

ESTABLISHED 1844  
**The Press and Banner**  
 ABBEVILLE, S. C.

Wm. P. GREENE, Editor.

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FRIDAY, JULY 26, 1918.



**Buy Them And  
 Help Win The War  
 FOR SALE EVERYWHERE**

**UNEQUAL TAXES.**

The esteemed Tax Commission of South Carolina, manned by a crowd of politicians appointed by Governor Manning, is keeping up its record. Early in the year the command went out that all property must be returned at one hundred cents on the dollar, and when so returned its value was to be reduced to forty-two per cent. of the real value, and taxes were to be levied on this reduced valuation.

This paper which has opposed the present Tax Commission as an entirely useless body and a worthless adjunct to the state government, taking the commission at its word, took occasion to commend it for doing the one proper thing in South Carolina, namely: the equalization of taxes according to the value of the property assessed. Other newspapers denounced the order as a scheme to extort more taxes from the cities, towns and corporations, with a concealed purpose to relieve country property of its just burden.

It seems that these newspapers were wiser than we were. In the Abbeville school district, the tax assessors undertook to place a reasonable value on all property in the district, city and country property alike. No man in the country, so far, has appeared before this board and complained that his property was not worth the sum assessed against it. This board having put all property on the books on a hundred per cent. basis passed a resolution that if the property was to be reduced, all property was to be reduced on a per cent. basis in order that relatively all should be assessed alike.

But this will not go with the Tax Commission. The order has now been made to reduce the farm property in this school district from an average tax value of seventeen dollars per acre to eleven dollars per acre, with no corresponding order for city property. In other words the farm property in the Abbeville School district, which at forty-two per cent. of its real value stands at seventeen dollars per acre, is to be reduced to about two thirds of that amount, and is to be taxed at eleven dollars per acre, about thirty per cent. of its real value, while the city property in the school district is to remain at forty-two per cent. and continue to do in the future as it has done in the past—pay more than its just share of the taxes in Abbeville county.

Not only do we pay one-fourth of all the taxes in the county, but under the law we get no direct benefit from a great part of the taxes which we pay. The million and a half dollars worth of property on which we pay five or six mills in order to work the roads of Abbeville county and keep up the notorious chain gang counts for nothing when the work is being done. All the money is spent outside of the city of Abbeville and we must pay another eleven mills in this city, about four or five mills of which is used in work-

ing our streets.

We pay into the school funds of the county a three mills constitutional tax for the support of the schools, and of the amount paid by this city, under the law as enacted by the legislature, about one mill of our money is taken to run schools in country districts, while we are forced to levy eight mills special taxes in this district to support our schools, to which access must be given to the pupils of country districts free of tuition, or else we cannot share in the state high school appropriation after helping pay it.

Of course the Tax Commission of South Carolina is not responsible for the distribution of the taxes in the state. But its members should know what we say is true in Abbeville and every other town of like size. And knowing this the members of that commission should make no order which imposes other hardships on those communities which are already bearing more than their burdens of the public expense of running the government. The Tax Commission should not in violation of the oath which they have taken, make an order which can have no other effect than to impose on one community for the benefit of other: a burden greater than the burden imposed in other communities.

The truth of the business is we shall have no relief until the present Tax Commission is abolished. Mr. Cooper advocates the only proper solution of the tax question in this state. That solution is to appoint a commission each four years to apportion the public expenses between the several counties on a percentage basis, and let every county make its own levy for the purpose of raising the necessary amount of money.

And in the name of common justice and fair dealing let the commission consist of business men and not professional politicians.

**SON BILL ECONOMIZES.**

Our son Bill has not been able to get the usual number of spoonfuls of sugar in his coffee each morning for sometime, and has been told so often that we must economize on account of the war until he has economy on the brain. Wednesday afternoon he went around the bend with us, holding his Scotch Collie in his lap, and as he rode he told us this,—"I economized today on peanuts." When asked how he accomplished this he said,—"I had a nickel's worth and saw Jack Bradley coming and put them in my pocket."

**IN LONG CANE.**

During the month of June in Long Cane township there were 11 births, 3 whites and 8 colored, and 4 deaths, 1 white and 3 colored.

