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TAX REDUCTION PROPOSAL GAINS FAVOR

General Reaction is Savings To State Taxpayers Are Most Opportune in View of Federal Increases

From many parts of the United States have come communications expressing approval of, and interest in, the proposals of Governor Herbert R. O'Conor towards the reduction and progressive elimination of the State's bonded indebtedness, and the State Real Estate Levy.

The Governor's Budget Message to the General Assembly on January 7, proposed a cut of approximately 6% in the 1942 State Tax Rate, and of 10% on the 1943 rate from the present levy, together with a reduction in the State Income Tax that will run as high as 20% in some instances, and will affect favorably everyone of the more than 96,000 Marylanders subject to the Income Tax. For the two years of 1942-43 covered by the Budget now before the Legislature, saving of $5,436,100.00 would be assured to the taxpayers under these two reductions.

Among the first to commend the Real Estate proposals were the Delegates to the Maryland Farm Bureau Convention in Baltimore, who congratulated the Governor upon the financial condition of the State and sincerely approved the movement towards the abolition of the State Real Estate Tax.

Expressions of approval on reduction in the Income Tax Law were received by Governor O'Conor from the American Taxpayers Association, a national group with headquarters in Washington. The commendation was forwarded by D. E. Casey, Vice-President-Secretary, from the Washington offices in the Munsey Building.

In espousing the proposal to wipe out the bonded debt, thus doing away with the necessity of the State Real Estate Tax except for new construction, Governor O'Conor declared that he felt that this source of taxation should be left entirely to the city and county governments. He pointed out, also, that eighteen states of the country already have gotten away from the Real Estate Tax, including such important Commonwealths as New York, Ohio, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Michigan, California, and Virginia. Six others have only a small levy against real property.

With the announced necessity of important tax increases from Washington to finance National Defense preparedness, and with broadening of the National Income Tax Levy, the general reaction among Marylanders of all conditions is that these two tax reduction proposals of Governor O'Conor come at a most opportune time, and will do much to offset the burden of Federal increases.

STATISTICALLY SPEAKING

Production of electricity is measured by "kilowaat hours"--but even though the average layman doesn't know what that stands for he will have no difficulty in grasping the importance of statistics which show that total electricity production in 1920 was around 43 million kilowatt hours, and it has now risen to over 130 million, a gain of over 300 per cent.

World production of rubber has jumped from around 44 thousand long tons in 1920 to over 1 billion tons annually, and most of the increase has been due to the growth of American automobile industry.

American railroads had more than double the revenue from passenger business in 1926 than in 1939 when $47 million was the income. A steady increase in freights will likely show that the lines approach the mark of their 1926, when freight revenues were above $4 billion.

Production of passenger automobiles was 3,705,000, and motor trucks 771,000 in United States plants during 1940, an increase of more than 25 per cent over 1939.

Forty-one per cent of all motor vehicles are on farms and in villages in the United States last year.

Sixty-nine per cent of the World's automobiles are in the United States. More than $15 million is paid in wages in weekly payrolls to over 443,000 employes in the automobile industries.

Some men can reform and live comfortably, and some have already learned to blame somebody else.

AMERIANS ARE NOT LAZY FOLKS

By J. E. Jones

Washington, D. C. Feb. 3—Many times and oft have the poll-makers disturbed all of us with their questions and answers labeled "nationwide surveys of public opinions." During the recent Presidential campaign the voters were subjected to somthing resembling mass--production of "polls", which were so different that they gave aid and comfort to supporters of both candidates, Roosevelt and Willkie.

The Gallup polls have stood out, and stood up, against all challengers as to their accuracy for many years, including the polls about elections, major economic questions, and policies of the Administration.

It is, therefore, rather comforting to all of us who continue to pin our faith in Democracy to study a Gallup Poll showing that 67 per cent of the American people--who were asked in a nation wide poll whether they are ready to devote an hour a day of their time, to the Red Cross and other volunteer work to back programs of national defense have answered "yes".

In another Gallup Poll the union labor workers in important manufacturing centers of a large number of States were asked whether they would be willing to work an extra hour a day at the same rate of pay they are getting now. 68 per cent answered "yes", and 27 per cent "no". They spoke for themselves, apparently without regard to the views of leaders of their unions. The results of voting indicate that American workers are not trying to pinch off a little extra pay just because some of their leaders and public officials say so. The men who are actually running the machines have definitely stated that they are not only willing, but anxious to do their "bit".

