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PROGRESS OF FARM RECOVERY

Four years ago American agriculture was in the depths of depression. Though farm commodity prices had dropped to nearly 50 per cent below the pre-war average, the prices of the goods and services that farmers usually buy were at or above the pre-war level. This disparity was a cause of widespread agricultural ruin. Farm bankruptcies were at record heights, dispossessed farmers joined the urban unemployed, and farmers still struggling could not make ends meet. There was a tremendous surplus of farm products, yet consumers were suffering scarcity. Falling farm prices did not help them much, because their incomes were falling too as a result of declining trade and employment. The whole economic system was out of balance.

Since then conditions have changed for the better. The improvement has come about in the manner envisioned in 1933—through agricultural-price recovery with resulting increased demand for city goods. Net farm income this year will be three times that in 1933. All groups of farms and all agricultural regions have participated in the recovery, though not to the same degree. There is still distress in some regions, as a result of drought in 1934 and again this year. On the whole however, agriculture is out of the red and making progress toward financial rehabilitation.

This improvement has not been accomplished at the expense of other economic groups. On the contrary, it has promoted their welfare. Consumers buying power has risen with farm incomes, and the average employed wage earner can buy more food today than he could at the peak of urban prosperity in 1929.

MEASURES FOR STANDARDIZING SALARIES BEING DRAWN FOR LEGISLATURE

Plans for standardizing salaries of State employees are being drafted into a bill to be presented to the Legislature next month. Harry C. Jones, State Employment Commissioner, states:

"The bill, which will affect between 5,000 and 6,000 classified workers, and about 4,000 laborers and other unclassified workers, is being drafted by a committee appointed by Mr. Jones.

As a basis for the proposed legislation, Jones prepared figures comparing the salaries paid within the various State classifications with the salaries paid in the same or equivalent classifications in Baltimore, Philadelphia, Detroit, and the States of Ohio and Massachusetts, all of which have set up standardized salary schedules by law.

"The alarming discrepancies in the amounts paid by the State in its various departments" Jones said, "shows that the enactment of such salary legislation is necessary."

FILM GROUP ASKS MORE PEACE MOVIES

Producers of motion pictures were asked to "avoid such films as incite to war" and to "provide the public with more films that carry the spirit of peace" in a resolution adopted at a meeting of the Finer Films Federation of New Jersey.

The representatives from film committees in 19 New Jersey communities declared that "there is before the country at this time no subject more important than that of peace and war," pointed out that "films have great influence in forming the opinions and stirring the emotions of millions of our people who each week see motion pictures," and adopted the resolution because "comparatively few films carry a peace message."

Farmers' cash income from the sale of their products amounted to \$886,000,000 in October compared with \$752,000,000 in September and with \$802,000,000 in October of last year, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports.

Last year the world sugar consumption reached the new high of 27,188,000 tons.

MARYLAND COMMISSION ON PRISON LABOR

Climaxing more than a year of intensive study covering every aspect of the problem of prison idleness, and prior to submitting its report to the members of the General Assembly, the Maryland Commission on Prison Labor, in cooperation with the Baltimore Criminal Justice Commission, and the Governor's Committee on Parole, will sponsor an open public mass meeting in Baltimore on Thursday evening, December 17. Every citizen of Maryland is most cordially invited and urged to attend. The meeting will be held in the auditorium of the Maryland Penitentiary, Gager and Forrest Streets, Baltimore, beginning at 8:00 p. m. Admission will be without charge. This is believed to be the first time in the history of any state that an open public discussion of prison problems has ever been held by the citizen-ship.

The speakers will be Sanford Bates, Director, Bureau of Prisons, Department of Justice, Washington, D. C.; and Major Rice M. Youell, Superintendent of Prisons, Commonwealth of Virginia, Richmond.

These men, nationally known for their work in prisons and prison administration, will discuss various phases of idleness among inmates, and remedial measures to effect a solution to the problem. Supplementing these talks the motion picture made by the Maryland Commission on Prison Labor entitled "Idle Hands" and depicting the conditions of the more than 2,000 idle inmates in the Penitentiary and at the House of Correction will be shown.

