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## THE RELIEF PROBLEM

In their sudden and laudable enthusiasm for balanced budgets and general economy, Congressmen have recently been speaking brave but meaningless words about how to cut down the costs of Federal relief. Two major proposals have been suggested. One would have the states carry the entire burden. The other, not going that far, would require states "able to pay" to contribute 50 per cent of the money needed for WPA.

When one looks facts in the eye, however, he finds that both these proposals are predicated on the impossible. If they do not already know it, Congressmen should be told that there is probably not one state in the Union capable of paying 50 per cent of WPA costs, and certainly not one capable of carrying the entire burden. Relief is a great unbalancing factor in the national budget but it has to be faced as a reality that cannot be shifted in entirety, or in appreciable part, from Washington to state and local political subdivisions.

What are the facts? In the first place, since 1936, all "unemployables" have been cared for by the states through direct relief paid for by the states. Before 1936, Federal funds handled most of this. Today, however, the national government, broadly speaking, takes care only of "employables" through WPA. In 1936, state and local governments spent almost four times as much for relief as they did in 1933. Altogether, relief costs to state and local units last year amounted to \$1,244,953,000.

Latest WPA figures (given here in round numbers) show that the Federal government is giving work to about 2,200,000 men at an average monthly wage of about \$55. This means that for wages alone the annual WPA bill is approximately \$1,400,000,000, which is exclusive of costs for materials used in WPA projects. Now what would happen if this cost were thrown entirely on the states? Assuming that the regular state and local relief costs would be the same as in 1936, the additional WPA burden would increase the state and local bill to about \$2,644,953,000 a year. Such a shift probably would bring the Federal budget in balance but it would knock state finances into a cocked hat.—The Pathfinder.

## SERVICE CHARGE FOR CASHING CHECKS ILLEGAL

The bill prohibiting banks from making a service charge in cashing checks was upheld as constitutional and valid, in an opinion rendered this week by Herbert R. O'Connor, Attorney General of Maryland.

Passed by the Regular Session of the Legislature, the bill was referred to the Attorney General by Governor Harry W. Nice, for a ruling to guide him in approving or vetoing the measure. The bill applies only to Allegany county and had been attacked by interested persons on the grounds that it forced banks to cash checks for no compensation, and that it discriminated against State banks and in favor of national banks.

These objections were carefully considered in the opinion to the Governor. But Mr. O'Connor held: "It is clear that it is within the police power of the State to throw protection around wage payments". The opinion concluded with this expression: "While the question of the validity of the proposed bill is not free from doubt, I feel that you would be justified in signing the bill, if you would otherwise sign the bill except for the objections to its validity, and thus permit the question of its validity to be presented to the court for determination."

In another opinion to Robert E. Eanis, Justice of the Peace for Prince George's county, Attorney General O'Connor ruled that, in automobile violation cases, the schedule of fees which a justice may charge is governed by the fee table in the Motor Vehicle Code, and is not governed by varying local laws on the subject."

## ORGANIZED FARMERS PLEASED WITH TAX PROGRAM AS ADOPTED

Have Favored Income Tax For Years, Says Legislative Chairman Of Farm Bureau

Organized farmers of the state are well pleased with the revenue raising program adopted at special session of the Legislature, according to P. J. Turner, of Baltimore county, chairman of the legislative committee of the Maryland Farm Bureau. The program is in line with recommendations which have been consistently made by the joint tax committee of the State Grange and Farm Bureau for a number of years, he reports.

"Farmers have consistently stated that real property is overtaxed, and have strenuously objected to any increase on retail property taxes," Mr. Turner says. "During both regular and special sessions representatives of organized farmers pointed to the fact that real estate produces only 25 per cent of the state's income, represents only 40 per cent of the state's wealth, yet pays 70 per cent of the total taxes."

"Farmers are also pleased that the possibilities of a state income tax, pointed out by organized farmers for several years, have been recognized by the legislators. Enactment of a state income tax, even though it produces no revenue this year, establishes the principle of the tax and allows an opportunity to adapt it as a part of future revenue raising program in Maryland."

Mr. Turner also calls attention to the fact that revenue provided by the new program will probably allow some reduction in real property levies in some counties of the state. Farmers have long held that an income tax and sales levies on luxury commodities would permit some lightening of the unfair share of the tax burden now borne by real property, Mr. Turner says, and this is now probable in counties where the direct relief load is not too great. Indications are that this will be the case in about half the counties.

"Maryland has laid the ground work for a fairer and more scientific tax program than it has ever had," Mr. Turner says. "It is the responsibility of every citizen to study the operations of the program and work toward its further improvement in the future."

