

THE BARNWELL PEOPLE

"Just Like a Member of the Family"

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DEMANDS REDUCTION OF ENORMOUS TAX BURDEN

News and Courier Says Taxes Must Come Down Next Year.

The following editorial from Monday's issue of the News and Courier will receive the whole-hearted second of every taxpayer in Barnwell County:

South Carolina taxpayers will welcome the news that the Joint Legislative Committee on Economy and Consolidation will urge the General Assembly which meets in January to reduce the State tax levy for 1922 by at least a third. Sensible men must know that relief for the taxpayers this winter is imperative.

In the past four or five years taxes in South Carolina have been doubled and trebled and quadrupled. That was as it should have been. South Carolina as a whole has never been so prosperous as from the fall of 1917 through the spring and summer of 1920. The money value of the State's cotton crop rose from something like one hundred million dollars to well past a quarter of a billion dollars a year. All other agricultural products went up in proportion. Everybody had money. The cotton mills hummed night and day and got fancy prices for their products. The people who a few years before had groaned under appropriations of \$2,000,000 or less for State purposes could pay nearly \$30,000,000 to the Federal Government and still cheerfully face big increases in State taxes, city taxes and county taxes.

During this happy period the State committed itself to many improvements which were joyfully welcomed and to a most liberal support of institutions which abundantly deserved all they received and more. It is a thousand pities that our resources do not permit a continuation of this generous program which was fast making for a better commonwealth and a finer citizenship. But with the swift and irrevocable decline in the price of cotton which set in during the late summer of 1920 it became evident to all who believe in facing facts and who look ahead, that the taxpayers could not provide the funds to maintain the pace which had been set. The Legislature and all other tax appropriating bodies, city and county, were warned of this fact last winter but they chose, most of them, to disregard the warning. They dare not disregard it again this winter.

There are counties of South Carolina which are still more prosperous than they ever were in the pre-war period. This is true of counties like Anderson, Greenville, Spartanburg, Cherokee and York, and several others where the cotton yield this year has been approximately at large as at any time in the past and where there is a very considerable industrial development which has probably suffered less from the general depression than any other industry in America. These counties are not as flush as they were in 1919 and the first part of 1920 but nevertheless they are in excellent shape. In a good part of South Carolina the people have been harder hit than in any previous year since the close of the Civil War.

This is the plain truth. It is so disagreeable that nobody likes to dwell on it but the Legislature must face it in making its appropriations this winter and so must the cities and the counties in making their appropriations. The money appropriated by the General Assembly for State purposes is only a small part of the burden which taxpayers have to bear.

It is the plan of the Joint Legislative Committee on Economy and Consolidation to reduce the State tax levy from twelve mills to eight mills and to raise part of the money, which will be needed for State institutions by levies which will fall not on property but on those who now escape wholly or in part their fair share of the tax burden. This is as it should be but it ought to be clearly understood that no shifting of the tax burden will meet the present situation. That can be accomplished in one way only and that is by cutting down all appropriations to the irreducible minimum.

Christmas Seals are the means of stamping out the dreadful plague of Tuberculosis—buy seals and bonds and help the suffering.

Advertise in THE PEOPLE.

CONSTRUCTION WORK PROGRESSING NICELY

Installation of Sewer Pipes and Water Mains About Completed.

The work of installing Barnwell's new sewerage system and the extension of the water mains is fast nearing completion and the contractors are now busy doing the necessary preparatory work for paving around "The Circle." The concrete sidewalk curbs have been almost finished and the unsightly iron fence has been torn down to make way for a concrete coping. As soon as this work is completed the roadbed will be graded for the paving. Considerable excavating will have to be done to provide proper drainage, as the surface of the new street will be some 18 inches below the present level in front of The People office.

Excellent progress is also being made by the contractor on the Kline-Barnwell road, and the work thus far gives promise of one of the best stretches of sand-clay road to be found in this section of the State. The work is being done by the same contractor that built part of the highway between Columbia and Aiken, which has been highly complimented by everyone who has ridden over it.

