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GOVERNOR'S BUDGET IS SLASHED

Librarian McCool's Assistant And Others Lose Jobs

Approximately $831,000 was slashed from general appropriations in Governor Nice's $70,000,000 budget for 1938-1939 by joint action of the Legislature's two fiscal committees.

With these slashes went the salary allotments for 31 jobs in various departments, not including the requested additional 52 men for the State Police Department—also eliminated—and scores of low-paid berths covered by lump sum appropriations.

Some items, for example, the University of Maryland's budget, which was cut $74,000 annually by the House Ways and Means Committee and, so far, left intact by the Senate, were deferred for later action.

Mrs. Frankie Wilson's $1,657-a-year job as "Junior Assistant Stat Librarian," created out of the cushion fund in 1935, went by the board. She was assistant to the state librarian, John W. McCool, Elkton Republican leader, who was pair $1,500 a year. Mrs. Wilson was an active Republican worker in the Nice campaign.

Three state commissions—at least the appropriations for them—were abolished. The committees eliminated a $10,000 item for the Commission on Higher Education for Negroes; a $6,000 allotment for the State Planning Commission, and $5-000 provided for the Water Resourses Commission.

Other items cut from the miscellaneous appropriations included $90,-000 from the allotment to state examining boards for conducting examinations; $50,000 for Negro scholarships to be expended at the direction of the governor; $20,000 to the Board of Health for emergency epidemic and pestilential work; $1,000 to the Occupational Diseases Commission; $50,000 that would have been used for a three-man Parole Board and $80,000 that would have been utilized in establishment of a pension system for state employes.

A strong plea for Maryland ratification of the child labor amendment was made before a House committee which appeared decidedly hostile to it.

The committee, that on Federal Relations, will report the ratification bill to the House floor.

Since 1789, Congress has enacted 24,902 laws. Of that number, precisely 73 have been declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court. And of those 73, only 16 concerned bills of national economic or social significance.

In the last four years, the Court has outlawed eight major acts of the Roosevelt stewardship—half of the major acts declared unconstitutional in the whole of its life. Among these acts are the railway pension bill, the Frazier-Lemke law, the AAA, the municipal bankruptcy act, the Guffey Coal Act and the NRA.

The American Federation of Labor estimated Friday that the unemployed in the United States totaled 10,-041,000 last month, an increase of 1,001,000 over December.

President William Green said the figures emphasized "the failure of industry to provide a living home for its workers."

In 1936 Maryland farmers harvested a total of 1,697,610 acres of crops valued at $55,465,000, compared with a total harvested crop acreage in 1935 of 1,735,420 acres having a value of $46,283,000 according to the Maryland Crop Reporting Service.

Stocks of wheat in Maryland mills and elevators on January 1 were estimated at 1,200,000 bushels, according to the State Crop Reporting Service. This compares with 1,300,000 bushels on January 1 a year ago.

With a total of 5,962 acres in sweet corn Harford county ranks first in the state in acreage of this particular crop. It ranks second in the state in production of oats, having an annual yield of 165,715 bushels.

TIGHTER CURB ON POLITICAL OUTLAY URGED

Senate Committee Reports Political Parties Spent $48,000,000 In Election

Senate investigators, reporting that as much as $48,000,000 may have been spent in the last Presidential campaign, urge Congress to clamp new restrictions on political expenditures.

In its final report the Senate campaign expenditures committee revealed that it had traced disbursement of $23,973,329 by candidates and political organizations.

Untabulated expenditures by individuals and local groups, is asserted, would perhaps double this total.

Expenses of the Republican National Committee and its related organizations reached $14,198,202, the investigators disclosed, while the corresponding Democratic units spent $9,228,406.

In the 1936 campaign—more than twice as costly as any other on record—an average of 52 cents was spent for every vote cast.

The most expensive previous campaign was in 1928, when the two major parties together spent only $11,-598,000.

Four Recommendations Made

Citing four major weaknesses in the present election laws, the committee, headed by Senator Lonergan (Dem., Conn.) recommended:

1. Prohibition of political contributions by labor unions or any other organization "whose aims or purposes are the furtherance of group, class or special interests."

2. A new act to prevent "the influencing of voters through fear, intimidation or coercion.

3. A clarification of the franking laws, rigidly defining how Federal officials may exercise their free use of the mails.

4. "A uniform system of accounting" for all national political organizations, to eliminate "complexities" and "confusion."

In suggesting restrictions on campaign donations by labor unions, the committee noted that such organizations gave the "unprecedented" sum of $770,324 to aid President Roosevelt's reelection.

