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FOR TRAFFIC SAFETY

A four point program of activities in traffic accident control for communities of all sizes has been released by the Motor Vehicle Department of Maryland with the publication of a 48-page traffic safety manual, "Creating Safer Communities."

In a foreword to the publication, Walter R. Rudy, the Motor Vehicle Commissioner, pledges his help to those groups working for traffic accident control. "The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles of the State of Maryland", the foreword reads, "is putting this information into your hands because he believes that your interest in the conservation of life and property on Maryland highways will impel you to make the best use of it. If you do this, you will have vitally contributed to the improvement of conditions, not only within your own community but throughout the State of Maryland."

The four basic features of the suggested program include the preparation and use of accident facts, the extension of child and adult education, improved enforcement of traffic laws and better engineering for traffic safety.

It is emphasized throughout that all the committee activities should be carried on with the goal of establishing a permanent safety organization equipped to continue the work and to meet new situations as they arise.

The book is illustrated with photographs, drawings and diagrams. It contains a special reference section and a blue print organizational chart.

Publication of "Creating Safer Communities" was made possible, it was stated, through the cooperation of the Maryland Department of Motor Vehicles and the National Bureau of Casualty and Surety Underwriters.

Commenting on the publication, Walter R. Rudy, Commissioner of Motor Vehicles for the State of Maryland, said today:

"The program outlined in "Creating Safer Communities" represents the combined efforts of experts on the all-important subject of traffic safety. It is a suggested method of procedure and is issued in answer to numerous demands that informative material be prepared as a guide to community safety work. We earnestly hope that the suggestions contained in the manual will prove valuable not only where no organized community activity has yet been started but also where such work is already under way.

"Creating Safer Communities" is a valuable contribution to the cause of public safety. It is effectively illustrated and not dull. As a traffic safety manual it should be studied by all policemen and school children. It is to be hoped that means can be found to insure a wide distribution throughout the State.

MONTGOMERY'S SKELETON

At recent meetings of the Civic Federation of Montgomery County it was noticeable that certain delegates darkly hinted that there is something askew in the affairs of Montgomery.

A stranger present might have the impression that these innuendos refer to taxes, special privileges or plain graft.

Frankly we admit that we don't know what it is all about. In our innocence we had thought that Montgomery County had a good government with honest and upright officials. But it must be confessed that the brickbats tossed around at the Federation's meetings have created more than a shadow of doubt, particularly in view of the significant fact that accusing arrows appear to draw no defending replies.

The columns of the Press are open to all for unbridled enlightening discussion of any question affecting the welfare of the county and its citizens.

If there is a skeleton in the closet throw open the door and drag it out.

Keep Us Out of European Mess

Roosevelt Sounds Keynote; Congress Again Confronted by Big Problem

By EARL GODWIN

WASHINGTON. — Twenty years after Woodrow Wilson's appeal to congress started this country to war "to save democracy", the United States is again faced with the same puzzle as to how to save the democracy of the world now that the dictators whom Wilson feared and predicted have arisen from the ashes of 1917. This session of congress must adopt a policy which will either put us in or keep us out of the next world war. The matter is just that close and important.

There is a trail which leads from the present European mess right straight back to the days when Germany asked for an armistice. Whatever happened then—in the Versailles treaty—in the various subsequent revolutions—in the new socialist and fascist forms of government — now threatens democracy with a closer danger, with a stronger feeling, and with greater armies equipped with much more destruction than ever before known.

Woodrow Wilson in 1915 spoke vaguely of militaristic dictators who might arise after the European war. Today there is nothing vague about it. We have dictatorship of the worst kind, utilizing the entire force and vigor of various nations for militaristic and material purposes trampling on the ideas of democracy and ruthlessly destroying the idea of "peace on earth, goodwill to men."

Everyone in this congress understands it. Many of the elder statesmen were here with Wilson; they all intend to work to keep us out of the European mess—but there are so many strong and varying views that there is going to be a lively scrap over the details. However, the senate's committee on foreign affairs is determined on peace—even if they have to fight for it.

