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Tax Remedy Proposed

A report on a general reassessment of real property in Montgomery oCunty, made by William Paul Walker, University of Maryland Economist, to the Montgomery County Farm Bureau is likely to promote lively discussion in the Board of County Commissioners, the Legislature and the county's civic bodies.

The Farm Bureau is urging that a state-wide reassessment be made this year and not postponed as proposed in a bill now before the Maryland Senate. If carried out now, it is predicted by Mr. Walker that nearly $22,000,000 would be added to the taxable basis of Montgomery County, and make unnecessary an increase in the present tax rate.

This amount is needed to meet increases in debt cost for the 1937-38 ley over the amount levied for 1936-37, if the present tax rate is to be continued, says the economist.

Discussing the present tax rate the report claims that the outstanding "factor responsible for a high tax rate to pay current and debt obligations is the underassessment of properties, particularly in the lower portion of the county."

Mr. Walker criticises the expense of segregation, allocation and collection of tax reenues "by virtue of the multiplicity of special taxing jurisdictions in the county" which he declares "impose an administration cost that is unnecessary and an expense upon the taxpayers living outside such special taxing areas." His proposed remedy is "a division of the county into two general county tax areas and rates—one rural the other urban—or by requiring all special areas to assess and collect their taxes or having all special areas pay the county for such work.

It is to be hoped that the true value of this report or its unworthiness will soon be established in the interest of the county's taxpayers who in the final analysis must shoulder the debt burden of any and all county expenditures.

Non-Partisan Question

Unhurried and non-partisan study of President Roosevelt's plan to reorganize the United States Supreme Court with complacent yes men was voiced by former Governor Alf M. Landon, at a Lincoln Day dinner, in New York last Friday.

He explained that since his acceptance of the invitation to the dinner events had transpired "in our national life which makes it out of place for me to talk on a party basis."

"The issues raised", said he, "are greater than any party. They concern the whole of us. They are worthy of unhurried deliberation by Congress."

John D. M. Hamilton, Republican National Chairman, said the Supreme Court issue "is so fundamental that there is no opportunity for anything but non-partisan debate."

Two weeks ago, The Montgomery Press, in commending Judge Charles W. Woodward's declaration that "The Constitution of the United States is the greatest thing in this country today", called attention to a much too prevalent idea that the Supreme Court can twist the Constitution at will to suit their own particular fancy or to comply with the desires of a chief executive. If this be true the Supreme Court can make a farce of interpreting the Constitution, thereby destroying every safeguard to the liberty of the citizen.

Frank E. Gannett, of Rochester, N. Y., head of the Gannett Newspapers, has undertaken a patriotic move, which deserves the support of every right thinking American.

In a letter, which we hae just received, he says:

"There is no liberty if the power of judging be not separated from the legislative and executive powers."

"This was said while adoption of the Constitution was under discussion."

"Today this principle is attacked and in danger, although its vital truth is as self evident now as then. Life tenure was assured to judges because the founders of this government knew that to preserve government under law, INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY IS INDISPENSIBLE."

Mr. Gannett, like other ardent supporters of Mr. Roosevelt's policies, becoming convinced that the American Constitution is in danger, formed a "National Committee to Uphold Constitutional Government" which in turn has petitioned Congress, declaring that the President's bill gives him power to "remake the Supreme Court and to pack it with men to interpret the Constitution as he wishes. SUCH CONCENTRATION OF POWER IS DANGEROUS EVEN IN THE HANDS OF THE BEST INTENTIONED MEN."

"If one President is allowed in this fashion to create a Supreme Court to interpret the Constitution so as to validate the laws he desires neither he nor his successors will have to consult the will of the people concerning future amendments."

AND THIS IS FROM A MAN WHO HAS ADMIRED PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AND ENDORSED MANY OF HIS POLICIES.

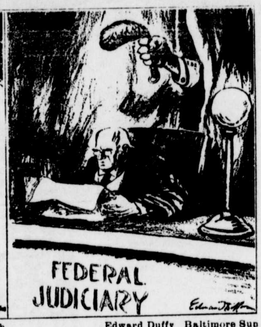
"We have no quarrel with the President personally," says he, "but we shudder to think what would happen to America if the UNLIMITED POWERS THAT HE WOULD GAIN FOR HIMSELF BY GETTING CONTROL OF THE SUPREME COURT, SHOULD FALL INTO THE HANDS OF AN UNSCRUPULOUS PERSON."

Certainly the President's plan is an issue to be handled only by true Americans.

Nor must it be forgotten that there is a straight path for President Roosevelt to follow, if he will have approval of his projects. It is the legal, honest path of constitutional amendment, laid down in the Constitution, just as the straight and honest path of living is laid down in the Holy Bible.

As Cartoonists Viewed President's Message On Judiciary

David R. Fitzpatrick St. Louis Post Despatch
ANOTHER RUBBER STAMP?



Edward Duffy Baltimore Sun
BLOW FROM THE REAR

LET THE PEOPLE SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES IN A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

Any other course can only bring shame to the chief executive, and prove abhorrent to true Americans.