The county is now advertising for bids for the construction of the road connecting Elko with the Bamberg County line. The large amount of construction work being done at this time comes as a God-send to many jobless men.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE AT ROSEMARY CHURCH

Said to Have Been the First of Its Kind Ever Held There.

An announcement by the Woman's Missionary union that there would be a Thanksgiving service at Rosemary came like a clap of thunder from a cloudless sky, for the oldest members of the church say that they do not remember a Thanksgiving service ever held at old Rosemary, so having this one goes to show that the people have turned over a new leaf, even if it is not yet New Year. Promptly at 11 o'clock the pastor, the Rev. D. W. Heckl, ascended to the platform and stepped behind the sacred altar. After having sung the Doxology the service was on with a chain of prayer opened by W. R. Bell, followed by F. P. Lee and closed by the pastor. After singing a hymn the pastor read the 103rd Psalm. He took for his text the first verse of the 106th Psalm: "Praise ye the Lord. O give thanks unto the Lord; for He is good; for His mercy endureth forever."

He said that he had no cut and dried sermon. He spoke briefly of how thankful we should be to God for the blessings that have been bestowed upon us as a nation, touching upon the recent World War and then turning to the practical side of life he enumerated some of the many blessings that have come to us individually. He preached an excellent sermon.

Dinner was served on the grounds, and an excellent dinner it was, and don't you forget it. Chicken, chicken, chicken, pies and cakes galore. Coffee, Oh, my! The aroma of that coffee is still in the breeze and you can almost catch a whiff as you pass by.

The congregation reassembled at 1:30 and the following program was beautifully carried out:

Devotional exercises by the pastor.

Song.

The Mother of Thanksgiving, Nina Frederick.

A Thanksgiving, Oneal Riley.

Dialogue, four girls.

Song.

Thanksgiving Memories, (Reading), Carrie Hair.

Recitation, Lucy Lard.

Dialogue, 1, 2, 3, 4, Chlotild Riley, Perry Jowers, Eva Hair, Larrie Jowers.

Solo, Mrs. Eddie Hair.

Reading, Bessie Hair.

Recitation, Annie Lou Hair.

Reading, Clyde Powell.

Recitation, Allene Mitchell.

Reading, Eva Robinson.

In addition to the above program there were several interesting recitations by the following girls: Annie Lou Hair, Gladys Mitchell, Eunice Mitchell and Irene Hair.

After a short talk by the pastor the benediction was pronounced. All

LETTERS TO SANTA CLAUS

The People has just received a letter from Santa Claus, who writes that, in spite of the hard times, he is going to try and remember every little boy and girl in Barnwell County this year. He has made arrangements with us to publish letters addressed to him, some of which appear below. If the little boys and girls will send their letters to Santa Claus in care of The People, we will see that the jolly old fellow gets them.

Backville, S. C. Dec. 1 1921.
Dear Santa Clause I am a little girl seven years old. I want you to bring me Some Fruit-some nuts andd candy and a tin Tea Set and Some Fire works. as times are so hard I wont ask for much this time.
Mary Elizabeth Delk.

Dear Santa
I am a little boy 5 years old. I want you to be sure and pay us a visit Christmas. the main thing I want is two good wagon wheels. I want good big ones and of cours I shall expect candy fire works etc and don't forget my baby Brother and two little Sisters.
truly,
Marion Hair.

Elko S C Dec 2d 1921.

Hilda, S. C. Dec. 5th, 1921.

Dear Santa Clause
I am a little girl six years old. I want you to visit our home and bring me a doll, a tea set and lots of fruit.
Your little friend,
Thelma Delk.

Hilda, S. C. Dec. 5th, 1921.

Dear Santa Clause
I am a little girl four years old. I want you to visit our home and bring me a doll and lots of fruit. and don't forget my little Brother Billy. Bring him a little wagon and a monkey that climbs up a string.
Your loving little friend,
Bertie De'k.

