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CHILD HEALTH DAY EVERY DAY

Plans for the celebration of Child Health Day throughout Maryland, and the appointment of Dr. H. Mason Knox, Jr., Chief of the State Bureau of Child Hygiene, as Chairman of the State Committee for the observance have been announced by Dr. R. H. Riley, Director of the State Department of Health.

As the first day of May—which is officially designated by an Act of Congress as National Child Health Day—falls on Sunday, this year, the special Health Day exercises, and May Day celebration usually held in the schools or at community affairs in connection with the observance of the day, will accordingly take place at some favorable time before or after the first of the month.

"Purpose of the nation-wide observance", Dr. Riley said, "is to focus the attention of every individual and of every community on the right of every child to health and happiness; to intelligent care; to protection against disease, danger and from harmful conditions; and to opportunities for normal growth and development, physical, mental and spiritual; not only on May Day, but every day, all the year round. In all of the plans, emphasis is laid on community responsibility, as well as on that of fathers and mothers, teachers and public health officials, for the health and well-being of the children of this country.

"President Roosevelt in his annual proclamation issued in accordance with the requirements of the Congressional Act of 1928, setting aside the first day of May of this year, as Child Health Day, asks that special attention be given by men and women throughout the country, to ways by which the child health work of public and private agencies can be extended and made more effective.

"May Day has always been associated with festivals and with growth. The idea of dedicating the day to the health needs of the children of this country was proposed by Miss Julia Lathrop the first Chief of the U. S. Children's Bureau, in 1916. The plan did not take shape until ten years later when the American Child Health Association began organizing Child Health Day celebrations through State and local organizations. When that Association went out of existence, responsibility for carrying on the Child Health Day observance was taken over by the Conference of State and Provincial Health Authorities of North America—the official organization of directors of State and other health agencies. Since then, at the request of the Conference, the Child Health Day activities have been organized and sponsored by the U. S. Children's Bureau. The slogan selected by the Bureau for this year's celebration is "Speed Children on the Road to Health."

The Committee for Maryland includes representatives of State, city and county departments of health and of education, of State and country medical societies, organizations concerned with the care of mothers and young children, and with the care of children who are physically or mentally handicapped; women's club; recreational groups; parent-teachers organizations; boy and girl scouts; service clubs, and other groups.

"Charity begins at home," declared Congressman Knute Hill of Washington in a recent radio address in which he urged the American people to "remember it isn't selfish for the United States to refuse to enter into the World conflict to aid democracies."

"And can we trust the remaining democracies" he asked. "Our condemocracies" he asked. "Our confidence has been shamefully violated in the past. Remember Versailles," he warned, "and remember the twelve billions still due us while these European nations have been wasting our loans on rearmament."

A statesman does what is best for the country; a politician does what is necessary to stay popular.

LETTERS TO CONGRESSMEN

Not many people, comparatively, write letters to their Senators and Representatives in Congress. And the letters which are written are usually to criticise the legislator, or to scold or abuse him for something he has done, or perhaps has not done, rather than to commend some praiseworthy act or to make some constructive suggestion.

Congressmen welcome the interest of their constituents in public affairs and certainly appreciate a little well-deserved praise. But they justly resent undeserved blame.

One Representative from a western state recently said:

"I am sure I could do the correct thing, the courageous thing, the independent thing, a thousand times and never recieve five letters of encouragement. But if I make one mistake, a thousand letters arrive saying things."

Not long ago a number of Senators and Representatives signed a message of greeting to the Spanish under the Cortes at its opening session. This nation is on friendly terms with Spain, and the Cortes is its chief legislative body, under the constitution of that country. But the Roman Catholic press of the United States held the greeting to be an insult to the Vatican, which has favored the cause of the Spanish rebels. So they told their people to "say things" to the signers. According to reports, they certainly did so! Criticism, censure, abuse, denunciation, execration, and even threats of physical violence were heaped upon some of those who signed the petition. Such unmerited treatment no Congressman welcomes.

But surely a man who represents you in Congress, and who speaks or acts so as to command your admiration, deserves some expression of that feeling from you. And how can you expect such a representative to know your opinions regarding public question if you do not in some manner inform him as to what those opinions are?

But some questions the use of such letters, and say they merely go to fatten the Congressional waste-basket. There may be some foundation for such an idea so far as it refers to form letters, identical telegrams, petitions, etc. Not that these will go into the waste-basket, but knowning as a Congressman does how easy it is to get the average man's signature on a petition, he may give the petition but little weight. But a personal letter is a different matter.

Senator Capper, a veteran of the Upper House, says:

"Twelve letters carry more weight than a hundred signatures on a petition."

And Senator Nye, who has been prominent in many controversial issues in the Senate is quoted as saying:

"Let no one discount the influence of the intelligent letter which is written the Representative by his constituent."

To write such a letter costs but the price of a three-cent stamp, and takes but a few minutes time. Is it not worth trying? But do not waste the time and stamp on abuse.

