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FRIDAY, JANUARY, 6, 1939.

INCOME TAX FOR MD. LOOMS IN LEGISLATURE

Adoption of an income tax plan instead of the reenactment of a gross-receipts tax will be almost unanimously favored by the 1939 General Assembly according to a survey by the Associated Press of legislative opinions.

The income tax has been vigorously urged by the Maryland Farm Bureau and other farm organizations.

The legislators, the survey indicated, also will seek to change the present setup of the State Conservation Commission, and will propably come to Annapolis of a mind to reduce the relief program now in effect.

Furthermore, there will be those who will favor increased real-estate taxes, increased personal-property taxes and a consumer's sales tax as the answer to the financial problem that will confront Governor-elect O'Conor's incoming administration.

When it first was instituted shortly after election returns were in, the survey found no sentiment for any of these three latter fiscal measurers. The final checkup showed the legislators should stand about five to two against them.

The voters in November refused to permit the state to levy a graduated income tax like the federal tax. But the Constitution allows a flat state income tax, and there already is one on the books. The present one-half of one per cent. tax will be rasied, if the income-tax proponents have their say at Annapolis.

The gross receipts tax was tried a few years ago, amid a storm of protest, to raise relief funds. It raised the funds, but proved so unpopular the solons dropped it like a hot coal when the law creating it expired.

At the last special session for relief, there was much talk about raising of real estate levy, but nothing came of it, largely due to the opposition of county legislators. Personal property taxes never have figured very largely in discussion in the state house.

But the sale tax has been a major bone of contention. It is possible the state would have enacted it during the periods it was seeking relief revenues, had it not been for the fact that legislators representing counties bordering other states, or the District of Columbia, were among the abler members of the assembly, and forestalled it.

It undoubtedly is gaining in favor, as the survey indicates. Persons who are against larger income taxes almost invariably propose a sales tax as the solution, arguing that it has not proved too onerous in other states in which it has been tried.

The Associated Press survey showed legislators voting 2 to 1 in favor of financing relief through local tax levies. They favored, about 9 to 5, the return of the county lateral roads to the control of the counties.

RULES OF THE ROAD FOR BICYCLES

With accidents involving bicycles climbing in the past few years, the Keystone Automobile Club advises that children who received bicycles for Christmas be instructed in the "rules of the road."

Many children who have never before ridden bikes will be riding them during and after the holidays, it is pointed out. Unless properly coached by their elders, the boys and girls will have no conception of their responsibilities on strects and highways.

"Parents may save themselves much grief," said George E. Keneipp,, Manager of the Club, "if they spend some time teaching children with newly-acquired bicycles the fundamentals of safe operation in respect to traffic hazards.

"The tremendous increase in death and injury accidents involving bicycles shows that a great many youthful cyclers lack this knowledge.

"Smiple information such as waiting for traffic lights, slowing down at intersections, making turns properly, staying in one lane of traffic, obeying stop signs, riding with lights at night, and other elementary factors for safety may prevent death or painful injury to children.

"An increase in bicycle accidents conservatively estimated at 90 per cent for the last four years and a fatality rate much greater than that of automobile accidents should impress the importance of safety teaching on fathers and mothers who presented their children with bicycles this Christmas."

DECKS CLEARED FOR CONGRESS

J. E. Jones

Washington, Dec. 31—The Departments, Bureaus, Commissions and other agencies of Government have finished their annual reports and the President in the White House is passing upon their importance, as he makes notes for his message to Congress. The Monopoly Commitee, the investigation of un-American activities, and high taxation resulting from new policies of government in recent years have stimulated nation-wide discussion. The business interests, organized labor and social security problems, are all bound up in reports and documents.

The decks have been cleared and all propositions—from turkey to trusts, from peace to war and agendas and programs are all fixed.

The Go sign is marked for the opening of Congress on January 3.

* * *

Work Progress

Harry L. Hopkins has grown so big as top-man of the WPA that it is natural to find him climbing still higher. He has been sitting in at Cabinet meetings, keeping Vice-President Garner company—and these two are the only honored observers. They frequently disclose their opinions to the President's inner circle.

