest of the counties of the state of Washington. This county also has twice as much farm land as the 13 counties on the west side of the state. This county is the home of the Washington State college, one of the best educational institutions in the Northwest. We have 2700 miles of county road in the county much of which is highly improved. We are sixty miles south of Spokane to Colfax, the county seat, with a good paved road to Spokane.

As I sat and listened to the returns from the repeal vote for the 18th amendment, I was very much pleased to know that my home state was the first to register a protest vote against the repeal of this amendment. I am fully convinced that the repeal is one of the mistakes of to-day, and one that the American people will sooner or later regret. I have been one of the dry leaders of Southwest Washington for many years. There has not been a fight against the liquor business that I have not been a part of for the last twenty-five years. But in the last election here I put in a lot of work in four counties here and carried three of them dry and the only ones in the state to vote dry. May I take this method of congratulating the citizenship of the old North State on its vote for decency and sobriety. I am mostly interested in the coming generations, as it has been my very great pleasure for the last twenty-five years to have been connected with the leadership of young people's organizations as Boy Scout Master, Sunday School Superintendent and many other like organizations. Although I have passed the fifty age mark I feel quite young myself. At present I weigh more than ever before, and physically better than ever before, that fact I am very proud of and feel I should compliment myself on it.

The State of Washington is a very beautiful state, we have of course a varied climate. On the East side, we have a great deal of snow and some extremely cold weather, while on the West side of the mountains, we have a great deal of rain in the winter time, and the weather is not very cold.

At the present writing we are assembled in the State Capital at Olympia in a special extraordinary session of the legislature, called for the purpose of passing some legislation for the control of the liquor traffic. Since enough of the states of the United States have voted to repeal the 18th amendment, it has become necessary that we pass some kind of liquor control legislation at this time, and for that reason Governor Martin called the legislature in extraordinary session. I do not know how long we may be here, it is very hard to tell.

I would imagine that many improvements have been made in Alleghany County since my last visit, and that they will make considerable difference in the conditions of the county as a whole. One thing that I have noticed in some of the papers is that you have built some very fine highways leading through the state and counties that are very beneficial to the people as a whole. I am noted that the state has made some very good progress educationally,

CWA FUNDS AVAILABLE TO EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

A recent authorization of Federal Emergency Relief Administrator Harry L. Hopkins makes it possible for Federal Civil Works Administration funds to be used for school building repair work, such as painting, electrical wiring, paper hanging, masonry, repair of school furniture, construction of school playgrounds and equipment and modernization of sanitary facilities.

The approval of state departments of education of these funds is not necessary, it is pointed out by George F. Zook, U. S. Commissioner of Education. They may be had for repair materials as well as for wages and school salaries. Any school or college under public auspices may share in this Civil Works program he declares.

Furthermore, emergency educational programs are now considered specialized work projects, and the recently adopted rulings governing the emergency educational program specify that daily or hourly wages of teachers should equal that customarily paid in a community for similar work. The weekly wage for teaching will be sufficient to permit a reasonable standard, it was stated.

Educational projects for which federal funds have been authorized include: (1) rural elementary schools; (2) classes for adult illiterates; (3) vocational education; (4) vocational rehabilitation; (5) general adult education; and (6) nursery schools, all to be under the control of the public school system.

Cooperation of school authorities throughout the United States in helping to put unemployed men and women to work is especially urged.

JOHN WILEY BLEVINS PASSES AT HIS HOME NEAR ENNICE

John Wiley Blevins, well-known and influential business man of Alleghany county, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Mack Wagoner, at Ennice, Dec. 15. The deceased, who had been a merchant at Ennice for the past 15 years, was 81 years old.

Funeral services were held at Crab Creek church Monday at 11:00 A. M. with Elder J. D. Vass, of Galax, in charge. A large crowd of friends and relatives and many floral tributes bespoke the esteem of the community for the deceased.

The pall-bearers were as follows: Messrs Emerson Black, Boyd Higgins, Fred Handy, Dillard Edwards, James Wagoner, and J. H. Wagoner.

The following were flower girls: Misses Betty Handy, Opal Blevins, Nannie Higgins, Fay Wagoner, Elso Wagoner, and Mrs. Alma Black.

The deceased is survived by two sons, W. Vance Blevins and Walter Blevins, both of Sparta, and by three daughters, Mrs. I. N. Higgins, of Bel Air, Maryland, Mrs. G. A. Holder, of Galax, Va., and Mrs. Mack Wagoner of Ennice.

Reino-Sturdivant, of Sparta, had charge of the details of the funeral.