## SOCIAL SECURITY APPLICATIONS

The Social Security Board urges all eligible workers who have not yet applied for social security account numbers to do so promptly to expedite the setting up by June 30 of wage records for their participation in the federal old-age benefits program under the Social Security Act.

For more than 6 months the Post Office Department has cooperated in this program of obtaining applications for Social Security account numbers from workers in the fields of commerce and industry, Mr. Luther Becker in charge of the Social Security Board field office at 300 Court Square Building, in Baltimore, said. The Department's machinery now is operating so smoothly throughout the country that on the average only two days elapse from the time a worker files his application until he receives his account number. Mr. Becker pointed out. In Baltimore, account cards are delivered at once to those who apply at the Post Office in person and applications by mail are filled the day they are received, Mr. Becker said.

After June 30, the Post Office Department will, under present plans, be assisted in receiving applications for social security account numbers by the Social Security Board field office in Baltimore and others located in strategic centers throughout the country. More than 100 such offices are open now and others are to be opened shortly.

Hint to regular guys in school: Better not be too hard on the sissy; he may remember later when you ask him for a job.

## EMPLOYERS MUST RETURN SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT CARDS TO EMPLOYEES

Employers having in their possession social security account number cards were advised by the Social Security Board that the cards should be turned over promptly to the individuals to whom they belong.

The account number cards are the property of employees to whom they were issued, and the cards should be at all times in the possession of employees who are cautious to preserve them carefully, Luther Becker, in charge of the Social Security Board office at 300 Court Square Building in Baltimore, emphasized.

Instances in which the cards are being retained by employers have been brought to the attention of the Board. This has happened in cases where employers held the cards sent to them by post offices for distribution to employees and where new employees have given their cards to employers so that the account numbers could be recorded on the employers' records. In some of these instances, employers have not known what to do with the cards.

In these cases, and in all others where account number cards are given to employers, they should be turned over to employees promptly.

Mr. Becker pointed out that employees, in reporting their social security account numbers to employers, need not give their account cards to employers. The only requirement, he stated, is that employees furnish employers the account numbers—not the cards.

## MARSHALL C. KRETZER IS SECTIONAL WINNER IN NATIONAL 4-H CONTEST

Marshall C. Kretzer, of Williamsport, Washington county, has been named sectional winner for the eastern states in the National 4-H Farm Accounting Contest, sponsored by a large agricultural implement company and supervised by the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work. Kretzer, who was first named state winner, competed against representatives from five other eastern states to win sectional honors. He will receive a \$225 merchandise certificate. He is 17 years of age.

As a result of Kretzer being named sectional winner for the East, Thomas Reid, who was the second high boy for Maryland and winner from Allegany county, automatically becomes state winner for Maryland. Other county winners named were Norman Fike, of Talbot county; Ralph McGinnis, Queen Anne county; Elwood Myers, Carroll county.

Kretzer won his award on a record kept on the 135-acre farm operated by his father.

## UNITED STATES CROP REPORT

In general the agricultural enterprise is starting off with spring work delayed by weather conditions, with livestock numbers and feed reserves severely depleted by drought, with pastures, ranges, hay meadows, new grass seedings and winter grains rather generally subnormal, and with farmers in part of the Plains area hesitant, pending definite breaking of the drought. On the other hand the signs of an increasing demand for farm products, and the shortages that are due largely to the droughts, are encouraging to producers in many areas, as is shown by the increased purchases of fertilizer, lime and equipment. This may mean increased attention to the crops now being planted, according to the May report of the Crop Reporting Board of the United States Department of Agriculture.

## JUNE ECLIPSE

At noon on June 8, far out in the Pacific, 1,500 miles from any land, the moon will completely cover the sun for a maximum duration of 7 minutes and 4 seconds. Extending 5,000 miles across the ocean, it will be the longest eclipse visible from the earth in the past 1,200 years.

In all the Pacific area, there are only two tiny atolls from which this eclipse may be satisfactorily observed. These are located in the Phoenix Islands, just south of the Equator, about 1,800 miles southwest of the Hawaii Islands, and 3,000 miles northwest of Australia. Only other observations, none of which would be satisfactory, are in South America.

Frank Clifford Stiles and Jean Parent, of Montgomery county; Raymond G. Mueller, of Talbot county, and E. Helen Coleman, of Queen Anne's county, have been named as the four representatives from Maryland to attend the National 4-H Club Camp, which will be held in Washington, June 17 to 23, it is announced by E. G. Jenkins and Dorothy Emerson, Boys' and Girls' Club Agents respectively for the State.

A woman never forgives a man for believing some of the things she tells him.



... and so it is with ELECTRICITY

Why do you buy the larger tube of tooth paste instead of the smaller? Perhaps for convenience... but mainly because you see at a glance that the larger gives you considerably more tooth paste for your money. The same principle is true with electricity. It's cheaper in quantity.

