

THE MIDLAND JOURNAL

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING BY EWING BROS. RISING SUN, MARYLAND

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION ONE YEAR, IN ADVANCE \$1.50 SIX MONTHS \$1.00 THREE MONTHS .50

Foreign Advertising Representative THE AMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

FRIDAY, AUGUST 15, 1941

UNCLE SAM PASSES THE COLLECTOR BASKET

The word taxes comes from the Latin word tangere, to touch. In American slang "touch" has denoted a little to mean borrow; but the same idea is there, for whether one's friend or one's Government "puts the touch" on him it means getting his money.

The personal touch comes with ease and a breeze. Not so with Congress. Since the House Ways and Means Committee met last October 24 to receive Secretary of Treasury Morgenthau's request for an additional \$3,500,000,000 in defense taxes, the members have fretted and sweated, moaned and groaned, and heard a thousand men beating the anvils chorus day after day.

Yet, at the beginning, Secretary Morgenthau made it sound very simple and easy. Present taxes, he said, were yielding about \$9,200,000,000 a year; the addition would raise the amount to \$12,700,000,000 which would be about two-thirds of what the Government was spending a year.

It was a case of "much cry and little wool", as when the farmer sheared the pig. For while the Committee scoured the country and looked under beds, behind doors and into all cupboards to find \$3,500,000,000, Congress got a request from the White House for a billion, a three-billion, a ten-billion appropriation, and all were promptly put through.

On the Labor front last week Congress of Industrial Organizations rested while the rival American Federation of Labor instituted three short-lived strikes disrupting work on an estimated \$160,000,000 worth of defense contracts.

The natives of India smoke one of the cheapest varieties of cigarettes that it is possible to make and are consuming over 20,000 cigarettes a minute. This is however, a small percentage of the total, in comparison, to the amount of better types, produced in America.

SAVING THE SCRAP

By J. E. Jones

Washington, August 11—It is estimated that there is an average of 80 pounds of scrap metals of various kinds scattered through each family's back yard, barn yard or basement. Time may come in the near future when the old game of "treasure hunt" can be turned into a profitable pastime.

Foreseeing this possibility, Buick Motor Division of General Motors Corporation has been working on the Franklinism that a penny saved is a penny earned. During 1940 the salvage operations of this unit were perfected to a point where 244,000,000 pounds of "waste" materials, mostly metals, were retrieved and returned to useful purposes.

Particularly has this been true in the conservation of strategic metals which are vital to our national defense. Salvage methods which have been applied to aluminum, lead, zinc, copper, tin, antimony and nickel have been so perfected that 100 per cent efficiency has been attained use-loss reduction. Almost equal efficiency has been effected in all other non-perishable materials.

This work entails an intricate inter-plant collection system which has been worked out with an eye to making the final sorting of various reclaimed materials as simple as possible. This sorting work is done in a specially constructed main salvage building which also serves the purpose of reducing scrap to handling sizes.

Some idea of the magnitude of this operation may be gained from the fact that 280 carloads and 65 truck loads of salvage are shipped monthly to outside plants for reclamation in addition to the volume reclaimed in Buick's own foundry.

Better Cars For 1942

The news is going around that automobiles will be hard to get in 1942, and pessimists predict that they won't be good. They may be hard to get because the automobile industry has enlisted for Defense and that comes first. But the optimists expect 1942 automobiles will be the best cars ever built.

Early automobiles had no bumpers, the wheels and spokes were broken in cranking-up by hand, before Kettering brought out the self-starter. The rubber tires weren't much good, it took a month to paint a car, windshields were made of ordinary glass, there were no windows or carpeted floors, no nice cushions; the gears were lousy and it took all three kinds to get up a mountain to the roadside cold-water stand where the driver could buy a pall of water for a dime, to cool down the steaming engine.

Calendar for August 1941 showing dates from 1 to 31.

GOVERNOR COMPLETES CONSERVATION SET-UP

Department of Research and Education Will Conduct Broad Educational Program

Completing the set-up of the new Board of Natural Resources, created by the 1941 Legislature, Governor Herbert R. O'Connor has designated a five-man Commission of Research and Education to exercise the functions of the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory and the Maryland Weather Service.

