

The Clinton Chronicle

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CLINTON, S. C., THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 1943

Another Labor Trouble

Aside from the labor unions, one trouble with the labor situation is that so many people are not willing to work for what they are worth.

The World and Work

The world is not indebted to us merely because we were born here. The world, therefore, does not owe us a living unless we get out and earn it.

Those who get a living otherwise are either thieves or parasites, if there is work they can get and refuse to do because of government hand-outs which long ago should have ended. With the whole country confronted with a serious scarcity of labor in all fields of activity, there is no plausible excuse now for an unemployment agency.

Vicious Racketeering

The National Labor Relations act as it now reads and is administered by the New Dealers, permits and encourages racketeering of a most vicious and unAmerican character. The act, by means of force and violence, intimidates both employees and employers. It makes exploitation possible by it many good American citizens are no longer permitted to engage in free enterprise either by use of their labor or capital.

The present law should be abolished or drastically amended. In effect, it sets up labor-bosses or strike-masters or racketeers who are parasites on the earnings of the workers and an effective force in regulating the freedom and liberty of American citizens.

Something must be done about this law for employees as well as employers if freedom of opportunity and liberty for the individual survive in this nation.

Muffins Or Meat

Undoubtedly there will soon be a nation-wide campaign put on to persuade meat-loving Americans to eat corn products in preference to meat. On the surface, the arguments for it are difficult to debate.

What it would mean was explained by W. I. Myers, former governor of the Farm Credit administration, when he said:

"In converting seven pounds of corn into one pound of pork, about 84 per cent of the energy is lost. The seven pounds of corn would make 238 corn muffins."

It seems logical that 238 corn muffins would keep the human machine going longer than would one pound of pork.

But there is something rather frightening about the thought of our eating animal feed instead of feeding it to animals and then eating them. Surely Mr. Myers doesn't mean to have us eliminate meat entirely, but merely suggests this plan as a way of taking care of the present meat shortage and as a sound answer to the problem of feeding hundreds of millions of people in foreign lands.

But if this plan got rolling it might go too far. We have no objection to corn muffins on the side, but the very thought of sitting down to a dinner of corn muffins makes us ready to fight for the preservation of good, juicy, thick steaks, now almost a thing of the past.

Bewilderment

In his last radio talk, the President said:

"I confess that I myself am sometimes bewildered by conflicting statements that I see in the press. One day I read an 'authoritative' statement that we shall win the war this year, 1943—and the next day comes another statement equally 'authoritative' that the war will still be going on in 1949."

The President could have given plenty of additional examples of this confusion. What do we see in Washington? Bungling, wrangling, indecision, contradictions and rows that have reached such tension that the chief executive recently was forced to "cut the wings" of two of his big New Deal aces. How do the people know what to believe?

But it should be remembered that the newspaper reporters do not make up these conflicting statements. They merely do an honest reporting job of telling what those in power in Washington have to say. It is discouraging to the press to have to report one day that gasoline rationing will be relaxed, and the next day that it will be tightened. Or that this war is to be fought by 18 year old lads aided by fathers with children, the latter report to be denied the next day with the information that married men with children will never be called for service. There are many other statements just as conflicting. But it is the duty of the press to publish both reports if both come from men who are supposed to be in authority.

It is obvious, therefore, that confu-

sion in newspaper headlines will end on the same day that Washington officials end their disagreements and reach an accord on problems which are of interest to the public. If the people were given the truth there would not be so much bewilderment.

It Doesn't Make Sense

The American people are pretty generally agreed that the OPA has, and is still doing a poor job. It marches one day up the hill with a new price order or restrictions, and marches right back down the next day with a granted increase to some group or organization.

This agency—Office of Price Administration—was successful recently in having railroad rates reduced and was thereby able to announce a "roll back" of five cents a ton on coal, a saving of possibly fifty cents a year for the average family.

This was followed by considering a wage increase of eight cents an hour for 1,100,000 non-operating railroad employees, which amounts to over \$200,000,000 a year. Coal miners are to receive a pay increase which will add more millions to the cost of producing coal. And they are not through yet with their demands. And so the story goes.

The advocates for these increases tell how meritorious they are. Granting that is true, for the sake of argument, they add to the cost of production while the government tells us daily it is trying to "roll back" prices and "hold the line." It is impossible to "roll back" retail prices while the cost of production rolls merrily upward. Anyone in high authority even with a small amount of intelligence ought to understand this. Subsidy proposals to offset the difference between production costs and "rolled back" retail prices would make the people pay through the nose in taxes.

The inevitable result is that the axe of confusion has fallen on the local merchant and farmer, and thousands of them have gone out of business, to the detriment of the consumer. Thousands of others may be expected to fold up and quit.

We all must admit that price control is a difficult, complicated undertaking, but it is becoming more complicated by trying to freeze retail prices while allowing production costs to continually climb higher and higher. It doesn't make sense, but confusion.

