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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1938

AWAKENING THE PUBLIC

The National Board of Fire Underwriters is sponsoring a special radio program by Fire chiefs during Fire Prevention Week, between October 9th and 15th.

The program covers many phases of the fire problem. Questions are asked, for example, concerning the immensely important subject of heating plants. The fire chiefs then correct and amplify the answers. Hazrds of roofs, chimneys, electricity, etc., come in for consideration. The safe handling of inflammable liquids is covered, as is the subject of combustible materials. And specific suggestions are made for correcting a number of common hazards that exist, unknown to their occupants, in millions of American homes.

This broadcast idea is but one phases of a comprehensive program for Fire Prevention Week. The cooperation of civic organizations, public officials, insurance companies, newspapers, radio stations, and others has been obtained. The vital thing is to awaken a dormant public. If that is done, the week will mark the start of a greater campaign to conquer the fire demon.

Congressman Celler of New York has proposed a constitutional amendment to limit the federal government's now complete power over the purse of the people.

Almost all state governments have limited, by constitutional provision, the taxing and borrowing powers of local governments, as well as the states themselves. Only the federal government, through the income tax amendment, has the legal authority to take all or any part of the earnings of its citizens.

The Celler amendment would limit the income, gift and inheritance taxes to a maxium of 25 per cent. It would thus gurantee to every citizen 75 per cent of his earnings and possessions. It would do away with what the American Taxpayers League dramatically but accurately terms, "slavery of the purse."

The report of the President's Commission on Swedish labor relations shows but few rigid laws governing such relations in that country.

The rules by which Sweden settles her labor troubles, having grown out of the experience of many conflicts in past years between groups of employers and labor unions, are based, as in England, on the "give and take" spirit that breathes the soul of human relationships into the tense transactions between the two forces.

A remarkable fact, revealed in the report, is the comparatively short time that it took the employee and the employer groups in Sweden's industrial development to come to an amicable method of adjusting labor issues.

William E. Kane, the Mayor of Woburn, Mass., on September 3, 1938, ordered the names of 15 relief recipients stricken from the welfare rolls after he found them in saloons and taverns drinking.

The Mayor, who several months ago sponsored and then abandoned a cage-for-drunks plan, stated that during a visit to ten drinking places he found men and women who were not only receiving cash relief but also some who only recently had filed applications for shoes for their children. He declared that he started his tour of the drinking houses with a knowledge of excessive drinking going on in Woburn and that some of it was being done by people who were getting a living out of the pockets of the taxpayer. He announced he would continue his visits and remove recipients he found drinking.

President Green of the American Federation of Labor says that labor will renew its fight for a 30 hour week law next Winter. The trouble seems to be that more than 10 million workers in the U. S. can't find a way to connect with half that many hours in a week. Therefore, they are on relief.

CITIZENS OF SMALL TOWNS

J. E. Jones

Washington, Oct. 11,—There are about 3,000 county seats and 10,000 towns in the United States with eleven or twelve thousand weekly newspapers. There are approximately 2,000 daily newspapers. Cities of 100,000 inhabitants or more have a population of 36 million people.

The rural population is 53 milion, together with an additional 10 million living in small cities, plus additional millions living in small towns and villages. Census statistic leave one with the impression that most places under 25 thousand inhabitants are connected with rural and small town regions, and so closely tied together in their human relations and trade that they constitute that great indistinguishable class of our people so often referred to as "small towns". Perhaps nearly two-thirds of the United States is outside the influence of the greater cities. In 13 or more States there are no cities in the big population league.

The people of small towns are often referred to as "the homefolks". Edwin S. Smith, a member of the National Labor Relations Board, worrying about these people who show more competency in attending to their own affairs than any other class of citizens is reported to have made a speech this month in Mexico City, in a hall filled with radicals, and hung with a sea of red banners, in which he declared that "the most disturbing sign of the times in the United States is the ease with which citizen of small towns can be arrayed against vicious progranda of employers." Administrator Smith apparently ignorant of the fact that independent thinking has its strongholds among citizens of small towns. It is at least regretable that the efforts of the State Department, and the firm position of Secretary of State Hull has been virtually attacked by another official who should keep his nose out.

* * *

Bouquets For The Constitution

There has been no period in history since the Civil War in which there has been more discussion of the Constitution of the United States than during recent years. National and State legislative bodies and the courts are stricking closer than ever before to the charter of September 17, 1787, adopted by a majority of the 55 delegates from 12 States at Philadelphia.

The one hundred fiftieth anniversary has formally approved and re-ratified the Constitution; in fact covered it with all the bouquets of oratory that statemen and others were able to express.

The Constitution has to be amended and re-shaped occasionally. Once in awhile it seems to bend a little. But it never breaks!

