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FRIDAY, JULY 28, 1939

The strike of WPA workers over the new 130-hour month appears to be ended except in a few important centers, according to reports.

Outside of the few remaining disturbed points, WPA authorities in half a dozen affected States report virtually all the protestants against the new wage regulations back on the job, execpt for those who found other work, or had been dismissed for being absent five consecutive days.

The fact that WPA work is being made less and less attractive occupation every day may have an important bearing on federal relief policy of the future.

Many skilled workers feel they can no longer work for the WPA—with the new 130-hour work month, the 30- day layoff every 18 months, and the Sept. 1, prospect of wage cuts in the Northern States. Their withdrawal is likely to mean a reversion of leaf-raking and boondoggling. But that less costly type of project may look better now to the public than it did under the old CWA back in the winter of 1933-34, some relief officials believe.

With the collapse of WPA protest strikes and the strong resistance of restoration of the union wage rate on WPA, labor officials are advising union members to turn to other non-relief government agencies for support.

The whole neutrality issue appears to be a hodgepodge of thinking, a stalemate, with the probability that Congress will adjourn without taking any action. One hears all sorts of opinions around the Capitol. Many members want to adjourn letting the neutrality legislation go over until Congress meets in January, 1940. Some are honest in this desire contending that the hearings in the Senate and House Committee on the neutrality law are so strong on both sides of the question that they do not know what position to take. They hold that six or eight months more delay is not dangerous to American interests, that if war should break out in the interim the President could call an extra session of Congress to handle the matter.

In other years when Congress sat far into the summer and late into the night, overheated members often came to blows. Attendants at the Capitol are now agreed fisticuffs are a thing of the past, and they credit the air-conditioning system. It passed its greatest test, they thought, when the Senate stayed in session past midnight on "Fiscal New Year's Eve"—June 30, end of the 1938-39 fiscal year. Without a single punch being thrown, members sat through a miniature filibuster on the monetary bill and passed the 1940 relief bill.

Gov. Culbert L. Olson has initiated a campaign for a unicameral Legislature to be voted on at California's 1940 election.

In publicizing his intention, he becomes one of the principal political figures to champion a cause which so far has found success only in Nebraska.

Chief of the objectives claimed for the innovation is the simplification of responsibility for law making. Governor Olson holds that the California electorate wants a complete "new deal," but that it has been thwarted by weaknesses of the two-house system.

For nearly 300 years, members of the Society of Friends have called themselves "Quakers." Originally applied in derision of the religious fervor of the sect founded by George Fox in 1650, the term has become one of which the Friends are proud.

Last week the Society was seeking ways to combat an "unsportsman-like and cruelly unfair" business practice—that of using the word "Quaker" in the names of whiskies. The Friends' Book of Discipline specifially commands abstention from drinking liquor and forbids its manufacture or sale by Quakers.

Next time you eat ice cream, consider the success story of this national dessert.

The Federal Bureau of Home Economics states that although the wholesale production of ice cream began less than a century ago in Baltimore, it is now a $232,000,000-a-year industry.

In 20 years, Americans have increased the average annual consumption of purchased ice cream from a quart and a third to eight and a half quarts a person.

NEUTRALITY

J. E. Jones

Washington, D. C., July 24—The word "Neutrality" has different meanings for different people and defining it is a puzzle like the old quip: "Constantinople is a very hard word and you can't spell it."

Neutrality, according to the dictionary is a quality of "being neutral."

The main trouble with American neutrality is that there is nothing very neutral about it. The existing neutrality law is based on an embargo and it prohibits the President from issuing any proclamation that shall permit "the shipment of arms, ammunition, and implements of war directly or indirectly to belligerent countries."

The President asked to have this authority removed but the House of Representatives declined by a narrow vote to do away with the embargo. The Senate refused to change the embargo restrictions, despite the insistence of the President and the Secretary of State.

Besides, the President wants Congress to grant him extraordinary broad powers that would make it possible for him to exercise his own judgment in naming aggressor nations in case of an European war, and to furnish cooperation, munitions, credit and other aid and assistance to the "democracies." Inasmuch as the United States is partial to England and France it might be expected that the President would side with them and close the gates against Germany and Italy. That kind of neutrality is objectionable to many sound thinking Senators and citizens, but it is defended very vigorously by the ardent New Dealers, who seem to believe that the President should be trusted not to make any mistakes. The opposite view was expressed by Senator Johnson, California, who said that he was unwilling to be a party to grant any such authority to any President, no matter who he might be.

