

# THE SPRINGFIELD NEWS

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 1933

### THE TAX SITUATION

We are inclined to think that nine-tenths of the people who are not paying their taxes are delinquent because they have not the money nor a place to borrow it. Public officials blame the 1931 act of the legislature, reducing interest on delinquent taxes to eight per cent and cutting out penalties, as responsible for the fact that taxes are now 45 per cent delinquent.

We don't believe that the old law would have squeezed much more money out of the people and it would have greatly increased the tax burden against property with wholesale tax foreclosures. While there are some people who could pay and do not because they look for some concessions and there are others who think that the only way to reduce public expenditures is to hold back tax payments, the great majority of people are not paying because they simply have not the money.

Power, railroad, telephone and other public service properties have all paid their taxes in order to keep their bonds good. But for the opportunity of soaking them plenty and collecting the money government would be twice as hard hit as at present. There would be wholesale closing of schools and public employees would be working for a mere pittance. We often wonder who will be the goose to lay the golden tax eggs, when the rest of the tax flock is barren, after the country turns to public ownership of tax-free utilities.

We think that the only solution to the present tax problem, with resultant crippling of government on the scale we have known it, is to reduce public expenditures as low as possible. When the public's income returns to something like normal then delinquent taxes will be taken up. To keep on laying heavy tax mortgages on property is to force a great deal of property out of private ownership. This will greatly delay the time when government's can operate on a cash basis.

### IT'S UP TO THE FARMER

The regulation of the cotton and cigar tobacco crops by the Federal Government is now in effect. The regulation of wheat production is practically in operation. Next to be regulated will be corn and hogs, so Washington announces. Milk producers are under license in several important districts.

Whether this policy will work or not depends, naturally, upon individual farmers. Government has no power under the law, as we understand it, to force any farmer to keep land out of cultivation or to reduce crops; it cannot dictate to him whether he shall sow wheat or corn, raise hogs or sheep. But it can and does offer to make it more profitable to him to comply with a general program of adjusting agricultural production to demand.

This is not the first time in American history that there has been an attempt to control production. In the early 1700's Maryland and Virginia were producing more tobacco than the market would take, so their Colonial governments ordered that no planter should plant more tobacco than 6,000 plants for each Negro slave between the ages of 16 and 60. As Professor Tugwell pointed out the other day, France attempted about the same time to control the over-production of wine grapes; and today France actually controls its wheat acreage and imports so that the French farmer now gets the equivalent of about \$2 a bushel for his wheat.

If this allotment plan works it will be because our farmers are intelligent and far-sighted enough to make it work. If the majority of them do not cooperate in the effort to bring American agriculture up to its proper place as not only the major industry but the most uniformly profitable one, the failure of the Administration's plan will be their fault and nobody's else.

### ALL IN SAME BOAT

We hear some unfavorable criticism, usually of an involved nature, of the fact that the consumer must pay the bill for the degree of re-employment that will produce industrial recovery. Occasionally a critic, who perhaps has not become adjusted to very materially changed conditions in our country, will leave the impression that this obvious fact constitutes some sort of unjust discrimination against a particular class of citizens.

Let us consider a moment: Just as many industrialists have come to a realization during the past few weeks that the workers they laid off cannot continue as their customers and that they in fact had been their customers; so also the man from whom we buy foodstuffs, furniture, automobiles, radios, clothing, and anything else of the innumerable products we sorely need to buy, is also a consumer. He likewise must buy his supplies from others. The manufacturer is not only a consumer of raw materials in his plant, but he is a consumer of all that all of us consume away from his plant.

So a little deduction brings us to the realization that when we say the consumer must pay the bill we actually mean that every American citizen and resident of American territory must carry his share of the increased costs incident to reemployment and business and industrial recovery.

Certainly no class is discriminated against. All are in the same boat.—N. R. A. News.

Uncle Sam threatens to boycott to death all business places which refuse to quit cutthroat methods and conform to the NRA. Yet Uncle Sam continues to use that method in printing envelopes in direct competition with printers. Perhaps he doesn't see anything inconsistent in such practices, but if he doesn't business men themselves should see it. Yet there are millions with blue eagles all around them, elated to think that cutthroat competition is coming to an end, sending letters in the government printed envelopes. Perhaps that is one of the things which makes the eagles blue.—Harrisburg Bulletin.



### We are Members of N. R. A.

The Springfield Laundry has signed the National Recovery code and complied with the provisions of a laundry code for Oregon. We pledge our heartiest cooperation with the letter and spirit of the President's Reemployment Agreement and the National Recovery Administration.

The code calls for shorter hours, minimum pay and increased employment. To make this agreement successful in Springfield we solicit your cooperation. Any work given the Springfield Laundry increases employment and helps bring prosperity back to this city.

**SPRINGFIELD LAUNDRY**

# DO YOUR PART!

# BUY NOW!

## "Because Buying Supports Your Job"

# NRA

MEMBER

**General Johnson Says:**

"Buy!

"Because Buying Supports Your Job.

"It is essential that people buy now those commodities which they need or will need in the immediate future to assist those who are assuming increased operating expenses.

"The public's part is to support those employers and employees who do their parts to put the breadwinners back to work."



**Pres. Roosevelt Says:**

"It's up to the women to see the new deal through. You must give patriotic help to the great plan to banish the misery of unemployment from the land. If you pledge yourself to buy from stores who have signed the president's agreement, if you will ask for goods marked with the N. R. A. Symbol—breadlines will vanish. Prosperity will come."

## WE DO OUR PART

Shorter hours, more help and more pay has increased the operating expense of the grower, manufacturer and merchant, who have done their part by signing up as N. R. A. members.

Mr. Consumer, you must do your part by buying now because increased markets are needed to bring back prosperity. The success of the President's plan rests squarely upon you. You must buy now if you are to 'do your part' to maintain higher wages and more employment.

BUY NOW FROM THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF N.R.A.

FULOP'S DEPT. STORE

G. H. TURNER NOVELTY STORE

WRIGHT & SONS

ANDERSON MOTORS, Inc.

WHITE FRONT GROCERY

C. F. EGGIMANN

IRISH-MURPHY CO.

SPRINGFIELD CREAMERY

FLANERY'S DRUG STORE

MOUNTAIN STATES POWER CO.

IDEAL GROCERY---

Springfield's Red and White Store

INDEPENDENT MEAT CO.

W. A. HALL

SCOTT'S DRUG STORE

J. M. LARSON SERVICE STATION

MATT HART SERVICE STATION

FRANK LOGAN SERVICE STATION

PAUL GARBODEN GARAGE

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