The committee arranging the meeting consists of Robert E. Vining, Chairman, Maryland Commission on Prison Labor; James M. Hepbron, Managing Director, Baltimore Criminal Justice Commission; Eldridge Jood Young, Treasurer, Baltimore Bar Association; Judge Joseph N. Ullman of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City; C. Delano Ames, Chairman, Governor's Committee on Parole; W. Raymond Moody, Chestertown, Co-ordinator, Maryland Commission on Prison Labor, and Edward B. Passano, Chairman, Advisory Committee on Prison Industries, Maryland Commission on Prison Labor.

AUTO FINANCE CONCERNS MISREPRESENT INTEREST RATES CHARGED

The Federal Government, having brought action during the past two months against trade practices among certain meat packers, electrical manufacturers, automobile parts concerns and liquor companies, further alleged that big automobile companies were misrepresenting the rate of interest charged installment-plan purchasers.

Naming twenty-one respondents, including automobile companies and financing concerns, the Federal Trade Commission charged that in advertising their methods of financing the purchase of motor vehicles the respondents claim the annual interest rate on their time-payment plans amounts to six per cent. The financing plans actually involve a six per cent rate charged on the full amount of the account from the date it begins until it is closed, the complaints alleged, regardless of the fact that the account is amortized in equal monthly payments.

Thus, the commission asserted, the interest rate really amounts to approximately twelve per cent, being about one hundred per cent greater than the featured rate.

The practices of the respondents, the complaints stated, are "all to the prejudice of the public and respondents' competitors" and "constitute unfair methods of competition in commerce" within the intent of the Federal Trade Commission.

The respondents were allowed twenty days in which to file their answers to the charges set forth by the commission.

The man who invented the modern plow (Jethro Wood) whittled his first models out of potatoes.

THE STORY OF THE CHRISTMAS SEAL

When you buy your Christmas Seal to fight tuberculosis, suppose you recall with me where and how the idea of the Christmas Seal originated. It is an interesting story and one that will bear repeating.

Back in 1903 in a little village of Denmark, a postmaster, Einar Holboell, got the idea of the Christmas Seal as he was sorting the voluminous Christmas mail. He noticed a great variety of cheery greetings going to friends and relatives and he wondered why these letters could not carry a message of health that would bring funds with which to fight disease. Out of that thought grew the Christmas Seal. The king and queen of Denmark gave patronage to Einar Holboell's idea and in 1904 the first seal became a reality. Other Scandinavian countries soon took up the idea and in 1907 an American woman, Emily P. Bissell, living in Wilmington, Delaware, read an account of the Danish Christmas Seal in the "Outlook" and decided that if his plan worked over there, it was worth trying in this country. And so, in the Christmas season of 1907, Miss Bissell launched the first seal sale. So successful was it and so enthusiastic was she over the inherent worth of the Christmas Seal that she persuaded the American Red Cross, with which she was closely associated, to try out a nation-wide seal sale in the fall of 1908. To the surprise of everyone interested, this seal sale, with very little organization, brought in \$135,000.

In 1910 the American Red Cross took the recently organized National Tuberculosis Association into partnership for the conduct of the Christmas Seal sale. For ten years, that is, until 1920, this partnership existed and each year the seals were sold as Red Cross Christmas Seals under the American Red Cross subsidy but with the National Tuberculosis Association and its affiliated state and local associations reaping the benefits from the sale. From Miss Bissell's original sale of \$3,000 in Wilmington, interest grew in every part of the United States until in 1919, the last year the Red Cross was associated with the seal sale, nearly \$3,000,000 was raised.

In 1920, the American Red Cross, desiring to concentrate on its own annual membership roll call, withdrew from the partnership. Since then, the National Tuberculosis Association has been sole proprietor of the Christmas Seal in the United States and each year it authorizes the forty-eight states and thousands of local committees to sell the seals and to carry on the fight against tuberculosis. Since 1920 the seals have regularly borne only the double-barred cross emblem of the international fight against tuberculosis and the American Red Cross is no longer in any way associated with the Christmas Seal sale.

More than forty foreign countries have adopted Einar Holboell's idea and have used or are now using Christmas Seals as a means of support for their tuberculosis programs. In the United States practically all the work of the state and local tuberculosis associations is supported by the annual sale of these seals. By mutual agreement between the National, state and local associations, 95 per cent of the gross proceeds from the seal sale remain in the state where the seals are sold.

As Christmas approaches and the annual sale of Christmas Seals is carried on, you are urged to join with the millions of men, women and children throughout the length and breadth of our country who are sharing their Christmas joy with others by helping to fight tuberculosis. Buy your Christmas Seals today!