There is a general feeling in all official circles in Washington that WPA is becoming out moded. The system of relief is certain to come under attack in the next few weeks. It will either be streamlined or cut to pieces. That means a possible division of authority between the Government and the states, with more local administration and less direction from Washington.

* * *

Talking About "Going Calm"

Most hopeful phase of a revised program for reorganization of the Executive Branch of the Government is found in the observation that the President and Congress are now approaching the whole question in "a calmer mood".

One wonders why there ever should have been so much excitement and political hauling over this matter, because anybody who knows anything about the affairs of the government knows that there is endless overlapping of authority; and that there is inefficiency and waste All this could be corrected rather easily if all political issues and prejudices were scratched.

* * *

What's Wrong With Business

The Senate Monopoly Committee and the Senate Profit-Sharing Committee conducted hearings in which they brought out helpful testimony concerning American industry. There was no brow-beating of the witnesses. Business didn't have to fight back. According to the investigations there's nothing wrong with the American business system.

* * *

Time Through The Ages

We are pleasantly reminded by Miss Elisabeth Achelis, president of The World Calendar Association, that Christmas is a festival season with special significances to any student of the calendar. This outstanding leader in the movement for a practical revision of the 12-months calendar (keeping it a 12-months calendar) reminds us that "the most important festivals of pre-historic time were sun-festivals, one in midsummer and the other in winter." Christmas-time, was to primitive man an important and critical period when the days were getting shorter and the nights longer. So men lighted bonfires of logs to give the sun strength and bring him back to life again. Of course their efforts were crowned with success—they soon noticed that the days were growing longer and rejoiced because the sun had been reborn and was coming back in glory and splendor. Those were sun-festival periods for the Egyptians, Chinese, and other people. Ancient rulers and gods were honored by these festivals. Eventually the fathers of the church decided to fix a date to celebrate the birth of Christ, and wisely chose that day so firmly fixed in the minds of the people. And so we see that the exact date of Christmas was fixed by the sun. There is a beautiful Christmas thought for you.

HOW THE COW RAISED THE FARM INCOME

The prices of farm products dropped about 25% in the first half of 1938. Cash farm income including Government payments to farmers in 1938 will be about $1,000,000,000 less than the corresponding combined totals for 1937, which will lower the total of the farmers' cash income for this year about 12%. The Secretary of Agriculture reveals the foregoing facts in his annual erport, fresh off the presses from the Government Printing Office. Mr. Wallace says that all the important farm products shared in the dceline with wheat and cotton suffering the greatest drops

"Farmers often seem to be more concerned about prices than about income, and to get more satisfaction, for example, out of selling one dozen eggs at 60 cents than two dozen at 40 cents a dozen,' is an observation by Secretary Wallace. That human interest sentence proves that he still has the "editoral-swing" of words. Thus eggs from the hen-house are mentioned to furnish a side light on farmers practices by the top-man in American agriculture.

It is a coincidence that the report of the Department and a report of National Dairy Products Corporation to stockholders were issued at almost the same time. The latter unofficial communication shows the bright side of some of the gloomy facts that are recorded in the offical review.

"As in the past, the cow proved to be the chief support of farm purchasing," says president Thomas H. McInnerney, of National Dairy, and he tells the record of the closing year in which "amidst general decline, milk has continued to pour cash into farmers' pockets, undiminished in amount from last year. In fact," he relates, "through October of 1938 milk had returned farmers 1,243 million dollars compared with 1,241 million dollars the year before. Not without reason has milk been called the mainstay of farm purchasing power," observes Mr. McInnerney, and he adds: "But milk can be a mainstay only to the extent that a day in and day out market is provided for the output of the nation's 25,000,000 cows. Factories, sales organizations large financial resources and trained personnel are required to provide that market which converts milk in the pail to dollar in the farmer's pocket. Milk and dairy product companies are justly entitled to a measure of credit for this accomplishment."

