# THE CECIL COUNTY STAR

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## HOME TOWN DEBT BOOSTERS

Continued federal deficits make it inevitable that the question of raising the federal debt limitation from $45,000,000,000 to $50,000,000,000 will be brought up in Congress. The debt is rapidly approaching the legal limit and there it must halt unless the American people, through their representatives, change the present law. Indications are that it will be no easy matter for the "spenders" to change the law. Congress, at least temporarily, is of a mind to economize. But Congress cannot be expected to stem the tide of spending or head the country off from bankruptcy entirely on its own initiative.

Again it must be pointed out that in the last analysis there can be no such thing as effective economy in government until the people themselves, through the polling booth and otherwise, express a desire for economy.

Local business men will have to learn to look farther than the end of their noses and

**Refrain from lobbying for pet local projects which require "free" government money. Local Chambers of Commerce and civic bodies will have to forgo the hypocrisy of demanding economy on the one hand while on the ther acting as "pressure groups," howling for public money for pet projects. Home town boosters of this sort are almost as serious a menace to Democracy as the worst of the dictators!**

The nation needs real economy but it can never have it until the American people exhibit a sincere demand for economy —

**beginning back home.**

## BRAIN TRUSTERS AT WORK

There was more than a little humor in the calling in by some of the Capital's brain trusters recently of one of the nation's foremost private accountants to whom it assigned the task of preparing a definition on manufacturing costs in connection with one of the many scrutinies being made into American business. After puzzling for a moment or two the accountant said he considered the task too great a one to accomplish offhand and asked for some time to prepare it. Several days later he forwarded his definition to Washington. It had been carefully prepared and comprised between 200 and 300 words. Annoyed, the brain trusters returned it to him and insisted that he put the definition in not more that two sentences. They told him if he could not do it they would have to do it themselves. The prominent accountant informed them, however, that he felt he knew his business and was certain the definition could not be arbitarily written in less space than that which he had used. To date the brain trusters have not produced a definition on the subject in line with their specifications.

## Government Paternalism Not Needed

Farmers in the "old dominion" have been making an excellent record in solving their milk marketing problems, according to an article in the Dairymen's League News.

During 1938, in Richmond, Virginia, there was universal cooperation between producer and distributor—and it was achieved without help from e ither the state or federal governments. The farmers were represented by a Cooperative Milk Producers' Association which sat down with representatives of distributors and thrashed out issues. The result: A stable and orderly market during the entire year, with sales increasing. A four-year-old federal license plan was voluntarily dropped by the farmers.

Dealers and farmers likewise worked together and shared the costs of a successful publicity and advertising campaign to increase consumer demand.

There's a good example here for farmers in other areas who want to stand on their own feet and make progress. As the News observes, "If producers would cooperate 100 per cent or even 85 per cent in their own cooperative marketing organization, we would not need either state or federal control."

## THE JOKER

There's been a remarkable and ironically amusing shift of sentiment in the Pacific Northwest, on the subject of how to utilize the tremendous blocks of surplus power generated by the federal government's two great tax-exempt dams on the Columbia River.

A few years back, when these dams were still in the planning stage, everything was rosy and many persons were actually led to believe they were going to get virtually "free power." The fact that the Northwest has been long and efficiently served by highly-taxed private utilities charging extremely low rates, was given scant consideration. Great plans were laid for the creation of "people's utility districts" to distribute the power, even though they duplicated or absorbed existing electric service.

Then came the joker—taxes. Unless the PUDS were taxed the same as private companies, the losses to states, counties and cities would be enormous, and the states affected were alrady struggling with mounting relief costs and excessive taxes.

When it finally came to public notice that the absorption of private power facilities by the PUDs would result in the loss of millions a year in taxes to states, cities and counties, the rosiness started wearing off socialized power at an amazing rate. Northwest residents read about the problems of the citizens of the Southeast, where TVA has taken a great amount of property off the tax rolls, and thought again.

It begins to look as if the far-sighted commentators who said years ago that the Columbia dams might prove to be costly white elephants if they were allowed to destroy private enterprise were nearer right than most persons realized.

When the legislators of a prominent state recently bogged down in their endeavors to find new sources for taxation, or ways to increase old taxes, for the simple reason that taxpayers were rebelling, a tactless editor remarked that they might do some exploration into the field of economy which they seemed to hav overlooked entirely.

The Rhoades Family . . . by Squier

Two tax collectors are always on the heels of the U. S. motorist. In addition to the state gasoline taxes, the federal government in 1932 enacted a "temporary" 1¢ per gallon tax, which duplicates the state taxes and adds 25% annually to the motorist's tax bill. The taxes increase the cost of gasoline by one-third.

## MIGHTY SMALL

It appears that some of the extreme charges made against the life insurance industry in hearings before the monopoly investigating committee, have entirely broken down.

What does stand out now, above and beyond all criticism, is the astonishing record of growth, probity and solvency this industry has made. It has given us more insurance by far than is possessed by any other people. It has offered the most complete protection imaginable against exigencies of the future. It has operated on so sound a basis that loss to policyholders is practically unknown.

