THE CECIL COUNTY STAR

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A Sweetly Christian Suggestion

In a recent review of Pierre van Paassen's book, "Days of Our Years" which purports to be the autobiograhical history of his life, with the high light thrown on the years he spent as special correspondent for the New York World. Probably the most interesting and possibly the most breath taking is his dissection of the Ethiopean crisis and the ghoulish suggestion therein attributed to Hitler. Its plausibility and accuracy may be questioned but many people will remember the startled indignation of Britain, France and the United States, the warnings given and the sudden collapse of official Britain and France and the quick subsidence of action by the League of Nations, and may wonder where and why theprinciple so hotly enunciated had so suddenly melted away However, we quote the following from the New York Times Review:

A NEW VERSION

Take, for one, Mr. van Passen's story of why Mussolini was allowed to swallow Ethiopia. It was not, as some of us were led to believe, because the League of Nations was too weak to order drastic measures against an aggressor, or because certain of the Versailles powers had a guilty conscience over swindling Italy out of her share of loot after the World War, or even because imperialist-capitalist interests preferred not to run the risk of stirring up social revolution in Rome. Mr. van Paassen regards these interests as unscrupulous indeed and feels that they are in large measure responsible for everything that is wrong in the world today or has been wrong for the past twenty years. But in the Ethiopian crisis they were, though no fault of their own, innocent Mussolini went his way by no less authority than that of the French Government—in exchange for a favor granted.

This favor was granted in 1934. In the Summer of that year, it will be recalled, Hitler flew to Venice to confer with Mussolini. He whispered at that meeting, Mr. van Paassen now reveals, that he was about to mobilize Germany's air fleet, bomb the insides out of the great French arament works and centers of communication, and gas half the population of Paris to death—all this without a word of warning to the French or even a prearranged "incident." Mussolini "indignantly" refused to have anything to do with such a plan, and, as soon as he was able to, reported it by telephone to a French Deputy who happened to be staying at the Lido.

HOME TO GERMANY

Hitler left Venice "in a huff" and returned home to Germany, where he had recently done away with Schleicher, Roehm and a few others for their opposition to this very scheme (a little confusion in dates here but no matter). Mussolini's kindness and consideration had to be recognized by the French in some way, so when the time came for Ethiopia, he was told to go ahead and take it.

**Days of Our Years. By Pierre van Paassen. 520 pages. Hillman-Curl. $3.50.*

Getting Somewhere

"After fifty years of effort farmers are getting somewhere," observes a release of the Dairymen's League Cooperative Association of New York.

The organized dairy farmers of the New York milk shed, led by the League, obtained the passage of state and federal laws encouraging to marketing cooperation in selling dairy products. The result: Farmers in the shed are receiving $1,500,000 more each month!

That's what marketing organization can do. It's another inspiring chapter to the history of agriculture cooperation in the interest of the producer.

The Labor Relations Act

It is refreshing to see that certain progressive labor groups, including some affiliates of the American Federation of Labor, are urging reasonable modification and revision of the National Labor Relations Act.

Farsighted labor leaders are the first to recognize that the cause of honest unionism is harmed, not saved, by extremist legislation which is predicated on the principle that labor must be favored at every turn, and the employer always penalized. The Labor Relations Act, at least as construed by the Labor Board, puts almost no restrictions on the activities of labor—and hogties the employer to the extent that he has almost no rights at all when controversies arise.

Dispassionate and fair revision of the Act is absolutely essential to the maintenance of peaceful industrial relations—and to the welfare of legitimate unionism.

Improving Sales Practices Essential

The life insurance industry is often critized because certain salesmen attempt to unload high-premium policies on prospects, when low-premium policies would fill the need.

That sort of selling should be condemned. But in justice to the industry, it should be pointed out that the leading companies are working constantly to weed out unscrupulous salesmen, and to improve the ethical standards of their representatives. The average underwriter today knows that in the long run his own interest can best be furthered by honest service to the public. Underwriters who think otherwise are headed for well-deserved failure.

Economy Comes Back

(From the Washington, D. C., Star)

Campaign promises of economy and efficiency in Government are not always made to be kept. There is real news, therefore, in the economy wave which seems to be sweeping through many states in the wake of new gubernatorial regimes.

These developments in the States are straws that show which way the wind is beginning to blow. The American people are tired of waiting for prosperity to come around the corner under the whiplash of improvident spend-and-tax policies.

There may be food for some thought in all this for the administration's fiscal policy formulators.

"In the long run, probably in the next few years, Germany's competitive ability in foreign trade will depend upon the productive capacity of German industry. There seems to be no reason for believing that this capacity has been raised by the controls introduced under the Hitler regime—The German aggression is a challenge. But it should be met, not by imitating German policies, but by applying our own more boldly and more effectively."—Percy W. Bidwell, in Foreign Affairs.