It pointed out that in order to prevent "influencing of legislation" corporations have been forbidden to spend money for political purposes, and added that "the same reasoning applies" to labor groups.

The investigation—one of the most exhaustive ever undertaken—included questioning of the 3,240 individuals who donated $500 or more each.

Repiles from the 2,000 who filled out the quesitonnaires showed that sixty-three per cent of these big contributors "were in some way affiliated with corporations."

The largest family donation was made by the duPont family, Wilmington, Del., chemical manufacturers, twelve of whom contributed more than $500,000.

Republican expenditures averaged 85 cents for each ballot cast for Alfred M. Landon, while the average Democratic vote cost 33 cents. The lowest cost per vote was 11 cents, reported by the Union party.

A total of 72,000 dozen eggs, worth $17,340, has been bought from Maryland farmers by the AAA in its emergency surplus removal program, put into effect January 15, to prevent a continuation of the abnormally sharp decline in winter farm egg prices resulting from extremely mild weather conditions, it is reported.

Acid helps to keep red color in vegetables, such as red onions, red cabbage, and beets, so vinegar may be added to the cooking water or the vegetables may be served with a sour sauce to bring the color back. To keep beets from losing color by "bleeding", cook with skins on and about one inch of the tops, says Miss Margaret McPheeters, nutrition specialist for the University of Maryland.

According to the United States Census there were 44,412 farms in Maryland in 1935.

EROSION CONTROL STRUCTURES REQUIRE MAINTENANCE CARE

Structures being put into effect for erosion control in demonstration areas in Maryland call for proper maintenance, just the same as other structures on the farm, according to O. C. Bruce, State Coordinator for the Soil Conservation Service in this state. He advises farmers having any questions about the maintenance of erosion control structures to consult their county agent of the Extension Service, or if they are located near one of the demonstration areas at Boonsboro, Harwood and White Hall, the technical force of the local project will be glad to help.

Terrace bottoms should be kept clear in winter, Mr. Bruce says. He warns that driving across these terraces when they are filled with snow may compact the snow and form an ice or snow dam which will require cutting out when the spring thaw comes. Drifts of snow sometimes form across terraces or outlets, he states, and a terrace should be kept open for the water traffic it has to handle.

Bruce points out that gully dams should be inspected each spring as the frost goes out. If the soil has settled behind them or around the ends, it should be tamped and brought up to the proper level. If the dam is of the loose stone type, stones heaved by the frost or moved by spring runoff should be replaced and wedged in.

Terrace outlets are subject also to heaving whenever they are paved with stone. They should be inspected in the spring to make certain that freezing and thawing during the winter months have not caused damage. Where outlets are sodded, a little tamping or rolling will repair the damage.

"If you have spreader boards or logs on the fields to break the force of running water," says Mr. Bruce, "inspect them in the spring. Unless the stakes holding them down are driven below the frost line, they are likely to heave." Very little trouble is encountered, he states, when sod strips can be used instead of spreader boards.

WILDLIFE REFUGE TO BE ESTABLISHED IN PUTUXENT VALLEY SECTION

A 2,200 acre wildlife refuge where U. S. Biological Survey scientists will conduct research and experiments for the development of better wildlife management practices has been established by executive order in the historic Patuxent river valley section of Maryland, it was recently announced by officials of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. It has been named the Patuxent Research Refuge.

The refuge, part of the National Research Center of the Department of Agriculture at Beltsville, is about 15 miles northeast of Washington. Wild turkeys, ruffed grouse, white tailed deer, beavers, muskrat and other wildlife, once abundant in this section, are to be restocked on the refuge.

Certain areas of the refuge will also be set apart for demonstrating wildlife management practices. On these tracts the Biological Survey will show how the latest facts found thru research and experiment can be applied.

Wildlife food and cover plants now on the refuge are to be encouraged and others are to be planted. About two-thirds of the new wildlife sanctuary is covered with pine and hardwood trees. The refuge also contains marsh land, river bottoms, old farm lands, pastures and orchards that furnish varied conditions ideal for wildlife. Three tracts of adjoining land comprise the area. One tract contains approximately 1,050 acres, another 800, and a smaller tract 350 acres. The Patuxent river borders these tracts on the east.