NOBODY'S BUSINESS

By GEE MCGEE

Biography of Mr. Art Square

Mr. art square has lived all of his life, that is—up to now, in the vicinity of flat rock, but he says his ancestors migrated from n. c., and separated and remained so thereafter.

Mr. square's chief delight is finding fault with somebody or his government or his church or his preacher, according to him, nobody's aint right, he cusses the new deal off and on, and never thanks them for his old-age pension.

Mr. square is not willing to give the "new deal" credit for saving the farmers, the banks, the cotton mills, and nearly everybody else from bankruptcy, but he blames it for strikes, boll weevils, the race question and the c. i. o.

Mr. square fell out with our pasture, rev will waite, the first time he heard him preach. rev. waite took up a collection (as usual at his services) and Mr. square did not like it because he kept his eye right on him till the plate passed him and forced him to drop in 25c, as he had no small change.

Mr. square was borned a dimmercrat, but is a republican at present. he has belonged to 3 different denominations. he do not believe in crop control nor do he like the ration business. he says no man has a right to tell him what he can't eat or how fast and fur he can drive his car.

except for the above little things, Mr. square is a fairly good citizen. he hates taxes and anything that smells like a drive for monney ansoforth. he do not lend or borrow, except he borries a few chaws of tobacco at ever opportunity. he votes against ever good move; he says by voting "against," he's nearly always right.

Biography of Miss Sallie Veeve Smith miss sallie veeve smith is a native of our country but was not borned in the flat rock precinct ansoforth. her father was a farmer and her mother was a school teacher and she inhaled her desire to teach scholl from her and that is what she aspired to do till she taken up yr. in the flat rock scholl about 17 yr. ago. (she is

a sister to miss jennie veeve, our scholl principle.)

miss sallie veeve smith spent 2 years in college and when she was getting reddy to matriculate for the third seem-ester, her poor grand-paw, who had been keeping up her family, passed on into the sweet beyond and when they got through settling up what he owed, he still owed 450\$, so she remained at home and went to summer scholl the next year.

she started out with a third grade certificate, then she got a secont grade certificate, and finally at last, after burning a right smart of the mid-night kerosene, she taken a examination at the county seat and got a first grade certificate. she stands high in her profession as well as in the minds of her students and their parents ansoforth.

miss sallie veeve has never benn married, but has come pretty close to doing so twice. the first time, her bride-groom failed to show up, the secont time was different: she failed to show up. she had ketchted up with him as being a man who enjoyed looking upon the bottle when it was red, and she did not feel like trying to keep up a man and reform him at the same time.

miss smith is a decided brunette, and plays the organ occasionally at rehober church. she has a verry white complexion and sings for funerals and weddings. she do not smoke, but chews gum when she gets worried. she had freckles up to 1937; the stuff she used took them off, but left some "skin. off her nose. she is a wonderful old girl and everbody loves her with much relish in flat rock.

yores trullie,
mike lark, rtd.

TODAY... TOMORROW

By Don Robinson

TAXES — Nightmare

Some people seem to be harboring the pleasant illusion that all income tax problems are taken care of through the payment of that 20 per cent which is deducted from wages and salaries each week.

It would certainly simplify the work of our home bookkeeping departments if this were the case, but unfortunately, that 20 per cent deduction is just the beginning of a series of frightening financial dealings which each of us must have with Uncle Sam between now and next March 15.

To get our reports straight will even be a strain on those who always got A in arithmetic during their schooldays. For those who flunked arithmetic it might be easier for them to resign themselves to serving whatever jail sentence is required for the filing of an improper return.

But, if you refuse to give up without a struggle, you might like to continue reading this column which gives a quick peep at what the internal revenue department expects us to work out during the next eight months.

SEPTEMBER 15 — Reports

Until September 15 we can just coast along as if nothing had happened. But on that day we must file an estimate of what we think our taxes will be for the whole year of 1943.

I suppose blanks will be provided for that purpose. But whatever form is used for the estimate, we will have to report these facts to the government at that time.

a. Our estimate of what our 1943 tax should be. (If the income and credits are exactly the same as last year, the estimate will be the same as last year, plus 5 per cent for Victory tax).

b. A report on the total amount of tax we will have paid by the end of the year. This will include the amount of Victory tax paid up to the first of July (when deductions for Victory tax stopped), the payments which were made in 1943 on 1942 incomes, and the amount which will have been deducted from our pay, under the pay-as-you-go plan, by the end of the year.

c. An estimate of the difference between the amount owed and the amount paid.

If the estimated tax is greater than the amount which will have been paid by the end of the year, the tax-payer must then pay half of that difference in September and the other half in December.

If, after making a payment in September, your September estimate is found to be incorrect, a revised report and revised payment can be filed in December.

MARCH 15 — 1942, 1943, 1944

If some canny reader has followed this outline so far, we will then pass to March 15, 1944.

On March 15 another report on what your actual income was during 1943 must be filed. At that time, if this report shows your actual income was greater than the estimate filed in September, a tax on the difference must be paid.

