# The Social Wanderer

DEAR ROAMER

To-day, we have an engagement of much interest, which is being announced by Mr. and Mrs. E. Clarke Fontaine. It is of Mrs. Fontaine's daughter, Miss Eleanor Evans White to Mr. James Gawith Metcalfe, Jr., U. S. N. R., son of Mr. James G. Metcalfe and the late Rebecca Aldridge Metcalfe.

Eleanor Evans White

Miss White, daughter of the late Vernon Evans White of Princess Anne, Somerset County, Md., was graduated from Washington College in the May Class of 1943. She is a member of Alpha Omicron Pi sorority, and is, at present, holding a position in Baltimore.

Mr. Metcalfe is a graduate of McDonough School and was in the Junior class of Washington College. He is a member of the Theta Chi fraternity and is now attending Naval Training School at Drew University in Madison, New Jersey.

No date has been set for the wedding.

Mr. Wallace Brown, of Quaker Neck, announces the approaching marriage of his daughter, Margaret Elizabeth to Mr. William Thomas Slagle, son of Mrs. Gilbert R. Slagle, also of Quaker Neck.

The wedding wil take place on Saturday evening at 6 o'clock, September 4th, in Bond Chapel Church. The ceremony will be performed by the Rev. Donald A. Hornung, of Crumpton, assisted by the Rev. Lester Loder, rector of the church.

Mrs. H. Clay Brown accompanied her daughter, Miss Elizabeth Brown to Baltimore on Saturday, where she will remain throughout this week. Miss Brown is convalescing at the Union Memorial Hospital following an operation performed Monday morning on her hip.

Mr. James L. Bacchus has returned to Baltimore, following a week's visit here with his father, Mr. James L. Bacchus and sister, Mrs. Carl Melamet.

Mrs. Perry Metcalfe and her daughter, Miss Mackey Metcalfe, spent several days in Baltimore this week, as guests of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Wilkinson.

Mrs. Nathaniel D. Sollers and her young daughter, Sally, returned to their home here, Wednesday, from Camp Lochearn, Ely, Vermont, where they have spent the summer.

Mrs. Harvey Tull has been spending the week here with Mrs. R. F. Tull, following a visit to Rehoboth, She and her young son, "Chip" will return to their home in Cynwyd, Pa., this week-end.

Parties these days are a rarity. Sunday, however. Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Blackhurst entertained informally at luncheon at their home King's Grant. Their son, Major L. Rhoderick Blackhurst, spent last week here as a guest of his parents and wife.

In spite of war and ration, the younger set continue to be merry. Last Saturday evening Peggy Metcalfe and Rolph Townshend, Jr., were joint hosts at a supper party, given at the home of Peggy's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Brown Metcalfe, which was followed by an informal dance at the Country Club.

Still another activity over this week-end will be a house-party givne by Reese Corey at Columbia Manor, the farm of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Roland Corey. Included in the guests will be Jane Kibler, Jean Turner, Anne Wilmer, and Peggy Truslow; Jack Stenger, Elliott Hudgins of Baltimore, and John Corey, of Birmingham, Ala.

Frederick R. Brown, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick R. Brown, Broad Neck, leaves Monday for Parris Island, S. C., for his "Boot" training in the Marine Corps.

Mr. and Mrs. Corey have had as their guests this past week, Mrs. George Borem and her young daughter, Mary Frances, of Wilmington, Del.

Sergeant and Mrs. W. O. Wright, U. S. M. C. R., with Miss Phyllis Fairbault and Mr. Frank Evans, of Elkton, Md., were week-end guests of Sgt. Wright's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Wright at their home on Queen Street. Sgt. Wright is stationed at Quantico, Va.

Other week-end visitors in the county included Mrs. Ralph Emmord, of Hartford, Conn., who visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Turner. Mrs. Joseph Olp and her daughter, Jo Ann, of Haddonfield, N. J., who were guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Stenger.

Mr. and Mrs. Owen C. Smith will return this week-end from a vacation spent at Braddock Heights, Md.

Miss Dorothy Reidy is a guest of Miss Ann Rouse this week at her home in Aberdeen, Md.

Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Hicking are guests at the New Weston Hotel, in New York City.

Miss Madeline Baxter is spending some time in Philadelphia.

Mrs. Ella Robinson of Kent Circle is a guest of her son, Mr. William Allan Robinson, at his home in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mr. and Mrs. James Leonard are receiving congratulations on the birth of a daughter born at the Kent and Queen Anne's Hospital on Saturday. The baby will be named Ruth Ann.