E. R. Miller, Reg.

**WAR SAVINGS STAMPS NON-TAXABLE.**

When preparing for the issuing of Thrift Stamps and War Savings Certificates the national administration very wisely decided that they should not be subject to any taxes, federal, state or local. In this respect they are entirely unique, being free when almost everything else is subject to impost. As the amount that an individual may hold is limited to \$1,000, this concession does not deal unjustly toward other security holders.

It is simply an inducement to the small investor to make an unusual effort in his own and his country's behalf by depositing as much of his surplus with the government as possible. Those who buy these little bonds—and all should do it—should understand in advance of the coming days of taxation return in April that whatever of their earned savings or surplus derived from economies is converted into Thrift Stamps or War Savings Certificates need not be recorded upon the assessor's blank. As the interest and principal are payable in 1923, neither is it necessary to make mention of the investments in the return to the income tax collector.

They are, as stated, absolutely free and, as they also pay 4 per cent compound interest, are the best securities that one can buy in these troubled times.

Every time you buy a War Savings Stamp you help weaken the Hindenburg line.

**FARMERS MAY GRIND FULL YEAR'S SUPPLY**

Food Administration Rules Governing Grinding of Home-Grown Wheat Modified—Flour May Be Sold Under Certain Conditions.

Columbia.—Under modified regulations of the Food Administration farmers are now permitted to grind a full year's supply of flour from home-grown wheat. Millers throughout South Carolina have been authorized by the Food Administration to grind, from wheat made by farmers, enough flour to supply their families and their tenants for 12 months. This amount must, however, be based upon a calculation of 12 pounds per month per person.

Although using flour ground from home-grown wheat, farmers are expected by the Food Administration to nevertheless observe strictly the fifty-fifty rule and to use flour substitutes, pound for pound, with the flour they have ground. The fact that they have produced their own wheat does not release them from this obligation. They are also expected to see to it that their tenants, furnished by them, use flour substitutes on the fifty-fifty basis.

Farmers who grow wheat may sell flour to their neighbors who perhaps have not, but in such cases they will be required, under the rules of the Food Administration, to sell an equal amount of flour substitutes, the same as a merchant, or take miller's certificates from the purchaser showing that the purchaser has had flour substitutes ground to cover the flour bought, pound for pound. Farmers may sell flour, from their wheat, to merchants, but when merchants resell this flour it must be sold, pound for pound, with flour substitutes, to the persons who buy it.

These regulations apply to threshermen as well as to farmers.

**LICENSES ARE REQUIRED TO DEAL IN POULTRY**

Columbia.—Country or cross-road storekeepers who buy eggs and sometimes poultry from the farmers, for selling again, are required, under the proclamation of President Wilson of May 14th, to obtain licenses from the Food Administration. The fact that most country stores are in the retail business on a very small scale does not alter the case, but as a rule these storekeepers have not considered themselves liable. The President's proclamation required the licensing of all those engaged in certain lines of business, including "operators of poultry and egg packing plants not already licensed under the United States Food Administration." Under this classification, anyone who sells poultry or eggs in any way than at retail to the consumer, regardless of the amount of business done, must be licensed. In order to comply with the law all country stores buying eggs and poultry from farmers must fill out blanks obtained from the United States Food Administration, and have licenses issued to them.

**WHY WE MUST SAVE FOOD**

The United States the Last Reservoir of Men, of Ships and of Food to Save World Civilization.

By Herbert Hoover.

"If you could stand in the middle of Europe today and survey the land to its borders, you would discover its whole population of 400,000,000 human beings short of food. Millions of people in Poland, Finland, Serbia, Armenia and Russia are dying of starvation and other millions are suffering from too little food. Our Allies and the neutrals are living on the barest margins that will support life and strength.

"This, the most appalling and dreadful thing that has come to humanity since the dawn of civilization, is to me the outstanding creation of German militarism. The Germans themselves are not the worst sufferers. They are extorting at the cannon's mouth the harvests and cattle of the people they have overrun, leaving them in desolation. If the war were to cease tomorrow, the toll of actual dread from starvation and its attendant diseases within the German lines would double or treble the 5,000,000 or 6,000,000 of men who have been actually killed by Germany and her allies in arms. The 10,000,000 people in occupied Belgium and Northern France would have died of starvation had it not been for us and the Allies.