These statements are facts. And the theories of detractors of life insurance look mighty small when placed beside them.

## TOTALITARIAN "EFFICIENCY" JUST A DREAM

Many claims are heard nowadays that dictator countries are performing miracles of industrial production, while democracies lag behind.

Those assertions can seldom be tested by figures, but a "yardstick" for one of them was provided this week by a Dpartment of Commerce report.

It says that automobile production in Germany "increased slightly" from 267,000 cars in 1937 to 278,000 in 1938 and truck production rose even less, from 60,000 to 61,000.

In 1938 the United States produced 2,000,985 cars and 488,650 trucks. To equal that record in proportion to its population, Germany would have had to produce at least 1,000,000 cars and 250,000 trucks. Actually, it produced about one-fourth that many.

This is a fair test of dictatorship "efficiency," because Hitler started out several years ago, with a blare of publicity, to make a cheap "people's car" which would put millions of Germans on wheels.

Yet Germany's automobile production made almost no gain last year, and is not even in sight of the annual production figures of democratic Uncle Sam.

## THINGS ONE REMEMBERS

A lot of credit has been taken by the politicians and TVA for finally deciding that TVA should pay the Tennessee Electric Company a fair price for its properties, instead of the confiscatory price first offered by the TVA. What particular praise should government get for paying private citizens what is due them? That is only the fair thing to do. TVA and everyone connected with it deserved the criticism and condemnation received for trying to take property away from private citizens at ruinous prices.

## NOTICE

"We wish to acknowledge the efforts of all of the organizations and individuals in our Community who rendered invaluable assistance in the matter of threatened legislation at Annapolis, Md., which was so highly detrimental to our Industry here in Cecil county.

"We also acknowledge the unsurpassed generalship of our Cecil county Senator, Hon. Cecil Clyde Squier, and in the handling of this legislation in the Senate, and we acknowledge the very valuable efforts of our Cecil county representatives in the House of Delegates.

"The proposed legislation referred to was finally defeated in the Senate thanks to the efforts of everyone who participated."

Thanking you very much for your cooperation, we are

Very truly yours,
Triumph Explosives, Inc.
J. Ben Decker,
Executive Vice President.

## Blossom Time

Blossom time this year is expected to attract more motorists than ever to the highways and byways of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland and Delaware according to the Keystone Automobile Club, which bases its opinion on the unprecedented volume of calls for information on "blossom dates."

Washington's famous Japanese cherry blossoms are now drawing their quota of admirers, but Keystone's touring advisers emphasize that blossoms know no boundaries and that beautiful and inspiring sights may be found close at hand, in adjoining counties, or relished mile after mile on long trips to sections famed for their orchards.

Motorists who wish to combine a spring tour with blossom sight-seeing will find a trip into Virginia this month a delightful experience. There will be several flower festivals, chief among them the 12th annual Shenandoah Valley Apple Blossom Festival, at Winchester, the heart of the apple growing country, where more than 11,000 trees will burst into bloom later this month.

The following schedule of blossoms time dates and flomer festivals has been prepared b y the Club. Further information will be made available to motorists as reports are received from various sections:

April 11-16—Charleston, S. C. Azalea Festival.
April 15-May 15—Wilmington, Del. Longwood Gardens Floral Display.
April 15—Alexandria, Virginia—Tour of Historic Houses.
April 24-29—Virginia Garden Week.
April 15-20—Bridgeton, N. J., Peach blossoms. May 1, Apple blossoms.
April 28-May 7—Maryland. Annual House and Garden Pilgrimages throughout State.
April 24-May 20—Del-Mar-Va Peninsula. Apple, peach and dogwood blossoms.
April 25-May 7—Valley Forge, Pa, Dogwood blossoms.
April 27-28—Winchester, Va., Shenandoah Valley Apple Blossom Festival.
May 6—Dover, Del., Old House and Garden Day.
May 12-18—Bear Mountain Park, N. Y., Dogwood and Azalea displays at height.
May 18 — Philadelphia, Pa., Rittenhouse Square Annual Flower Mart.
June 15-25—Pocono Mountains, Pa., Laurel Blossom Festival.
June 10-20—Allentown, Pa., Municipal Rose Display.
June 19-24—Asheville, N. C., Rhododendron Festival.

## A Fair Pair

Pretty "Miss Oregon," otherwise Miss Barbara Johnson, takes the bull by the horns at the National Beef Show at the World's Fair of the West on Treasure Island. The curly haired beauty at the left is Pillsbury Mixer, prize winner in the cattle show.

Detroit News: Money tied up in a long-drawn-out litigation in the West dwindled to a dollar. It is something though, to find a dollar in an old suit.

Cotton is being used experimentally in 24 states in constructing bituminous roads.

In the early days of railroading, the depot was often located on the city's outskirts, just as today the airport is distant from the heart of the trade centers.

The only connecting link for automobiles crossing the Panama Canal is a small ferry carrying 22 cars.

There is a modern pleasant way to get relief from Headache, Gas on Stomach, Colds, Heartburn, "Morning After" and Muscular Pains.

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