The Tribune Goes Into Nearly Every Dorchester Home

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TODAY and TOMORROW

STRIKES . . . . patriotism

The fight being waged between C. I. O. and A. F. of L. unions is just a tea party compared with the battle which will rage between unions and American patriots unless this strike business is brought to a quick halt.

When certain unions leaders make it apparent that they consider the strength of their organizations more important than the strength of their county, when they show that they are willing to endanger our nation by bogging down on defense production in order to test their power, it looks as though the American public may have to rout out those leaders before it attacks any other enemy of democracy.

So far, I don't think the thousands of union members who have agreed to strike are so much to blame. They have been blinded into thinking that they must do what the unions tell them or all of the progress they have made in recent years will be lost. But actually, they are taking a big jump in a backward direction right now by chancing the loss of the sympathy of the American people.

GUILT . . . . . sacrifice

The unions aren't 100 per cent guilty for the loss of millions of man-hours on defense work. In some cases they have a sound argument for their actions by pointing out that an industry, producing all it is capable of producing, and getting a fair profit on its production, should share its increased income with labor.

Take the Bethlehem Steel problem. A few weeks ago, when the unions agreed to have its members go back to work while negotiations were carried on. Bethlehem executives were highly pleased with themselves because the strike had been called off—and they hadn't given labor a darned thing!

But when the union finally struck in earnest, it wasn't to better the condition of Bethlehem workers but to strengthen its own organization-- to get the steel company to throw out a local union and to permit an election to determine what union the men wanted.

In due time, that could have been taken care of by law. Or it could even have been postponed until the appetite of a munition-hungry nation had been satiated. It's of no importance compared with the defense of America. And it powers, along with similar strikes, that there's a large group which is answering the President's plea for sacrifice by shouting, "Not us!"

ACTION . . . . . fire

It takes the American people a long time to get their dander up.

That's why we're able to get along as a federation of 48 different states without having the squabbles and wars that are constantly going on among hot-headed Europeans. We take things calmly and think them over pretty carefully before we demand any action.

We know the majority of members of unions are good Americans—

We know those who are striking actually represent a small minority of defense workers—

We know employers, in some cases, would walk all over labor if it didn't assert itself—

We know President Roosevelt has the support of laborers and can expect them to back his program—

But we know too, that the world's biggest fire is sweeping toward our house and we're not going to stand by and watch the firemen stage a tug-of-war with the one hose that can extinguish the blaze.

CONGRESS . . . . promoting

One more thing about strikes.

Perhaps President Roosevelt is somewhat at fault for not taking more drastic action to stop them. But the President's job is to get all groups working in harmony for the interest of the country—and its a tough job. He can't clamp down too suddenly on millions of union workers and then expect them to co-operate with him. He is forced to handle them with kid gloves.

Being the champion of the defense program, it can be taken for granted that he wants action taken to get rid of all obstacles interfering with maximum production. But he might welcome, in this case, having the action initiated in some quarters other than the White House.

So if we want to blame someone for not doing something to stop strikes, it might be well, for a change, to blame senators and congressmen. They are in a position to get the facts on the subject and introduce remedial legislation.

It often seems, these days, as if most congressmen have forgotten that action can be taken in the halls prompting from the President.

Country Club Makes Program For Season

Board At Meeting Last Thursday Makes Plans For Summer And Formulates New Set Of Rules; Tournament During Week Of May 1.

At a meeting held last Thursday night at the Cambridge Country Club, the newly appointed board of management drew up a concrete program of activities for the coming season.

The board, composed of a representative group of active members, took steps toward increasing the membership of the club and enlarging upon the program to be offered. Most important in the discussion was an entirely new set of rules governing membership dues, which was finally agreed upon and is effective immediately.

As an inducement to married men and women the membership was divided into indoor and outdoor activities and dues set at $20 per year for couple for either

An indoor membership entitles the holder to enjoy the club house at all times and to attend any and all social functions including card parties, dances, ping pong tournaments, bingo parties, Saturday night get-to-gethers and use of the beach and pier.

An outdoor membership consists of the use of the golf course and tennis courts, shuffle board, swimming, horse shoes, and other outdoor activities which may be added. Single membership permits use of the club house, grounds, golf course, and any and all activities held within or without the club.

