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At the time Woodrow Wilson succeeded by Warren Harding in the presidency there was distressing unemployment throughout the country. Authentic statistics were issued by the Government. These statistics showed that somewhere around 4,000,000 unemployed existed in strictly normal times, that being the regular number unable and UNWILLING to work. There were 105,000,000 people in the country at that time. There has been an increase of twenty-five or thirty million since then.

In 1929 unemployment was on high. "The factory employment index for May (1937) was at the highest level registered in any month since November, 1929," says Secretary of Labor Perkins. Unemployment in June was 6,082,000, said the National Industrial Conference Board statement published August 8.

The United States News has compiled the record of the last three congresses in enacting major laws. It shows that the legislators are nowhere near as eager as they used to be to put new laws on the books.

The 73rd Congress (1933-34) passed 27 new major laws, including the NRA, AAA, TVA, SEC, and 4 important monetary acts. The 74th Congress (1935-36) passed 19 major laws, including the social security acts, a revision of banking legislation, the National Labor Relations Act, and 4 farm aid acts.

The last session passed but 6 major laws. And some of these—such as the law to plug loopholes in the income tax—were practically universally supported.

The American Federation of Teachers held its annual meeting at Madison, Wisconsin, on August 23rd to 27th, with 400 delegates attending as representatives of 25,000 teachers and college professors in all parts of the United States.

The convention was divided on the question of affiliation with John L. Lewis' C. I. O., and the split resulted in a bitter fight between the faction favoring that alliance and the more conservative group which held that the organization should continue its present relations with the American Federation of Labor. While the C. I. O. element appeared to be decidedly in the majority, the question was left for final decision by a referendum to the membership, to be held after February 1, 1938.

No doubt influenced by the lengthy report recently made before the National House of Representatives by Rep. Samuel Dickstein (D.) of New York concerning Nazi activities in the United States, a resolution was adopted at the annual session of the American Legion bodies of the District of Columbia barring all foreign salutes from future Legion parades. The resolution requires that all organizations invited to march with the Legion must give a pledge that only the American salute will be used. The resolution further urged national headquarters of the Legion to give moral support to investigation of the Nazi camps in New Jersey, Indiana, Wisconsin and other states.

Because of the increasingly large amount of farm produce which is being shipped by motor truck, the University of Maryland Experiment Station undertook to make a survey of this method of transportation in Maryland and recently published its findings in bulletin form. The name of the publication is "Marketing Fruits and Vegetables by Motor Truck in Western Maryland." It was written by Ralph Russell and R. W. Lennartson, of the Experiment Station.

Copies of the bulletin may be obtained free of charge by writing the University of Maryland Experiment Station at College Park. The number is 407.

If the time ever comes when the devil can't make a lie look as white as the truth he will have to quit.

### LABOR PART OF THE COMMUNITY

A common feature of Labor Day comments is the failure to remember that organized labor comprises less than a fifth of those who work for wages in the United States. While unions form the spearhead of the labor movement and naturally attract most attention, they do not speak for all workers. Unions have raised the level of labor as a whole and often unorganized workers enjoy benefits won by the struggles of those who have organized.

Yet there are industries in which the value of unions to the worker must still be questioned. And there can be no doubt that most of the gains of labor are derived from improvements in skill and industry, machinery and methods of management. And it is true also that selfish actions by one group of workers may injure other groups. High wages for union workers do not always mean a lift for non-union men and women. The closed shop can have all the faults of any monopoly.

Organized labor may well remember that it can advance itself as well as the cause of all wage earners by not pushing special interests of its own regardless of the general welfare. Picketing which blockades and intimidates is no help to labor as a whole. It may deny even the right to work to other workers. As may sit-down strikes by small minorities who tie up the employment of thousands in the modern chain of production.

Wage demands may raise other workers' wages; they are more likely to increase living costs, which means an actual reduction in the buying power of all stationary wages. Restrictions on production may protect workers against unreasonable hours or may spread employment; they may also so curtail the wealth produced that everyone has less. Enforcement of union demands often is necessary to obtain justice from employers, even from the most enlightened employers; but they can, unless tempered by understanding of the mutuality of interest between employee and employer, injure the common enterprise and even destroy it.

