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CAMPAIGN OF INVECTIVE

Early in this presidential election year, a prominent politician asserted that this campaign would be "dirty." Did he mean to imply that the rank and file among the leaders of both parties would resort to muck-raking, or that his party would be pure and above such political tactics unless compelled in self-defense to retort in kind?

Political campaigns in the past have not been free from unbecoming epithets applied to candidates, nor from the deliberate belittling of the candidates.

Scenes at national conventions which opened the present campaign—scenes that shocked the eye and ear—would appear to establish the prominent politician above referred to as a true prophet. The hurrying of invectives and ridicule at the distinguished heads of the respective parties, making promises incapable of fulfillment and intended to create discontent, breed partisan hatreds, promote civil strife, as well as bewilder the electorate, marked the conventions of the several parties.

With respect to one of the conventions, a titled English journalist who was present and who is familiar with the conservative and restrained procedure of the British Parliament, cabled his newspaper in London a story that was far from flattering to American politics and politicians. "Barbaric," is said to have been the term he employed to describe the performance which, many believe, was about as dignified as a three-ring circus during one of those interludes when the army of mirth-provoking clowns is let loose.

Yes, there is much room for improvement in the manner of conducting our national conventions and national campaigns. Is it not time that our political speakers and writers discuss principles and policies involved in our national problems, rather than attempt to meet issues by injecting personalities and terms that arouse the emotions?

Our presidential candidates who gain the rational confidence of our people are men of high ideals and deserve great credit for their leadership. No matter what the content of the platforms, nor what the policies they advocate, they are entitled to respect and commendation for the courage and the social value of their convictions. They are not responsible for the wild talk, often offensive, of their enthusiastic followers or lieutenants.

In the past, and so far in the present campaign, it may be said to the credit of the heads of the two great parties that they have exercised a generous and rational forbearance in referring to each other, even in the heat of the battle. May it so continue!

DON'T RISK LIVES OF SCHOOL CHILDREN

In a few days, the nation's schools will open for the fall term. And this places one vast responsibility upon the shoulders of school board trustees and members: To make our institutions of learning safe from fire. Some of the worst conflagrations in our history have occurred in schools, blotting out the lives of scores and even hundreds of children at one time.

In many schools that are thought of as modern there are too few exits, stairways are badly constructed, doors open inward (in spite of the fact that this is one of the worst of all hazards), heating equipment is faulty. In others fire drills are not carried out periodically. So it goes, down a long list of hazards.

The National Board of Fire Underwriters has prepared a comprehensive form making it possible for officials to thoroughly check school buildings and unearthen hazards.

The nation's parents should make their voices felt, and insist that the lives of their children be given the utmost protection while at school.

Is anything so nerve-wracking as a nervous hostess?

If you're paying all your bills you're doing pretty well.

DIRECT RELIEF IN STATE

For every six persons who were on relief in Maryland when the situation became acute enough for the Federal Government to take a hand back in April, 1933, only one is on the rolls today.

Samuel E. Shannahan, chairman of the Board of State Aid and Charities, announced Maryland's direct relief load on August 7 had dropped to the all-time low of 4,427 cases—each case representing a family group or single person without dependents.

In April, 1933, when, under Federal auspices, Maryland's emergency relief program was inaugurated, 28,666 cases were on the rolls. In April, 1934, the peak load was reached, with 64,876 cases under care.

By August, 1937, the records show, the total had been reduced to 34,525 cases—but even that was almost eight times the number made public for the current month.

Mr. Shannahan, in announcing the figure, emphasized that it did not include the large number of relief cases that have been absorbed by other programs—such as the Works Progress Administration, the Public Works Administration and the Social Security Board's old-age assistance and aid-to-dependent-children plans.

"But," he added, "the trend in relief needs is definitely lower all the time."

Of the 4,427 cases under care in the State, he said, 3,467 were in Baltimore city and 960 in the counties.

Allegany, with 151 cases on its rolls, had a heavier load than any of the other counties, while Montgomery's figure was the lowest one. Caroline county had only nine cases, and Talbot fourteen.

MARYLAND FARM DEBT LOWER

A smaller number of American farms are under mortgage today than before the depression, and in Maryland the total farm mortgage debt is much less, according to figures released today by the Farm Credit Administration.