This membership also entitles the holder to bring a guest of the opposite sex, resident or non-resident to the club at any time, said guest does not play tennis or golf. Dues are $20 yearly for men; $18 yearly for women. Also, the junior membership is still offered those under 21 years of age at $12 yearly. This includes full use of the club and one guest (also under 21) at club house functions.

As an encouragement to Cambridge men and women to try their hands at golf, green fees have been revised to 50 cents on week days and $1 on Sunday for non-members. Instructors will be on hand two days each week beginning May 1 as an extra inducement. The board also has obtained a tennis instructor who will be on hand one day a week. All instructions will be for the members' convenience and paid for by the club.

It also was decided that the season's first ping pong tournament, both men's and women's, will be held beginning the week of May 1.

The next meeting of the board will be held May 1.

Shore League Adopts Schedule

Directors of the Eastern Shore League who met at Salisbury Sunday, adopted a 112-game schedule for the 1941 baseball season.

The directors also voted to hold an all-star game at Cambridge on July 7.

The team in first place after July 4 will play an all-star team to be selected by members of the Eastern Shore Sports Writers Association from the five other clubs. Four players, one of whom must be a pitcher, will be chosen from each club.

Official league scorers named at the meeting Sunday were Ed Nichols, Centreville; Robert Yerkes, Milford; Ralph Mace, of Cambridge; C. E. Bray, Easton; Elbert Liden, Federalsburg, and R. L. Moore, Salisbury.

All six clubs were represented at the meeting and the representatives were entertained at dinner by Reubin Levin, new owner of the Salisbury club.

League President Harry S. Russell announced the schedule would be released Friday.

SHAD HATCHERY PLANNED ON SHORE

Fishermen and legislators from Caroline, Talbot and Dorchester counties went on record today in favor of reestablishing a shad hatchery on the Choptank river.

They decided at a meeting here to forward to Governor O'Conor a resolution urging production of fingerling shad in the Choptank and offered to provide the necessary ponds without cost to the State.

In sheltered ponds fry develop into Shad three to four inches long within four months. As fingerlings, they then return to the sea.

Dr. R. V. Truitt, director of the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory said the Conservation Commission was willing to establish a shad hatchery on the Choptank with the cooperation of local fishermen, who would be asked to supply eggs.

Dr. Truitt said the former Choptank hatchery was closed because the number of shad in the river declined from more than 1,000,000 fry in 1935 to 250,000 in 1938. He said the State Conservation Commission would reopen the hatchery if a sufficient number of eggs could be obtained.

He said 2,000,000 fish would be hatched upon an experimental basis, but that 10,000,000 were needed.

4-H CLUB MEETS ON MARYLAND DAY

Hustle and bustle, here, there and everywhere.

Girls complained, "Why, oh why does the 4-H club meet at 7:00 p. m.?"

Finally the meeting began and vice-president Dare Corder took over.

It was brought up at the meeting that it would be better for the meetings to begin at 7:30 but the parents' advice had to be had first, so this subject will again be brought up at the next meeting.

Commissioners Hold Meeting

Representative David J. Ward (Den., Md.) told the Eastern Shore County Commissioners Association Monday that the Shore "is not getting its fair share of defense industries."

"I ask you County Commissioners to make surveys of your respective communities as to the capacity for handling defense projects," Ward said in a luncheon address at the association's spring meeting.

Other luncheon speakers were Senator Earl Bennett, of Dorchester county; Senator Thomas F. Johnson, of Worcester county; P. Watson Webb, of Cambridge, a member of the State Roads Commission, and Dr. H. C. Byrd, president of the University of Maryland.

State Comptroller J. Millard Tawes was toastmaster.

Senator Wimer Fell Davis, of Caroline county discussing the State Roads budget for 1942-1943, told the commissioners at the morning session that they lacked unity of purpose.

He pointed out that an effort made in the recent session of the Legislature to reduce the cities' share of gas tax funds, if successful, would have given the nine Eastern Shore counties an additional million dollars for highway construction and maintenance for the year.

Senator Davis predicted the cities would increase their percentage of the gas tax funds even above the present 70-30 distribution, which the counties sought to cut down to 80-20. In the State of Ohio, Davis said, the cities received only sixteen per cent.

Senator Davis addressed the convention in place of Senator R. Fulton Waller, of Wicomico county who was unable to be present.

William S. Marvel, president of the Board of Commissioners in Talbot county, was elected president of the association at this noon's business session. He has been vice-president for a year.