The "overtime penalty" is urged by some Government officials to "stimulate employers to train new workers", "to organize second or third an deven fourth shifts of production workers." The voice of public opinion expressed in the Gallup Poll indicates that the average countryman takes a much broader view of the problems and evidently interprets the old objective of "business as usual" to be as necessary as the present popular slogan, "keep America out of war." There is plenty of comfort for everybody in polls of public opinion, especially those that reassure us that Americans have not grown soft or lazy.

* * * *

What R. A. F. Thinks of U. S. Planes

What does the R.A.F. think of the planes America builds for them? Quentin Reynolds wanted to find out for Collier's, so he went to Lord Beaverbrook in England and asked. His answer, as quoted in the Collier's article, was:

"They are magnificent aircraft. Come and look at them. Talk to the pilots. Fly in them yourself. Go to the factories where they are assembled and tested."

Mr. Reynolds did. And here is a typical excerpt of the favorable report he obtained on all sides:

"Then there is the Curtiss P--40, which will soon be as well known in England as the Spitfire. It is known as the Tomahawk. It is a pretty lass somewhat on the lines of the Spitfire. It has a long nose and it is a sleek, imperious-looking creature. The Tomahawk has the liquid-cooled Allison motor. It is no secret among members of the aircraft industry that there were several 'bugs' in the Allison. One by one they have been eliminated. Today the Allison ranks with the Merlin, which has always been considered the best liqued-cooled motor in the world. The success of the Spitfires and Hurricanes proves that point.

"I watched a test pilot put a new Tomahawk through its paces. He did something I've never seen done with a Hurricane or a Spitfire--he climbed the Tomahawk almost vertically.

" 'How do I like it?' the pilot exploded when he had landed. 'How could anyone fail to like it? It's a grand airplane. I've flown all of the fighter aircraft and in combat I'd rather have this than any. It is more maneuverable than a Spitfire. It isn't quite as fast as a Spitfire but what is?'

"American aircraft good only for training? England wishes she had five times as many as she has."

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23	24	25	26	27	28	

UNLAWFUL TO IGNORE WHITE TRAFFIC LINES

Owing to the fact that in recent weeks members of Governor O'Conor's Maryland Traffic Safety Committee have come in contact with many persons who do not seem to realize the significance of the yellow and white lines on highway, Committee feels that a full explanation of the meaning and importance of these markers to warn motorists that sight distances are insufficient to permit safe passing, and that it is necessary for cars to stay in the line of traffic, even though there is not a car approaching at the moment.

If there is a white line on one side of the yellow line that marks the center of the highway, the Committee points out, it indicates that under no condition is it safe for a motorist on the side of the white line to pass over the marker. Where a white line is painted on either side of the yellow marker, it is unlawful for the motorist on either side to attempt to cross the line, or pass another automobile ahead, until the white line or danger zone is passed.

E. R. McShane, Executive Secretary of the Maryland Traffic Safety Committee, in issuing thewarning, said "The Committee is making this explanation in order that many motorists who have not heretofore recognized the value and importance of these markers, may be informed, and thus lend their support to the efforts of the Safety Committee to improve conditions, and possibly save themselves from arrest and fine."

G. O. P. GUBERNATORIAL TIMBER

Among the prominent Maryland Republicans being considered by leaders in the faction of former Governor Harry W. Nice as favorable candidate for the governorship in 1942 is Amos W. W. Woodcock of Salisbury, former president of St. John's College, Annapolis and former national prohibition director.

Two other Eastern Shoremen being given consideration by the leaders, it is said, are Davis C. Burroughs, wealthy Easton resident, and George W. Moffat of Queenstown, an industrialist and agriculturist. Both of them were delegates to the last Republican National Convention.

Leaders of the Nice faction expect Governor O'Conor to seek a second term. Defeat of the one-term amendment to the Maryland constitution at the last elections paved the way, they argue, for the governor to be a candidate for reelection.

Others on the western side of the bay discussed as favorable to the Nice organization leaders as possible gubernatorial candidates are:

Tasker G. Lowndes of Cumberland, president of the State Board of Education and a son of a Republican governor.

J. Glenn Beale of Frostburg, former chairman of the State Roads Commission.

State Senator Joseph A. Wilmer of Charles county, former people's counsel and Republican floor leader in the House of Delegates in the sessions of 1927 and 1929.

The Republican spoke bitterly of Wendell Willkie's original statement and announcement concerning his trip to England. But when he "got the glad hand," and words of praise from President and Mrs. Roosevelt, things began to brighten up for Wendell. Republican leaders in Washington decided to continue him in the familiar role as a "great leader".

Stock of wheat in Maryland mills and elevators on January 1 were estimated by the Maryland Crop Reporting Service at 560,000 bushels. Present stocks are the highest in the seven years of record.