INTERNATIONAL BABY CHICK ASSOCIATION

Maryland poultrymen will be pleased to learn that the directors of the International Baby Chick Association have voted to hold the next annual meeting of that organization in Baltimore on July 19-22, 1937, according to Dr. Morley A. Jull, head of the poultry department of the University of Maryland. He points out that this will be the largest poultry event ever held in the state and should be attended by more than 5,000 delegates.

The meeting will be held in the fifth regiment armory in Baltimore and extensive plans are being made by the members of both the Maryland Poultry Council and the Maryland Baby Chick Association for participation in this event. Herbert D. Copeland, of Anacostia, is president of the Maryland State Poultry Council and John Evering, of Streamers Run, is President of the Maryland Baby Chick Association.

The new British liner Queen Mary is really two ships, one inside the other with a space of six feet between the inner and outer hulls.



Matched Appliances—Pioneer pattern (Manning-Bowman). Coffee Urn, 4-piece service, tray, 9-cup urn, sugar and creamer, at \$17.95 cash. Slightly higher on budget plan. Easy terms. Table Cooker, toasters, broils and fries, at \$6.95. With waffle grids, at \$8.95. Electric Percolator, 6-cup size, at \$6.95. Waffle Iron, with heat indicator, at \$5.95. Two-slice Toaster, at \$3.50.

Coffee Maker—Silax—attractive glass coffee maker that makes up to 8 cups of delicious coffee. This popular drip model at only \$5.95.

Egg Cooker—Automatic Hanksraft model cooks eggs as you like them—has poacher attachment. With copper tray and four hobnail glass egg cups at \$3.95.

Toastmaster—Set of tray, 2-slice Toastmaster, 4 lap trays, 2 appetizer dishes, \$23.50 cash. Slightly higher on budget plan. Easy terms. Stand at \$5. Junior Toastmaster, non-automatic, at \$7.50.

Roaster—Portable Nesco Roaster at \$22.50 cash; slightly higher on budget plan. \$1 down; \$1 monthly. This roaster does a big time job—cooks an entire meal at one time—also bakes cakes, muffins, etc.

Mixmaster—New model at \$19.75 cash, less juice extractor; with juicer at \$22.50 cash. Slightly more on budget plan, \$2.50 down, 10 months to pay. Slicer and Shredder attachment at \$5 with power unit.

CONOWINGO POWER COMPANY Elkton, Maryland

MARYLAND HIGHWAYS

The needs of Maryland's highways today for improvement and modernization on a wide scale constitute one of the most urgent problems of the State, according to Geo. A. Dornin, Chairman of traffic Committee of the Grand Jurors' Association of Baltimore.

"A recent report on Maryland's highways," Mr. Dornin asserted, developed that the main highway system needs more than 800 miles of rebuilding or widening, almost 200 miles of reconstruction, and numerous eliminations of grade crossings and replacements of obsolete bridges. On the secondary system there are needed some 150 miles of secondary roads, 1800 miles of feeder roads, as well as many realignments, bridges, and grade crossing eliminations.

"These needs make it doubly apparent that a sound rational plan of road development is the only salvation of our highways. A start toward that end was made when Maryland set out in cooperation with the Federal Government to make a complete study of highway needs. An even more important step has been taken in proposals for bond issues to provide the funds so sorely needed to meet the demands for road improvement.

"Present conditions on our roads make the system a liability, rather than an asset. The crying need for the improvements mentioned represents not only a situation that is extremely bad for safety and travel efficiency, but it is also costing motorists and general business more money in lost time, delayed movements of goods, and car operating costs.

"The steps already taken toward a more efficient highway program are encouraging, but we need a more definite answer as to the actual work of building up the road system and the funds with which to do the job. There is no reason why such answer cannot be given. It is a fact, however, that the demands of the road system today make it requisite that some fully effective remedy for present conditions be introduced in order to restore Maryland to the position she once held as a leader in highway development."

The largest catalpa tree in the State of Maryland is said to be located near Linthicum Heights, Anne Arundel county. The tree is described as being 47 feet in height and having a spread of 68 feet. It is 15 feet 5 inches in circumference 4 1/2 feet above the ground.

With a total of 549, Charles county, has the largest number of colored farm operators in the State of Maryland. It ranks nineteenth in the number of white farm operators, with a total of 1,114.

