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FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 1936

If the special session of the Maryland Legislature would dispose of all measures as quickly as it did of the proposed general consumers' sales tax, to finance relief, the session would be very brief. The proposed plan, which originated from the "Casey Report," was unanimously opposed by the Senate Finance Committee. The Casey Report had favored the levying of a general consumers' sales tax to raise the enormous sum of \$10,000,000.

A measure introduced by Senator Davis would put a floor tax of 10 cents a gallon on liquor, and would dedicate \$800,000 of the revenue a year to old-age pensions and any residue to child welfare.

It is estimated such a tax would bring in to the State approximately \$1,000,000 each year.

The legislators from the rural sections are opposed to a general State wide levy for relief. They are in favor of local units, including Baltimore city, having enacted whatever relief legislation is desired, but for those respective units alone.

Before the present Congress convened, a great many commentators forecast that a knock-down-and-drag-out session was in prospect, that titanic legislative battles loomed, that almost every day would bring new headlines from Capitol Hill—that, in brief, there would be excitement, color, drama.

These commentators were not 100 per cent wrong, but they were close to it. The present Congress has been quiet and almost entirely without lustre, so far as the outside observer can see. Little acrimony has appeared. And debate over important measures has been a long way from brilliant.

Agricultural cooperation is an indefinite term.

But basically it means the selling of farm products through farmer-owned and controlled central organizations. This is sound cooperation, based on definite business principles of proven worth, that can do a great deal for farm prosperity and stability.

But where it is distorted to tempt farmers into fields which are in no way connected with farming. Failure—expensive, often ruinous failure—is usually the result. And the unhappy example of such a failure endangers the whole farm cooperative movement, the true purpose of which is to improve farm production and sales methods.

WPA ROLLS TO BE SLASHED

New Deal officials plan to thin out WPA rolls by more than 700,000 persons in the next four months.

They count on a spring expansion in private employment and on such government activities as road-building and public works projects to absorb many persons now getting relief through the works progress administration.

Relief Administrator Harry L. Hopkins said the administration believes 100,000 persons a week would be placed in private or other employment from now until July 1.

Hopkins' estimate of reemployment, if it materializes, would mean return of more than 1,500,000 to work by July 1. He said WPA would start this month to cut the rolls from the high point of 3,937,440 in February to a minimum of 2,310,100 by June 30.

GASOLINE TAX REVENUE

Figures made public by the office of the Comptroller of Maryland reveal a decline of \$100,000 in gasoline tax revenue for the month of February as compared with the month of January. Since the gasoline tax is collected from motorists one month and remitted to the state the following month, an analysis of the drop in revenue reveals a decline in use of gasoline of approximately 2,500,000 gallons during the month of January, under the month of December.

Happy period of old age may not last any longer than childhood does.

THIRTY-EIGHT GOVERNORS TO BE ELECTED

A host of candidates crowd the political roads leading to State Governors' mansions, and a wide range of issues is also disclosed in a survey of the campaigns to nominate and elect Governors.

Thirteen Democrats want the job Gov. David Sholtz of Florida must relinquish under the law. Eight Republicans seek the post held by Democratic Gov. Henry Horner in Illinois.

Elsewhere, old age pensions, proposals to exempt homesteads from taxation and promises of economy shape up as favorite issues.

Dr. F. E. Townsend's \$200 a month pension plan figures in the electioneering in Texas, Ohio, Arizona, Washington, Idaho and Maine.

The liquor question has entered the scene in Arkansas and Nebraska. A Tennessee candidate proposes a referendum on whether beverages stronger than five per cent beer shall be legalized. One of two Republicans out for Gov. Alf M. Langdon's position in Kansas offers 3.2 beer in his platform.

This month Minnesota Farmer-Laborites will settle their differences over who should succeed Gov. Floyd B. Olson, who has directed his ambitions toward a seat in the U. S. Senate.

Gov. Herbert Lehman of New York claims "powerful interests" are interfering with his anti-crime program. State finances form another possible issue.

Among the novelty numbers is Dr. Ralph W. McDonald's plan for financing his campaign for nomination by North Carolina Democrats. He sells "McDonald for governor bonds" at \$1 each to his supporters.

