

THE MIDLAND JOURNAL

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING BY

EWING BROS.

RISING SUN CECIL COUNTY MARYLAND
Entered as Second Class Matter at Post Office in Rising Sun, Maryland
Under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879

INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS AND ALL OTHER SUBJECTS

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION	
ONE YEAR, IN ADVANCE	\$1.50
SIX MONTHS	\$1.00
THREE MONTHS	.50
SINGLE COPY, 2 CENTS	

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FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 1938

THE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

The President and the business men have met many times and "talked it all over". Congress has heard from business men appearing before its own committees. Besides that—the President and Congress have heard from business men who did not come to Washington, but used the mails and other means of communication. As a result the depression is boiled down by aid of the press and the radio to a fairly comprehensive analysis and understanding.

The business men of large and small industries and corporations have told Washington that common sense would be served if the Government would announce a program of intentions for a year or two, at least.

They put it about as follows: "Tell us what you intend to do, Mr. Government, and do it; tell business what you want it to do, and we'll do it." Business men believe that the slump is superficial, due to fear, and a peculiar lack of confidence.

IT CAN'T BE DONE IN WASHINGTON

Taxes are too high, and that's a complaint that has never run out since the Boston Tea Party. But some very badly misinformed persons will tell you that Federal taxes will be reduced by Congress this Winter. Don't believe it for a minute. Taxation will be shuffled a little, but the totals will be higher than ever.

That's a simple problem in arithmetic, and even the politicians know that it's true. Economy and thrift are impossibilities in Washington.

Students and writers who discuss our international affairs seem to think that we are just about as unsteady as England and other nations that have let down on genuine policies and have started in on substitute "programs for defence". Policing for peace appears to be more or less of an illusion. We tried that in 1916. How can the dead rest in Flanders Field as the United States buckles on its armor? Already the volume of noises are growing louder in the moving picture houses as "patriotism" acquires high-blood pressure. Think it over and help quiet your excitable neighbors. The situation in Washington is turning too rapidly away from the ways of peace.

During 1937, the American people continued to show an increasing desire for life insurance. More than \$7,000,000,000 of new ordinary life insurance was put in force, marking a 3 per cent increase over 1936, which was also a year of exceptional sales.

Since 1916, the total of life insurance in force in this country has increased more than fourfold. The end of 1937 marked an all-time peak, with the total passing the incredibly great sum of \$120,000,000,000. In no other country does the average citizen possess so large an insurance "backlog" against future exigencies.

The payments of unemployment compensation benefits by the State of Maryland to persons out of work have now passed the \$750,000 mark. The disbursing section of the Unemployment Compensation Board is still working under high pressure in an endeavor to catch up with the claims which are still coming in at the rate of nearly a thousand a day, to which must be added many claims filed as far back as January 3. It is hoped that in another week or ten days payments will be brought up to date. The clamor for overdue payments is steadily abating. To date the figures assembled by Social Security Board show Maryland near the front in the percentage of benefits paid. The latest available figures put only three States ahead of Maryland.

MONEY TYCOONS BLAMED FOR WHISKY DEPRESSION

Recent attacks on America's "economic royalists," are bringing to light facts of how repeal was forced upon a depression-ridden people by a small group of multimillionaires as a scheme to exploit the working classes.

Some of millionaires who propagated repeal as a "popular revolt" now have huge sums invested in the brewing and distilling industries and are being repaid many times over for the amount they contributed to repeal prohibition, a national survey of the situation reveals.

Falsely characterized by wet propagandists as a spontaneous public revolution to prohibition, repeal now stands stripped of its promotional glamor. In the light of confidential papers made public by the Senate Committee.

Eleven wealthy men contributed over half the sums expended by the Association Against the Prohibition Amendment in a campaign to make it appear that prohibition was "unpopular" with the masses, and to instigate a "revolt" against the 18th Amendment. Fifty-three wealthy individuals gave over three-fourths of the campaign funds of the repeal organization up to the time of the hearing, the records show.

Today in many quarters repeal is receiving partial blame for the "business recession," and multimillionaires who sponsored the return of liquor are feeling the pinch, too. Billions of dollars spent for liquor are being diverted from other channels of trade. After four years of repeal, dry campaigners are capitalizing on the fact that the nation now faces many of the same conditions which were used by wet propagandists in their efforts to stir the people into a frenzy of dissatisfaction.