Nearly 9,000,000 persons are now seeking jobs through government employment agencies.

The average state and municipal per capita tax burden in this country is over \$50 annually.

About 140 different by-products are made from livestock.

LEAVE IT TO HIM

EVANGELIST JOHN MOSES BAKER
 Baltimore, Maryland

Casting all your care upon Him,
 For He careth for you.—1st Peter 5-7.

The lilies grow and leave it to Him;
 They neither toil, nor do they spin.
 In all you say, in all you do,
 Let your trust be in God, He will carry you through.

Leave it to Him, the roses do;
 In the early morn when the skies are blue;
 Scatter their fragrance on the air;
 God's presence and love are everywhere.

Leave it to Him when tempted and tried.
 Remember, on Calvary's cross He died,
 To save your soul and set you free;
 Trust God, never falter, He cares for thee.

Leave it to Him when shadows fall,
 And darkness hovers over all.
 God will be with you to comfort and bless;
 Trust and obey, He will give you rest.

Leave it to Him when the task is done,
 And the crown of life at last is won,
 Heaven with all its joys behold;
 Safe forever within the fold.

Our Present Need

THAT mankind is urgently in need of something, all will admit. But people differ when they come to analyze this need and prescribe the remedy. Some say that the need is for money; others, for better management and government; and still others, for shorter working hours and more leisure. The invalid's need is for health; the sinner's for goodness and peace; those who appear to be passing on for more abundant life, humanity's diversified wants and desires make us think of the reply Martha received from Jesus (Luke 10:41, 42): "Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things; but one thing is needful; and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her."

What is the one thing that is needful? Is it not Mary's spiritual adaptability and receptivity? Spiritual understanding is an absolute requisite if we are to escape the woes, injustices, and ills of sense. On page 151 of "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" Mary Baker Eddy has written, "Infinite Mind could not possibly create a remedy outside of itself, but erring, finite, human mind has an absolute need of something beyond itself for its redemption and healing."

A childlike willingness to allow omniscient Love to control all our thoughts would do much to eliminate the errors which occur in human calculations. Sometimes we are afraid to let go, lest we suffer from the result; but Soul cares for us with an ability far exceeding our present apprehension. The forces and capacities of immortal Life are always operating, and we should experience Love's benevolence more often if we would only exclude greed, envy, rivalry, and fear from our thought. We assume a sense of false and overburdening responsibility only to our own detriment; while self-immolation and a firm trust in God's government operate to establish order, concord, and success. Our first need is not so much for improved conditions as it is for a clear realization that infinite Mind has absolute control over every function, activity, and expression of real being; that this control exists here and now; that the only legitimate and real results of this divine govern-

ment are harmony and good works, and that, therefore, if aught else claims to exist it is but supposititious. Better human conditions are a result of this knowing, for spiritual understanding scientifically improves our human conditions and unfolds limitless expressions of goodness.

We need to cultivate spiritual sense, which lifts human consciousness above the errors of corporeal sense and discerns the divine and unchangeable facts of being. We need to understand that evil is nothing and nobody; that it has no intelligence or power, no influence, no avenue or medium through which to reach and disturb or injure us. We need to keep in mind that error is not an entity, but is simply an illusion, with no more influence or way than we give it by our belief in it. Christian Science shows us conclusively that we are not the victims of so-called material laws, from which there is no escape, but rather that we are, in reality, the eternal children of the loving Father, who blesses, sustains, and maintains all that reflects Him. The fact must be learned that the creation of eternal Truth, the only creation there is, is wholly good; that spiritual law controls all real action, attraction, and power, and that every effect of this law is harmonious and necessary; and that man is the essential, spiritual, eternal manifestation of infinite Life.

It may be summed up that our present need is to acknowledge God, eternal Life, more in our human affairs, to obey the injunction, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding" (Proverbs 3:5). There is no other way to solve the problem of health and happiness, of production, of distribution, of economic equality. Only by acting in accordance with divine Principle can we maintain good works, overcome the false sense of overproduction and underproduction, and provide abundant human necessities for every individual. The recognition of Soul's presence and alms alone will destroy the human fear of lack, disease, and disaster, by revealing the unlimited, indestructible nature of substance and reality—of health and harmony. God provides His image, man, with all that is necessary for sustenance and harmonious continuity; and our need is spiritually to apprehend this fact and apply it in solving our human problems.—The Christian Science Monitor.