CARR and HIGGINS SLATED TO BE DISTRICT ATTORNEYS

Raleigh, N. C.—Although Senator Josiah Bailey has made no announcement concerning Federal patronage at his disposal except to say that he will file his recommendations next week, politicians in close touch with the situation are confident that the present slate is J. O. Carr of Washington, for district attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina, and Carlisle W. Higgins, of Sparta, for district attorney for the Middle District of North Carolina.

No surprise will attach to the Higgins appointment, as Mr. Higgins, who is solicitor of the Eleventh Judicial District, has been considered the likely choice for months.

SALES TAX BRINGS RELIEF TO PROPERTY OWNERS IN ALLEGHANY

Dear Mr. Editor:

We take pleasure in furnishing you herewith information taken from our records, showing the amount of sales taxes collected in North Carolina for the months of July, August and September which has been tabulated for each county in the State.

We take pleasure also in enclosing herewith tabulation showing property tax reductions afforded by (1) removal of 15 cent levy for schools, (2) Elimination of levies for current expense for districts county-wide and special charter schools.

From these tabulations you will observe that we have the following results in your county:

SALES TAXES COLLECTED:	
July	\$265.71
August	\$344.71
September	\$317.63
Property Tax Relief Afforded As follows:	
District levies, current expense—\$1,523.00	
Special charter, current expense—15 cent county-wide levy	\$7,818.00
Current expense for six-months school	\$1,222.00
Total	\$10,563.00

Figures given above represent the actual reductions in dollar levies which were relieved in your county by reasons of the fact that the State of North Carolina took over the operation of the entire eight-months school term. In taking over our schools, the State reduced the cost of operation in the schools which amounted in 1932 to approximately \$23,000,000.00 to approximately \$16,000,000.00 for 1933, thereby resulting in a saving to the taxpayers of the State of approximately \$7,000,000.00 in operating cost. The property tax relief afforded for the entire State amounted to \$11,476,540.00 as shown by the above tabulations.

Sales taxes collected in your county for the first three months are below the average collections for the entire year as our collections are being improved from month to month. But, after allowing for the reasonable increase in the sales tax collections in your county which are anticipated, it will be observed that the property owners in your county are relieved of property taxes in the considerable amount shown and that the sales tax collections in your county will be far less than the property tax relief afforded.

The sales tax payments are made by all of the people in the county rather than those who happen to be owners of property.

If the relief afforded property taxpayers in your county is not fully effected in the actual levies made in your county for 1933 taxes, it would not be because the relief was not afforded by 1933 legislation, it would be on account of levies being made for purposes which were not included in the levy of 1932 or for increases in debt service requirements or relief work. In saying this, we are not criticizing any local authorities as situations have arisen in some counties on account of debt service requirements, relief purposes, etc., for which local authorities have found that they must make levies for county purposes other than schools or in consideration of relief conditions in their county.

In 1932 property owners in the State were assessed \$11,476,640.00 for school operating cost. This is now entirely eliminated. In 1932 the State was required to contribute approximately \$12,000,000.00 added to above amount for school operating purposes. In doing this, in a two year period, the State incurred a deficit of over \$15,000,000.00.

By enactment of the sales tax and economies and consolidations in operation of schools, the State is on a sound financial basis, its revenue now exceeding its expenditures and property has been entirely relieved of all operating cost of schools.

As this information is doubtless of interest to all of your people, we will be pleased if you can publish this statement in your paper.

Very truly yours
A. J. Maxwell
Commissioner of Revenue
Harry McMullan,
Director Sales Tax Division

CWA TURNS THUMB DOWN ON REQUEST FOR FUNDS TO ERECT SCHOOL BUILDING AT LAUREL SPRINGS

On last first Monday the Board of Education decided to request the Civil Works Administration for sufficient funds to erect a new schoolhouse at Laurel Springs. Word was received from Raleigh this week that the CWA would not participate in the erection of a new school house, but that some funds are available for repairs to old buildings. As a result of the CWA decision the people of Cranberry Township will not get a new school house unless some other plan is found for procuring funds for its erection.

Applications for gymnasiums at Sparta and Piney Creek schools are still pending before the CWA at Raleigh, but there is a strong probability that the applications will receive favorable consideration at an early date.

SINGLE TAX FOR LIQUOR POSSIBLE Doughton Says Roosevelt Inclined to Let Uncle Sam Do All Collecting

Washington, Dec. 15.—President Roosevelt was described by Chairman Doughton, of the Ways and Means Committee, as inclined toward a single federal collection of liquor taxes, with allocation of the funds to the states.

Doughton, after the joint hearings of the Ways and Means and Senate finance committee on liquor legislation had been completed told reporters that he was "under the impression that the President favors the plan of having the federal government levy a single gallonage tax if the plan is workable."

The Ways and Means chairman said he also was inclined toward the single federal collection.