Snowden Hall, an old-time southern mansion, once surrounded by thousands of acres of plantation land obtained by the founder through royal grants from England, is located on the refuge. The old mansion, according to the present plan, is to be reconditioned for the refuge headquarters, and other necessary buildings will be provided. A new laboratory building will be one story and basement. It will contain an office three biological laboratory rooms, a room for housing wild birds and animals infected with disease, another for healthy animals and birds, and rooms for examining and storing speciments.

LANDMARK FAST DISAPPEARING

The old Groff mill is being rapidly razed by the men of the Kirkwood, Pa., church for thier new building. The first mill on this site was built about 80 years ago by Harvey Long and brother, William, father and uncle of the Longs on the adjoining place. The mill was burned down in 1890, and the same year rebuilt by Mrs. Elias Stauffer. — Quarryville Sun.

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AAA SPECIFIES ONLY APPROVED SEED FOR RED CLOVER AND ALFALFA

Farmers of Cecil county are advised that only approved red clover and alfalfa seeds that will produce a satisfactory crop, judged able to survive the winter, will qualify for payment in carrying out soil-building practices under the 1937 agricultural conservation program, County Agent, Miller states.

Red clover and alfalfa seeds which will be recognized as approved under the 1937 program are: Adapted domestic seed (not stained) and Canadian seed (1 per cent of seed stained violet).

Red clover or alfalfa seeds from foreign sources (stained 10 percent orange red, or red, or 1 percent green) will not be considered as approved seeds, and the seeding of such seeds will not qualify for payment as a soil-building practice under the program. These varieties stained orange red, red, or green are foreign seeds that are not generally adapted to the climate and soils of this area.

In connection with the rate per acre of seeding, Mr. Miller explains that any rate which is recommended by the State Agricultural Conservation Committee or the Extension Service in 1937 will be approved in carrying out a soil-building practice. In order to make best use of supplies of adapted red clover and alfalfa seeds, it is expected that farmers will give particular attention to the operation of sowing or drilling seed and the application of lime and fertilizer where needed to secure a good stand.

STATE SAFETY COMMISSION

Declaring the formation of a State Safety Commission to plan and coordinate, under one directing head, the activities of all state agencies dealing with the problem of highway safety, as a positive means of lessening sharply the number of highway accidents, Garrison P. Knox, Manager of the Keystone Autumobile Club of Maryland. today petitioned Governor Nice to give consideration to the proposal.

In a letter to the Governor Mr. Knox stated:

"The problem of increased public safety is one that is many sided and needs a firm hand at the helm to correlate all exigencies in order that a concrete and well defined program may be carried out.

"With due respect to the agencies now vested with participation in this valuable movement, it is our conscientious belief that a lack of coordinated direction from a centralized authority is the greatest retarding factor of seftey progress.

"We, therefore, as a motoring organization representing thousands of individual motorists in this state, petition you to give earnest consideration to the appointment of a State Safety Commission with the express authority to assume full control over the safety activities entered into in behalf of the citizens of Maryland."

Weather was probably invented by his Satanic majesty so that people would have something to growl about when there was nothing else at hand.

C. & P. Telephone Users Help Swell Overseas Calls

Long Distance—This busy telephone switchboard is typical of the thousands over which long distance calls are being made every day to all parts of the world.

Telephone users in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia helped to swell the number of overseas calls during the recent holidays. Holiday telephone calls between North America and foreign countries in every section of the globe reached a new peak with a total of 1,320 conversations as compared with less than 700 during the previous holiday period.

Foreign telephone calls were made to Maryland subscribers from such far away points as Honolulu, Sumatra, Java, London, Berlin, La Lima, Honduras, San Juan, Puerto Rico, Bogota, Colombia, Somerset, Bermuda, Elstead, England, The Hague, Holland, Manila and the S. S. Monarch of Bermuda. Maryland telephone subscribers placed calls to Kuenacht Zurich, Switzerland, Santurce, Puerto Rico, Sao Paulo, Brazil, Schofield Barracks, Honolulu, and Cannes, France.

Virginia telephone users received calls from Bogota, Colombia, Wailuku, Maui, London, and La Lima, Honduras. Calls to foreign countries placed by Virginia telephone users included Much Hadham, England, Sao Paulo, Brazil and Yokohama.

Telephone calls in West Virginia were received from El Centro, Colombia and Buenos Aires, while a call was placed from a West Virginia telephone to London.

Telephone calls in Washington were sent to Manila, Coco Solo, Canal Zone, Paget, Bermuda, Gothenberg, Sweden and were received in Washington from Belgrade, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, Arecilio, Puerto Rico, Sao Paulo, Brazil, Barcelona, Spain and Santurce, Puerto Rico.

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