Dr. Ernest N. Cory, Professor of Zoology and Head of the Department of Entomology at the University of Maryland, appointed for four-year term. Dr. Cory is State Entomologist, possesses outstanding administrative ability and for twenty-five years has consistently urged research and education in conservation officials.

Dr. B. H. Whittier, Professor of Zoology and Head of the Department of Biology at Johns Hopkins University, appointed for three-year term.

Dr. Lloyd M. Berthoff, Head of the Department of Biology and Dean of the College at Western Maryland College, appointed for two-year term. Dr. Berthoff secured his degree of Doctor of Philosophy at Johns Hopkins University, has a most creditable research record, and has long been interested in the problems of the Chesapeake Bay.

Dr. Julian D. Corrington, Professor of Biology and Head of the Department of Biology at Washington College, appointed for a one-year term. He also has served on the Committee on Investigation and Instruction of the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory.

The members of the Commission, it is specified in the Act, "shall have had training and experience in scientific investigation and research, especially in the field of natural resources."

One of the most important functions of this new Commission will be to develop a comprehensive educational program which will include not only the preparation and transmission of material for use in classroom work in the colleges and schools of the State, but also the presentation to the public of a continuous program of instruction by means of lectures, moving pictures and other publicity media.

The members of the Commission will eventually serve terms of five years each, but the terms of the first members appointed will expire in one, two, three, four, and five years as noted. They will select their own Chairman, who will be, by his office, a member of the Board of Natural Resources, along with the Chairman of the Commission of Game Warden, Fisheries, the State Game Warden, the State Forester, the Director of the Department of Geology, Mines and Water Resources, the Chairman of the Maryland Publicity Commission and six other members already appointed by Governor O'Connor.

Briefly, the Commission will exercise general supervision over all matters pertaining to research in respect to tidewater fisheries, investigations of food, etc. with reference to game and birds, problems of disease of affecting game and fish, studies of pollution and its control in both tidal and non-tidal waters, etc.

By the elimination of Belgian, Czechoslovak and German competition, the United States exports of glass and glass products have been the greatest since 1920, reaching a new high of \$30 worth of glass a minute, being shipped to foreign countries not affected by the blockades.

Wouldn't it seem strange if the Senate should develop a good citizenship bloc.

WOMAN NAMED TO AVIATION COMMISSION

Efforts of Maryland's women to gain recognition in aviation activities, particularly in connection with National Defense plans, were given great impetus by the appointment of Governor Herbert R. O'Connor of Miss Thelma Elliott to the Maryland State Aviation Commission.

Miss Elliott, a resident of Baltimore, owns her own plane, has a Restricted Commerce license, and has been flying since 1928. She has to her credit 550 hours of solo flight. Her appointment followed endorsement by the Governors of the Maryland Flying Club.

Named to serve with Miss Elliott was Charles H. Buck, Baltimore lawyer, president of the Maryland Title Guarantee Company, and opponent of Mayor Jackson in last year's Mayoralty primary. Mr. Buck is a member of the Real Estate Board's Aviation Committee, which, with the Aviation Committee of the Advertising Club of Baltimore, has been active in promoting the progress of Aviation in the State.

V FOR VICTORY

Using the letter V as chief weapon—a symbol of Victory over the Nazi—the British propaganda bureau directed and won the first full-scale battle in the new war of nerves on the European continent. News of V's springing up by the thousands—by word of mouth, radio, and underground communication throughout the Nazi-dominated countries—made the first day of the offensive a big success.

Reports of the letter V painted on walls and fences in most of the conquered countries and the disconcerting telling of 6,200 prosecutions by German authorities in Paris alone added to the victory. At Bayonne, France, the letter mysteriously popped up on German automobiles. V's in tar were smeared on a hotel front door in Nimes, France, while a door on the Nazi headquarters near Rouen was reported to bear the victory sign. An ingenious method of spreading the V was carried out by French peasants who chalked the letter on their hands and stamped it on German soldiers' uniforms from a slap on the back.