PEACE ON THE PACIFIC

When ten thousand persons of one nation gather together to cheer their approval of a suggestion for a peace compact with another country it is news of a most welcome and unusual nature. Yet that is what happened in Tokio recently when the government called the first of a series of Japan-American friendship meetings.

Coming at a time when the cables are carrying disquieting news from all corners of the earth, this amicable gesture in Japan for a warmer friendship with us is a highly significant incident and one that may well lead to a new and closer understanding between the United States and Japan.

The Tokio meeting, prompted by the government as a test of popular sympathy for an anti-war pact to link the two nations, was addressed by many influential Japanese and closed with ten thousand voices shouting their approval of a resolution declaring "it is a source of profound satisfaction to the Japanese people that ever since the outbreak of the Chinese-Japanese incident the government and people of the United States despite an anti-Japanese boycott engineered by Communists staunchly have maintained a calm and strictly impartial attitude."

The assemblage declared its promise to endeavor to deepen the understanding and advance the cordial relations between Japan and America and "thereby to contribute to the peace of the world and the welfare of mankind".

RELIEF COSTS MOUNT

Congress is working out laws to provide new relief appropriations. The large cities try to dodge most of the costs, as do the States and smaller communities. In the long-run that makes little difference because what the taxpayer skips in local taxes he pays in direct and indirect Federal taxes.

We are beginning to share in the belief of Harry Hopkins that Federal relief is a permanent thing in the United States. "It didn't used to be the case", we are told, to which the answer seems to be: "Yes, but what used to be the case doesn't go now".

Questions And Answers

WHAT'S WHAT ABOUT SOCIAL SECURITY

Q. 161 I will be 65 years of age on March 3, 1938. If I file a claim for a lump-sum benefit at that time must I give up my present employment?

A. 161 Since you would not be eligible for a monthly old-age benefit due to the fact that you have not worked for some part of five calendar years after December 31, 1936, and before reaching age 65, you would be entitled to a lump-sum payment. Since you are entitled to a lump-sum payment and not a monthly benefit payments, you would not be required to give up your present employment upon filing a claim after you reached 65.

Q. 162 I expect to get married and change my name. Should I have my Social Security account number cancelled and get another number?

A. 162 No. Call at or write to your nearest Social Security Board Field Office and ask them to furnish you with a form for changing their records. After you have filed this form the records in the Social Security Board will be changed to show your new name, but you will retain the account number which you already have been using.

Q. 163 How many people must be employed in a store to have that store come under the Social Security Act?

A. 163 For the old-age insurance section, one person is sufficient to bring a store under the Act. For the unemployment compensation section under the Federal Act, eight or more employees are necessary. Under the State acts this varies according to the different States from one to eight persons.

Q. 164 I have just married. My wife worked before we were married and had a Social Security 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. 164 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.

HATS OFF!

Hats off!

Along the street there comes
A blare of bugles, a ruffle of drums,
A flash of color, beneath the sky:

Hats off!

The flag is passing by!
Blue and scarlet and white it shines,
Over the steel-tipped ordered lines.

Hats off!

The colors before us fly;
But more than the flag is passing by.
Sea fights and land fights, grim and great,

Hats off!

Fought to make and to save the State,
Wearied marches and sinking ships;
Cheers of victory on dying lips.

Days of plenty and years of peace;
March of a strong land's swift increase;

Hats off!

Equal justice, right and law,
Stately honor and reverend awe.

Sign of a nation, great and strong
Toward her people from foreign wrong;

Hats off!

Pride and glory and honor—all
Live in the colors to stand or fall.

Hats off!

Along the street there comes
A blare of bugles, a ruffle of drums;
And loyal hearts are beating high;

Hats off!

The flag is passing by.

The housing bill has finally passed, and under its terms any family with a small and steady income may secure a home of their own. The Government will guarantee loans on new homes up to 90 percent, leaving only 10 per cent to be advanced by the home-owner. Thus, with \$300 one may acquire a brand new \$3,000 house.

Sanatorium: A refuge from relatives.

When a woman passes a man on the street and looks daggers at him he is apt to feel the cut.

WHY

Ears of Corn Produce Even Number of Rows.