President Roosevelt has sounded his keynote more than once. The latest outline of his ideas, ideals and policies was his pronouncement in Buenos Aires. Diplomats, who have never liked direct dealings, are finding fault with the President's trip to South America; but the trip, the speech and the general result is a part of the President's world-wide plan for a build-up of democratic peoples versus the military and socialist dictatorships now having their hey-day in Europe.

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NEUTRALITY LAW

The United States is now neutral by law, a law which came out of senatorial investigations into the so-called munitions trust. This legal neutrality gives the State Department power to prohibit the shipment of war munitions to warring countries.

However, a question of just what articles constitute "munitions of war" is about to give everyone a nightmare. It is easy to find nation-wide support to prohibition of the shipment of arms, ammunition, tanks, guns, bullets, shells, military aviplanes, etc. Nobody suffers but the so-called munitions trust, composed of long suffering gentlemen quite accustomed to abuse. But suppose that American neutrality depended also on the embargo on cotton, corn, wheat, copper, oil and other great basic products! In the past whenever there was an attempt to stop shipment of these necessities in wartime, with prices soaring and markets booming, the people most opposed to strict neutrality have been the entire population of those sections producing and living on these basic articles. It would be difficult to stop the export of cotton, for instance, if Europe demanded it as a munition of war—with the price shooting skyward—and India and Egypt presumably quite ready to supply the demand if we did not.

Interminable rows tore the Wilson administration apart over just such questions. Washington was flooded with high-priced propagandists and war-minded diplomats. The ordinary man on the street was deprived of a fair and clear view of this country's position with respect to the European war, because there was almost no chance to keep the discussions clear of prejudice and selfish interest. In the midst of this turmoil the Wilson political campaign managers campaigned for his re-election on the slogan "He Kept Us Out of War"—and immediately subsequent to his re-election the country started toward war without hindrance.

Twenty years later finds President Wilson's assistant secretary of the navy, who had much to do with the naval end of the war, in the White House striving to beat off another rising tide of war and to take up the cudgels for democracy versus dictatorship. Roosevelt is surrounded by well meaning lawmakers and publicists who take various means for preventing exactly what happened in 1917 when this country was dragged into war by the trend of tragic events.

Consequently, with our strict neutrality by law coming to an end May 1, 1937, lawmakers on Capitol Hill have determined each in his own way, to keep us out of another war by preventing one or all of the various pre-war events of 1914-1917. Some wish to prevent Americans from traveling in any war zone or on foreign ships in war zone or on foreign ships in war some want to stop all commerce with any warring foreign nation, no matter what the article of commerce may be.

The great division among senators is on the question of giving the President some discretion in the matter of an embargo. The President and the State Department want some elasticity but there is a noisy section of the senate which wants what Senator Vandenberg of Michigan calls a "war quarantine." That is a strict law stopping all loans, credits and munitions to any belligerent. Sneator Vandenberg opposes leaving neutrality decisions to the President—this President or any other. He argues that to put such a responsibility on one man eventually inevitably leads to an un-neutral interpretation by any belligerent nation which happens to be offended by the decision. The nation which needs the munitions, loans or credits from this country and which does not get what it wants, always points to the United States as friendly to the other side. If country A is at war with country B, and country A needs American wheat. . . then country A is starved when the United States refuses to ship wheat to either country. Country B does not need wheat. . . so to it the United States' embargo makes no difference. The propagandists of country A then come over here and whip up a movement to be patriotic and ship wheat to that sterling friend of democracy, country A. The wheat growers would be the first to fall for that type of propaganda.

Senator Vandenberg thinks that if we have an ironclad law passed now, there will be no chance later on for propagandists to try to influence a President who might have some discretion in the matter. It sounds fine—but it is not practicable. International relations, especially in time of conflagration, should not be so rigid as all that. Our determination to keep out of war should be rigid, but we ourselves should have some elasticity and ability to move around in the area affected. A fire engine company wants a rigid fire plug from which water will flow with regularity, but the engine company, the firemen and the apparatus should be extremely mobile. That will be the administration's viewpoint.