30 kilowatt-hours monthly cost . . . . . \$2.70

Twice as much (60 KILOWATT-HOURS MONTHLY) costs only \$3.90 instead of \$5.40

5 times as much (150 KILOWATT-HOURS MONTHLY) costs only \$6.68 instead of \$13.50

What better proof that the more electric servants you use, the lower goes your average cost! Be modern and thrifty—use more electricity.

## CONOWINGO POWER COMPANY

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## THE CHILD HEALTH SPECIAL

The new Child Health Special of the Bureau of Child Hygiene of the State Department of Health made its initial appearance on Maryland roads, May 1, marking two important events in the health calendar—Child Health Day and the beginning of the 1937 series of child health conferences-on-wheels for the examination of babies and young children in the counties.

The Special made its first stops in St. Mary's County where a series of child health conferences was begun on May 3. It will visit sections not ordinarily reached by the child health conferences held regularly throughout the year and will be used for informal conferences with mothers about the health needs of their children and for the examination of babies and young children who are not under medical supervision.

The new Special—a completely equipped up-to-date trailer—takes the place of the Healthmobile that has been a familiar sight during the warmer months on Maryland highways since the summer of 1923, and is a great contrast to the old "Health Bus." It is a stream-lined model, dark grey on the outside with a shiny, silvery roof. It is clearly marked on the side of the car as coming from the State Department of Health.

The inside of the big car is as spick and span as a hospital room with white walls and gleaming copper screens fitted into the window frames. The interior is divided into two compartments, one fitted up as an examining room with a table, scales, couch and other necessary equipment; the other as a dental clinic with a child's size dental chair and the gadgets and appliances needed in dental service for young children. Each compartment has its own water fixtures and arrangements for a supply of running water. Supplies and reserve equipment are stored in deftly concealed built-in cupboards.

Nine counties are included in the itinerary for this season's tour. The provisional schedule as announced by Dr. J. H. M. Knox, Jr., Chief of the State Bureau of Child Hygiene, for the Special after it leaves St. Mary's county, follows: Charles, May 17-28; Calvert, May 31-June 11; Prince George's; June 14-22; Cecil, June 23-30. July and August will be spent in Kent, Talbot, Queen Anne's and Somerset counties. The arrangements in each county are under the direction of the County Health Officer.

The staff of the Special includes a physician who has had special training in the care of babies and young children, a public health nurse and a dentist. Dr. Elizabeth Sherman who has been the examining physician for several seasons is in charge again this year.

The conferences-on-wheels will supplement the regular child health conferences that will be held as usual in the rest of the State during the summer.

It is an easy matter to take a cheerful view of the troubles of other people.

# KATHLEEN NORRIS

writes

## "Beauty's Daughter"

America's most beloved author returns to capture public fancy again... she brings a vital and glowing story, modern as tomorrow, strikingly pertinent to a social-conscious world!

Read about the girl who evaded love because of a mother's unhappiness... then read the consequences in this monumental story from the pen of Kathleen Norris—"Beauty's Daughter."

## IN THIS PAPER

WILL APPEAR IN THE MIDLAND JOURNAL Watch for the opening chapters



## ORPHANS' COURT

Bonds—Marshall B. Cross, administrator of Margaret E. Cross. Frank T. Bitner, Sr., executor of John Tisdale. Fred E. Hoover, administrator of Gertrude E. Hoover. Franklin D. Kirk, administrator of Sarah Louise Kirk.

Accounts—1st and final account of Joseph James and Fred James, surviving administrators of Edna H. Grapp; 1st and final account of Charles Henry Boots, executor of Charles Henry Boots, Sr.; 1st account of Marian H. Poist, guardian of Dorothy Poist, et. al.; 1st and final account of Lloyd Balderston, administrator of Merritt M. Haviland.

Cane-bottomed chair seats can be tightened up by washing them in a weak solution of salt water and then drying in the open air.

## Dog-Gone Tired?



For weeks on end, a million little voices all over that body of yours, begging you to lie down and rest?

You haven't been treading the light fantastic into the wee small hours, either!

Well, it's time to visit your good friend, the doctor. Unexplainable fatigue is an early sign of tuberculosis.

Remember, there's a way of solving the mystery.

## UNCOVER TUBERCULOSIS BY MODERN METHODS

Let the doctor be your guide

Museum For Children Children can build their own World Museum with the Diorama cutouts which appear regularly in the Comic Weekly of the Baltimore Sunday American. Easy to make, fascinating to assemble. Beautifully colored. Don't miss this unusual feature, regularly in the BALTIMORE SUNDAY AMERICAN. On sale at all newsstands.