Other officers named were F. Hughlett Henry, attorney for the Talbot County Commissioners, secretary; George E. Wright, member of the Wicomico board, vice-president.

Princess Anne's woman Mayor, Mrs. George W. Brown, welcomed members of the association to the convention, which was attended by about seventy-five per cent., of the officials from eight counties on the shore.

Senator L. Elwood Dize, of Somerset county, responded to the address of welcome. President Walter G. McCready, of Crisfield, presided over the meeting.

RADCLIFFE PROPOSES MARINE ACT CHANGES

Senator Radcliffe of Maryland, chairman of the Merchant Marine subcommittee of the Commerce Committee, has reported favorably a House bill to the full committee, amending the Merchant Marine Act of 1936 to meet present conditions due to the European war.

The Radcliffe subcommittee amended the House measure in a number of instances, to give the commission more latitude in awarding contracts for construction of ships and payment of labor.

Many Farmers Ask For More Data On Crops

County Agent Outlines Problems And Benefits From Gov't. Plan.

EACH FARMER HAS ONE VOTE

During the past several weeks a large number of wheat growers have contacted the County Agent's Office in connection with getting more information on wheat marketing quotas. There are two groups who are much interested, that is, those who have planted within their acreage allotments and those who have exceeded their allotments. The first group find that they have everything to gain and nothing to lose if marketing quotas are established in that they can sell all the wheat they raise without penalty; the second group find that the wheat produced on their excess acreage will be subject to a penalty tax the amount of which has not been definitely determined. This tax will be collected by the dealers and turned over to the Secretary of Agriculture just as has been done in the other areas where marketing quotas have been operating on tobacco and cotton.

The farmer today has something to say about his market. He can, through quotas, keep from flooding it with unwanted wheat. This privilege of helping to decide by ballot the supply side of the market is an important part of what is called "economic democracy." It gives the farmer a voice in determining the price of his wheat. The marketing quota referendum is the American way, the way of democracy, of meeting a marketing emergency brought on by war.

Every wheat farmer affected by the quotas has one vote. Your own neighbors, your own AAA committee, will conduct the referendum. Ask them where to vote.

Quotas Mean—

1. Free marketing of all wheat produced on the acreage allotment.

2. Price support through adjustment and loans for the good of wheat farmers and of all town and city people in farming areas.

3. Surplus organized to provide plenty for all people without waste, and without driving wheat farmers into wasteful competition with livestock, dairy, and poultry farmers.

Why quotas?

One and one-quarter billion bushels of wheat! Enough to last the country 2 years, without growing a kernel. That's how much wheat America has in sight.

A big crop is on the way. Foreign markets are nearly gone; the war blockades our customers out and our wheat in. No chance for consuming more wheat in America: people have been eating less wheat for years.

More wheat and fewer markets! A few years ago this would have meant 40-cent wheat. But not now. Last year farmers used the AAA program to get an average return of 80 cents. This year supplies dammed up by the war threaten a price collapse. It need not occur, because farmers have the power and the means in the AAA program of dealing with price-breaking surpluses.

Marketing quotas provide for such an emergency. Cotton and tobacco farmers have long used them. Now it's up to wheat farmers to decide whether they want to protect their income in this manner. Quotas won't be used unless two-thirds of all farmers voting in a national referendum approve them.

If quotas are voted down, Government wheat loans on the current crop are prohibited by law because loans on an uncontrolled surplus are an unwarranted risk of public money. Without loans, wheat farmers would face falling prices. Many would shift to dairying, stock feeding, and poultry raising. Low-priced wheat resulting from uncontrolled surplus means lower income for other farmers.

The wheat marketing quota is a national question. It will be settled by farmers. Every farmer afected by the quota has one vote, whether he grows wheat on 20 or on 20,000 acres.

Enough export wheat in the world for nearly 3 years. Surplus in Argentina. Surplus in Australia. Surplus in Canada with wheat piled unprotected out on the ground. For every 3 bushels for sale, the world offers a market for only one.

Canada last year had its second biggest wheat crop, its biggest surplus. The Government imposed strict marketing quotas, allowed farmers to sell only about half the crop

County Marble Tournament Is Arranged Here

WPA Division Sponsoring Meet As Recreation Activity.

