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THURSDAY, JULY 14, 1938

NOTES OF SADNESS

Somehow or other there was a note of sadness in the news that Ringling Brothers-Barnum and Bailey Circus—long called "The Greatest Show on Earth," has folded its big "top" and gone to Winter quarters in Florida.

It is especially sad when we think of the thousands of children deprived of a fleeting one-day thrill of watching the fun-making clowns, or the lion tamer or the man on the flying trapeze.

Then there must be a pretty sad outlook for the families of the 1,600 employees, who chose to blindly follow union leaders and put the circus out of business by a strike and thus put themselves out of jobs. The strike was called when the circus proposed a wage cut to avoid closing throught bankruptcy. Highly skilled in their work the performers will have little to look forward to but relief, which adds sadnesss in still another quarter—the taxpayer.

Any way you look at it the Public ultimately foots the bill for strikes which force closing of enterprises.

"WITCH-HUNTING" OR ECONOMICS

A joint commtttee of Congress and of representatives of government administrative departments, equipped with $500,000, is about to set out upon an investigatiion of the American economic system. It is popularly termed "the Monopoly Investigation," but Senator O'Mahoney, who is to be chairman of the inquiry, points out that it has acquired this label for the same reason that headline writers look for short, easily understood words.

In reality, according to the Senator, it is to be a broad investigation into what has beeen wrong with our ecenomic system and what corrections are necessary to make the system function best for the greatest benefit to all our people.

Such an inquiry, wisely conceived and carried through with the objective of making the private enterprise system work better, can be one of the most constructive moves undertaken by government in years. This means accepting the offered cooperation of businesss in fact-finding and in the presentation of witnesses. It means accepting that the American system has produced a constantly rising standard of living, but seeking ways to even increase the flow and provide more jobs.

On the other hand, many Washington correspondents have written of the attempts of the young Brain Trust group there to turn the inquiry into a new "witch-hunt" to find evidenec for convincing the people that more and better goverment regimentation of industry, the farmer and labor is the answer to our trobules. If the inquiry is allowed to fall into a new "smear-all' campaign in which the faults of a minority of business are magnified to make it look as though all businesss is tarred, then the signs of recovery which are again appearing on the horizon might again be driven behind the clouds.

SWELLING THE FEDERAL PAYROLL

Whatever contribution pump-priming may make to employment—still a amatter of guess-work—Congress created plenty of new jobs o n the Federal payrolll at its recent session. It takes a lot of additional clerks and officials and agents to distribute even a few more billion dollars.

Not counting the Army and Navy, the Government had 826, 000 employees on June . It is estimated that Mr. Ickes' PWA will now require 2000 more and Mr. Hopkins' WPA at least 1000.

Enforcement of the wage-hour law calls for about 2200 additional assistants. Five hundred new jobs will be made by the Civil Aviatiion Authority and 1500 by the farm law.

"Expand, expend"is an old economic, though not an economical, principle. The Federal Government is the largest employer in the country, but it doesn't have to worry about meeting its increasing payroll. If taxes don't produce the necessary revenue, it can always borow. It's not a businesslike practice, but the Government isn't run like a business, as the taxpayers have found to their sorrow.

MOST VITAL ISSUE

It will be six months before another Congress meets. During that time, that American people must make it known to their elected representatives that the much-talked-about revision of the Government's tax system has been too long deferred.

What about business-killing levies—the capital gains and the undistributed profits tax? What about broadening the tax base— perhaps the greatest need of all- What about our excessively high corporate and income taxes that discourage investors, depress industry, and create more and more unemployment?

These are examples of great questions which must be answered at the next session of Congress, if we are to escape economic chaos. Congresss will have many vital issues on its calendar—but none will be more vital than tax revision and reform.

HAVEN FOR SAVINGS

Proof of t he fact that the American people look upon life insurance as a safe haven for savings as well as a protector of dependents is found in some figures concerning the sale of annuities.