When the Senate Foreign Relations Committee voted 12 to 11 to postpone consideration of neutrality legislation until the next session of Congress the issue flamed into wide-open conflict between the White House and Capitol Hill. Undoubtedly they all think they are right in this common desire to "keep us out of war."

* * * *

Welcome To Washington

When former Governor Paul V. McNutt, of Indiana, was sent to the Philippines as High Commissioner of the United States there was a good deal of comment to the effect that it was a scheme to "get him out of the country," because even at that time he was being groomed as a presidential candidate of the Democratic party. When Mr. McNutt returned recently he was welcomed at the White House, and instead of permitting him to leave the Government service President Roosevelt "drafted" him and appointed him as the new chief of the Federal security agency.

President Roosevelt and Mr. McNutt have all the smart politicians and news-guessers outwitted as to what effect the change in McMutt's status will have upon the candidacy for the Presidency. Some say that President Roosevelt may support him, and other equally good guesses are to the effect that McNutt will do everything in his power to secure a third term for Mr. Roosevelt.

All these guessers overlook the main fact, which is that the two greatest smiling-politicians in America are Roosevelt and McNutt. McMutt's smile seems to have won, and just what is beneath that smile remains an undiscovered mystery.

However, don't discount McNutt for a minute and remember that everyone who comes in contact with him likes him, whether they are of his political party, or not.

* * * *

Two Great Games

American baseball is the only game that successfully competes in interest with the big Federal political game. The wisest of statesmen forsake their tasks as administrators for the ball park when the power of the National League is challenged by the American League. Thus, baseball which proves that "all work and no play" is bad for boys, is a good thing for young and old Americans—even wise Congressmen and officials of the Federal Government.

FUNDS TO COMPLETE STATE HIGHWAY SURVEY

Governor O'Conor's Signature Makes Possible Completion Of Important Road Data Reports

Annapolis, July 24—Legislation that is certain to exert a great influence upon the future of Maryland's State Roads System was made effective when Governor Herbert R. O'Conor affixed his signature to Senate Bill 438. This measure authorizes the State Roads Commission "to expend a sum not to exceed Forty Thousand Dollars for the continuation and completion of the work of the Maryland State-wide Highway Planning Survey."

Few of the many thousands who use our roads, and who may from time to time complain about them, appreciate how necessary it is that those charged with the expenditure of State Road Funds be able to forecast accurately future traffic and population trends, if they are to make their expenditures wisely. Only by well-planned, extensive surveys, such as have been made by the Maryland Planning Commission, can the proper information be assembled upon which to base such forecasts.

Facts Must Be Known

Among other things, the roads authorities must know the present state of the public roads of Maryland; the volume, kinds and distribution of traffic; the adequacy of the existing highways and bridges; the estent of use of the various systems of motor vehicle owners in different categories, and the sources and uses of available highway funds, all to the end that a justifiable program for future highway improvement may be developed.

To date, under the terms of its agreement with the U. S. Bureau of Public Roads and the Secretary of Agriculture, The Maryland State-wide Highway Planning Survey has spent $152,238.32 of Federal Funds, and $223,807.00 of monies from the State's Reconstruction and Maintenance fund. It has made partial studies including a survey of traffic, a complete inventory of all public roads of the State, investigation of the capacities and requisites of various roads and bridges, and of sources of revenue available, and of the expendiitures necessary for the development and maintenance of the public roads of the State.

Governor In Accord

Governor O'Conor was very much in accord with the purposes of this new legislation, which makes it possible for the State-wide Highway Planning Survey to complete its work, and to put its report in final form so that the information and data availabe now can be studied and analyzed in order that the maximum good may accure to the State from these studies.

CHECK YOUR ROUTE

The motorist who is accustomed to pick up a map and select therefrom routes for his annual vacation may be in for trouble this year, unless he "checks before he starts," the Keystone Automobile Club warns.

Thousands of road projects are under way in the United States, according to George E. Keneipp, Manager of the Club, and in many cases long and tedious detours may be avoided by proper routing. "The red lines of arterial highways look very pretty on the map," he added, "but they may prove a delusion and a snare to the motorist who did not have the forethought to inquire into the actual road conditions before starting on his trip.

