

Mississippi John Hurt

"Sales Tax"

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Spoken Dialogue:

'Hey Walter, we need some cigarettes
Lets go ahead and get a pack'

'Okay'

Storekeeper Spoken:

'Hello boys, what can I do for you?'

'I'll have a pack of cigarettes'

'Alright, here you are'

'Be 3 cents more, though'

(both spoken)

'What's that for?'

'Sales tax, haven't you ever heard of sales tax?'

'I sho' haven't'

'What's gonna happen next, man?'

'You know they gotta law here they call 'sale tax'.

'Sale tax, what is that for?'

'that's 3 cent tax on ev'ra thing that's sold
They say that's the government rule'

'The governments rule?'

'Well, there's a-lotsa things sold that the government
Knows anything about.'

'An I'll just sing a little song about these sales tax.'

(Song begins)

These times now, ain't through to me
Pony carts spend a dollar three

Oh, the sales tax is on it
The sales tax is on it
Oh, the sales tax is on it
Ev'rywhere you go

Olan Marshall live behind the jails
A sign on the wall sayin, 'Liquor for Sale'

You know the sales tax is on it
Oh, the sales tax is on it
Oh, the sales tax is on it
Ev'rywhere you go

I've never seen the likes
Since I've been born
The women's got sales tax
On their stuff at home

Oh, the sales tax is on it
Oh, sales tax is on it
Oh, the sales tax is on it
Ev'rywhere you go

'You know these sales tax is a pain'

(instrumental)

You used-a could buy for a dollar a round
Now sales tax is on it all over town

Oh, the sales tax is on it
Oh, sales tax is on it
Oh, the sales tax is on it
Ev'rywhere you go

I'm as lovin' now, as a woman can be
The stuff I've got'll cost ya a dollar and three

Oh, the sales tax is on it
Oh, sales tax is on it
Oh, the sales tax is on it
Ev'rywhere you go

Now, you may take me to be a fool
Ev'rything is sold by the government's rule

Oh, you know the sales tax is on it
Oh, sales tax is on it
Oh, the sales tax is on it
Ev'rywhere you go.

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