Hilda, S. C. Dec. 5th, 1921.

Dear Santa Clause
I am a little girl thirteen years old. Santa please visit my home this Xmas and bring me a ring, a Box of chocolate candy and lots of fruit.
Your loving friend,
Sadie A. Delk.

Hilda, S. C. Dec. 5th, 1921.

Dear Santa Clause
I am a little Boy Eleven years old. I Want you to visit our home this Xmas and Bring me a cap pistol a Knife and lots of fruit. Thank you very much Santa.
Your loving friend,
Roddey Delk.

Blackville S C Dec 2, 1921

Dear Mr Santa Clause
Thinking that you might not know what I want I am writing you. Please bring me a nice velocpede a stove and a tea set and fruit and a pair of little scissors. Bring a large size velocpede suitable for a little girl of seven. With best regards to you Mr. Santa, I am
Sincerely,
Emmie Lee Hair.

P. S. My little sister can not write she wants a pretty doll and fruit.

McNAB-McELROY.

Miss Eole McNab, daughter of Mrs. Sallie McNab, of Barnwell, and Mr. N. T. McElroy, of Spartanburg, were married Thursday evening at the home of the bride's mother, Dr. W. M. Jones, pastor of the Barnwell Baptist Church performing the ceremony in the presence of a number of relatives and intimate friends of the contracting parties. Mr. and Mrs. McElroy left shortly after the ceremony for a wedding trip to Atlanta, after which they will make their future home in Spartanburg.

Both the bride and groom have a large circle of friends who wish them a long life of happiness and prosperity.

Place the Christmas Cheer on those suffering from Tuberculosis by showing your willingness to help—BUY CHRISTMAS SEALS.

seemed to have enjoyed themselves and went away with a prayer upon his lips, a song in his mouth, and saying in his heart: "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go up to the House of the Lord."
X. Y. Z.

PECAN CULTURE

By N. L. Willet
The pecan business is such an immense one in South Georgia that the government has established at Thomasville, Georgia, a pecan disease laboratory. It is in charge of Mr. J. B. Demoree.

The Plantings.

The South Georgia people plant trees sixty to seventy feet apart, say twelve to fifteen trees per acre. Nuts are gathered from October first to December the first. Their plan for the first year is to plant intervening crops of either rye or oats and turn this under in the early year and then to plant down at once broadcast either cow peas, bush velvet beans or soy beans. Usually these legumes are manured with a commercial fertilizer in order to get the larger amount of leguminous foliage for turning under. The pecan tree if it bears nuts must be given a big amount of food. The pecan tree is a domesticated thing and not a wild thing and must be treated after the fashion of the domesticated thing. This turning under of legumes is always a necessary part of good pecan culture. There are numbers of growers too, now who put six to eight pounds of guano around the tree in the spring. Usually the holes are dug about three feet deep and three feet wide and a certain amount of stable manure, well rotted, is well mixed in with the soil as put back. This soil must be packed except the last three or four inches and when the hole is half filled many growers put one to two buckets of water in the hole before filling up the balance of the hole.

The Type.

Mr. Demoree tells me, and this I have said several times before, that the types to plant, are the scrub-resisting types, that is Stuart, Frotscher, Moneymaker and Teache. As regards Rosette, the principal trouble with pecans aside from scab, no man who ever plants a pecan tree in rich ground will ever have Rosette. Even though the top soil may be rich the substratum must not be either sand or hard baked impermeable soil. He says that it is not best to plant out pecans more than six feet high and he says that the prices that I named the other day are the current ones now in South Georgia, that is 75 cents for two to three foot trees, \$1.20 for six foot trees and in large amounts \$1.10 with intermediate sizes carrying intermediate prices.

Salesmanship.