"Because of the constantly changing road condition picture the Club advises motorists to seek advice from its touring consellors just before they intend to travel. Week-old information is apt to prove disappointing, except in cases where change in the interim, a fact which may be determined at the time inquiry is made."

America produces $150 worth of animal and vegetable oils every minute.

How's Bussiness?

Bright spots on the business picture are pointed to as indicating an upturn in business. But when the whole economic structure is surveyed, the cold, bare truth is revealed that the country is not doing so very well and that the mid-Summer slump is on. Besides, vacation time slows down the wheels.

* * * *

Why? Fees For Parks

Visitors to National Parks throughout the country resent the "pay-as-you-use," rule that has gone into effect. Included in the mandate is the new, but famous Skyland Drive through the Shenandoah National Park in Virginia, where the fee for a car will be 25 cents for a single trip, with some of the outlets closed. Charges run as high as three dollars in the Carlsbad Caverns National Park in New Mexico.

The Interior Department say that the new program has been decided upon in order to make the parks less a burden to the taxpayers—although the taxpayers are the ones that furnished the money to open the parks.

She Has Time for Her Children

because

SHE COOKS Electrically

This and all mothers who cook electrically bless the extra leisure they have, especially during hot vacation days. They can plan nourishing, hot oven dinners . . . let the electric range cook them automatically . . . while they are out in the open with their children.

Come in and see our complete line of Crawford, Hotpoint and Quality models with their many modern improvements, such as extra heat controls. *And remember, electric cooking is Fast, Clean, Cool and Cheap!*

Prices Subject to Change Without Notice

CONOWINGO POWER COMPANY

Live Electrically and Save

Border Patrol Is Real Tough

Smuggling Gangs Stopped By Efficiency of Federal Agents

DETROIT.—The rip-roaring United States border patrol that once fought smugglers and alien criminals has developed into a well-oiled machine too dangerous to penetrate, according to Ruel E. Davenport, patrol supervisor of the Eighth district.

Skirmishes with gunmen and wild speedboat chases on the Canada-United States international boundary have become rare in recent years, mainly because the border guards are "just too tough."

Davenport, once national head of the border patrol and veteran of the Mexican boundary, said the efficiency of the modern "smuggler police zoomed upward in the latter twenties, when college graduates, doctors, lawyers and engineers came into the service seeking a secure job.

Two-Way Radio Used.

"Then when two-way radio was installed in our patrol boats and cars, communication became so direct that an alien reported sneaking across the border was picked up immediately," Davenport said.

The district's radio laboratory-factory is so efficient that it supplies border patrol sending and receiving sets for the entire nation.

A border "hot spot" is on the Detroit river below Detroit at Grosse isle when the river is frozen, Davenport said. Aliens flock across the ice from Canada to the island, then make their way into Detroit, where they mingle with their own nationalities. Close watching prevents a serious influx, however.

The Eighth district, covering most of Michigan and parts of Indiana and Ohio, has its headquarters in Detroit. Subdistrict bases are in strategic shoreline cities from Toledo to Sault Ste. Marie.

Espionage Brings Results.

If a strange boat comes into a small port along the border the closest patrol post is notified and either a squad car or one of the district's six Chris-craft speedboats is dispatched to investigate. If rowboats are known to be slipping across the river at Detroit with cargoes of aliens two "fishermen" are sent from headquarters to mingle with the river craft and note suspected boats.

Undercover men also are on the job, both here and in Canada. Smugglers often are discovered at the point they pick up the goods. A quick call to the tunnel, bridge or ferry they are to use gives the border patrol time enough to lay the trap. When the smuggler crosses the boundary he is caught with the goods, feeling not so smug.

The border patrol's duty, according to Davenport, is to watch the "back door" on the international borders. Last year in district eight more than 8,400,000 passengers came through the "front door"—the regular ports of entry. More than 10,000 were rejected and of those 1,944 were forced to leave by deportation proceedings.

To disregard what the world thinks of us is not only arrogant but utterly shameless.—(Cicero)

ALMANAC

"In a calm sea every man is a pilot."

JULY

30—Russia ordered mobilization of troops, 1914.