Radio broadcasts from Britain sounded the Morse code signal for V, three dots and one long sound, and the opening notes of Beethoven's Fifth symphony, three short notes and a long one, were heard.

Of course, writing the letter V on doors and walls and playing the first four notes of the Fifth Symphony will not break any prisons or release any slaves, much less arm the 135,000,000 people now being held in subjection. But potentially the sign of the V has all the dynamite necessary to transform a heretofore passive resistance into active revolution. It gives the downtrodden peoples of conquered Europe a fresh start toward ultimate victory.

DEFENSE HIGHWAY FUNDS

Maryland's share of the \$125,000,000 authorized in the Defense Highway Act of 1941 for improvement of the strategic network of the nation's highways is estimated at \$1,042,000 according to the Keystone Automobile Club. In a statement on the subject, George E. Kenneipp, Manager of the Club, pointed out that the money will be available for an early start on important projects as soon as President Roosevelt signs the Act.

The amount to be apportioned Maryland for strategic roads is part of the sum the State will receive from the Federal government for all-purpose defense highway development. Aside from the strategic network, money will be available for access roads, experimental flight strips adjacent to public highways, and extension of the secondary road system.

While the funds for strategic highways will be matched, the Federal government paying 75 per cent and the State 25 per cent, the funds to be authorized for access roads will be outright Federal grants. Roads included in this classification are those giving access to military and naval reservations, defense industrial plants, and to the sources of essential raw materials.

The huge total of \$320,000,000 is provided in the Act for all defense highway purposes, with the allocations as follows: Access roads, \$150,000,000; Strategic network, 125,000,000; Emergency repairs, 25,000,000; Plans and surveys, 10,000,000; Flight strips, 10,000,000.

BALTIMORE LIVESTOCK SHOW

Baltimore, Md., August 5. Final arrangements for the 13th Annual Baltimore Livestock Show, to be held at the Union Stock Yards, September 29, 30, October 1 and 2, have been made by the board of directors of the organization.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS DURING THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1941

Records of the Bureau of Vital Statistics of the State Department of Health show an outstanding increase in the total deaths reported in the State during the six months of this year, in comparison with the totals for the corresponding period of 1940.

In calling attention to the figures, Dr. R. H. Riley, Director of the State Department of Health, pointed out that the excess of births over deaths was considerably greater than for the corresponding period of 1940. Over 4,500 more births than deaths were reported during the first six months of the current year; 2,830 more births than deaths were reported during the first half of 1940. The nearest approach of this year's total was in 1938 when births exceeded deaths by a total of 3,538.

The figures for the half year period for the three years were: For 1941: Births, 16,123; deaths, 11,594. For 1940: Births, 14,685; deaths 11,855. For 1938: Births, 14,174; deaths, 10,636.

The distribution for the first six months of 1941 was: Births, Baltimore City, 7,451; the Counties, 8,672. Deaths: Baltimore City, 5,971; the Counties, 5,623.

Over three-fifths of the total deaths, 7,082, or 61.0 per cent—were due to what are known as the degenerative diseases of the middle and older age groups. Heart disease led with 3,383 deaths; cancer followed with 1,344; cerebral hemorrhage, and 209 from diabetes.

The pneumonias, influenza and tuberculosis, were responsible for nearly 1,600 deaths or 14 per cent of the total. There were 706 deaths from the pneumonias, 154 from influenza and 727 from tuberculosis.

JUNE TRAFFIC CRASHES TOOK FIFTY-TWO LIVES IN STATE

Traffic crashes claimed 52 lives and 892 injuries during the month of June, an increase of 8% over June, 1940. On the other side, according to gasoline consumption figures, traffic has increased approximately 19% over last year, and Motor Vehicle Registrations have increased approximately 11% over the same period.

Comparing these figures, we find that the traffic death rate per miles traveled during the month of June, was actually a reduction rather than an increase over June 1940.

Baltimore City, with 6 deaths during the month, experienced a 25% reduction, while the remainder of the State, with 46 deaths, experienced a 15% increase.

A HOLY WAR?

In a recent Nazi broadcast, it was stated: "We are fighting for Western Christian civilization against the Godlessness of Soviet Russia."