ALLEGED FRAUD IN MARYLAND RELIEF CITED

A report on Maryland Relief Administration, citing a number of cases of alleged fraud, and containing specific recommendations for improved efficiency in relief distribution was submitted to the Legislature on Thursday by the State Survey Commission.

The report detailed four cases in which it said relief was obtained by fraud, and said the commission had found 184 others out of 4,900 cases examined. In one of these cases the man receiving relief gave the address of a street car barn as his residence.

Other reports or relief clients said that some recipients were immoral, drunkards, or gamblers. In all, the commission said, it found 1,339 cases, of the 4,900 examined, were "highly questionable."

J. Cookman Boyd, chairman of the commission, said all of the 4,900 cases examined were in Baltimore. Boyd said that, so far as could be learned, conditions were not as bad in the counties. The types of dubious cases making up the total number of 1,339 were:

Receiving too much relief or had sufficient private income, 155; not located or false addresses, or otherwise deemed fraudulent, 184; misuse of relief checks for immorality or drunkenness, 220; cases where clients owned real estate, 571; cases where clients owned cars with 1935 tags (the police survey was made in 1935), 197; number claiming not to have received relief, 12.

RAILROAD FARES TO BE REDUCED

Railroad rates on all northern, western and mid-western lines will undergo a 44 per cent reduction, effective June 1st, by a ruling of the Inter-State Commerce Commission recently. A similar reduction has already been made on railroads in the southern states. The present rate per mile is 3.6 cents. This will be reduced to a flat 2 cents a mile, which will be considerably less than bus fares.

The human face can say a great deal without a word spoken; and much of it may not be so.

We need critics, but personally, you may not always like them.

JEST A-WHITTIN' AN' A-THINKIN'

By PETE GETTYS

A State Farmer Section Feature

Let the subject of bees come up and some feller will purty near always speak up and say: "My old Grandfather, Zeke Daniels,"—or, maybe 'twas his uncle—"could jest go 'round bees and hive 'em and handle 'em and do anything he wanted and never get a single sting—but a bee'll fly a mile to sting me."

But there ain't a bit of truth in that. Some fellers, of course, are handler with bees than others—even if he is perfect with them and obeys all their rules, there will always be one or two bad humored, fussy ones in the hive dead set on stinging some one, even if they have to go out of their way to do it.

And any feller who has lived in the country, or even in the mountains, knows of somebody in the neighborhood who you can jest turn loose anywhere or start him cut anywhere and he can go right straight to where he wants to—jest can't lose him—seems to have some sort of "sense of direction." But like the bees not stinging Old Grandpap, there ain't a word of truth in it.

Tests were tried on Canadian woodsmen who had great reputations for getting about in the big forests and never getting lost. A spot half a mile away was pointed out—the woodsmen was blindfolded and started toward it. In less than 200 feet he was traveling in circles. When he arrived at what he figured was his objective, he was about as far away from it as when he started.

Science has proved conclusively people have no "sense of direction" and travel in circles when lost or blindfolded. The boys used to have a saying that he has "wheels in his head."

Maybe there's more truth than slang in that old expression, for it's certain most folks think in circles—few can take up a thought and follow it through to the end; a few minutes steady thinkin' and his mind is going round and round.

But what about animals and birds? Who doesn't know of a cow, or a mule, or an old hound that hasn't come home from miles and miles away. And homing pigeons travel hundreds of miles over unknown courses—and migrating birds. What is it—an instinct—or sense of direction—or what? If these things were blindfolded could they find their way?

What's a young feller going to decide on to make a living for himself and future family? Ask a dentist if his is a good calling for a young feller—or doctor, or a banker, or a lawyer. Without fail will come a negative answer. "Law, Son, no. The woods are full of dentists, doctors and lawyers—half of 'em starving to death." And so many "No's" will come from the various professions the young feller will decide there jest ain't no need or place on earth for him.