An annuity, strictly speaking, is not insurance at all. It is all investment and savings. Yet in a recent decade the premiums for annuities increased relatively six times as fast as the premiums paid for life insurance. And during that decade life insurance premiums, as well, registered substantial advances.

The wise policyholder buys two kinds of contracts. One if for the benefit of his dependents in case of his death. The other is for the future, in case he lives to retirement age. That program gives full protection.

TIME TO STOP

Discussion of the Primary Campaign now in progres invariably brings up the very unusual number of candidates now aspiring to the various offices; and usually winds up with the question, is it never going to stop? To every citizen in good political standing, the privilege of becoming a candidate is assured under the law. However, irresponsible or unfit candidates, merely clutter up the political situation, and bog down the campaign, usually losing sight of important issues in the give and take caused by too many aspirants for each office.

Both education and experience, sufficient for the proper conduct of the official position, it too often lacking in some candidates. It is true of course that the electorate usually eliminate the unfit with decision; but more than enough usually are found remaining in the regular campaign.

Positions of importance and trust should only be held by men of competent judgment and experience.

The conditions tnat prevailed in the last term of the General Assemly at Annapolis, should be a sufficient warning to the voters to look carefully into the ability, honesty and records of all the candidates ambitious of acceptance at this coming election.

SPEAKING OF SPIES

British newspaper owners have long been opposed to the tremendous powers of the governemnt under the official Secrets Act even though they have been seldom used, and an airing of the entire matter will be welcome to this group. In this connection there is one amusing Fleet Street story about a reporter who wrote an article giving certain details of a new British fighting plane. According to the story he was summoned by government officials and threatenede with jail if he did not reveal the source of his data. Thereupon he produced a three-month-old issue of a German aviation magazine.—*New York TimesN*

THE PEOPLE MUST KNOW

A great deal of comment has appeared in the Press of the State about vice-conditiions in Baltimore ,and questions have repeatedly been addressed to us asking about conditions in Cecil County.

Many rumors are in circulation that the liquor situation in this County is getting out of hand, and that both Town and State authorities are lax in vigilance.

We have been assured that the state regulatory act is being flagrantly violated on Sunday and that the sale of liquor is openly done and that road-houses and gambling joints are taking advantage of the campaign conditions for flagrant violations. If this is true, these gentry may awake to a sudden and painful financial headache when our authorities get after them.

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CECIL COUNTY STAR

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

With the vast sums of money available, and with the proper organization back of an application, funds could be secured for the greates need in the County today, a new Union Hospital.

The need has been urgent for years, an opportunity is now presented to have it fulfilled and all that is needed now is concerted effort on the part of the citizens of Cecil County. Here is a golden oportunity; will someone come to the front in this situation to take the steps that the late Dr. Howard Bratton would take. He did so much with so little, he gave us the present structure, which is a monument to his name. In those days there was no such thing as Federal grants but he found the way. Who will grasp the torch to carry on as he would.

HUMANE CITIZEN

Who Plants a Tree?

An ancient sage once said that there are four human achievements in which men take supreme pride: and one of these four is "to have planted a tree"

What does he plant who plants a tree?
He plants a house for you and me;
A house with children, dear and coy,
The nation's pride, the pation's joy

What does he plant who plants a tree?
He plants a ship that sails the sea:
A ship with sturdy timbers, tough,
That rides the rolling billows rough.

What does he plant who plants a tree?
He plants a church for the years to be;
A church with slender steeple high.
That points the pilgrim to the sky

What does he plant who plants a tree?
He plants a school, with its rule of three;
Instilling in the minds of youth,
A love of country, God, and truth.

What does he plant who plants a tree?
He plants a fire, for bond and free;
A fire for warmth, a fire for light.
A fire for cooking, morn and night

What does he plant who plants a tree?
He plants a shadein the grassy lea;
For man and beast, a cool retreat,
From the burning rays of summer heat.

What does he plant who plants a tree?
He plants rich fruit for the race to be;
He plants a barn, he plants a mill,
And a fence around the wooded hill..