TUBMAN TROPHY WILL BE GIVEN

The WPA Division of Recreation is sponsoring a city-wide Marble Tournament. Information as to rules may be obtained from Mrs. Reynolds, on Peach Blossom Playground any Monday or Friday afternoon, and from Miss Waxler on Academy Playgorund any Monday or Friday afternoon.

The Tubman Marble Trophy, donated by Granville Tubman, Jr., will be on display in Tubman's window. This cup is the winner's to keep and will be engraved with his name.

This and other spring and summer plans for recreational work were outlined by the Supervisor, Mrs. Logan Wynn, at the meeting of the Dorchester County Recreational Council, last week.

Included in the information of the supervisor's report was the work accomplished last winter.

Conducted three preschools, one at Peach Blossom, one at 400 School street, one at 219 Pine street.

Has maintained and supervised a play center at 22 Poplar St., for girls, boys and adults, three afternoons and four nights a week.

Has had daily work in Recreational Theraphy at the Cambridge Hospital.

Has provided leadership for play nights, community sings and parties in various parts of the county.

Has sponsored a Boys' Club, open daily at Jenifer Hall.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO HONOR SHORE COUNTY

The Woman's Eastern Shore Society on April 14 will honor Caroline County at an historical luncheon to be given at the Women's City Club in Baltimore. Senator Wilmer Davis, minority floor leader in the past session of the General Assembly, will be the principal speaker.

Mrs. Richard Hemsley, historian, will preside at the luncheon Mrs. Donald Thorne is chairman of the Caroline chapter, and Mrs. C. Milton Willis is chapter historian.

A meeting of the board of governors of the society will be held preceding the meeting, at 10.30 A. M. Dr. Mary Powell Nortiem, president of the Society, will preside.

SHORE FARMERS FEEL LABOR SHORTAGE PINCH

With the spring and summer crop seasons near at hand, farmers in the middle Eastern Shore area are reported to be facing a serious labor shortage.

Mrs. Nell C. Wescott, manager of the Chestertown and Centreville branches of the State employment service, said the farm labor problem in Kent and Queen Anne's counties was the most serious in years.

Canners throughout the Shore are expected to face a shortage of help when the season opens in the late summer. Many city dwellers who usually flock to the Shore to work in canneries and fields during the harvest season, have secured employment in the defense industries.

Since the first of the year many farm laborers have left this section to take jobs in cities where defense projects are being carried on, at much higher wages than they receive for tilling the soil.

BUILDERS OF HOMES STILL ON INCREASE

Despite steadily rising building costs, the March home-building program was the largest since the depression began.

CAMBRIDGE ELKS LODGE INSTALLS NEW OFFICERS

The Elks Lodge installed new officers at their regular meeting Friday night, April 4, with Edwin Henry, P. E. R., acting as installing officer. The following officers were installed to serve for the ensuing lodge year:

Benjamin E. Brittingham, Exalted Ruler; Woodrow Wilson, Esteemed Leading Knight; Ivy R. Todd, Jr., Esteemed Loyal Knight; Clarence Stephenson, Esteemed Lecturing Knight; Alvin Creighton, Esquire; Thomas Tyler, Chaplain; Lake Slacum, Interguard; Carter Hughlett, Sr., Tiler; Trustee for 3 year term, John Matthews, Jr.

Cambridge To Honour Namesake In England

Will Take Part In Nation Wide Broadcast From New York April 15th—Moral And Financial Support Offered.

Cambridge will join all the towns in the United States by that name in extending greetings of cheer to Cambridge, England, April 15, in a program to be broadcast over WABC, New York.

Mayor Irving B. Jackson of this city, will speak for the community, offering moral and financial support to the mother township.

The broadcast is under the auspices of Namesake Towns Inc., whose president is Mrs George Spencer, cousin of Winston Churchill. The program, which is given in cooperation with the British Broadcasting Corporation, will have as speakers, Constance Collier, Peggy Wood, Philip Merrivale and Raymond Massey, all well known in the world of motion pictures.

Newbold Morris, president of the New York City City Council, will be master of ceremonies.

Namesake Towns, Inc., has been formed "for the purpose of urging towns in America bearing names originally derived from towns in Great Britain to enter into an adoption plan whereby the American communities will undertake to band themselves together to provide all possible help for the civil population of their British counterparts." it is explained. There are 2,000 towns in America bearing names of Great Britain.