31—The first United States patent was issued, 1790.

AUGUST

1—The first national census was started, 1790.

2—The East India Company was dissolved, 1858.

3—Treaty of Greenville, Ohio, was signed with the Indians, 1795.

4—England declared war on Germany, 1914.

5—The Statue of Liberty was sent to the United States, 1886.

Bible Class in 96 Years Has Only Two Teachers

HOLIDAYSBURG, PA.—The Judson Bible class is celebrating its ninety-sixth anniversary.

The class, which held its first meeting May 7, 1843, is connected with the First Baptist church here. Capt. Alexander M. Lloyd organized the group and served as its teacher until March, 1892.

Since that time, the Judson class has had only one other teacher. He is Thomas H. Suckling—a Holidaysburg merchant—who took over the class 47 years ago.

Today, there are about 400 former members of the Bible school in Blair county and many other scattered throughout the United States.

Bird Plugs Hole in Plane After Collision in Midair

BOGOTA, COLOMBIA.—A huge turkey buzzard and a passenger plane collided between Barranquilla and Cali, forcing an emergency landing which was made without mishap at San Marcos.

The body of the huge bird filled the opening it tore in the left wing of the plane, preventing tearing of the fabric and an almost certain death.

Collects Hitching Posts

CLEVELAND.—Although he never has ridden, Van R. Rodgers collects old hitching posts and plants the best ones in his front yard. He also collects World war helmets.

Dog Summons Help For Injured Mistress

OROFINO, IDAHO.—A pet dog led rescuers to Mrs. Ed Luttrop, 69, who had fallen 100 feet into an abandoned lime pit. The woman suffered such severe injuries in the fall that she was unable to extricate herself.

The dog returned to the house several times before members of Mrs. Luttrop's family followed it to the pit and found the woman.

Bring the children up in learning and obedience, yet without outward austerity.—(Lord Burleigh)

FIRE CONTROL CAMPAIGN

Many Volunteer Firemen of State Will Take Two-Day Course at College Park

Plans for a concerted State-wide movement towards the abatement of fire hazards, and for an educational campaign to reduce fire losses and deaths from accidental burns, are now definitely under way, following the appearance of State Insurance Commissioner John B. Gontrum before the convention of Volunteer Firemen of the State at Ocean City.

Through the cooperation of J. W. Just, Director of the Fire Extension Service, College of Engineering, University of Maryland, a two-day course of instruction will be conducted at College Park for Volunteer Firemen from all over the State, who then will be graded by Mr. Just and his assistants after an examination. Selection of Deputy Fire Marshals, to cooperate with the Insurance Commissioner's Office in the matter of inspection of all public buildings throughout the State, will be made from the list of those successfully completing the two-day course.

Before leaving Ocean City for their homes, several scores of Firemen had registered for the course and many additional names are expected to be added to the list before the course opens on August 17.

Speaking before a crowded session of the Convention, Mr. Gontrum outlined his plan to cooperate with the Volunteer Firemen of Maryland in carrying out the provisions of the law. He reviewed the law, setting forth the powers of the Insurance Commission to make and promulgate uniform regulations for the keeping, storage, use, manufacture, sale, handling, transportation or disposition of highly flammable materials, and to prescribe the materials and construction of receptacles and buildings to be used for any of the said purposes. Mr. Gontrum further stated that under the law he had power to deputize members of any volunteer fire department duly organized and operating in this State to act as his deputies for the purpose of making such inspections and investigations and carrying out such orders as may be prescribed by him. Under his plan Deputy Marshals would be be created from the ranks of Volunteer Firemen, who would be charged with the duty of inspecting all public buildings and recommending measures for the correction of any conditions found to be hazardous to safety. He called attention to the fact that the Legislature, as a result of necessary economy, had not appropriated any money for the appointment of a Deputy to act as Fire Marshal, but that he intended to carry out the law nevertheless, with the aid of Volunteer firemen.

TRAILER COOKING

A helpful article by a "trailer wife" who tells how to be prepared to satisfy big, outdoor appetites in a small kitchen. Don't miss the Housewife's Food Alamanack in the August 6th issue of The American Weekly distributed with the Baltimore Sunday American. On sale at all newsstands.

The English laws punish vice; the Chinese laws do more—they reward virtue.—(Goldsmith