Proposed Tax Scheduie

(Annapolis Bureau of The Sun)

Annapolis, Jan. 26—Following is the schedule of taxes proposed to raise $17,000,000 to balance the State budget for 1940-41, with a brief summary of the income-tax provisions:

INCOME TAX

A two-and-a-half per cent. levy on the net income of individuals, with exemptions of $1,000 for single persons; $2,000 for married persons, plus $400 for each dependent (and to include all State officials), estimated to produce	$1,950,000
A six per cent. levy on dividends and interest, heretofore taxed at the rate of 4¼ mills per $100 (two-thirds of which went to political subdivisions), estimated to produce, when subdivisions are reimbursed for loss of share of 4¼ mills tax	2,400,000
A tax of one and one-half per cent. on the net income of corporations, estimated to yield	1,250,000

OTHER TAXES

Motor vehicle titling at one per cent	$450,000x
A $15 tax on music boxes	15,000
A levy of 75 cents per barrel on beer	860,000x
Tax on recordation of documents	235,000x
Added tax of 15 cents per gallon on distilled spirits	310,000
One per cent. added levy on race betting	300,000
Taxes on passes and admissions	220,000x
Reregistration of motorists	500,000
Annual grand total	$8,530,000

x-Denotes taxes row in effect on same scale.

PERSONALITIES IN MUSIC

BOB MILLER, A. S. C. A. P.

Hill Billy Song Specialist

By Daniel I. McNamara

HE holds degrees in music from two conservatories. Composer and author, he has made brilliant arrangements in symphonic proportions. He is a piano virtuoso and versatile instrumentalist But transcending all his musical accomplishments is Bob Miller's mastery of the distinctively American musical idiom, the hill billy song.

Miller is composer of an incredibly large number of these mountaineer ballads. Because no one would believe one person could write so many, he uses a dozen pseudonyms covering various types of songs. Vasca Suede, Shelby Darnell, Trebor Rellim, Elli Divina, A. J. Adams, Bob Ferguson, Lawrence Miller, Bob Kackley, Dinny Dimes, Lawrence Wilson, Inky Hucklenutt—all these personages are disclosed in the records of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers to be the same Bob Miller whose "'Leven Cent Cotton, Forty Cent Meat," now nine years old, is one of the greatest record sellers in history.

Miller was born in a suburb of Memphis, Tenn., September 20, 1895, in the heart of the hill billy country. A natural pianist, he became a runaway orphan, worked his way around the country playing piano. Relatives and friends induced the adventurous youngster to complete his formal musical education at Memphis and Chicago Conservatories, but his schooling was interrupted by theatrical engagements and a brief foray into the prize ring.

His first bid for national fame came with the phonograph recordings of his unique Memphis musical organization, Bob Miller's Steamer Idlewild Orchestra. Not only in the rural districts where the market is greatest for this type of song, but in the large cities these records soon became big sellers. Miller's penchant for telling current happenings in original song creations gave him a field almost to himself among songwriters.

To keep pace with the demand for new hill billy songs, he turned them out so rapidly that he became known among music publishers as the one-man music factory. Frequently he composed at a few hours' notice three or four songs which he telephoned from Memphis to the recording studios in New York.

Miller became permanently established in New York City in 1922, and now for a dozen years has conducted his own publishing house. He has produced about two score books of his original song creations and several hundred records of his songs have been made.

Miller describes hill billy songs as spontaneous music of simple folks. At their best they voice the two extremes of emotion, happiness and grief. The simplicity of Stephen Foster's works is of the nature of the genuine hill billy school of song, Miller explains, but Foster was a trained musician whose reverence for musical form estopped the use of non-conforming meter and tempo characteristic of most hill billy songs.

Miller as an authority on hill billy song often is asked to trace origins of ancient songs, and not infrequently he encounters songs of his own composition which have found their way into the mountains, there to be "discovered" by students and brought to him as sterling examples of early Americana.

Miller's current work is the management of his publishing house. He is content now to turn out a mere hundred songs a year!

(Music Features & Photo Syndicate)

Tax Study Unit Headed Here By Mrs. Dixon

Mrs. Sidney H. Dixon, of Elkton, today was named chairman of a local unit of the National Consumers Tax Commission as women here moved to join the commission's "nation-wide crusade against taxes that penalize the consumer."

Her appointment was announced from the commission's national headquarters in Chicago, through Mrs. Kenneth C. Frazier, national president.

The commission is described as a non-political organization conducting a drive by housewives of the nation against all taxes that add to the burden of the customer. The drive is led in this state by Mrs. Harry L. Harcum, of Salisbury, the commission's Maryland national committee member

"This is a movement every housewife should support," Mrs. Frazier said, in welcoming the new chairman. "Hidden taxes, which increase the cost of everything we buy, account for 63 per cent. of all tax revenues raised by local, state and national governments, according to the commission's research department.