URGENT ATTENTION OF LEGISLATORS BE CONFINED TO TAX MATTERS ONLY

Organized farmers of the state are in favor of the announced plan of legislative leaders to make the special session of the legislature short and devoted exclusively to questions relating to taxes and relief, according to C. E. Wise, Jr., secretary of the Maryland Farm Bureau Federation. These questions are of sufficient importance to demand the undivided attention of the law makers and citizens were urged by the farm leader to cooperate in keeping other questions from taking attention away from the main issue.

"The actions of Maryland legislators during the coming weeks will determine to a large measure who will pay additional taxes for revenue demanded at present," Mr. Wise explained in a statement just issued. "It is important that the expected new taxes be levied as fairly as possible and so that the necessary revenue may be raised with the least possible detriment to tax payers."

Mr. Wise repeated the recommendations of farmers for a state income tax and luxury taxes as the basis for the new tax program. These taxes are the fairest guide to ability to pay new taxes, according to the sponsors of the program recommended by the farm groups.

"Farmers will oppose the adoption of a sales tax because it rests on those least able to pay," Mr. Wise said. "If agreement cannot be reached otherwise, the sales tax should be considered only as an emergency measure, to be used only until a fairer and more scientific method can be worked out."

It is quite possible to get as much joy out of an open fireplace burning wood as out of a radio set.

Do You Want

PLENTY OF HOT WATER... Cheap?

YOU really can enjoy this great home comfort for little money... Just have an Automatic Electric Water Heater installed in your basement and see for yourself how cheap it is to operate.

Popular 50-gallon model costs only \$80.00 cash... slightly more on budget plan, \$2.00 down, 36 months to pay. And that's not the only economical feature. It costs little to operate. Thanks to the special off-peak rate, you pay only 1/4¢ per kilowatt hour* to operate your heater.

* Plus a flat charge of 50c a month to cover cost of operating and maintaining facilities necessary to register and control off-peak current consumed. (Minimum monthly bill, \$1.)

CONOWINGO POWER COMPANY

Elkton, Maryland



At Our Store, or Ask Any Authorized Dealer

HOBBIES

By Max Chambers

BIRDS

All birds have suffered from the long seige of snow this winter and with the northward migration now in progress, the wild fowl situation is acute, especially in Dorchester County. They are hungry and weak and easy prey for their enemies. If we have more bugs next summer you will know it is because we have lost so many birds this winter. Mr. Clemson Brown, Educational Chairman of the Maryland State Game and Fish Protective Association, asks that you help by feeding the birds. They need food.

The bluebirds harbinger of spring, and the robins have already made their appearances and before long "Jenny Wren" will be twittering in the maple tree. Now is a good time to build and locate boxes. Bird life offers a galaxy of fascinating hobbies. You can just watch birds live or you can snap them with your camera. You can collect live exhibits, specimens for mounting, nets, eggs, feet or beaks, clippings, pictures, or books. Have you tried to imitate birds whistling or draw birds in color? It is fun to build houses, feed boxes, and baths. Who has the largest bird house or the tallest bird box pole on the peninsula? A man in Massachusetts and another in Ohio have developed from their hobbies of bird house building, a life work and a very profitable business.

Probably the outstanding student of bird life on the peninsula is Frazer Poole, a Federalsburg boy who was the First Hobby Fair Chairman and now a junior at Catawba College, Salisbury, N. C. Some day he will be a leading ornithologist, and it all

UNCLE SAM FIRST AMONG NATIONS IN TREE PLANTING

Tree planting in this country is looking up, according to the United States Forest Service. In 1935 the Forest Service's own planting on national forest lands was very close to a quarter million acres, more than that planted by all agencies—Federal, State, and private—in 1934 when the total was 206,333 acres.

Although the figures are not yet in, it is known that many of the other agencies planted substantially greater acreages in 1935 than the year before.

Uncle Sam, although relatively new at it, is becoming the world's leading tree planter. Up to last year his grand total of plantings by all agencies amounted to only 2,394,397 acres, equal to about half the area of Massachusetts. This year's plantings in the national forests alone will increase the total by more than 10 per cent. There are more than 162,000,000 acres in our national forests alone, and the estimated total forest acreage in this country is over 500,000,000 acres.