Although the Farm Credit Administration has loaned over \$9,950,000 on farm mortgages in Maryland since May 1933, approximately 92 per cent of the money was used to refinance old debts so that very little new indebtedness was incurred.

The farm mortgage debt in the State which increased from \$29,580,000 in 1910 to \$64,800,000 in 1930, dropped to \$41,400,000 on January 1, 1935. Figures for the earlier years are from the United States Department of Agriculture, while the 1935 figure is an estimate of the Farm Credit Administration.

On January 1, 1936, some 2,300,000 farms in the United States, or 34 per cent of the total number, were under mortgage, compared to 36 per cent in 1928.

Compared with previous periods, the recent farm mortgage debt trend is not unusual, the statement from the Farm Credit Administration points out. During periods of high income, the farm mortgage debt in the United States increases; and tends to contract in periods of depression. The increase in sales in times of higher income, and higher prices for farm land, tends to increase the farm mortgage debt because new purchasers frequently give a mortgage for part of the purchase price. The shrinkage in the mortgage debt during the depression was due partly to foreclosures and partly to repayments, and some scaling down of debts by creditors. While the amount of debts scaled down in connection with farm debt refinancing under the Farm Credit Administration was not large in Maryland, it amounted to approximately \$200,000,000 in the country as a whole.

An old-fashioned mother-in-law is a husband's best friend in these days of modern wives and all that that means.

Even though a woman looks as heavy as a truck she'll believe you and be pleased if you say she looks thinner.

JEST A-WHITTLIN' AN' A-THINKIN'

By PETE GETTYS

A State Farmer Section Feature

You can stand on a street corner an' watch the fire engines go a-lickety-splittin' down the crowded street—sirens "sirening"—or whatever they do to make that fiendish noise—an' some one'll say, "Ain't no use goin' that fast—they'll make a bobble or detour or somethin' some day an' kill a dozen people." But guess the feller at home whose house is burnin' up don't feel that way about it, an' is cussin' the firemen an' whole city government for havin' such a slow, pokey fire department. It all depends on whose toe is bein' stepped on as to how you feel about such things.

The Dept. of Agriculture comes along now an' says there's 279 million acres of land in the eastern part of the U. S. that is the biggest battle ground on which a sure enough forestry campaign will have to be pushed against such awful floods as those which swept through the thickly populated areas in several states just last Spring.

Two hundred seventy nine million acres is a considerable stretch of land; cost a good deal just to ride over it, an' when you think of replantin' it in forests,—treatin' it in other necessary ways to prevent rapid run-off of big rains, an' all that's required to stop such floods,—it's goin' to cost a lot of dollars, an' the feller not livin' in the flood districts ain't very strong for it, nor near so hot about it as the other feller who stood by an' saw his farm an' home an' stock washed away. Sure, he thinks good old Uncle Sam ought to do somethin' about it—so there you are!

Did you ever taste a "garlion"? Never did even see one, but it's a cross between garlic an' onion.

Surely you've eaten "topeppo"—that's somethin' you can have when company comes, it's a cross between a tomato an' a pepper.

An' they are growin' cucumbers on vines that look like lemons—a great old big cucumber as long as your arm an' that they say it retains its moisture and crispness.

An' did you ever see string beans 3 feet long?

A Jap feller out in California has developed a melon that's somethin' fancy, an' ought to take a prize at the County Fair. This melon has a smooth yellow rind, is bigger'n a cantaloupe an' has delicious salmon-colored meat.

But talkin' about melons, one feller made the statement that the meat in a water melon wasn't red until you cut it,—and who knows?

SAFETY RESPONSIBILITY LAWS

Twenty-seven states, the District of Columbia, Hawaii and eight Canadian provinces now have safety-responsibility laws similar to the financial responsibility statute in this state, according to a compilation prepared by the Keystone Automobile Club of Maryland. Massachusetts continues as the only state with a compulsory liability insurance law. The movement was begun in 1928, and it is considered likely that within the next few years every state will be in line. More and more the weapon of license revocation is being used to deny the driving privilege to those who fail to pay judgments following accidents, or who have been convicted of serious offenses against the motor laws. Reciprocal action between the states has been found a powerful deterrent, many motorists learning to their sorrow that their own state is quick to revoke operators' licenses for offenses committed in other states.