Earlier, Will Becker, German Labor Front leader, had said: "When in centuries to come, mankind will see the present events in their true proportions, they will say: 'Christ was great, but Adolf Hitler was greater.'"

COMEDY THAT MADE STAGE STARS FAMOUS

A collection of rollicking dialogue, gags and horseplay of Webster and Fields which evoked applause and laughter from an older generation of theatre-goers and which kept the comic team going for 65 years. Don't miss this feature in the August 24th issue of THE AMERICAN WEEKLY

SOLDIERS QUIT HOUSEKEEPING

Substituting Civilians For Soldiers In "Housekeeping Jobs" In Third Corps Area

In line with the plan of the War Department throughout the country, Third Corps Area Headquarters announces a plan for giving certain jobs now held by soldiers in the Corps Area Service Command to civilian employees. The soldiers released may be assigned to combat units or to act as instructors in the expanding army. This is another step toward increasing efficiency throughout the Service.

An appropriation for this purpose was passed by Congress in the amount of \$43,940,000 for the country as a whole. The present allotment to the Third Corps Area from this fund totals approximately \$2,500,000.

Fort Belvoir, Carlisle Barracks, Fort Eustis, Indiantown Gap Military Reservation, Camp Lee, Fort Meade and Fort Monroe will receive the largest proportion of this allotment. In addition to the allotment to the Third Corps Area, the exempted stations such as Langley Field, Aberdeen Proving Ground and Edgewood Arsenal will receive similar allotments.

It is expected that within the corps area approximately 3,500 soldiers will be replaced by civilians and that this will be in full operation by September 1st. A majority of such civilians will be drawn from eligible civil service lists.

The classification of workmen and artisans which will be needed for management and upkeep of posts, camps and other establishments of the Army are: operators of telephone, teletype and radio equipment; engineers, machinists, sheet metal, leather and canvas workers; butchers, watchmen, janitors, firemen and clerks.

Estimates of costs indicate that there are economic advantages also in this plan. A majority of the civilian employees will get about \$1440 a year. Some in higher grades will receive an average salary of about \$1510 a year. A comparative few will receive higher salaries. Among the men who will be replaced are master sergeants whose pay is approximately \$1500 a year, which does not include allowances for food, clothing and medical attention. There will be a saving in the replacement of privates, too. Their upkeep ranges from \$1700 to \$2000 a year, excluding the cost of their equipment.

FARM WORKERS

That ditty about "How are you goin' to keep 'em down on the farm" is due for a revival. At the very moment when the American farmer needs all the hands he can get to convert his crops and other products into the largest cash income since 1929 (estimated by Department of Agriculture at \$10,700,000,000), national defense has created the greatest shortage of farm labor in 11 years.

Although the general level of farm wage rates has reached an 11-year peak, with hired hands receiving 24 per cent more pay than at harvest time last year, the wages offered in defense manufacture are sufficiently greater to effect an increasing imbalance in the urban-rural labor ratio at the farmer's expense. This is sharply brought out in areas of marked industrial activity.

Next to defense industry, the draft has taken the largest number of men from the nation's farms. Meanwhile, according to Agricultural Marketing Service, "old men are coming out of retirement to take over again the active management of many farms. By their side school boys now work and 'farmerettes', old and young, are again appearing on the scene."

RAILROADS CANNOT GIVE INCREASE WAGE DEMANDED

Declaring that no industry can pay out more than it takes in and remain in business, the Conference Committees representing American Railroads in the pending wage negotiations, today advised leaders of railroad labor that the railroads are unable to grant their demands for increases in pay.

The five operating brotherhoods have asked for a thirty per cent increase, with a minimum increase of \$1.80 per day, while the non-operating groups of employees have demanded an increase of 30 cents an hour, with a minimum wage of 70 cents an hour.

"This case", said Fred G. Gurley, speaking for the Conference Committees, "has become generally known as the 'thirty per cent' case. It should be known as the 'forty per cent' case because the demands made would add more than 'forty per cent' to railroad wage costs. Nine hundred million dollars per year is about what is being demanded, said Gurley. That is more than the railroads have ever had in net income in any one year and twice as much as all the net income that the railroads have had in the last ten years.