He plants rich kindness, favor, health.
And benefaction, hope, and wealth;
His debtors, men, for eons shall be—
He plants all this who plants a tree.

—William Winston Gaines in Christian Herald.

INDORSE SENATOR TYDINGS

Havre de Grace, Md.,—The First District Democratic Club of Harford County held a meeting in Abington, Monday night, with fifty-five members and seven guests present, and unanimously indorsed Senator Millard E. Tydings for reelection.

The officers of the club, the largest in the county are: Roland P. Fournier, president; Howard Price, vice-president, Joseph Scully, secretary, and Harry Moulsdale, sergeant-atarms.

CONTRACTOR SUCCUMBS NEAR APPLETON HOME

APPLETON, Md.,—Harvey Madison Scott, 56, carpenter-contractor, died suddeuly of heart disease, Monday, July 11, while walikng along the road near his home. Vincent Lee, a small boy, saw Scott collapse and spread the alarm. Earl Cox and Walter O'Brien carried him to his home and summoned a doctor, but Scott was beyond aid.

He was the son of the late James Madison and Martha E. Scott and is survived by his wife, Mrs. Lillie J. Scott; two daughters, Lillie, at home, and Mrs. Eugene Coleman, Cooch's Bridges; two sons, Harvey J. and William H. Scott, both of home.

Funeral services will be held at the home Friday, at 2 P. M., with interment at S. John's M. E. Cemetery, Lewisville, Pa.

Vacationing in New England

Mr. William L. Coulon, of Aiken, Md., sailed from Baltimore, Tuesday on the SS Chatham of the Merchants and Miners Line, enroute to Boston and other New England points.

Announces For Register of Wills

Mr. Claude Buck, Rising Sun District, brother of Walter Buck, son-in-law of Wm. M. Pough, has announced himself for Register of Wills, subject to September primary.

North East Regatta

The North East River Yacht Club will hold its annaul regatta on the North East River Sunday.

U. S. Gold, Silver Output Near Record

Washington

Production of gold and silver in the United State last year approached record totals.

Figures on 1937 output, announced by the mint, showed $4,804,540 ounces of gold were produced, which was within 83,000 ounces of the record set in 1915. Because the price of gold was raised in 1934 from $20.67 per ounce to $35, the value of the 1937 output, $168,158-900, was $67,000,000 higher than in 1915.

Silver production totaled 71,941,-794 ounces worth $55,646,978, compared with the record in 1925 of 74,961,075 ounces worth $37,397,300 ounces valued in 1937 at 77.35 cents per ounce, which was the special price paid by the Treasury for newly minde domestic silver. This year the Treasury is paying only 64,64 cents.

California led in gold production with 1,169,491 ounces and Idaho topped the silver production with 19,556,118 ounces.

Automobile Safety

The vast research and experimental facilities of the automobile industry have been concentrated effectively during recent years on a tireless search for new means to guard the safety of those who ride and drive.

As a result, the cars of today are far more safe than were those of just a few years ago. "About the only uncertain factor that remains today in the equation of motoring safety is the intelligence and judgment of the driver. The engineers have given him every possible mechanical safeguard. They have designed cars that are easier to start and stop, that respond more quickly and surely in emergencies and that hold the road more securely.

A great many of the mechanical factors which guard the safety of the present day motorist were not heralded primarily as safety developments. Each, however, has made a definite contribution toward safety.

For instance, when knee-action was developed, it was regarded by the public as principally an aid to riding comfort. Knee-action, however, makes a very vital contribution toward driving safety The reason for this is the fact that knee-action anchors the front wheels in the direction of car travel. It prevents a road obstruction or a tire blowout from suddenly deflecting the front wheels.

Likewise do center-control steering and ride stabilizers make their contributions toward safety. The former gives maximum steering control with minimum effort, while the latter sets up forces which resist the tendency of a car to tilt when rounding curves. The safety importance of such developments as all steel turret-top bodies, superhydraulic brakes and safety glass in windows as well a windshields, is obvious.