During 1938 the retail prices of dairy products declined along with other foods. Propably the chief factor in bolstering dairy farmer's income amidst the general decline in farm income as a whole has been the public acceptance of milk, butter, cheese and other dairy products ar low cost, health giving foods for the daily diet.

FOUR BILLIONS FOR TRUCK DRIVERS!

How big a business highway transportation has become in the United States may be realized from the fact that truck drivers alone earn and spend over four billion dollars annually.

According to information released by the Automobile Manufacturers Association, there are 3,109,508 truck drivers in the United States based on an estimate of one full time driver per truck exclusive of farm trucks. As a number of large farms regularly employ truck drivers and many trucks carry two drivers this is on the conserative side The infant giant has far outstripped its older rival, the railway.

According to the records of the Interstate Commerce Commission at the end of 1936, there were 1,086,405 railroad employees. The number of truck drivers in the United States exceeds the total number of railway employees on a ratio of almost 3 to 1. The average railway employee including executives received at the end of 1936, $1,734,79 per year. During that year railway employees earned $1,873,819 393.

Based on an average earning power of $1,300 per year the truck drivers of the United States earned $4,042, 360,400.

This figure, of course, does not include anything at all on the tremendous personnel behind the drivers employed in maintaining the vehicles, driver's helpers which are necessary on many types of runs and suppliers of fuel oil, etc., along the route.

An analysis of all of those directly and indirectly employed in the business of highway transportation gives an interesting viewpoint on the importance in our national life of the motor truck. All of this has come about during the last thirty years and has radically influenced our mode of living and the actual geographic distribution of our population. Many communities depend on highway transportation alone for all of their food as well as other supplies.

In no other country in the world has such a complete system been built.

First of an exciting new series of articles, illustrated in color, telling of the mysteries, sorceries and savage vengeances of the dark forest. Read this story in the January 15th issue of The Baltimore Weekly, the big magazine distributed with the Baltimore Sunday American. On sale at all newsstands.

A Gleam Of Sunshine

Evangelist John Moses Baker
Baltimore, Md.

Let your life be a gleam of sunshine,
And your heart of the finest gold,
Scattering blessings around you
Of beauty and joy untold.

Let your life be a gleam of sunshine,
Many hearts are lonely and sad.
You can help to lighten the burdens,
And make somebody happy and glad.

Let your life be a gleam of sunshine,
A fountain of comfort and cheer.
Help strengthen the faith of the weary,
And drive away doubtings and fear.

Let your life be a gleam of sunshine,
Blessed sunshine will scatter the gloom.
The fountain of life ever overflowing
Living waters where flowers bloom.

Let your life be a gleam of sunshine,
Forever young it will always be;
Even when shadows are lengthening,
And we cross the narrow sea.

NEW WAY OF BUILDING DAIRY RATION LETS COW GET MORE OUT OF FEED FOR MAKING MILK

Anyone knowing feedstuffs will readily agree that alfalfa hay is a much better feed for dairy cattle than corn cobs. Yet on a total digestible nutrient (T. D. N.) basis, the long recognized standard for judging feed values, there appears to be little difference. In 100 lbs. of alfalfa hay there are 50 lbs. of digestible nutrients, while 100 lbs. of corn cobs contain 46.2 lbs. of digestible nutrients.

According to T. D. N. measurement, then, the difference between alfalfa hay and corn cobs is less than 4 lbs. to the hundred, even though the producing ability of the one is known to be far greater than the other. This simple comparison is one of many that caused scientists to decide that the existing T. D. N. basis for judging the productive capacity of feeds and roughages needed to be revised and replaced by more accurate methods, according to Meade Summers, head of the dairy department of Purina Mills.

"Many men in the dairy business today can remember when the first so-called balanced rations were introduced," says Summers. "College professors, feed manufacturers and dairymen began talking about proteins and carbohydrates and how they should be balanced . . . and well-bred, well-fed cows began to step up production to almost unbelievable amounts compared to what they had been producing.