As another service to its readers each week the Montgomery Press will give authoritative answers to questions on the Social Security Law. By special arrangement, the Social Security Board has consented to pass on the accuracy of answers to questions on Social Security, which may be asked by employers, employees, and others, through the Montgomery Press. Address inquiries to The Editor, the Montgomery Press, Kensington, Maryland. Answers will be given here in the order in which questions are received. This is an informational service, not legal advise.—Editor.

Social Security—Question Box

Q.: I run my own business by myself. I believe the Social Security law is a good thing but have been told I can not pay taxes and get any old age benefits under the law. Is that right?—K. E.

A.: From your letter you appear to be a self-employed person. Therefore you do not come under the old age provisions of the law.

Q.: I am going to get married and stop working and keep my own house. What good will the Social Security law do me?—Miss J. E. N.

A.: The wages you earn between January 1, 1937, and the date you marry and stop working will be recorded on the wage record kept by the Social Security Board for your protection. Your wage record will stand as the basis for a future lump-sum payment or a monthly old age benefits check when you reach 65.

Q.: Do I have to give up my insurance policy because of the Social Security law?—Miss E. L. D.

A.: Certainly not.

Q.: I am employed in a grocery store. Please tell me what reports I have to make to the Social Security Board?—B. L. L.

A.: Employes are not required to make reports.

Q.: I have just taken a job as a stenographer and my employer says I must fill out an application for an old age benefits account and turn it into him. Do I have to do that? I think he wants to find out my age.—Miss D. H.

A.: If you have not applied for an account number you should do so at once. Your employer is right about that. But you certainly do not have to turn your application over to him. Drop it in a mail box in an envelope addressed to Posamtser, Local. No postage needed.

Takoma Democrats Give Gay Dance

At the Indian Spring Country Club a delightful dance was held last week by the Young Men's Democratic Club of Takoma Park, Md., with Walter C. Griffin as general chairman of arrangements.

Patrons and patronesses for the affair include State Senator and Mrs. Stedman Prescott, Judge and Mrs. Charles W. Woodward, Commissioner Richard H. Lansdale, Dr. and Mrs. Benjamin C. Perry, Dr. and Mrs. George L. Edmonds, Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Bird, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Casey, Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Perry, Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Walker, Mr. Lacy Shaw, Miss Lavina Engle, Mrs. Charles E. Roach, Mr. and Mrs. J. Bond Smith, Mr. and Mrs. John B. Diamond, Jr.; Mr. G. Edington Bell, Mr. and Mrs. Emory H. Bogley, Mr. and Mrs. J. Donald Clagett, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton K. Watkins, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Peter, Jr.; Mr. and Mrs. Hansen Cashell, Mr. and Mrs. James H. Pugh, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Griffith, Mr. J. Somervell Dawson, Jr.; Miss Ruth Shoemaker, Mr. and Mrs. T. Yellott Canby, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Collier, Mr. and Mrs. Ben G. Wilkinson, Jr.; Mr. and Mrs. F. Byrne Austin, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Y. Latimer and Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Hayes.

The home of Mrs. Ralph A. Wells of Seven Oaks Manor was the scene of an attractively arranged tea yesterday afternoon. The party was given for the Woman's Democratic Club of Silver Spring, of which Mrs. Wells is president. Assisting Mrs. Wells in receiving was Mrs. Charles Y. Latimer of Takoma Park, president of the Woman's Democratic Club of the county. Spring flowers formed attractive decorations.

Mrs. R. E. Lees of Kensington Given Recipe Honors

Mrs. R. E. Lees, 203 Summit Avenue, Kensington, Md., has just been awarded a Certificate of Recipe Endorsement by Better Homes & Gardens for her recipe, "Celery-Meat Roll."

This certificate, which brings national recognition to Mrs. Lees is given by Better Homes & Gardens only to distinguished recipes which pass its Tasting-Test Kitchen's high standards for dependability, excellence of taste, and family usefulness.

Mrs. Lees' endorsed recipe follows:

Celery-Meat Roll

2 lbs. ground round steak
2 cups chopped celery
2 cups drained tomatoes
⅔ cup fine cracker crumbs
2 eggs
2 tablespoons chopped green pepper
1½ teaspoons salt
½ teaspoon pepper
1 small chopped onion.

Combine all ingredients, shape into loaf, place in greased baking pan and bake in moderately hot oven (375 degrees) 1 hour. If meat is very lean, have butcher grind small piece of suet with it.

Constables Must Serve Civil Writs

Attorney General Herbert R. O'Connor has rendered an opinion to the sheriff of Montgomery County that sheriffs are not required to serve civil writs and other papers issuing from justices of the peace and police justices in the counties, in the absence of special statute. He ruled that this work was the duty of constables and not of sheriffs.

Northwest Motor Specials

	Cash	Monthly
1936 Touring, 2 Door Sedan Heater and Radio	$95	$25
1935 Convertible Sedan	95	25
1934 Convertible Cabriolet De Luxe Radio Equipped	75	20
1933 4 Door Sedan	50	18
1932 Pord Tudor	25	15

Ford

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