Times passes on, — sun rises, moon wanes, and still no drops of water from the skies. Flee fast in your flight—hot dusty August and let us be—

Yours in the RAIN,

The Wanderer

—V—

Lawrence Smyth Brice is attending the Marine Corps Officers Candidate Class at Quantico, Virginia. Brice, who is the son of James A. Brice of Elkton, Md., is a graduate of Chestertown High School and Washington College. Before joining the Marine Corps in February, Brice worked at the Aberdeen Proving Ground as an engineering aide. He received his "boot" training at Parris Island, South Carolina, and was a drill instructor there for three months before being transferred to Quantico. Drilling was nothing new to this marine, who had been in the National Guard for three years. On graduating from the Candidates' Class he will be commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant and attend the Reserve Officers School before returning to duty with a line outfit.

—V—

**Flying Start**

When the abandoned Federal Reserve Bank building in downtown Pittsburgh was taken over as headquarters for War Materials, Inc., whose job is to get 5,000,000 tons of scrap metal for the war effort, 15 tons of iron bars and grates on the structure were promptly taken down.


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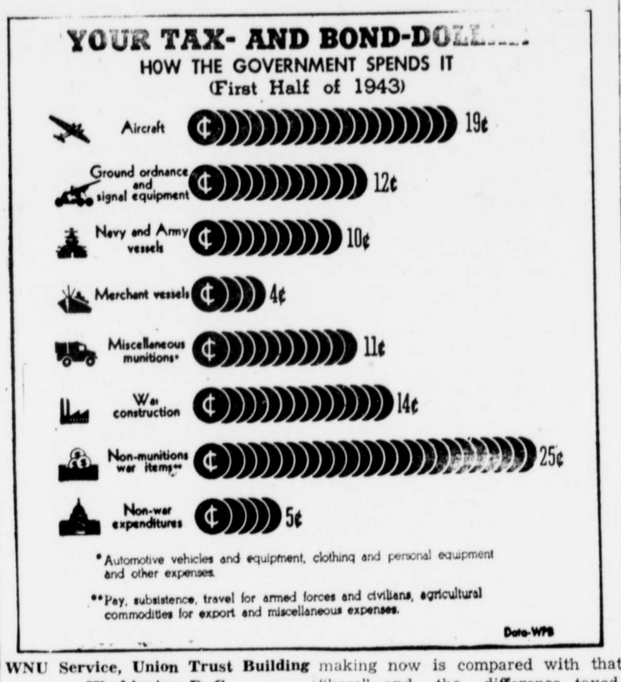
# Washington Digest

## Many Tax Laws Suggested To Get 'Nervous Dollars'

**Compulsory Savings, Personal Excess Income Tax, Spending Levy Found Unpopular or Unwieldy; Orthodox Bill Seen.**

By BAUKHAGE
*News Analyst and Commentator.*




**WNU Service, Union Trust Building Washington, D. C.**

As far back as the biblical days, the tax collector was an unpopular person.

Today you don't see the tax collector but you do know who writes the tax laws and the folks who do (congress) lead a most unhappy life, especially in an election year such as we are approaching.

The complicated problem they face can be simply stated—think it over and figure out what you wouldl do if you had to write a tax law. The problem is this: how to collect the most dollars and lose the least votes.

Soak the rich? Well, they have the money and it hurts them the least, but unfortunately there are not enough of them to soak. It is too bad because they are so few in number that their votes don't matter so much. (Only 46,949 people or approximately one eight-hundredth of those with incomes earn over $10-000 a year).

Tax the rest? That will bring in the biggest total but they are the ones with the votes.

The President says we need 106 billion dollars to run the war this year. The treasury says that out of every dollar collected, 90 cents goes to pay the war bills.

So there have been a number of schemes concocted which are aimed at getting the nervous dollars, the ones most likely to create inflation. Presumably they are the dollars that belong to the people who are now getting a lot more money than they did before the war. It would be just to take the "excess profits" to pay for the war especially because the people who are getting a lot more than they are used to are the ones who spend most freely.

**So compulsory savings has been suggested. That is, making Uncle Sam collect a part of everybody's income, which would be returned after the war. Then there is a scheme to tax spending. In other words, tax the dollars which are spent on extras, dollars that get back into circulation and push up the inflation spiral. Not the dollars that go into homes or life insurance or paying old debts, but the dollars that romp off for more clothes than you need to wear, more food and drink than you need to absorb more gadgets than you ought to get along with in wartime.**

Then there is another tax—the personal excess income tax.

That is a tax on the amount of money that you are receiving now that you weren't receiving before the war.

**Lacking Popularity**

None of these methods is popular. There is a sentimental objection to compulsory savings. It smacks, according to its opponents, too much of totalitarianism, of an interference with the individual's personal habits. The President is opposed to it—and his wife agrees with him—the treasury is opposed to it.

The spending tax is said to be too complicated and likewise appears to be unpopular with the treasury.

Then there is the personal excess income tax of which you will soon be hearing more. The chief objection to that tax seems to be that it is too hard to work out; that it is too hard to make it just and fair. Even the Nazis who tried it gave it up after a year's trial.