Jurisdictional disputes between craft unions have often hampered the construction of a building. Similar disputes today between the American Federation of Labor and the Committee for Industrial Organization are causing tremendous strife and loss. In all these things there is need for greater realization that labor is a common interest, that wage earners are part of the community. The community has an interest in prosperous and peaceful labor; labor has an interest in a prosperous and peaceful community. The thought which toys with the formation of a labor party forgets this essential fact.—Christian Science Monitor.

### PEACE BLOCK FIGHTS FOR NEUTRALITY IN FAR EAST

Washington.—Six of the largest peace organizations in the country united last week in a joint strategy committee for a national campaign to secure application of the neutrality law to the Far East. The organizations were: World Peaceways, the National Council for Prevention of War, the Emergency Peace Campaign, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, the Fellowship of Reconciliation, and the Committee on Militarism in Education.

Calling for immediate application of the law, the committee appealed to the Administration to stop the Wichita and other American vessels bound for China with war cargoes, in order to remove one danger of our becoming involved in the conflict.

A wire to the President commended his decision not to send additional cruisers to the Far East, but expressed alarm that England and the United States might send armed convoys to break Japan's blockade.

Too many people are like cider—they become sour with age.

### Questions And Answers

#### WHAT'S WHAT ABOUT SOCIAL SECURITY

Q. 49 Can a farmer receive old-age benefits? If so, to whom would he pay taxes? I am 53 years of age.

A. 49 The obligations and benefits under the Social Security Act are not optional. Agricultural labor is specifically excepted under the Act. Farmers and farm workers, however, come under the act when they engage in any other employment which is not specifically excepted under Title VIII of the Social Security Act. For example, canning, public road building, lumbering, employment in the tobacco markets and such things are not excepted agricultural labor within the meaning of the law, according to rulings made by the Bureau of Internal Revenue which is charged with administering the tax provisions of the Social Security Act. Employers, as such, may not pay taxes on themselves and receive a benefit. A man might ordinarily be an employer if he worked for someone else. As an employee, engaged in a covered employment, he would be eligible to qualify for benefits. As long as you engage in purely farm work you can not come under the old-age benefits provisions of the Act. As a farmer and as an employer, however, you benefit from the benefits provisions of the act inasmuch as it is obvious that the amounts paid employees in old-age benefits, and in unemployment compensation will be expended principally for food grown by the farmer and the genuine necessities of life. Study shows there is a very real and definite relationship between the economic welfare of the industrial workers and the income of the farmer.

Q. 50 Suppose I die shortly after I reach 65 years of age and begin to draw monthly old-age benefits checks under the Social Security Act? What will happen then?

A. 50 Your monthly benefits check will be sent you as long as you live after you reach 65 and otherwise qualify under the law. The amount of the monthly check will depend on the total amount of wages you have earned. If, when you die, the total of your monthly benefits has not amounted to 3 1/2 percent of the total wages you have earned in covered employment, after December 31, 1936, and prior to reaching 65, up to \$3,000 a year from any one employer, your estate will be paid the difference between the total benefits which were paid before you died and 3 1/2 percent of your total covered wages. The amount to your estate would be made in one final lump-sum payment.

Q. 51 I have just married. My wife worked before we were married and had an account number and paid taxes on her salary. She does not work now and possibly will not work any more. Can she get any money under the Social Security Act for the time she has already worked?

A. 51 The wages she has earned will stand to her credit until she reaches 65. If she should earn more wages between this date and the time she reaches 65, these, likewise, will be credited to her account. She will not draw monthly benefits, however, until she reaches 65. Should she die before she is 65 a lump-sum payment equal to 3 1/2 percent of her wages earned since December 31, 1936, in employment not specifically excepted under Title VIII of the Social Security Act, will be made her estate.

#### REFUTES IDEA THAT FEW MEN CONTROL WEALTH OF COUNTRY

It has repeatedly been stated that the finances of the United States lie solely in the hands of a few men who either own or practically control the wealth of the country. Refuting this belief, the president of Columbia University, New York City, calls attention to the fact that 14 million families in the United States own their own homes; 15 million persons own corporate securities; 10 million are members of building and loan associations with assets of 8 billion dollars; and 115 million life insurance policies bearing a face value of over 100 billion dollars are in force today. In what other country, can the general public boast of a comparable ownership of wealth?

The largest hemlock tree in the state of Maryland is said to be located near Bayard, Garrett county, on the property of Wesley Harvey. The tree is 107 feet high, 56 feet in spread, and has a circumference of more than 12 feet.