* * *

A Practical Way To Look At It

Worrying about a third term for the President before half his second term has been completed seemc like wasted effort. Even the closets friends and advisers of the President are at sea on that question. The President himself has given indication that he desires a third term. That is a matter that will confront him later on.

Remember Calvin Coolidge, who did not "choose to run", He never got over disappointment because he was not drafted for another term. He knew he would miss the seventy-five thousand dollars a year and expenses. No sane man ever despised so handsome an income. It is one of the very practical questions that is considered by any good business man in reaching a conclusion—when the time comes.

* * *

Uncle Sam's Money Chests

Nearly half of the metal money of the World is stored in Uncle Sam's vaults and storage places. But anyone who expressess the desire to use this money for World war purposes will discover that the suggestion will make him very unpopular.

OLD AGE INSURANCE

Question. I lost my job not long ago, when the pressing shop where I was employed went out of business When I went to the Employment Service to apply for unemployment insurance benefits I was told that my employer was not subject to the law and therefore I was not entitled to benefits. They said that in Maryland nobody gets unemployment insurance except people who had been working for employers having four or more employees; and my boss had only two employees. I have been paying my one per cent wage tax all along. How does it happen that I am not entitled to benefits, now that I am without a job?

Answer: Employers of four or more workers in commerce or industry in Maryland are subject to the tax under the State unemployment compensation law; and their employees are included under the benefit provisions of that law. But workers who are employed by firms exempted under the law are not entitled to this job insurance. Workers do NOT pay tax under the unemployment compensation law in this State.

Unemployment compensation (or insurance) is one thing and old-age insurance is something else—an entirely different provision of the Social Security Act. Workers who participate in the Federal old-age insurance system are not necessarily covered by State unemployment compensation laws.

Question: My husband who was employed in a mill died a short time ago. I am told that his wage-record under the Social Security Act entitles me to some benefits, and I have been advised to file a claim for payment. Please tell me if there is any charge for filing a claim for old-age insurance benefits.

Answer: There are no charges whatever made by the Board in connection with the filing of such claims, and no outside assistance is neccessary. If you are entitled to file a claim for such benefits, any Social Security Board office will furnish you with the necessary claims forms and will give you assistance in filling out the forms properly. This service is absolutely free.

Question: What is meant by a lump-sum payment of old-age insurance?

Answer: That means that the whole amount of the benefit due an insured worker who reaches age 65 or the death payment due the estate or relative of a deceased wage earner is paid at one time. The claimant receives the money due him in one check.

Question: What is to prevent a creditor from finding out how much old-age insurance a relative received from finding out how much old-age insurance a relative received from the Government in payment of benefits due the survivor of a deceased worker?

Answer: The Social Security Board keeps confidential all information regarding workers. No one but trusted employees of the Social Security Board ever sees the records of the people who have social security accounts. The Board protects the worker against any outside attempt to utilize this information for any reason whatsoever. No employer and no other branch of the Government has access to the files of the Social Security Board.

TYDINGS VICTORY COST $88,814

The cost of Senator Millard E. Tydings' Democratic primary victory over Rep. David J. Lewis was spread on Circuit Court records Monday—$88,814, with $11,931 of it a deficit.

The report, filed as required by Maryland election law, listed Tydings' law partners, Allan Sauerwein and Robert H. Archer, as the largest single contributors with $2,000 each. Another partner, Herbert Levy, gave $1,750.

Tydings himself put in $1,500; his wife and John J. Raskob gave $1,000 each. Sentor George L. Radcliffe, a personal friend of President Rossevelt, but Tydings' campaign manager, gave $100 and former-Senator James A. Reed of Missouri contributed $50.

The report filed by Herbert R. O'Conor, who won the Democratic gubernatiorial nomination, showed his campaign cast $69,263, with $67,798 of that a deficit.

Can Germany win the next war? The best military experts think she cannot, even though Italy and some of the smaller central powers come to her side. They think an entente consisting of France, Britain and Russia would, in the long run, prove irresistible. But they think that in the meantime, Europe would see horror and deprivaton on an unprecedented scale. We have seen in Spain, on a small scale, what modern war means, with bombing of defenseless civilians. Multiply vastly this grisly scene—and you will have an idea of what a European war would very likely mean.

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- ☐ American Poultry Journal.....1 Yr.
- ☐ Breeder's Gazette .....1 Yr.
- ☐ Cloverleaf American Review.....1 Yr.
- ☐ Country Home .....1 Yr.
- ☐ Farm Journal .....1 Yr.
- ☐ Home Arts Needlecraft .....1 Yr.
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UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

At the end of September the number of claims for benefits filed with the Maryland Unemployment Compensation Board had grown to 197,060. This is the figure for what are classed as "original" claims and does not include what are known as "additional claims or "continued" claims. An additional claim is renewed demand of an unemployed person whose original benefit has been exhausted for the time being but who may get additional payments under the law. Any claim made after the claim for the first week's remuneration is a continued claim and covers only one week.