* * *

INTERESTING IDEA

A good Democrat with an interesting idea is Louis Ludlow, congressman from Indianapolis, Indiana, who has considerable support for his proposed constitutional amendment giving the people a chance to vote for or against going to war. That is, of course, an aggressive war. In the case of an invasion there should be no strings on the President or the government generally. Mr. Ludlow's proposal relates to the constitutional provision that congress alone can declare a state of war existing. He proposes that this be modified by a constitutional amendment providing that even after congress declares a war, such declaration would not be valid until confirmed by public referendum.

We have no federal machinery at present for a nation-wide plebiscite. Each state would have to arrange its own referendum; its own balloting. In states where there was a governor or a legislature not interested in the subject of war it could happen that the matter would go by default. Sufficient of such "defaults" would result in no war.

* * *

G. O. P. IN SENATE

Favorite sport around the senate is to figure out when the G. O. P. can count on a majority in that body which, for the Seventy-fifth congress, has 17 Republicans of a dozen varying viewpoints. Democrats appear to believe it will be 16 years, or 1953 before the Republicans can count on a majority, and then anything can have happened.

Here's the way they figure: at the next election, 1939, thirty-two senators come up for re-election, and of these twenty-seven are sure-fire Democrats, nearly all from southern Democratic states. Electing the five Republicans doesn't add a thing to the present seventeen. Then in 1941, the year of the presidential election, the thirty-two senators up for re-election include twenty-four sure-fire Democrats divided between half a dozen southern states and the Democratic area of the West. This time stalwart conservative Democrats like Byrd of Virginia will have severe tests. These are the conservative Democrats who may help break up existing party lines in the 1941 presidential election. A New Deal Democrat of great importance to the party that year is Guffey of Pennsylvania, who built the successful Democratic machine in the old Republican Keystone State. What is ahead of him? It is a puzzle; and the next four years is a fascinating and important era.

Go forward to 1943. Twenty-four Democrats and six Republicans again ask for re-election. The percentage is again in the southern and western area, now New Deal strongholds . . . If the Republicans win every seat they go after they could (mathematically) gain a majority in six years, but the closest actual political possibilities offer them is a majority in sixteen years —so the Democrats say.

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ORDER NISI

In the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, as a Court of Equity. No. 8041 Equity

In the Matter of the Deed of Trust from Ruth Money, unmarried,
To
Robert S. Bains and T. Howard Duckett, Trustees.

ORDERED, this 29th day of December A. D 1936, by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, as a Court of Equity, that the Auditor's Report filed in the above entitled cause, be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 23rd day of January next Provided a copy of this order be inserted in some newspaper published in said Montgomery County, once in each of three successive weeks before the said 23rd day of January, 1937.

CLAYTON K. WATKINS,
Clerk of the Circuit Court for Montgomery County.

True Copy—Test:
CLAYTON K. WATKINS,
Clerk.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given, that the Subscriber of Mongomery, County, has obtained from the Orphans' Court of Montgomery County, in Maryland, Ancillary Letters of Administration c. t. a. on the personal estate of

Maria E. Sixbury

late of District of Columbia, deceased. All persons resident and non-resident having Claims against the said deceased, are hereby warned to exhibit and file, the same, in said Court, with vouchers thereof, on or before the

8th day of June

next; they may otherwise by law be excluded from all benefit of said Estate. All persons indebted to said Estate are requested to make immediate payment.

Given under my hand this 8th day of December in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and thirty-six.

JAMES C. CHRISTOPHER,
Bethesda, Maryland.
Administrator c. t. a.

ORDER NISI

In the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, as a Court of Equity. No. 8124 Equity.

In the Matter of Mortgage from
George Byrd unmarried,
to
Frank L. Hewitt

ORDERED, this 12th day of January, A. D 1937, by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, as a Court of Equity, that the Auditor's Report filed in the above entitled cause, be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 6th day of February next: Provided a copy of this order be inserted in some newspaper published in said Montgomery County, once in each of three successive weeks before the said 6th day of February 1937.

CLAYTON K. WATKINS,
Clerk of the Circuit Court for Montgomery County.

True Copy—Test:
CLAYTON K. WATKINS,
Clerk.