The man who expects to say good-bye to his sins one at a time will not live long enough to give them all up.

Even the pessimist sometimes laughs at the troubles of others.

## Tramp, Tramp, Tramp. THE WATER'S HEATING!



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### HOW

TWELVE CONSTELLATIONS ARE USED IN ALMANAC.—Who first defined the zodiac (that path across the heavens in which move the sun, the moon, and the planets) and used its twelve constellations for the purpose of the almanac?

Until quite recently, says a writer in London Tit-Bits Magazine, it was generally believed that the Chaldeans of 4,000 years ago were the first to recognize this zone, and to name its constellations after beasts, fishes, and human beings as their fancy suggested.

Reports from Bombay are that excavations at Mohenjodaro, in Sind, have revealed seals clearly showing astronomical observations based on the zodiac. Archeologists working there claim that the civilization being excavated is the most ancient in Asia, and that it is the origin of the Sumerian culture from which sprang the early civilizations of China and Japan. It is clear, therefore that the zodiac was recognized and observed many thousands of years earlier than its recorded use by the Chaldean seers, and that it is of Indian, not Babylonian, origin.

Strange, too, how the old pagan names for the constellations—the Ram, the Bull, the Twins (Castor and Pollux), the Crab, the Lion, the Virgin, the Scales, the Scorpion, the Archer, the Horned Goat, the Water-carrier, and the Fishes, have persisted all these thousands of years in spite of attempts made by philosophers of the Christian and other faiths to give them more prosaic or more religious names.

### How Messenger Call Is Sent From Building Box

The system by which messenger boys are called by use of boxes placed in office buildings is worked by direct connection of the business buildings with the telegraph office, the machine being electrically operated. The system is made up of many circuits, each circuit connecting a certain number of business buildings, and each box having its own call number. When the button is turned on a box it sets in motion a machine in the telegraph office. This machine contains round disks in which notches are cut and when these are set in motion a pin drops causing an electrical contact, which prints (in dashes) the call number of the business building where the call originates. This is interpreted and a messenger boy is dispatched.

How to Enter a Room On entering a room where there are people, in the interest of poise, smoothness and convenience you should hesitate in the doorway for a moment. It gives you time to see who is there, where they are, and to locate your hostess. If you should burst into the room with a continuous movement, you would have to stop anyway a few steps further in and pirouette in the middle of the floor to get your bearings. Everybody would look up at you as you lunged about for something or somebody to light on and conversation would be momentarily paralyzed.—Margery Wilson in "Charm."

Dinner for nothing is more desirable than nothing for dinner.

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IRVIN S. COBB  
America's Foremost Humorist

Coursing through the mind's channels from wit to wisdom comes this radio entertainer, journalist, novelist, magazine author and dramatist—a great mind whose columnar comments on the world's troubles will make you rock with laughter in one moment, contemplate with utter sobriety in the next. Cobb's life has been a full and adventuresome one. His journalistic experiences have taught him to watch for the whimsical and humorous sides in this day-to-day tussle with our fellow humans. Bunch together these varied experiences and abilities and you have a man whose writing knows no peer, whose humor and wisdom fit admirably into your reading program.

Cobb Appears Regularly IN THIS PAPER

### MEET THE APPLE

The chain store industry will soon inaugurate an aggressive producer-consumer selling campaign on behalf of America's largest fruit crop—the luscious apple.

The campaign is the result of recent conferences held between growers and representatives of the chains. This year's crop, the growers pointed out, will total more than 194,000,000 bushels—65 per cent over the 1936 crop. Furthermore, various factors have caused a substantial decline in the export market. The result is that the domestic apple market must be materially broadened if growers are to be spared disastrous losses.

The chains listened to the growers' story, presented by spokesmen from a dozen states, and proffered their assistance. They realize that their problem in this case is exceptionally difficult, but they have accepted the challenge, even as they have done successfully in the past with producer-consumer campaigns on behalf of beef, lamb, peaches, turkeys, etc. They have planned a comprehensive and far-reaching program designed to sell more apples, and at prices that are fair to grower and consumer alike.

The campaign will start September



16, when chain store employees and the consuming public will be "introduced" to the "apple." Oct. 23 will witness special displays and advertising concerning National Apple Week. On December 9, a pre-holiday drive will be started to put apples in every home. So it will go, week after week. This is a big job—if successful, consumers as well as farmers will reap the benefits.