Digestibility Is Big Factor

"Later, scientists working in laboratories discovered that proteins and carbohydrates were not the whole story—that a feed must have digestibility as well. It was found that the more feed a cow could digest and make use of, the more milk she would produce. The discovery of digestible nutrients was a big step forward in the dairy industry," Summers says.

"But in laboratories and on experimental farms there were research workers who were not entirely satisfied with the progress made. They felt that total digestible nutrients did not tell the whole story. They were the hunger fighters of the dairy industry who realized that dairy breeding was still far ahead of dairy feeding—that the American cow was capable of producing a lot more milk if they could find the feed that would bring it out of her.

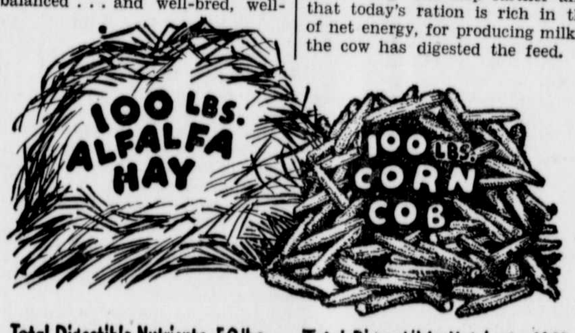
"Among them were two dairy scientists at Pennsylvania State College, who received notice for their work with a machine that showed exactly what happened to each pound of feed when it passed through a cow. They put a living animal inside the machine and made their tests. They discovered, as many scientists and advanced dairymen had believed they would, that total digestible nutrients was not the final measure of a feed. This machine measured the energy used in digesting feed. They found more energy was used in digesting some feeds than others.

Net Energy Values

"Their findings explain why alfalfa hay is a better dhiry feed than corn cobs. even though the two products are practically equal in total digestible nutrients. So much energy is burned up by the cow in digesting the corn cobs that only 13.2 therms of net productive energy remain out of the 46.2 lbs. of digestible material in 100 lbs. of cob. On the other hand, the alfalfa hay is so much more easily digested that far less energy is used up in the process of digestion and assimilations, leaving 38 therms of net energy from 50 lbs. of digestible material in 100 lbs. eaten. That means that alfalfa hay has practically three times the feeding value of corn cobs.

"Recently Professor G. S. Frapps of the University of Texas, one of the outstanding dairymen of the nation, came to the front with a statement corroborating these tests," says Summers. "Frapps said that all dairy feeds were being figured on the wrong basis and that productive energy values should replace the use of total digestible nutrients as it had done in Europe many years ago.

"Of course, it is still very important to have a properly balanced ration. And it is also important that the ration be high in total digestible nutrients. However, it is most important of all to go one step farther and see that today's ration is rich in therms of net energy, for producing milk after the cow has digested the feed.



Total Digestible Nutrients 50 lbs
Net Energy..... 38 Therms

Total Digestible Nutrients 46.02
Net Energy..... 13.2 Therms

"About 2 years ago Purina Mills began a series of feeding tests at the Purina Experimental Farm to determine the effectiveness of this net energy basis for building a dairy feed. The climax of this experimental work was reached in a test with 60 grade cows, divided in 2 herds of 30 head each.

Checked and Double Checked

"One herd was fed the regular Purina dairy ration on the market at the time, high in total digestible nutrients," says Summers. "The other herd was fed a ration both high in total digestible nutrients and rich in therms of net energy. The result was startling. Both herds did well, but the cows on the therm-rich feed averaged 40 pounds of milk daily while the cows receiving the regular Purina ration gave 35 pounds of milk. Tests were repeated for a second full lactation period, with verifying results.

"For final and conclusive proof, the herds were reversed and the cows that had been given the regular Purina dairy ration were fed on the new therm-rich feed while the herd that had been receiving the therm-rich ration were given the Purina ration. The 30 cows fed on the therm-rich ration confirmed the results from the first herd. By this time our men in the Dairy Department were calling these net energy units 'milk-making therms.'

"Those 60 cows gave us the information needed to make our present improved dairy rations. Today our customers have a milk-making ration that not only has its carbohydrates and proteins balanced, not only is rich in minerals, not only is high in total digestible nutrients, but also is rich in milk-making therms. The result to our customers is extra dollars of profit."