The question of who should collect the tax and how much featured the four days of committee hearings.

The amount of the tax to be levied, evidence before the committee indicated, would depend on the method of collection. Witnesses told the committee that a low federal levy might be possible if agreements were reached with states on the size of their liquor taxes.

Some members said that if the federal government alone collected the tax, the figure might be substantially above the \$1.75 to \$2 a gallon distilled spirits tax reported to be favored by many of the committeemen. This, however, would be offset by the fact that state levies would not be placed or would be kept as a minimum.

The treasury department has not waited for the fixing of a liquor tax to prepare for its collection of revenue. Officials of the department said today that already twenty million liquor tax stamps had been printed in anticipation of the levy on legal liquor sales.

The federal government, unless congress is setting up the new tax levy changes the system, proposes to continue its establishment plan for getting the tax money. The stamps will be affixed—and paid for—at the point of origin, the distilleries, the rectifying plants, the bottling concerns and, in case of imported liquor, at the port of entry.

Officials said repeal would not bring back the picturesque figure of the revenue agent who swooped down on mountain moonshine stills in the old pre-prohibition days. The executive order transferring one function of the treasury department to the department of justice precludes the reappearance of any large number of revenue agents.

The tracing down and arrest of moonshiners from now on will be up to justice department agents. The treasury, it was explained, would concern itself with collecting the taxes.

Attorney General Cummings said today the justice department was considering the question of appealing from a North Carolina District Court decision the prohibition cases could not be prosecuted in view of the repealer. The department already has asked the Circuit Court at Ohio to give an opinion on the question.

TOWN AUTO LICENSE TAGS NOW ON SALE

The tax books for the town of Sparta have been turned over to R. D. Gentry, who will have charge of the collections. According to statement of Mayor Crouse town taxes are past due and should be paid as early as possible. This is the first time in seven years that the town has levied any taxes, but it was found necessary to make a small levy this year to pay off some obligations, chiefly lights, and to make a small investment in fire-fighting equipment.

Town license tags for cars are now on sale at a dollar each and may be obtained from R. D. Gentry.

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NOTICE

The Alleghany Times Office will be closed from today until January 1, in order that the Editor and family may spend the Christmas holidays with relatives and friends.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

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Merry Christmas!

SUCH is the old, old greeting that is ever new which will soon be heard on every side in this community. It is the greeting between individuals, between friends and business associates; it is the greeting which we will hear frequently in our clubs and societies and civic organizations, in our churches and our schools.

* * *

All these institutions have a definite place in our community life and as such we give them our loyalty and our support. But not everyone can belong to all of them. So there may be some of us who will not have the feeling of sharing in the Christmas greeting which comes from them.

* * *

But there is one institution whose interests are the interests of the whole community, of every man and woman and child in it, an institution which is devoted to serving the interests of all. That is the Home Town Newspaper.

* * *

A welcome visitor into the homes of this community; a messenger bearing news of community interest; a chronicler of the joys and sorrows and of the trials and triumphs of its people; a mirror held up to reflect the daily life of the community; the loom in which is woven into one harmonious pattern the varied threads of community activity. . . all these are the Home Town Newspaper.

* * *

So, through what more appropriate medium than the Home Town Newspaper should there come a greeting to all the people of our community at this time of the year? We believe there is none more appropriate and we are happy to have the privilege of saying to you all: "A Merry Christmas."

The Publisher

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MERRY CHRISTMAS

ally, another thing in my judgement that is very beneficial for the state as a whole. I feel that an education is one thing that depressions like this will not take away from us, and after it is all over we will still have that left as a reserve.

To my many friends in that part of North Carolina, I will close by saying that I wish you all the very best that may come to you, and that some day sooner or later I hope to spend my vacation in this section of the state.

Yours very sincerely,
George W. Roup

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Various North Carolina police departments are planning exhibits.

Among those who will assist, in the instruction are: Judge W. A. Devin, president; Judge M. V. Barnhill, and Judge Michael Schenck, vice president of the Judicial Officers Division of the Institute of Government, Judge Johnson J. Hayes, U. S. District Court; Mr. A. A. F. Seawell, Assistant Attorney General; Solicitor Clawson Williams, president, Solicitor J. Will Pless, Jr., and Solicitor Donald Gilliam, vice-president, of the Prosecuting Attorney Division of the Institute of Government; H. H. Cleff and E. C. Schuler, U. S. Division of Investigation, Department of Justice; Washington, D. C.; Dr. Wilmer Sutor; U. S. Bureau of Standards, Washington, D. C.

In addition to these a number of police officers, sheriffs and members of the State Highway Patrol, and members of the bench and bar will participate in the discussions.

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