The day following Mayor Jackson's broadcast, the members of the Junior Woman's Club will give a silver tea, the proceeds of which will be sent to the children of Cambridge, England. Mrs. Emily Marine, Peabody graduate, will give a recital.

Mrs. T. Carter R. Hughlett, Jr., is the club president.

4-H Club Banquet To Be Held April 19

The annual County 4-H Club Banquet will be held on Saturday evening, April 19th, in the Zion Methodist Church, Cambridge, according to Miss Hattie E. Brooks. This is for all 4-H Club members, both boys and girls.

Mr. Ellis Eskridge, Vice-President of the Older Youth Group, will be the Toastmaster. The program will consist of music, talks and dramatics, relative to spring. The tables will be attractively decorated with spring flowers and favors of various kinds, which the guests will take home with them.

Tickets, which are forty cents, can be secured from the 4-H club presidents and leaders. All tickets should be purchased by Wednesday, April 16. This is the event of the year that all 4-H Club members look forward to and is a most delightful social activity.

B. V. D. PLANT RESUMES OPERATION HERE

The B. V. D. Corporation plant in Cambridge, closed down for four weeks because of labor difficulties in Baltimore, started operations again last Monday.

Reopening of the plant here was made possible by the resumption of operations by the plant in Baltimore which does the cutting work on the garments that are sewn and completed here.

The Cambridge plant employs about 75 operators who have been out of work during the time that the Baltimore plant was closed because of a strike.

An effort to organize workers in the Cambridge plant under the C. I. O. was reported this week, but no reports were available as to the success of the C. I. O. union representative here.

SHORE FEDERATION MEETING PLANNED

Over 300 club women, members of the Eastern Shore Federation of Women's Clubs, are expected to attend the spring meeting of the district to be held April 17, in Bethesda Methodist Church, Salisbury, according to Mrs. Samuel L. Byrn, of Cambridge, Shore president. Hostesses will be the members of the Wicomico Woman's Club, Salisbury, whose president is Mrs. John A. Price.

H. T. O'Conor, special agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, in charge of the Baltimore office, will be the speaker at the afternoon session. Mrs. John F. Sipple, of Baltimore, a former president of the General Federation, and Mrs. Walter E. Kriel, of Hampstead, vice-president of the State federation, are on the morning program. All district presidents have been invited.

At 12 o'clock luncheon will be served in the Methodist churches of Salisbury. The Treble Cleft Club, of Salisbury, will give a recital at the afternoon session, to be followed by a rehearsal of the Maryland episode of the pageant to be presented at the General Federation Convention to be held in Atlantic City May 19-24. Fifty women will take part in this scene in which Mrs. James W. Hughes, of Elkton, plays a prominent part.

FARMERS' AUCTION BLOCK TO BE BUILT

Lower Shore farmers are planning an auction block at Salisbury, it was announced today. Construction of the new produce market is expected to begin soon, according to Gordon Fooks, Wicomico cooperative president.

Organizer Routed At Hebron Plant

Called to a disturbance at the S. E. Stein Shirt Factory in Hebron last week, Maryland State Police arrived to find Nettie McInaffey, 39-year-old union organizer from New York, locked in her automobile after workers had chased her from the plant.

Corporal J. R. Buckworth said the automobile was damaged slightly. The air had been let out of four tires and the wires were pulled from the distributor cap.

Corporal Buckworth said the disturbance began when the woman called at the plant in an attempt to organize workers. She represented the Amagamated Clothing Workers, she said.

The car was towed to a Salisbury repair shop where the tires were inflated and the ignition wires replaced.

Buckworth said that when the officers arrived on the scene, the woman had locked herself in the car and the workers had all returned to the factory.

Corporal Buckworth said the organizer left Salisbury soon after minor repairs were made to her automobile.

NATHAN'S EMPLOYEES ENTERTAINED AT DINNER

The Perfection Stove Company through its representative, Mr. E. W. Williams, entertained the personnel of Nathan's Furniture Stores, Wednesday evening at a dinner at the Hotel Cambridge. The six Nathan stores are owned and operated by Mr. Milford Nathan of this city.

The fifty employees of the six stores including, Salisbury, Mrs. Catherine Rayne, Manager; Seaford, Mr. A. L. Shipley, Manager; Chestertown, Mr. J. Milford Todd Manager; Crisfield, Mr. Clarence Bethard, Manager; Onancock, Mr. Kenneth L. Edwards, Manager; Talbot County Area, Mr. Harold J. Adams, Manager, were all present.