When the personal excess income tax comes up, you will hear many arguments against it. Like many of these other "unorthodox" methods, it requires the establishment of what is called a "base period" to establish a comparison. That is, some period of time during which the amount earned by the individual is taken as a base. Then what he is making now is compared with that "base" and the difference taxed. But that is a pretty hard thing to work out because so many adjustments would have to be made for special cases that the government would never be able to examine each case and pass on it fairly.

Take the young doctor. The year before the war, he may have been graduated from medical school. Probably he had little or no income then. Then he begins to practice and in wartime, doctors are in demand. He may have made a fair income this year. Would it be fair to tax the "excess" if it were the difference between this year's earning and the "base period" when he was earning nothing at all?

Too Many Inequities.... .... .... .... .....

Then there are many men who are getting more money now because they work longer hours or have received just and deserved promotions—all these things immediately come into the picture when you begin to straighten out the inequities, when you really try to tax a just percentage of a man's income.

And so the predictions which are being made in Washington now are that the next tax bill will be a pretty "orthodox" affair, it will simply have about the same kind of exemptions, a little higher percentage tax, and will be rushed through at the last minute after as many members of congress have objected to the clauses which they think will be unpopular with their constituents. The government needs the money and needs it quickly. The people don't want to be taxed any more than can be helped and the congressmen will lean over backwards trying to please the people.

Meanwhile, the treasury tells us that most of the money which is being earned due to the great increase in production caused by the war is going to people whose incomes are less than $5,000 a year—seven-eighths of it. So at least seven-eighths of the taxes ought to come from that group.

## Briefs

An honorable discharge from the army during the present war will be signified by a lapel button, the war department has announced.

The British radio in a French-language youth hour broadcast to the continent declared: "Young men, gain time. If you avoid going to Germany today, perhaps you will never have to go."

The Nazi ministry of propaganda has ordered all literature about Benito Mussolini withdrawn from German libraries and bookshops especially those drawing a parallel between him and Adolf Hitler, the Russian Tass news agency said in quoting a report from Berlin reaching Geneva. The parallel did exceedingly little to help the cause of Hitler in his countrymen's eyes.

—V—

Miss Florence Layman, who has been a member of the Baltimore City teaching corps for a number of years, was a recent guest of Mrs. Samuel G. Rosebery in Still Pond, and other friends in the county. Her visit recalled the fact that her father, the late H. C. Layman, was a prominent merchant in Crumpton and Chesterville, near Millington, many years ago.

—V—

**Food**

**The Agricultural Marketing administration reports that 600 million pounds of foodstuffs and other agricultural commodities were received in July for shipment to Allied nations.**

## Miss Peterson Engaged

Mr. and Mrs. Norman E. Peterson announce the engagement of their daughter Marian Frances to T. Sgt. Garold D. Adams, of New Albany, Indiana. Sgt. Adams attended Bomb Disposal School at Aberdeen, Md., and sailed recently for somewhere overseas. On Wednesday, Miss Peterson received word that he had landed somewhere in England.

Their wedding will take place upon Sgt. Adams return to the States.

# DROUGHT IS AT CRITICAL STAGE IN MARYLAND

The drought situation in Maryland has now reached serious proportions according to Dr. T. B. Symons, director of the University of Maryland extension service.

Reports from county agricultural agents about August 20 indicate at least 90 percent of the state is extremely dry, he states. Garrett County reports near normal rainfall, and the upper half of Baltimore, Harford and Cecil Counties and the Eastern half of Worcester County are as yet not affected seriously.

With record numbers of livestock on farms and a dwindling feed supply farmers are alarmed, Dr. Symons states. In response to government programs for more meat, he says, Maryland farmers this year increased hog production 30 percent above 1942. Broilers have been increased by 27.7 percent, hens 7.2 percent, and turkeys 11.1 percent. In an attempt to meet the increased demand for milk Maryland dairymen increased milk cows by 1.9 percent above the record number in 1942.

Maryland farmers normally try to raise the hay and other roughages required by their livestock, Dr. Symons points out. Therefore, the acreage of hay, silage and pasture for 1943 was increased in proportion to the numbers of livestock, but the drought has seriously decreased the yield per acre of most feed crops. Reports indicate that the yield of corn has been cut 35 percent below normal, production of pastures is off 40 percent, and hay yields are expected to be below normal.

To feed livestock now on Maryland farms to maturity or maintain production will require the importation of 470,000 tons of grain and concentrates, it is estimated, and 190,000 tons of hay. Plans are being made to bring in additional feed, but farmers are urged to make the most economical use of available feed. As measures for helping to meet the feed situation, farmers are advised to fill silos, conserve soybeans by cutting for hay, increase pasture production, especially by planting rye or other temporary pasture crops, and by planting all feed grain possible.

—V—

Brattleboro, Vt. August 20—Stanley B. Sutton of Chestertown, Md. has been given the privilege of the exclusive use of the name "Bit-Sweet" as a herd name in registering his pure-bred Holstein-Friesian cattle, announces The Holstein-Friesian Association of America.

More than 500 prefixes were reserved for breeders by the Association in 1942.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