"These unseen levies fall most heavily on lower-income families. They cause higher prices on food, clothing, fuel, rent and other family essentials, with the result that many families have to give up some of the necessities to make ends meet."

Hundreds of units in states from coast to coast already are active in the tax fight, Mrs. Frazier said, and plans call for groups in every city she added, will be used by members and town. A series of study programs through which to inform families here of their tax burden.

Seek Scotch Records

Since 1328 Scotsmen have been seeking the return of historical Scotch records removed to London in 1290 when Edward I was conducting inquiries into the succession of the Scottish throne.

"FALSE GODS" GRAVE HUMAN PROBLEM

ANALYZING the "false gods of our own creation" which separate us into "nations and classes and sects so that we stumble and grope instead of walking straight and sure into our place in life," Celia Caroline Cole in the October issue of Pictorial Review classifies the little deities through which we become scattered and full of failures.

"Strange are the gods that scatter us," says Miss Cole. "Lack of quietness, separation, resignation, self-limitation, sense of duty, certainty, appearances, lack of enjoyment, ignorance, on and on—how wide is the gate which leads to futility."

The author places lack of quietness first "because it is only the quiet, seeing mind that observes true values. Those of you who make a daily practice of quietly listening, know what amazing results come of it. It is the practice of being one-pointed, of using pure concentration."

Miss Cole points out that the god of separation scatters more subtly than do other false deities for he deceives with lovely names.

Dwight L. Moody once said, "If there is a single drop of sectarian blood in my body, I shall let it out before I sleep tonight. If I have in my head one sectarian hair, I shall pull it out now." My church, my country, my family are among the little gods of separation which lead to the belief that we are somehow noble in our sense of possession. "If you stay down there on that plane of possessiveness, you stay down on the plane of war, of greed, of hatred, of fear. Come up to a higher level where you know that the pain of any country is the pain of your country, any church is your church .....where you owe your family all the loyalty and harmony and love you can give it, but you owe all that to your neighbor, too."

Our vision of life's purpose is worthless unless it is worked into life itself, according to Miss Cole. We deliberately shut off that vision with these little gods of our own creation—such gods as resignation, which forces us into compromise on our goal; self-limitation, which "scatters us into restless, shallow, meaningless ways and values"; duty, which "scatters us into hard little resentments that sap us like parasites" when it should make us strong and serene; reason which "often keeps us from being one-pointed for it is not the power in us that gets results—what gets results is the place just beyond it, the lighted place of convinced faith"; appearances, which "scatters our strength both by belief and by denial"; lack of enjoyment, which robs us of our lust for life; ignorance, which scatters our energy most of all, because "it encompasses all the rest, for as we lose ignorance, we lose all desire to outshine other people, to possess many things, to separate ourselves from others as being a little superior to them; to separate ourselves from God as being human and frailer."

Strange are the gods which scatter us.

MAGIC — MUSIC MERRIMENT

—DO NOT MISS THE—

ODD FELLOWS SHOW

Elkton Armory

Thurs., Feb. 9, at 8 P. M.

Cecil County Guernsey Owners Meeting

Cecil County farmers who own guernsey cattle and who are interested in improving and promoting the breed will hold a dinner meeting at the Howard Hotel, Elkton, Maryland on Wednesday, evening, February 1, at 7 p. m. Mr. Earl N. Schultz, Field Representative, American Guernsey Cattle Club, Peterboro, N. H., and from the University of Maryland will Mr. H. C. Barker, Dairy Specialist be present and address the meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to reorganize guernsey cattle group in Cecil County and to discuss ways and means of increasing interest of farmers in breeding good guernsey cattle.

Chowder Dispute Goes On

PROBABLY NEVER HEARD OF CHESAPEAKE BAY CHOWDER

Boothbay Harbor, Me., Jan. 29.—A bill to be introduced by Representative Sleeper of Rockland to outlaw the mixing of clams and tomatoes is heightening interest in Maine clam chowder, according to Arthur R. Greenleaf, Sea, and Shore Fisheries Commissioner. His office is being beseiged with letters, telegrams and phone calls from Fort Kent to Los Angeles requesting the typical Down East recipe.

Reports from various cities tell of open culinary warfare between exponents of the two varieties of chowder.

The department has a recipe which it is sending out, but Mr. Greenleaf says he understands that Mr. Sleeper has an even better one up his sleeve to use in the event that a threatened best chowder challenge is hurled at him. The department's clam-chowder recipe is as follows:

One quart clams, one quart sliced potatoes, one onion cut fine, one-fourth pound of salt pork, one quart milk. Fry out pork diced, then place potatoes in kettle with the fat and cold water (the clam water) which has been drained from clams) and cook until potatoes are tender. Then add clams and boil just three minutes Season with salt and pepper and add hot milk.