Other guests were: Mrs. E. W. Williams, Mrs. Milford Nathan, Mr. E. W. Orem, and Mr. Arnold Daane.

Nathan's Furniture Stores have been large distributors of Perfection products for many years and this dinner has become a regular affair.

WHITE RIBBONERS WILL CONVENE

A W.C.T.U. Institute for Talbot, Dorchester and Caroline counties will be held in the Calvary Methodist Church, on Friday, April 25th. The afternoon session will begin at 1:30 o'clock and the evening session at 7:30.

Miss Grace Leigh Scott, Field Secretary for the National W.C.T.U., will be the evening speaker. She will be introduced by Miss Bertha M. Tyson, President of the Maryland W.C.T.U.

Everyone is cordially invited, especially those interested in P.T.A. work and Youth movements, as well as temperance workers.

Special music and two temperance readings will be given on the evening program. Supper will be served in the church for out-of-town visitors at 35 cents.

At the W.C.T.U. meeting to be held in the Brethren Church on Tuesday, April 15th, at 3 P.M., Miss Martha B. Loud will speak.

Miss Loud has been a missionary in India, but is now connected with the Child Evangelism Fellowship of Maryland, the members of which work among the children of Maryland who are unreached by any Sunday School. Already they have about eighty classes, with thirteen

Adjusters Are Making Crop Loss Check-Up

Those Who Have Lost Wheat Acreage Will Be Indemnified.

MAKE REPORT TO COUNTY AGENT

Crop insurance adjusters have begun inspection of acreages insured under the 1941 Federal Crop Insurance Program where farmers have reported complete or nearly complete loss of their crops, according to a report from the County Agent's office.

Farmers whose insured wheat fields have been damaged so as to make it appear desirable to make other use of the land or crop should notify the county committee immediately, if they have not already done so, the County Agent said.

If the inspection shows that a total or substantially total loss has been sustained on all the planted acres on the farm, the farmer will be indemnified promptly after approval by the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation of his "Statement in Proof of Loss." If the loss does not appear to be severe enough to justify putting the land to some other use, final adjustment will be made at harvest time, when the actual yield can be determined.

In some instances, the County Agent pointed out, where only a portion of the acreage on the farm is a complete loss, the grower may have the loss on the damaged portion appraised in order to put it to some other use.

TELLS EMPLOYERS TO HOLD DEFENSE WORKERS

In order to prevent unnecessary depletion of skilled workers in industries vital to national defense, small manufacturers were advised this week by Lieut. Col. Henry C. Stanwood, State director of Selective Service, to acquaint themselves with the proper routine for asking deferment for key employees on defense work.

While personnel managers of the large industries in the State—such as aircraft and steel—know the steps which should be taken to prevent highly skilled men from being drafted immediately, heads of many small concerns engaged in subcontract work supplying defense industries with parts, do not understand the procedure.

As a consequence, Colonel Stanwood said, small feeder companies have not asked for deferment for their employees until the men have been sent their induction papers.

This delay has caused considerable additional work for Selective Service headquarters and has created confusion among the various local draft boards.

There is no blanket deferment, but it has been the opinion of Maryland's local draft boards that a skilled mechanic is much better at his job making defense goods than undergoing his year's military training. In cases such as this the local draft boards have been deferring such skilled men.

Major Paul K. Klaesius, State advisor of occupational deferments, has made comprehensive surveys of the number of skilled men needed in small and large defense industries and the number actually at work.

When he finds that workers in a certain trade are more useful to the national defense program than to Selective Service quotas, he recommends that such men be deferred.

LIVING COSTS INCREASE THREE PER CENT. IN YEAR

The retail cost of food has increased almost 3 per cent. in the past year, largely because of higher prices for meats, eggs and dairy products, the Labor Department has announced.

Between March, 1940, and the same month this year, retail prices in selected cities in New England increased less than 2 per cent., but in most of the other cities where price changes have been watched, the increases have been as high as 8 per cent.

The largest increase since March, 1940, was 8.2 per cent. in Norfolk. An increase of nearly 6 per cent. was reported for San Francisco.

Between February 18 and Mar. 18 retail food costs over the country increased one-half of 1 per cent. and the department said that preliminary reports from 18 cities on April 1 indicated further price advances.