In the whole world there is said to be about 7,500,000,000 acres of forests, more than 1,400,000,000 in North America. Asia, and South America have more than 2,000,000,

started with a hobby. Howard Rigg, who lives near Crisfield, and Brenton LeCompte, of Wyoming, Delaware, have hobbies of wild life.

The largest and finest private exhibit of mounted wild fowl in the East may be seen on the Calborne-Annapolis Ferry, "Governor Albert C. Ritchie." This collection has many rare specimens and was mounted by Mr. Elmer Hall of Fishing Creek, Maryland, whose hobby is taxidermy.

Colonel Albanus Phillips, Cambridge "Soup King," has a deep interest in bird life for he owns all of the 16,000 acres contained in Bloodsworth Island which he has established as a natural sanctuary for wild fowl of all kinds. No gun has been fired on the island since Colonel Phillips took possession.

He maintains the largest pen of Canadian Wild Geese decoys in the East. There are more than a hundred "honkers" in this flock and Colonel Phillips tells me that they mate for life. If the rooster or gander dies, the remaining member never remates. These wild geese know him like a dog knows his master and often jump into his arms when he appears in the pens to take them out on a hunting expedition. Among the visitors who spend time at the Colonel's sanctuary are Walter P. Chrysler, former Senator Woolcott of Connecticut and the eighty-year old Ex-Senator Kean who occasionally flies down from New Jersey to enjoy the thousands and thousands of beautiful birds in their natural and happy sanctuary.

Hop on the Hobby Horse! Take a ride!

Books: Book of Birds—Henshaw, Natural Geographical Society; How to Study Birds—Job; Some Birds of Maryland—Pearson.

Next week: Indian Relics.

AUTOMOBILE COLOR FACTS

Nationally black is still the most popular single color for motor cars. Gray tines are second in popularity. Different sections of the country exhibit marked variations in their color preferences.

These are a few facts shown by an analysis made by Chevrolet Motor Company of color preferences based on three months' production of 1936 models, introduced November 2, as reported by the assembly plants to W. C. Williams, general superintendent of assembly plants.

"Because Chevrolet has ten assembly plants throughout the United States," Mr. Williams said, "each supplying cars to the dealers within its own territory, we are able to get exact figures on the public demand for colors in each section, and to note how geographical location affects the public taste."

"We have found, for instance, that while the production for the country as a whole has run 44 per cent to black, since the new models were introduced, our plant at Oakland, Cal., built only 16 per cent of its cars in black. At Tarrytown, N. Y., supplying New York City and New England, the demand for black was greater than the national average, totaling 47 per cent of production, while at Atlanta, 54 per cent of the cars, or more than half, were black."

Chevrolet 1936 models have been offered in seven colors and black. Gray tones ran second to black in popularity, followed by green, then blue, then brown, and finally maroon. A new color "frosty green," was introduced March 1 by Chevrolet. Other colors offered are taupe metallic, a gun metal tone; Holly-wood tan, Admiral blue, Kingswood gray, willow green, and regent maroon.

You can do a man so many favors that he will hate you for not doing more.

Never be sure you dislike a man until after you are well acquainted with him.

Education may help a man to make plans by which he insures himself a better living.

RAT-SNAP KILLS RATS

Also mice, roaches and beetles. One package proves this. RAT-SNAP comes in cakes. They eat it without any bait. Doesn't matter how much any kind of food is around. Apply it 1st, 4th and 7th day and cut each cake in 80 pieces, place it where the vermin is seen to run.

25c size—1 cake—enough for Pantry, Kitchen or Cellar.

35c size—2 cakes—for Chicken House, coops, or small buildings.

75c size—5 cakes—enough for all farm and out-buildings, storage buildings, or factory buildings.

Papka & Zuelke, Campbell, Minn., say they "tried a 5-cake package and did wonders. Will most certainly make short work of them after Rat-Snap gets on the ground."

Sold by
 Ashby's Drug Store
 Jos. S. Pogue, Sons & Co.
 Rising Sun, Md.

It is the way in which your friend does not tell to anyone else what he knows on you that seals him to you.