There is always an even number of rows of grains on a normal ear of corn. This peculiarity is due to a botanical characteristic. The United States bureau of plant industry gives the following explanation:

"An ear of corn is made up of two or more connate two-rowed spikes which have grown together or failed to separate during their early development. Each spike bears at the end two two-flowered spikelets, but the lower floret of each spikelet is abortive, leaving only one pair of carpels to develop at each end. This accounts for the uniformity in the development of rows of grain in pairs. As each spike is two-rowed, the entire ear must have an even number of rows, unless, as sometimes happens, an entire row of one spike aborts, in which case the ear will be abnormal and have an odd number of rows of kernels."

There is a story to the effect that in slavery days a southern planter once offered a slave his freedom if he would bring the master a perfect ear of corn with an odd number of rows of kernels. The negro vainly searched for such an ear for an entire season. Early the next season he selected a growing ear and with a knife carefully cut out one row of kernels. When the ear was ripe it looked like a normal ear with an odd number of rows of grain. True to his word, the master gave the slave his freedom.

Stability

THE temptation to feel, with Hamlet, that "the time is out of joint" is common to many of earth's inhabitants today. And unquestionably, sometimes with less provocation, sometimes with more, such has often been the opinion in the past. Men normally desire safety, stability, security, and have looked for them in human governments, persons, investments, position, professions, and achievements of all kinds. But have they found these things? No! Not in any material plans or possessions, however humanly wise or good, have permanent safety and security been found. Certainly not in what we call our times have these been experienced. And that makes all the more interesting a statement which has stood in Isaiah for more than two thousand years: "Wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of thy times," he said. Not gold, not armaments, not organizations and unified materiality, but "wisdom and knowledge" alone bring stability!

True knowledge, really helpful knowledge, consists in understanding spiritual and eternal facts. If all men everywhere would consciously reflect the wisdom of divine Mind, the intelligence and integrity, the far-seeing judgment and complete kindness of the Lord, there would be no more confusion and distress, no more hate and fear, no more warfare and insecurity. But all men are not consciously doing this, nor do the majority seem yet ready to do so. Therefore, those of us who are in a measure spiritually ready, must do our part particularly well, that we may lead the world to see that it is not primarily our times but our thinking, that is wrong.

He who dwells on high, who habitually keeps thought above the sordid and material, the dishonest and the low, dwells in the divinely mental atmosphere above the fears and disturbances of so-called mortal mind. He who understands even partially that God is omnipotent, the one and only real power, and that God is knowable and available, has in this understanding a sure defence, a rock of stability.

The fear of losing good, the belief in fluctuating good, produces a sense of insecurity, begets instability. The individual who understands that the one changeless God is the everlasting source of all true life, happiness, provision, security, and stability knows no fear.

How safe and undisturbed was Jesus in spite of the great disturbances, ignorance, and poverty which also characterized his times! Was not this because of the spiritual conviction expressed in his statement, "I and my Father are one"? His spiritual wisdom, his selfless, loving knowledge of good, gave him a sense of his own and every man's eternal security as an individual idea in Mind, forever safe from harm.

Today, mankind must learn that not in matter but in Spirit is true safety; that it is hate and fear, selfishness and materiality that make for instability, and that love and wise co-operation, fearlessness, and intelligent helpfulness bring security. Learning this, they will begin to appreciate as a present possibility the heaven defined on page 587 of the Christian Science textbook, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" by Mary Baker Eddy, thus, "HEAVEN. Harmony; the reign of Spirit; government by divine Principle; spirituality; bliss; the atmosphere of Soul."

Then the nations will see that true riches are mental; that valuable possessions are spiritual; that a country's real need is not geographical expansion, but an expanding mental horizon. Then they will realize that the only necessary armament is the assurance of good founded on the rock, Truth; that the only seeming enemy is evil—ignorance of God; that the only needed weapon is the law of God intelligently applied, and that spiritual wisdom, the knowledge of God constitutes the only stability of our own or any other time.—The Christian Science Monitor.

Tramps never deliberately go to the dogs.

Why is a candy shop always on the ground floor and the dentist's office four flights up?



Sure You Have a 20th Century Tub . . . but

What about your hot water supply? Is it in the antiquated class? Or, do you always get clean, piping-hot water when you turn a faucet? Not unless your home is equipped with an automatic supply.

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