A Stitch In Time

The Federal Reserve Board recommended cancelling the powers of the President to change the value of the dollar as a means of controlling the reserves in nation's banks and in order to avert possible credit inflation.

* * * *

Labor Laws

The Administration is unwilling to withdraw its support from New Deal Labor laws. There is continued stubborn resistance to efforts being made in Congress to amend the Wagner Act, or change the practices of the National Labor Relations Board. No one need be surprised if the President eases the situation by suspending some of these labor laws, for the period of an "extraordinary emergency."

The Internal Revenue Office collectt $15 a minute from clubs for dues and initiation fees.

LUNCH TIME FOR BELL RADIO STARS

Left to right, Donald Voorhees, orchestra leader; Francia White, soprano, and James Melton, tenor, stars of the "Telephone Hour" heard every Monday evening from 8:00 to 8:30 P. M., E. S. T., over a coast-to-coast NBC network, pause for a moment during rehearsal to eat a bite of lunch.

The famous musical trio, accustomed to the applause of tremendous audiences, must forego this prerogative of the actor when they broadcast for the "Telephone Hour" because the new show is one of the few programs of its size and popularity that does not have a studio audience. The "Telephone Hour" is built for the enjoyment of people sitting at home and the thousands of appreciative listeners the program has gained serve as ample proof that Melton, White and Voorhees do just as well with or without an audience.

One Extra Pint of Milk Each Milking Makes Feed Worth $8.00 More Per Ton

. . . 1 extra pint per milking makes ration worth $8.00 more a ton.

. . . 1½ extra pints per milking makes ration worth $12.00 more a ton.

. . . 2 extra pints per milking makes ration worth $16.00 more a ton.

(Note: Above prices are figured with milk at $2.00 per cwt.)

Results of experiments at the Purina Experimental Farm show that a cow may consistently produce 15 pounds of milk per milking on one ration and 16 on another. Although that extra pound is only a pint more and hardly shows in the pail, it really does add up to quite a sum.

This is the way it figures. If a cow is fed 10 pounds of a dairy ration each day and milks 30 pounds of milk daily, that means a pretty fair return on the feed she eats, if milk is sold at $2.00 per hundred weight. However, if she is fed the same amount of a better feed and gives one pint more each milking, that feed is worth two cents more per milking or four cents more per day. In other words, the better feed is worth four cents more for each ten pounds, forty cents more per hundred, or eight dollars more per ton. An extra pint more per milking does make a difference.

While it is hard to tell whether there are 15 or 16 pounds of milk in a milk pail, it's still harder to tell by just looking at a feed whether it will produce 15 or 16 pounds of milk. Two feeds that look alike may produce entirely different results when fed to the cow. It all depends on the ingredients in the feed, their quality, and how they are blended.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Our local Purina feed dealer has checkerboard dairy rations to be fed straight with home grown roughage. He also has checkerboard dairy concentrates to be mixed with home grown grains to make up dairy rations that are fed with home grown roughages. He will be happy to advise cow owners how to feed their herds to the best advantage, using as much of their home grown feed as possible.

TALKING AROUND THE WORLD

Washington . . . An unusual ceremony occurred in Washington, D. C. recently when a father and son were presented at the same time with their certificates of membership in Alexander Graham Bell Chapter of the Telephone Pioneers of America. The father, Herman W. Schrum, a storekeeper in the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company at Washington, only recently became eligible to Pioneer membership because of previous employment in other lines. The son is James H. Schrum, now a senior central office man in one of the large Washington exchanges.

* * *

Manchester . . . In the Manchester Royal Infirmary in England, a thirty-year-old medical student, Hamed Bey Shaker, was so ill that the doctors thought his case hopeless. The young man's last wish was to speak with his father, 2,000 miles away in Egypt. Hospital authorities arranged for the telephone call, and at the sound of his father's voice, Shaker rallied amazingly. The call cost about $40.00, but it saved the young man's life.

* * *

New York . . . Another new radiotelephone circuit to South America is planned by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company between its Hialeah, Fla., station and Cartegena, Colombia. This will make the third point to which radiotelephone service is available in Colombia, circuits already reaching Bogota and Barranquilla.

Backward region: Any place where juries always help the plaintiff soak a corporation regardless of justice.

GREEN CHICKS ARE HATCHED FROM EGGS WITH GREEN YOLKS

It sounds almost unbelievable, but at the International Baby Chick Convention in St. Louis, Missouri, last summer thousands of persons had their first opportunity to see colored chicks hatched from eggs with bright, vivid green yolks.

For several years now, poultry nutrition specialists have been controlling yolk color. The range of control has been from yolks with almost no color to a bright red or green. The purpose has been to show that a hen's ration not only directly controls yolk color but that it also controls certain nutrients and vitamins that are in the egg.