—News Bureau

FOR MORE EDUCATION

The Federal Government is asked to increase its aid to education throughout the United States by raising this year's appropriation from about $55,000,000 to $70,000,000, with gradual increases up to $199,000,000 in 1944—totaling new Federal grants of $855,000,000 over the period of years. Most of the funds would be spent in rural districts and the rest would be used to improve teacher training, building new schools and provide rural libaries, and improve adult education. There is considerable opposition to the plan among educators throughout the country—who by looking through a knot hole—have discovered that this is one more way of centralizing Federal control over rural life, thereby depriving the States and local communities of their rights, as well as duties.

YOUR OLD-AGE INSURANCE

Who Gets the Benefits?

Nearly 38,000,000 workers in the United States now have Social Security account numbers. Any one of them could see his own name on Uncle Sam's record sheets, if he were inside the building in Baltimore, which houses the Records Division of the Social Security Board. In a certain filing cabinet, he would find a duplicate of his Social Security account card.

There are rows and rows of filing cabinets which hold these cards, each one showing the name, address, employment, etc., of one worker. In addition, there are ledger sheets which also contain the name, address, etc., of every eligible worker, with plenty of space opposite his name to keep account of his wage earnings. Employers report the wage earnings of each eligible worker in their employ; and that information is transferred to the ledger sheet, or wage record, that is kept by the Social Security Board.

Now, who are the eligible workers? They are the employees in factories, shops, mines, mills, stores, offices and other places of business or industry, not excepted under the law, who were less than 65 years old on January 1, 1937.

What is meant by "employment that is not excepted under the law?"

Generally speaking, it is any kind of business or industry, save farm labor, domestic service, Government service and a few other excepted services. For instance, Bill Jones, a middle-aged man, is employed in a steel mill. He works on a job that comes under the law. His younger brother, John Jones, is employed on a farm, and, therefore his work does not come under old-age insurance provisions.

Amy Drew, a young woman, is mployed in a laundry. She works in employment that is covered by the law.

Amy's sister, Lilly, cooks for a private family; Lilly's job does not come under the old-age insurance provisions.

Howard Brady is employed as a linotype operator by a newspaper. He works in employment that is covered by the law.

His cousin James Brady, is employed as a linotype operator in a Government printing office. Therefore, James does not participate in the old-age insurance system.

Some day James Brady or John Jones, or Lilly Drew may change jobs and find themselves working in employment that does come under the law. At that time, their old-age insurance benefits will begin to accumulate and their wage-earnings will be recorded on their Social Security accounts.

Questions concerning old-age insurance may be sent to this paper or to Mr. Luther Becker, Manager of the Social Board office, 100 Hopkins Place, Baltimore. Answers will appear in this paper.

FIGHT AGAINST NAVY BILL

Fourteen Senators opposed to the super navy bill have met to plan a definite fight against it "to the last ditch." Whether this means a filibuster or not is yet to be seen, but that it means bad days ahead for the administration is certain. Every indication is that the debate will last for at least two weeks and that the questions that will be put to Senator Walsh—in charge of the bill as Chairman of the Naval Affairs Committee—will not be easy to answer. Senator Walsh, by the way, has already shown himself unsympathetic with the recent trend of foreign policy.

Several recent developments will make the fight against the navy bill in the Senate even stronger than it was in the House, where an unprecedented opposition vote was rolled up. It is obvious that the Navy does not know what it wants. Its demands have constantly increased since the bill was introduced. The expenditure called for has jumped from $800,000,000 to $1,261,000,000.

It is quite within the realm of possibility that final action on the navy bill well be postponed until the next session of Congress, giving the people of the country a chance to indicate whether they want the money they pay in taxes frozen in armaments or used in these critical times for the relief and benefit of the people of America.

WHAT BECAME OF "UNCLE TOM"

An absorbing illustrated article which tells how the negro slave, made famous in the novel "Uncle Tom's Cabin" fled his master and established a sanctuary for other fugitives. One of the many interesting features in the May 1st issue of The American Weekly, the magazine distributed with the Baltimore Sunday American.

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FEDERAL AID AND HIGHWAYS

Through excise taxes on new automobiles, gasoline, oil, parts, and accessories, the Federal Government is collecting in excess of $320,000,000 annually. At present, Federal highway aid for expenditure through the state highways departments amounts to $200,000,000 a year, and an additional $38,000,000 is expended for forest roads and trails and park roads. The figures indicate that there are very great diversions of gasoline taxes that the law says should be used on highways. This is plainly mal-administration.

C. H. Purcell, chief engineer of the California State Highway Department told Washington newspapermen that "these contributions are well in line with the Federal Government's evident responsibility to help the States share the costs of improving general use and national defense highways." In expressing the views of the American Association of State Highway officials of which he is President he added: "To reduce the Federal outlay for highways to the suggested depression basis is to unfairly deprive motorists of highway facilities. Road needs today are far more intense than when the full weight of depression descended—there are now about 6,000,000 more cars than in 1933, and more gasoline is consumed per car."

The State highway officials are insisting that the backbone of highway improvement is Federal aid, and they demand immediate steps by Congress to extend the nation's roads without lowering the present basis.