The Baltimore Employment office, which includes all the territory in and contiugous to the city, received 72.58 per cent of all the claims filed since January 3 when they first became valid. Next in volume was the Cumberland office with 13.62 per cent of the total. These two offices combined handled more thn eighty-six per cent of the aggregate for the State.

Swelling the work of the Cumberland office were laid-off employees of big Cumberland industries living in Ridgely, Keyser, Piedmont and other nearby West Virginia towns to which is to be added the George's Creek coal region in Maryland including Mt. Savage, Frostburg, Midland, Lonaconing, Barton and Westernport. Southern Pennsylvannia towns also supplied quite a number of claimants.

The figures presented are not to be taken as representing the total number of claims paid. In the first month (January) it was found that about one-third of these asking benefits for unemployment were not entitled to anything under the terms of the law—terms which leave little to the option of the Board. But many of the unemployed, knowing little or nothing of the law's limitations, simply "took a chance" by filing claims. In recent months fewer unjustified claims have been handled because thay have been held up at the Employment offices.

Of the aggregate number of original claims filed up to August 31, 161,607 were for total unemployment and 30,521 for partial unemployment.

The total number of employees now covered by the Compensation law is about 350,000. Thus it appears that the total of those seeking benefits has gone above fifty percent of all possible eligibles.

How to Prevent Giddiness

People who feel giddy when looking from great heights may prevent the feeling by wearing low-powered spectacles or goggles made of prismatic glass. This is the declaration of a medical student at Edinburgh university in Edinburgh, Scotland, after a hundred experiments made with fellow students in the last five years.

How to Make Muslin Fireproof

Muslin can be made fire resistant by dipping in an alum solution. Seventeen per cent strength is the strongest solution that will not crystalize out at ordinary temperatures, and corresponds to 1.42 pounds per gallon.

How Cheapside Got Its Name

Six centuries ago Cheapside was the Piccadilly and Oxford street of London. It was a great shopping district and it is still a jewelry center. Its name is derived from the word "chepe," a market.

How to Paint Metal

Before applying paint to copper or brass, the surface should be properly treated to eliminate all grease. This may be done by scrubbing the surface with gasoline, or etching it with blue vitriol.

How to Paint Blackboard

To refinish a blackboard, paint first with one coat of ordinary black. Follow this with a coat of black paint mixed with turpentine instead of oil. The resulting finish will be a dead black.

How to String Beads

In stringing beads with very small holes first twist the cord tightly. Then dip the end into household cement or glue. When the cord is dry it will pass through the holes easily.

How Peanuts Are Salted

Peanuts are salted by boiling the peanuts in salt water, or soaking them overnight in a very strong brine and then drying them before roasting.

How to Rid Home of Mice

How to rid the home of mice is no problem to an El Paso, Texas, man. He trains them and sells them as pets.

Gratiude is a fruit of great cultivation; you do not find it among gross people.—Samuel Johnson.

HOW

TO SIT IN A CHAIR WHILE AT A DESK OR ELSEWHERE.—Most persons have no idea how best to sit while working, according to a report prepared by an expert on the subject, says the Los Angeles Times. The most trying way to sit is to slouch back in a chair and allow the chin to droop on the chest. The most important mistake in sitting, he says, is to allow the weight to rest on the spine.

"To sit so as to conserve energy," he writes, "sit well back in your chair, so that your weight is on the bottom of your thighs instead of on the base of your spine. Nature has eliminated all nerves from the parts of the pelvis that support us while sitting.

"For desk or table work of any kind, draw one foot back by the side of your chair and lean forward slightly, bending at the hips, not at the neck or waistline. Never allow your shoulders to get back of your hips. There is something magically exhilarating about this position. One has to work in it."

Authors report that the expert's sitting system permits them to write many hours without fatigue, and school-teachers reported an increase of 25 per cent in efficiency the first day their pupils tried it.

One advantage for the method, say business men, is that the poised position discourages those who would waste their time with needless chatter, or unwelcome sales talks.

How to Repair Leaks in Cast Iron With Cement

Cracks and leaks in cast iron can be repaired with iron cement. This comes in the form of a fine powder. Mixed with water it forms a thick paste. Blend it well, for water and powder do not mix readily. The cement must penetrate the crack. For a pipe, radiator, or other work which must be water-tight, use a slender tool for widening the crack to a width which will permit the proper penetration of the cement.

Force the cement into the crack and pack it by hammering with a flat tool. If there is considerable pressure in a pipe, reinforce the mended section with a hose clamp such as that used on water connections of an automobile engine.

If there is a possibility that the crack may extend and become longer, drill holes at each end and fill these with cement.