This year, Purina Mills decided to try hatching chicks from eggs with green yolks. What happened was so startling that the Purina display at the big annual convention of hatcherymen featured chicks hatched from green yolked eggs.

The display included a pen of five pullets eating a laying mash in which the green coloring matter was mixed. Actually, eggs with green yolks were produced right at the convention. Naturally, the eggs attracted a great deal of attention.

Each day, two newly hatched chicks from green yolked eggs that had been previously set were autopsied, and displayed in a glass case. The effect of the ration fed the breeders could plainly be seen. It was amazing how the green coloring matter had been transferred from breeder hen's ration to the chick to the egg.

According to C. S. Johnson, head of the poultry department at Purina Mills, the importance of properly feeding breeder hens so they can put into their eggs the proper nutrients for the development of the chick embryo is becoming better understood each year. As a result, embryo feeding is taking its place alongside breeding, disease control, and incubation as one of the most important factors influencing livability, growth and future profit with chicks.

WHAT DEFENSE WILL COST PEOPLE OF MARYLAND

Calling on the General Assembly to cut non-defense expenditures to the bone, as a way to help the people of Maryland meet necessary national defense costs, the Citizens' State Budget Emergncy Committee today issued figures showing that this State's share of estimated defense cost the first year alone amounts to $41.18 for every man, woman and child, or $169.25 for every family in the State.

"Defense expenditures, like any other government expenditures, come home to roost and must be met sooner or later by the taxpayers", Curtis J. Ireland, Chairman of the Citizens' Committee, said. "Everyone who has the interest of his country at heart is ready and willing to do everything in his power and to make the necessary sacrifices to see that our defense program is carried out.

"This huge cost coming on top of costs must be squarely faced. The taxpayer will not be called upon to pay all defense costs immediately, but he and his children and his children's children will be compelled to pay such cost as are represented by increased debt and the interest charges on this debt.

"The same applies to regular government costs not related to national defense. But these can and must be cut wherever possible to eliminate waste and extravagance, whereas defense costs cannot be cut and must necessarily increase if we are to be properly prepared for the world emergency that faces us.

"The General Assembly must weigh what defense will cost the people of our State and act now to help meet this supreme task, by cutting non-essential government expenditures and taxes. Let it give this conclusive demonstration of practical patriotism."

Maryland's share in estimated national defense cost, allocated according to its proportionate share of realized national income, would be, on a $5 billion expenditure the first year $75,000,000, or $41.18 per capita, or $169.25 per family. The State's share of an estimated three-year defense expenditures $23,000,000,000 would be $345,000,000, or $189.43 for every man, woman and child in the State, or $778.56 for every family.

National defense costs for the fiscal year 1941, 1942 and 1943 have been estimated at $5 billion, $8 billion and $10 billion, respectively, or a total of $23 billion for the three fiscal years. This State's share has been allocated according to its proportionate share of realized national income, 1938 (income figures are estimates by the National Industrial Conference Board). In computing per capitas, the final figures of the 1940 census were used. In computing per family shares, private family averages of the 1930 census, the last available, were used.

MOTORISTS AND INCOME TAXES

Many thousands of motorists will become Federal income taxpayers for the first time this year, under the new law which reduces personal exemption to a record low of $2000 for married persons and $800 for single persons.

To ease their burden, the Keystone Automobile Club has delved into the intricacies of the law and emerged with the cheering news that "some relief is afforded by the great number of reductions authorized by the Act, many of them relating particularly to the use and ownership of motor vehicles."

With that comforting prelude, Harrison G. Kildare, attorney for the Club, outlines in detail the legal detours available to motorists.

In listing the numerous avenues for tax-saving Mr. Kildare sounds a note of warning. "It should be clearly understood," he declared, "that deductions not allowed by law or not supported by proper records in the possession of the taxpayer may result in severe penalties."

The full outline, equal to two columns of newspaper space, is available to motorists on application to any of the Club's offices.

Horse hair is used in the U. S. for man yarticles . . . it is scoured and spun into yarn . . . 50 pounds each minute manufactured for this purpose.

A poet is a person who can steal a two-line gag and rewrite it in four lines that rhyme and sell it as original.

Venezuela, South America, has a large production of goat skins that are exported.

From a theatrical point of view a divorce without publicity is worse than marriage.

The value of tin cans and utensils made of tin in the U. S. amounts to $700 per minute.

All's fair in love and war, but most men would rather be in love than in a fight.

Grease and tallow are being made in this country in large quantities, from animal fat, bones, met scraps etc., valued at $2.00 a second.