MORE DRUNKEN DRIVING

Arrested on a charge of operating his car while under the influence of liquor, James Bailey of Baltimore pleaded guilty before Magistrate George Rawson at North East and was fined $100 and costs.

Elks Lodge at Atlantic City

The Havre de Grace Elk Lodge will participate in the Elks' parade at Atlantic City today. The lodge will be accompanied by the Elks Boy Band.

A Vacation Abroad

Miss Rose Richupero of North East, a school teacher, accompanied by her brother, have sailed from New York for a two-month trip abroad.

Havre de Grace Regatta

Friday and Saturday at Havre de Grace will be held the ninth annual regatta, with some of the best known racing drivres in the East, as contenders. A parade of boats will be staged on Saturday night, accompanied by a fireworks display.

Plant Breeders Hope to Make Watermelon Better

Even the watermelon can be improved by breeding, plant scientists of the United States Department of Agriculture believe.

Ot the regional vegetable breeding laboratory near Charleston, S. C., several wild watermelons from Africa—its native home—have been introduced by the divinsion of plant exploration and introduction. Federal and State plant breeders expect to use the high sugar content of these melons to increase the sweetness of the best commercial varieties now available.

A sweeter melon, however, is only one of thegoals at which the plant breeders are aiming. Modern home economy demands a smaller fruit than the 35to 36 pound melons which do not fit in the small ice box

The plant breeders also feel that too little attention has been paid to producting a melon that will stand up well when shipped to distant markets. Added to this is the disease problem. Watermelons are susceptible to several diseases, including fusarium wilt, anthracnose, leaf spot, and blight This calls for breeding for disease resistance.

The regional laboratory is little more than 1 year old, but in a few seasons the plant breedrs expect to produce smaller, sweeter fruit with skin and flesh colors fitting consumer demands.

Mexico Builds Farm Empire Near U. S. Border

YUMA, Ariz.,—Millions of pesos are being spent by the Mexican Government to bring over 1,000,0000, acres of rich soil in the Colorado River Delta, just below the United States border, under cultivation. More than 5,000 collective farmers are already settled there and intensive activity is in progress. With all possible speed, land is being cleared and planted, canals dug or enlarged. A 125-mile railroad, affording the entire region easy access to a port on the Gulf of California, is almost completed.

This development was made possible by construction of the Boulder Dam, up in the northwest corner of Arizona, which regulates the flow of the Colorado. There are no more floods to wash out diversion dams, canals and ditches. At least 500,000 of the 1,328,000 acres now available for agriculture were subject to periodical overflow. Now those acres, with their accumulated deposits of silt and vegetable matter, are among the most fertile in the whole delta region.

Farmers in the southwestern part of the United States view with concern this rising agricultural empire at their door. One reason is that bumper crops of cotton, grain and vegetables grown on those delta lands may soon be competing with their own products.

HOPES FOR PRIOR RIGHTS

Another is that Mexico is aparently trying to establish prior right to water which may be needed for irrigation of the 580,000-acre Yuma-Gila project in Arizona. It will be five or six years at least before water can be applied to the first 150,000-acre unit of Yuma-Gila. In the meantime, the Mexican reclamation program, requiring much less expensive works, is moving right along.

A local organization known as the Gila Project Association sent its sectrary, Hugo B. Farmer, into Mexico recently to find out exactly what is happening. The report that he brought back is far from reassuring to Americans. It has been forwarded to Washington to support the argument that the Yuma-Gila project must be pushed to completion without delay.

Of the 1,329,000 acres of good land in the delta district—370,000 acres in the State of Sonora, the rest west of the river in Baja, California—only 200,-000 were being farmed before Boulder Dam was built. Mr. Farmer found that 441,435 acres are now in crops or being prepared for farming. A major part of this is being accomplished as part of the agrarian program of President Cardenas.