BLUE RIDGE COLLEGE ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 1938-39

W. Roscoe Slack, Dean of Blue Ridge College, New Windsor, Md., has announced that a total of twelve State of Maryland Senatorial Scholarships are available for the Fall term and should be appilied for immediately. These Scholarships are valued at $250.00 each year, and may be kept by the student for four years if a grade of "B" is maintained. Those awarded in Baltimore City, Dorcester, Kent and Queen Anne Counties must be earned in open competitive examinations. In all other counties the appointments are made by the respective State Senator with the approval of the School Superintendent.

Complete information may be obtained by applying to the Office of the Dean.

Day Students are to be accepted at the College beginning in September. This will be a distinct advantage to those living within commuting distance.

Nations could develop new resources with the money now spent for armament, but you can't wear a Sam Browne belt while draining swamps.

Cats' whiskers, cocoanut shells and glass are being used in making new novelty woolen yarn in England.

Jenolan Caves Created by Underground Rivers

Among Australia's sights are the Jenolan caves, a series of caverns in the valleys of the Great Dividing range. The caves were created by underground rivers and are decorated with limestone formations.

There are ten of these caves, which have been decorated by the ceaseless dripping of water through the limestone belts above them.

The Grand arch is a natural bridge 470 feet long and 40 to 80 feet high with a varying width of from 50 to 227 feet. Just below it is the willow bordered blue lake. Carbonate of lime colors the water. This lake is the confluence of three rivers, two of which flow underground, and the third through the Grand arch. There is another natural bridge high above the Grand arch. It is Carlotta arch and is 60 feet high and 40 feet wide. The River cave, through which flows the river Styx, has a depth of 25 feet.

The caves were discovered in 1838 by a Charles Whelan, while he was following the tracks of stolen cattle. But an outlaw named McKeowan had been there before him. His camp was found by Whelan. The river flowing through the Grand arch is known as McKeowan's creek. Jenolan is an aboriginal word and means a high mountain.

Revere Silver

Revere was the greatest early American silversmith. At nineteen he took over his father's business. Most of the Revere silver in existence was either of his manufacture or made under his personal supervision. The design was based on English Georgian style of the Eighteenth century, characterized by greater simplicity of decoration and beauty of proportion than is usually found in English work. Revere silver is equal to the best plate of any country of that period. The tea and coffee sets are among the finest examples of any period of the silversmith's art.

Peculiarities of Geese

Geese have a way of attaching themselves to other animals as guardians and friends. One, in a British wildlife collection, took up with a crane, threatening to bite visitors or even other cranes approaching his ward. Another took under his wing a polo pony, going every day to the pasture to "protect" it. Then there's the Chinese goose that acquired a violent attachment for a dog. The dog was killed one day by another dog and the goose chased the murderer miles.

A mistaken idea is that clipping a dog keeps him cool. Dogs should never be clipped, particularly in summer. Removal of the dog's coat does not make him cooler, since a dog does not sweat through his skin but through its lolling tongue. Clipping the hair, therefore, does not allow for any more evaporation. On the other hand a dog's coat protects his skin against the sun and acts as an insulator to help keep the heat out. Frequent bathing in hot weather, is also inadvisable.

No good politician suffers from modesty. If he alone desires a reform, he says: "The people of America demand—'

OLD-AGE INSURANCE FOR CLAIMANTS

Old-age insurance claims amounting to $12,551.56 and numbering 327 were certified for payment during the month of March in Maryland. The average payment to claimants in this State, in March, was $38.38. A total of 1955 claims, amounting to $59,145.94 has been certified for payment to beneficiaries in Maryland since the first of January 1937, when the old-age insurance provisions of the Social Security Act went into operation.

Lump-sum payments of old-age insurance are now being made to older workers who have been employed (in jobs that come under the law) at any time since 1936, and who have reached the age of 65 since the first day of January 1937.

Lump-sum payments of old-age insurance are also being made to relatives of workers who had participated in the old-age insurance system and who died since the first of January 1937.

In the United States lump-sum claims for old-age insurance benefits certified during March numbered 21,858. Payments totaled $836,867.87. The average amount certified was $38.29.

Claims were certified by the Social Security Board during March at the rate of 810 per working day. Of the total number certified, more than 58 percent were filed by relatives or to estates of wage-earners who had died. The payments made to such claimants, as well as to those who had filed claims because they had reached the age of 65, represented 3½ percent of the total wages received from covered employment as defined in the Social Security Act. Payments amounting to $3,425,234.44 to pay 114,927 claims, throughout the United States, have been certified since the Federal old-age insurance plan became effective.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SERVICES

"Everlasting Punishment" will be the subject of the Lesson-Sermon in all Churches of Christ, Scientist, on Sunday, May 1st.

The Golden Text will be from Ezek. 18:23: "Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? saith the Lord; and not, that he should turn from his ways, and live?"

Among the citations comprising the Lesson-Sermon will be the following from the Bible; Hebrews 12:11: "Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous, nevertheless, afterwards it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby."

The Lesson-Sermon also will include passages from the Christian Science textbook, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures," by Mary Baker Eddy, among which is the following, page 322: "Man's wisdom finds no satisfaction in sin, since God has sentenced sin to suffer."