Garrison P. Knox, Manager of the Club, made public the following list of financial responsibility states: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, Colorado, Arizona, California and Oregon.

SET FIRE TO ABERDEEN SCHOOL BUILDING

Andrew Markline, 45-year-old P. W. A. worker of Aberdeen, was charged with arson after Sheriff Granville C. Boyle, of Harford county, said he confessed starting five fires in a school building in an effort to obtain the janitor's job.

Markline, employed in the building of an annex to the school there, was arrested by officers who investigated the fires. Damage done by them was from \$3,000 to \$5,000. In his confession Markline said: "I did it to show the school board and the principal the janitor wasn't tendin' to his business. I was hoping they would discharge him and I would get the job."

Carefree Cooking that's

Amazingly
 Fast
 and Cheap



Here's a lucky woman! She cooks electrically. She's ready to go out—setting the temperature control and clock for her dinner, hours later. The Electric Range will do the job perfectly while she's miles away. That's why we say electric cooking is carefree cooking.

It's fast cooking because a turn of the switch brings instant, intense heat. And it's cheap cooking because of low electric rates and improved electric ranges.

Come in and see the new Electric Ranges. You'll find larger top cooking surfaces, sturdier, enclosed-type burners, new trouble-proof switches and illuminated controls. Choice of Crawford, Hotpoint, Quality and General Electric. Prices start at \$94 cash; slightly more on budget plan—easy terms!

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Elkton, Maryland

FARM ACCOUNTING REVEALS LESSONS

Principles of Sound Business Management That Apply to All Farms

An analysis made of detailed records kept by a group of Wisconsin farms revealed several important lessons and the principles of sound business management derived from them apply equally well to other farms, says an article in the Bulletin of the Agricultural Commission of the American Bankers Association. The article says: "Investment costs, including interest, depreciation, repairs, taxes and insurance, are approximately two-thirds of all farm costs. Furthermore, these costs are largely independent of the production program of the farm."

"This means that if a farmer cuts his production of crops or livestock, he increases his investment costs per unit of product produced, as a smaller number of units must then carry as large an expense load as before. This illustrates the importance, from the standpoint of costs, of operating a farm at or near capacity. "Investment mistakes are more costly than many others because they cannot easily be corrected. If a farmer prepays too much for his farm, his investment costs will be abnormally high as long as he owns it. If he constructs a \$4,000 barn, when a \$2,000 barn would have served his purpose, year after year, during the entire service life of the structure."

"This emphasizes the importance of a knowledge of investment values and the specific investment requirements of individual farms.

Determining Real or False Economies
 "In working for greater economy, it is essential that the farm manager be able to distinguish between a real and a false saving. This can be done only through a careful estimate of the contribution to income, over a period of time, of each item of expenditure. Only if more is saved in expense than will be lost in income, can a contemplated cut in expense be designated as a real saving."

"For example, dropping dairy herd improvement work may result in a yearly expense reduction. The question to decide is what effect the dropping of this work will have on the present and future income from the dairy herd. If the estimated loss in livestock receipts due to a lowered efficiency in feeding and breeding is greater than the original saving, the saving would obviously be a false economy. "Substantial savings can be effected on many farms through the use of more home grown garden produce and cured meats. Why pay out money for products of this kind that can be produced much cheaper at home? The money saved from the family food budget can be used for the purchase of many things that will make the farm home a more comfortable and pleasant place to live."

Is it more fashionable for an apartment house to have a name or a number? Why not both?

WHEN IS A PERSON CRAZY?

Even science has a difficult time deciding when people are mentally unbalanced but you will find some interesting facts on the subject in the August 30th issue of the American Weekly, the big magazine which comes regularly with the BALTIMORE SUNDAY AMERICAN. Your newsdealer has your copy.