He says that the selling of pecans is largely a matter of salesmanship, that Europe could use tremendous amounts if the pecan could only be exploited in Europe, and that there is certainly no overproduction in this country since there is not more than one pecan of good size as grown today for every inhabitant, per annum. He calls the pecan the queen of nuts and he thinks that it is a priceless asset for us here in the South—this is the pecan's habitat. They may grow in a way a little further north but the gross production is subnormal. The lower section of the cotton belt really has a monopoly of this industry and if the whole nation were educated to eating pecans and were educated to know that pecan fat is better than meat fat and more digestible, why the industry might be increased a thousand or more percent.

Out-Turn.

Trees that are highly fertilized and watered may give very large returns but year in and year out the average pecan tree should not be expected to produce more than forty to fifty pounds. The confectioners do not use the large mottled pecans; they use the small wild nut from Texas. Recently a dinner was given in Thomasville in which every dish had pecans as a component part in it, beginning with the soup. It is said to have been an illuminating example of the uses that the meat of the pecan can be put to. If you want your pecan tree to bear well you must give it good soil. The tree is peculiarly associated with stable lots.

A Side Issue.

It is not every man who wants to go into this business commercially but Mr. Demoree tells me that a day that he was going to put in pecan trees as a heritage for his children. Ten acres to a child twelve years old would be worth at the time of his maturity a fine sum of money. A six foot pecan would be worth at the time of his maturity a fine sum of money. A six foot pecan would be worth at the time of his maturity a fine sum of money. A six foot pecan would be worth at the time of his maturity a fine sum of money. He says that he

VAMP THEATRE SHOWING SPLENDID PRODUCTIONS

Installation of New "Gold Fibre" Screen Means Much to Patrons.

During the past few weeks the patrons of The Vamp Theatre have been treated to a program of pictures unsurpassed in any moving picture house in South Carolina. In fact, many of the productions are shown in Barnwell ahead of Charleston, Columbia and other large cities and towns in the State. The big attraction last week was "The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse." When this picture was shown in Augusta it is understood that the prices charged ran as high as \$2, while the highest priced seat here was only \$1. This is considered by many the finest picture yet produced, not even excepting "The Birth of a Nation." People have traveled many miles to see it, and the fact that it has been shown in Barnwell so shortly after its release is proof of the fact that the management is doing all in its power to give the people of this section the best in moving pictures. This paper will not attempt a review of the picture at this time, contenting itself with saying that the production is rich in detail and the acting is such as to move the audience to tears one minute and to laughter the next. There are numerous gripping situations that hold one spellbound, while coupled with a very pretty love story is a prophecy contained in the Book of Revelations.

In addition to providing the best that the "movie" world affords, Mr. Bauer, the manager, has just installed the finest screen on the market—known as a "gold fibre" screen. The best theatres in the country have no better. It brings out every detail of the picture with remarkable clearness, while it does not tire nor irritate the eyes in the slightest. In short, no expense has been nor is being spared for the comfort and enjoyment of the patrons of this theatre, and it is to be hoped that the people, not only of Barnwell, but of Blackville, Williston, Dunbarton, Kline and the other towns in the county will show their appreciation by attending as many shows as they possibly can. Of course, money is tight and times are hard, but a little relaxation now and then will better fit one for the problems of everyday life.

REEDY BRANCH ITEMS.

Reedy Branch, Dec. 5.—Miss Lillian Hutto spent the week-end with Miss Florence Still.

Misses Doris Hutto and Edith Lott spent the week-end with Misses Winnie and Maggie Black.

Misses Pearl Grubbs and Azilie Hiers spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Howell Delk.

Misses Thelma Still and Eulalie Hiers spent the week-end with Miss Fossie Still.

Ruby Hiers and Ansil Still spent the week-end with Master Reynolds Still.

Mr. Frankie Williams was a visitor in this section Thursday night.

Mrs. John Gary Grubbs spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Grubbs.

Mr. C. C. Black was a visitor in Olar Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Furman Creech and children spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. N. C. Grubbs, Sr.

Mr. Leroy Sandifer was in this section Sunday night.

The many friends of Mr. Lee Croft will be sorry to learn of his recent illness.