BANK NEAR BORDER

At Mexical, on the California border, not far from El Centro, is a branch of Mexico's Banco Nacional de Credito Ejidal. Through 5,000 ejidatarios(government land beneficiaries) in 50 collectives, this branch is financing the farming of 405,000 acres, including 150,-000 acres in wheat, 200,000 in cotton, 50,000 in barley, 5,000 in vegetables.Ten more ejidos (allocated farms) are in process of formation.

Under the Mexican law any group of 15 or more citizens may form a collective and apply for a tract equal to 62.5 acres for each family head. Then the bank steps in. Mr. Farmer describes the procedure in these words:

"This bank besides providing the ejidatarios with farm implements, seed, water and other things necessary to conduct general farming operations, has general supervision over the crops produced, paying to each male ejidatario two pesos a day for the subsistence of himself and family. It is said that if any of the ejidatarios refuse to work properly or fail to conduct themselves properly, they may be dismissed and required to leave the ejido. The care of the farm machinery, as well as 125 trucks supplied by the bank is under the direct control of the Banco Ejidal and when not in use they are required to be kept in a general headquarters under its supervision."

BRANCH AT MEXICALI

The Mexican Banco Nacional de Credito Agricola also has a branch at Mexicali, which is alloted 6,000,000 pesos for lending to private land owners, not ejidatarios. It is already financing 7,500 acres of cotton, 4,200 of wheat, 750 of alfalfa, expects to finance an additional 40,000 acres of cotton this year.

Appropriatiions totalling 10,000,000 pesos have been made for the 125-mile railroad from Mexicali south to Rocky Point on the Gulf of California. On Feb. 2nd, 7,000,000 pesos had been spent; all but about 39 miles had been built and those in charge were sure they would be through by June. At that time 600 men were employed.

Antonio E. Lafon, a member of the Comision Nacional Irigacion de Mexico, is quoted by Mr. Farmer as stating that Mexico expects to trade water which is now diverted from the Rio Grande and used in Texas for Colorado water from Boulder Dam.

Penna 50 Mile Speed Limit

Maryland motorists are warned by the Keystone Automobile Club that white police cars are not used exclusively in Pennsylvania in patrol of the highways. Unidentified black cars are also employed by the State in the campaign to enforce strictly the 50-mile limit.

The Club is vigorously opposed to the use of cars unidentified by police insignia, on the ground that is subordinates the important principle of highway safety to "gum shoe" police work.

"The white police cars in Pennsylvania has become a highway safety symbol," Matthew P. Hanley, Manager of the Eastern Shore Division of the Club. "Its presence was assurance to the careful driver that his reckless brethren would be under surveillance. Its effect on the reckless was to make them cautious, and the general effect was drastic reduction in the number of high-deaths.

"It appears that the number of arrests didn't suit somebody in authority ,and so it was decided to 'gum shoe' the motorist by stalking him in unidentified cars. The positiion of the Club is that arrests should not be the primary object of highway patrolling. The aim should be to make the highways safer by having police always 'on view.'

"We strongly advise local motorists to be very careful in their operation of cars on Pennsylvania roads, with particular attention to strict observance of the 50-mile limit. License revocation may result from conviction for this offense."

Lemon Production in U. S. Is Increasing

Production of lemons in the United States, almost all of which is in California, in increasing and may be expected to increase during the next several years, says the United State Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Lemon production in this country has been on the upward trend since the industry first became of importance shortly after 1900. California's production increased from an averageof 6,-800,000 boxes in the years 1927-31 to 8,100,000 boxes in the next 5-year period. The Bureau points out, however, that only two-thirds of the lemon trees in California were in full-bearing this past year. And as more of these trees come into fulll-bearing, production within the United States may be expected to go further upward.

Once-important imports of foreign lemonsand lemon products have dwindled during the past 20 or 30 years to insignificant prpportions. The United States has become an exporter of lemons with Canada as its largest buyer, although some purchases are made by other nearby countries and by the Far East.

Hand Crushed

While working on an automatic elevator at Perry Point Hospital, C. A. Leithiser, had his hand badly crushed and mangled and lost one finger. He will return home this week.

Mr. Leithiser is manager of the Havre de Grace team.

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