MISCELLANEOUS CLAIMS IN OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, JANUARY 31, 1939

Lumiss T. Harris—Stove Wood for Cecil Co. Welfare Board	4.50
The Elkton Gas Co.—Gas for County Jail	8.70
Dr. R. C. Dodson—Coroner	24.50
G. Reynolds Ash—One month office rent	12.00
C. K. Eder—Supplies for Court House	13.34
State Tax Commission—Service Rendered to Motor Vehicles Office	50.00
Harry M. McIntire—Two month office rent	60.00
Henry Dorsey—Hauling trash from County Jail	2.00
John E. Gonce—Supplies for County Jail	1.63
Robert E. Lee, Sheriff, Kent Co.—To board of prisoners	152.80
Harry W. Pippin—Pauper Burial	35.00
Dr. V. H. McKnight—Jail physician for 1938	100.00
The Bullen Chemical Co.—Supplies for Court House	9.80
Md. Training School for Boys—Board and tuition	190.84
Rosewood State Training School—Board and tuition	468.75
Crownsville State Hospital—Maintenance of Patients	461.47
Montrose School for Girls—Board and tuition	54.50
Md. Training School, (Colored Girls)—Board and tuition	45.00
Spring Grove State Hospital—Maintenance of Patients	51.12
Springfield State Hospital—Maintenance of Patients	122.18
Eastern Shore State Hospital—Maintenance of Patients	1,788.42
Dr. Jacob J. Greenwald—Lunacy examination of Geo. Redifer	5.00
C. & P. Telephone Co.—Service	85.35
Otis Kline—Carpentering work, (Welfare office)	8.00
H. C. Garrett—Carpentering work, (Welfare office)	8.00
Howard Hotel—Meals for the Jury of Cecil County	8.60
George C. Rawson—Photo. Manan car for State's Attorney	7.50
Department of Health—Board of Health	343.33
Elkton Banking & Trust Co.—Box rent for Cecil Co.	4.40
Conowingo Power Co.—Service & lighting of towns	295.54
The Cecil Whig—Adv. notice to auto owners	12.00
The Cecil Whig—Adv. notice to contractors, (Court House)	10.44
Commercial Printing Service—Printing Amusement Licenses	6.50
Cecil County Star—Adv. and Printing	34.00
Dr. V. H. McKnight—Professional services as jail physician	74.00
The Elkton Water Works—Three months water rent	62.80
J. J. Minster & Son—Supplies for jail	.65
The Cecil Democrat—Supplies for jail	5.50
David D. Hanes—Wiring election booth, Fair Hill	29.45
Henry A. Warburton—Defending, Nanni, LaRue, Cox, Tasker Robinson, Smith & Smith, December court	115.00
Omar D. Crothers, Jr.—Rent for School Board office	60.00
Agnes M. Schmitz—Stenographer clerk, WPA office	26.00
Ralph Speakman—Street light at Pleasant Hill	7.40
Mac's Laundry—Service	2.00
Lilley Bus Service—Transporting from Chestertown to Elkton and return for two days	80.00
Charles R. Brown—Coal for Welfare Office	7.50
The Cecil Democrat—Printing & Adv. for 6 months	191.20
Columbia Carbon Co.—Supplies for Court House	17.70
Lucas Bros.—Supplies for Court House	5.50
The Pure Oil Co.—Fuel oil for County jail	13.44
Gulf Oil Co.—Fuel oil for County jail	31.26
Sinclair Refining Co.—Fuel oil for Court House	148.00
C. K. Eder—Supplies for the jail	100.73
Lucas Brothers—Supplies for the jail	11.29
Davis Supply Co.—Supplies for the jail	1.90
Idella M. Racine—Supplies for the jail	2.20
J. Frank Frazer—Supplies for the jail	6.32
John S. Keithley—Supplies for the jail	15.40
Litzenberg Bros.—Supplies for the jail	8.98
Charles R. Brown—Supplies for the jail	2.42
Elkton Bakery—Supplies for the jail	37.12
Samuel H. King & Sons—Supplies for the jail	4.00
Holly Hall Dairy Farms—Supplies for the jail	6.82
The Cecil Whig—Supplies for the jail	14.95
Armours Market—Supplies for the jail	9.00
Edward Smith—Hauling rubbage from jail	1.00
David D. Randolph—Box rent	.75
The Cecil Whig—Printing & Adv. for 6 months	188.54
Lucas Bros.—Supplies for Court House	14.82
Total amount of claims	$5,707.45

The above claims will be acted upon by the County Commissioners on February 14, 1939.

HERBERT BAKER, *Asst. Treasurer*