Also, on March 15, you must file an estimate of what you expect your tax and deductions to be for 1944. If your estimate shows your tax will be greater than your deductions, you must begin on that day to make quarterly payments on the difference.

And that's not all. On March 15, 1944, if your tax for 1942 and 1943 was over \$50, you will be required to pay 12 1/2 per cent of your 1942 tax. Another 12 1/2 per cent will have to be paid in 1945 and then—be-

lieve it or not,—your payment on 1942 will be clear.

Oh, yes—there's another thing on March 15. If your income was higher in 1942 than in 1943, you must also pay a tax on the difference at that time.

That, briefly, is all there is to it. Of course, there are dozens of exceptions, special cases, etc., but if you get together with half a dozen good lawyers these can easily be worked out.

But there's no use worrying too much about it. By the end of the year there will probably be new taxes, new reports to be filed and new interpretations of the present law. It might be best to just send all your income to Washington and ask them politely if there is any change.

SENATOR GLASS SEEKS ADJOURNMENT OF POLITICS DURING WAR

Washington, Aug. 7.—Carter Glass, eighty-five-year-old Democratic senator from Virginia, and frequent critic of New Deal domestic policies, asked the American people today to "adjourn politics and proceed with the war."

In a formal statement which he said was issued in response to newspapermen's requests for his views on the war, the veteran legislator deplored what he called "name-calling, attempted political throat-cutting and disparagement" of President Roosevelt, and added:

"There are many honest differences of opinion about domestic policies of the administration and no one is asking anybody to forego them; but in view of the president's great achievements in the conduct of the war and foreign relations, from the trading of fifty over-age destroyers for air bases up to this very minute of victories in Sicily and Munda bay, it does seem to me that he has the right to expect and receive unified support."

"As one who has never hesitated or pulled his punches in his criticism of the president and his administration when I thought they were wrong," Glass continued, "I think I have the right to make a confession that I am one of those old-fashioned Americans who believe that politics should stop at the water's edge."

The Virginia senator, whom the president has referred to fondly as the "unreconstructed rebel," pleaded:

"Let us have pleas for economy, yes; for efficiency, yes; but let us have unity. As Senator Hatch, Democrat, New Mexico, so eloquently said recently: 'America united is America invincible.' Don't let it be America divided. Let us concentrate on the war and curtail its duration."

NOTICE

OF BUS TRANSPORTATION
Bids for the transportation of school children of Laurens county shall be opened in the office of County Superintendent of Education on Tuesday, August 17, at 3:30 p.m. The final date for acceptance of bids will be 12 o'clock noon, August 17th.

This notice shall not apply to districts owning their own buses, as trustees in such district will award contract.

Routes subject to bids are as follows:

Hurricane No. 15, to Clinton; Mountville No. 16—Mountville—
1. Lisbon to Mountville;
2. Rock to Mountville;
3. Old Mountville to Mountville;
4. Rock Bridge to Mountville.
Sullivan No. 17—Hickory Tavern—
1. Merna to Hickory Tavern;
2. Shiloh to Hickory Tavern;
Laurens No. 4, Bailey to Laurens City;
Mt. Gallagher to Ware Shoals;
Mt. Olive to Ware Shoals;
Lydia Route to Clinton;
Shady Grove to Goldville.
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—shortening it even a day saves lives, blood, tears and treasure."

At the outset, Glass said:

"There is one very noticeable thing about the war news that gives me real concern. In America the discussion of politics is understood, but it is not in the rest of the world."

"Name-calling, attempted political throat-cutting and disparagement of the president of the United States, is deplorable. In the United States, Franklin D. Roosevelt is head of a political party; true, but likewise, he is president of the United States and commander-in-chief of all its armed forces."

"The prestige of the American people, so vital in its dealings with other nations in this critical hour, should not be cheapened by petty partisan politics. The conventions are a year away. The election itself is fifteen months away."

"The tom-toms of the next presidential campaign ought not to be allowed to drown out the successful battle music from the war fronts. Let us adjourn politics and proceed with the war. At least, we might ask an armistice from the forces of contention and a diversion of their energies to the winning of the war."

"We are officially informed that through some unknown condition production of war material has fallen below estimates. Whether this is due to absenteeism or indifference, or over-confidence, I do not know, but if the recognized leading political minds of the country would stress more interest in the war, production would not slacken; the output would materially increase."

T' GAS COUPON VIOLATIONS ARE CHARGED TO 710

Columbia, August 7.—Chief OPA Enforcement Attorney Carlisle Roberts said today that a recent check showed 710 of 715 (more than 99 per cent) South Carolina service stations had violated regulations of the Office of Price Administration, mostly in connection with "T" coupons which expired July 1.

Roberts said many stations were found with sheets of eight coupons, each worth 40 gallons of gasoline. He said he believed that no motorist had bought that much gasoline at one time.

Hearings on the alleged violations will start August 16, Roberts said.

SAY, "I SAW IT IN THE CHRONICLE." THANK YOU.

Dr. Felder Smith
Dr. Duncan S. Felder
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Dr. Felder, Daily, 9 to 6
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