Oil from porpoises is used to lubricate watches and other delicate mechanisms.

A woman's idea of a pretty hat is one that costs a lot of money regardless of how it looks.

WHY

Corn and Some Other Plants Grow Faster at Night.

Other things being equal, corn probably grows most rapidly on warm nights. Many plants, including corn or maize, continue to grow after dark, notwithstanding the fact that photosynthesis takes place only while the plants are receiving sunlight.

The rate of growth in plants, says the United States bureau of plant industry, is influenced by many factors other than the formation of food materials through photosynthesis, and the photosynthetic products themselves may require further change before being utilized in growth. Thus it happens that some plants not only continue to grow after nightfall, but grow more rapidly at night under ordinary conditions than they do during the day. Apparently, however, this is not true of all plants.

There is no particular period in the course of 24 hours of the day during which all plants grow most rapidly. Even among those that reach their maximum rate of growth in the night, the period of most rapid growth in some species seems to begin in the early part of the night, while in other species it does not begin until after midnight. Certain plants will continue to elongate rapidly even in prolonged darkness, but in such cases the type of growth differs materially from that which takes place when the plants are exposed to sunlight.

Why City of Washington Has No J, X, Y or Z Sts.

Many visitors to the national capital cannot quite get over the fact that there is no "J" street. They travel on "G," "H" and "I," but the next one is "K." What happened to "J?" Official records show no reason for this slighting of the letter "J."

Some persons claim that letter was left out of the street alphabet because in the old days the letter "I" was written very much like a "J" and the latter was left out to avoid confusion. Anyway there never has been a "J" street in the capital, although there is a "Jay" street, named after John Jay, first chief justice of the United States Supreme court.

As a matter of fact, says Pathfinder Magazine, there are no X, Y and Z streets in Washington. Various reasons are offered to explain why these three letters of the alphabet were skipped in naming streets. Some claim it was because these letters were too closely identified with mathematics, especially the unknown quantity. But whatever the reason, the fact remains that even in the second, third and fourth alphabets of streets are only two of these three letters recognized—X in Xenia street and Y in Yuma street.

Why Stockings Have "Runs"

The bane of woman's existence seems to be "runs" that occur in stockings. If a single thread is caught and broken the damage is not confined to that spot but extends upward and downward the full length of the stocking, unless some kind of an adhesive is quickly applied to both ends of the run, but as a rule the damage is done too quickly to permit the application of any remedial measures. The reason for the run is apparent if one studies the fabric under the microscope. A photograph of what is seen under the magnifying glass is a good substitute.

Why Silk Dress Has Electricity

Silk, when dry, is an excellent insulator of electricity. The rubbing of a dress against other garments produces electric charges by friction which cannot leak off and produces the effects noted. Silk is much more likely to show these effects than rayon, linen or cotton. Such effects are noted in summer because the normal humid air makes even silk a partial conductor of electricity. The air of a heated house is very dry in winter.

Why Flower Pots Need Soaking

New seed pans or flower pots are extremely porous and, if not subjected to a prolonged immersion in water previous to use, they rob the soil of large quantities of water. This treatment also removes dangerous impurities that formed during firing of the pot. After several days of soaking, let them dry out for a day or two before planting.

Why Army Used Two Tests

The two army tests, the Alpha and Beta, are both intelligence tests. The Alpha test was devised for those men who could read English. The Beta test was given to illiterates and foreigners who could not read English.

Why Dogs Shed Hair

The majority of authorities are of the opinion that the excessive shedding of hair by dogs is due to improper diet. The color of the hair may be responsible for the idea that white dogs shed more than dogs of any other color.

Why They Are Black Hills

The Black hills were named by the early French settlers, Cote Noire, meaning black hills, from the timber growing on the sides, giving a dark appearance to the land.

Why They Are "Blue Points"

Blue Point oysters are taken from Great South bay, near the village of Blue Point, Long Island.