TWO DRY MONTHS—TWO YEARS TO RECOVER

The drought overshadows everything else as it did in 1934. What was merely a threat a month or so ago is now grim reality. The devastation has gone on from wheat to potatoes and other food crops and to the feed crops—corn, oats, pastures, and ranges. Thousands of acres of new seeding have been killed, the effect of which will not be apparent until next year. Once more we see the long-drawn effect of drought working itself out through the animal industries. There is not going to be any acute shortage of food-stuffs. Where the farmers and ultimately the whole community are going to feel the pinch is in the reduced supply of pork, beef, chicken, and dairy products. And not so much this season as next. There is a better supply of hay and roughage than in 1934. But grain is short. The increase that has been going forward in hogs will be checked and possibly reversed. It probably means fewer pigs in 1937 than this year. The cattle industry will be hit much the same way—an increasing tendency reversed and presumably fewer cattle on farms a year hence. The deceptive thing about such liquidation is that for the moment more meat than usual will come to market—but that vast reservoir of animals representing crops of two or three years stored on the hog is being depleted. Aside from this livestock aftermath, the immediate effects of the drought are most striking in the short wheat crop, short potato crop, reduced supplies and higher prices of milk, butter, fresh vegetables, and fruits. Only the far West has largely escaped the devastation. It, fortunately, had good crops and a good market for them. Meanwhile, the farmers of the prairies are tightening their belts to get through to next spring as best they can. And farmers throughout much of the territory from the Rockies to the Atlantic must make such shift and retrenchment as will meet the added costs of production and carry their crop and animal units along to a better season. The wages of farm hired help, averaging the country as a whole, have gone up 20 per cent in two years, although that is approximately in line with the percentage increase in gross farm income.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SERVICES

"Christ Jesus" will be the subject of the Lesson-Sermon in all Churches of Christ, Scientist, on Sunday, August 30. The Golden Text will be from John 3:17—"God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."

\$272,205 FOR SCHOOL AID IN MARYLAND

A total of 3,800 Marylanders between the ages of 16 and 25 will be assisted through the 1936-37 school-aid program of the National Youth Administration, according to Ryland N. Dempster, state director of the NYA.

The allotments, which are practically the same as last year, will aid students registered in 23 colleges and 158 high schools. Assistance also is rendered by the NYA to graduate students in two Maryland universities, he stated.

According to Mr. Dempster, the amount to be spent in Maryland during the next year, a total of \$272,205, will be divided as follows: High schools, \$90,000; colleges, \$140,314.50; graduate schools, \$41,890.

AIR STREAMS GONE WRONG

The heavenly set-up this summer has been all wrong for adequate rainfall between the Rocky and Appalachian Mountains, according to C. L. Mitchell, forecaster for the Washington, D. C., district of the Weather Bureau. From the first of June till the latter part of July the air streams that make weather persistently followed abnormal paths. Unchecked by polar air, a great current of tropical air went round and round in a vast irregular circle—up the western part of the Great Plains and the Rocky Mountain and plateau regions, across southern Canada, down the eastern part of the central valley region, and back across the continent.

There was no lack of moisture aloft, Mr. Mitchell says, but the machinery for squeezing it out was lacking. Nature produces rain by bringing together two air masses—a cold mass and a warm, moist mass. When the two opposing masses meet, the warm air is forced up over the cold, denser air. The warm air is soon cooled to a point at which it can no longer hold all its moisture.

To keep the United States cool and moist, cold air masses ("highs") must either come down from Canada or they must come in from the north Pacific Ocean. This year the "highs" have been in the south and the "lows" in the north—a situation that makes normal summer weather impossible.

Mr. Mitchell ascribes the summer's unusually high temperatures, in large part at least, to the failure of "high" from the north Pacific to move often enough inland over Washington and Oregon and thence eastward over Montana, Wyoming, and the Dakotas. These polar air masses from the Pacific effectually interrupt the northward movement of tropical air over the western half of the United States, and, if they occur at least once every 5 days, prevent the development of a heat wave over northern areas west of the Mississippi River.

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Among the citations comprising the Lesson-Sermon will be the following from the Bible—Mark 16:9: "Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene out of whom he had cast seven devils."

The Lesson-Sermon also will include the following passage from the Christian Science textbook, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures," by Mary Baker Eddy, page 326—"If we wish to follow Christ, Truth, it must be in the way of God's appointing."

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