"We must build our food resources to stand ready for any demands upon us by the Allies. It is of no purpose to us to send millions of our best to France if we fail to maintain strength of their men, women and children on our lines of communication. The United States is the last reservoir of men, the last reservoir of ships, the last reservoir of munitions and the last reservoir of food upon which the Allied world must depend if Germany is to be defeated and if we are to be free men."

**DRY GOODS STORE**

This dry goods store is an **ECONOMY STORE.**

It is more so now than ever before.

Staples have always been our strong point; that is, medium priced goods that every family uses; no extremely high priced goods—no cheap trash.

Having concentrated our efforts in this store on certain lines, you might say **SPECIALIZED**, we have placed ourselves in position where we can be of service to you now.

*It will pay any lady, who does sewing at home, to get acquainted with this store.*

**The Rosenberg Mercantile Co.**  
**Department Stores**  
**ABBEVILLE, S. C.**

**FRENCH OFFICER PLEASÉS ABBEVILLE AUDIENCE**

(Continued from Page One.)

been without the blessed British fleet?", the speaker asked amidst great applause. It fills the French heart with joy to be fighting side by side with England. At the Marne, Britain wrote with us one of the most glorious pages of her history, she who had been writing most of the pages of her military history against us, the French. Nor must unofficial American aid be overlooked. Many lady nurses and men in the foreign legion aided in the winning of the great battle.

It was General Foch, who was in immediate command at the Marne and he is the most epical figure in the war (applause). "My left wing is broken," he wrote, "and my right wing is broken; but with my center, I shall attack." He did. And he routed the Prussian Guards, pride of the German army. If Foch could do that, if he could save the channel ports immediately after with only 12,000 Fusiliers, what can he not do with all the allied armies under him?

**French Bull-dogism.**

For a long time, the world has lacked faith in the French ability to hold pugnaciously. It was admitted that the Frenchman was brave and spirited. But it was thought that he soon lost courage and gave up; that "bull-dogism" was an Anglo-Saxon monopoly. This representation of the Frenchman is a great injustice to him. He has always had a good share of the bull-dog in him. After fighting throughout the long Hundred Years War, an up-hill fight, "the English bull-dogs were mightily glad to get home, but many of them were not allowed to." It is true that France then had the inspiration of the saintly Joan of Arc. But now she has the inspiration of all the saintly women of France and also of all the saintly women of all the allies. (great applause.)

In fact, this is merely a part of the insidious German propaganda started years before the war. The worst phase has been the creation of a conception of "poor bled white

France." The Germans say, "Poor France! We hate England. But we love France and hate to see her led astray and commit suicide. Poor France! She is bled white and can't fight long." Lieutenant Dewierzicki gave the lie to this and proved it by figures. One set of statistics alone is sufficient to illustrate this. Of the 470 miles of French front, the United States holds 38 miles, the Belgians hold 16 miles, the British hold the 120 miles protecting the channel ports, and France—the so-called "bled white" nation—holds the remaining two-thirds, or three hundred odd miles.

One other kind of German propaganda is now patent, he said. It is the attempt to make America believe that she is protecting France as an act of gratitude for France's aid during the revolution and doing it for this reason alone. No, the Samies over there are protecting the United States first and foremost! American enthusiasm must not be allowed to cool by the contrary conception.

After the address, the chorus sang "The Star Spangled Banner." It had been hoped that Lieutenant DeWierzicki would remain in Abbeville over night and a reception at the home of Mrs. Greene had been arranged. However, the lieutenant had to return to Greenwood immediately.

**HOME AGAIN.**

Mrs. Mims is in Abbeville for the remainder of the summer with her daughter, Mrs. Fred Cason. Mrs. Mims has been visiting her daughters in Columbia and Leesville, but her heart naturally turns to Abbeville.

She stood the trip up here well indeed, and despite her eighty-nine years she is in excellent health and takes a vivid interest in the affairs of the world and in the pleasure of youth.

**GO "OVER THE TOP"**

with Empey and the American Sammies

In Vitagraph's Marvelous Photo Play

**"OVER THE TOP"**

Opera House, Abbeville, Friday Aug. 9

MATINEE, 4:00 P. M. NIGHT, 9:00 P. M.

SPECIAL MUSIC

ADMISSION:

Matinee—Children, 28c; Adults, 55c.

—Night—Orchestra, 55c; Balcony, 45c.

RESERVED SEAT SALE BEGINS AUG. 1st. GET YOUR SEATS EARLY AND AVOID THE RUSH.