Mrs. Daniel Dyches, of Charleston, is spending a few days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Croft.

cannot understand really why the average farmer ignores the economic value of the pecan as a necessary part of every farm. Mr. Demoree thinks that the Stuart and the Frotscher are especially indicated. For a pecan that is wanted to bear in the soonest number of years and to bear earliest in the fall, the Moneymaker is indicated. In planting it would be well for a man, therefore, not to confine himself to any one type. A man told me the other day that he was going to put in pecan trees as a heritage for his children. Ten acres to a child twelve years old would be worth at the time of his maturity a fine sum of money. A six foot pecan would be worth at the time of his maturity a fine sum of money. A six foot pecan would be worth at the time of his maturity a fine sum of money. He says that he

NINE PEOPLE ARE SICK FROM EATING BISCUITS

Another Mysterious Affair Develops in Allendale County.

Nine people lie desperately ill as the result of some peculiar sickness evidently some form of poisoning at Martins, S. C., a small town about fifteen miles from Allendale on the Charleston and Western Carolina railroad. While as yet no one has succumbed to the illness, physicians in attendance are plainly perplexed over their condition. The peculiarity of the situation is that the affair occurred in the boarding house of Mrs. R. F. Creech, who is a sister-in-law of Mr. J. W. Lee, who now lies very ill in an Augusta, Ga., hospital and who lost four of his family, his wife and three small children from some affection that looked like poisoning but analysis has apparently proven that no poisoning existed. Those who have been to the affected boarding house from here say that those affected are affected in the same way as the Lee family. In addition to this there are some very odd circumstances surrounding the whole affair. It appears that after the death of Mrs. Lee and the children of the Lee family and the removal of Mr. Lee to the hospital in Augusta that Mrs. Creech, a sister of the deceased woman, went to the home of the Lee family and removed from the house several articles of groceries which she carried to her home. She used a sack of flour which she got from the Lee household, making biscuits from same. Those boarders who ate the biscuits were taken ill almost immediately after eating them. It appears that some of the boarders did not eat any of the biscuits and they were not affected. Some of the doctors, including Dr. Tuten of Fairfax who was called to the scene proceeded on the theory that the illness was the result of ptomaine poisoning caused by the eating of canned salmon which was served at the same meal. Some of those affected however, affirm that they did not touch the salmon but did eat some of the biscuits. Dr. Tuten passed through Allendale this afternoon and had the sack of flour with him. He stated that he intended to send the flour to some reliable source for analysis. He still held to the theory that the people affected had all the symptoms of ptomaine poisoning but he said he was unable to explain the statements of the people who said they had not eaten any of the salmon. He stated that the people affected were not seriously ill at this time but were suffering greatly and he did not know when any change in their condition might come about.

The names of those affected could not be learned but it is rumored that one of those who are ill is a man who was boarding at Lee's at the time of the poisoning and that he is also affected now. He was slightly affected with the Lee family but received immediate medical attention and recovered shortly.

There is considerable excitement here and over the entire county regarding the affair and there is no explanation for the affair. Speculations of every kind are going the rounds, but no satisfactory information can be gained. The only reliable information that has been heard was from Dr. Tuten, whose statement is given above. Immediate investigation will be made and the matter has already been reported to all the county and state officials, and some light will probably be thrown on the matter in the next few hours, it is supposed.

The Lee case attracted considerable attention through the state a few days ago but a bulletin has just been issued from the Governor's office that the death of the Lees was not brought about by arsenical poisoning. The case at Martin coming on the heels of the Lee case and connected in such a peculiar manner with that case has caused the people here to doubt if the investigation of the Lee case brought out the true state of affairs. If the four analysis proves nothing the case will be in the same condition as it was in the beginning, with no theory to work upon. These two cases coming together have proven the most unusual and peculiar that has ever happened anywhere in this section, and is causing lots of excitement. —Allendale County Citizen.

The White Plague is a menace to all mankind—buy Christmas Seals.