

February 27, 1936

Washington Digest

National Topics Interpreted by WILLIAM BRUCKART

100 PRESS BLDG. WASHINGTON, D. C.

Washington. — We have a new farm relief law on the way. The natural and logical question is, what does it mean? A parallel question is, what will it do? And, among the cold and non-partisan analysts of the Washington field one also hears a third question, namely, is the sponsorship of any of the numerous farm plans, Republican or Democratic, sincere?

Congress, for the sake of its political hide, is anxious to do right by agriculture. It is attempting to supplant the invalidated Agricultural Adjustment act with a law about which its individual campaigning members can talk, to which they can point with pride.

But there are other and unofficial farm plans bobbing up here, there and everywhere. It seems to be the open season for proposals to aid agriculture. Few, if any, of them are grounded completely in sound practice. Each of them ought to be conceded commendation for some of the provisions they include. None of them, including that which is backed by the New Dealers, is going to completely solve the farm problem because we are going to have the farm problem with us for next year and the next and a good many years thereafter whether we like it or not.

The tragedy of the current situation is that the farm relief plans, taken individually or collectively, constitute—I was going to say a mess and on second thought I believe that is the most appropriate word that can be used. Throughout the administration's proposal for aid to agriculture and permeating every other proposal that has been put forward, whether by statesmen or panacea promoters, one can find a splendid collection of objectives that cancel each other. I mean exactly that.

Recognizing the breadth of the statement I have just made, evidence seems to be necessary. Let us look at these various plans, or certainly at the one that is scheduled to take the place of AAA.

First, the administration proposes to take something like five hundred million dollars each year from taxpayers in one form or another to use for benefit payments to farmers. It proposes to use these funds to save the soil, to prevent further carrying away of productive elements in our soil by continued cropping. New Dealers describe the purpose as prevention of erosion.

With that purpose, it seems to me, there can be no quarrel. Ever since the successive portions of our country were settled and the forest coverings removed, soil has been subject to erosion by rain, flood and by wind. The Department of Agriculture says that the top soil of probably fifty million acres has been destroyed in that manner. It would seem, then, that it was high time our government was finding ways to stop it.

Admitting the soundness of this phase of the program, one then must turn to another phase that is not written into law but results from it. If the fertility of soil is improved, is it not natural then that there should be an increase in production? And if there is an increase in production, is it not logical further that we may find ourselves developing a huge surplus of commodities from the farm—and with no foreign market? The answer obviously is, yes.

So, we find these two circumstances in the administration farm bill, proposed, even driven, by that group of New Dealers who, until a few months ago, were declaring here, there and everywhere that to maintain price we must have scarcity of production. That theory was basic in the AAA and was carried out to the furthest by Secretary Wallace and Administrator Chester Davis.

There seems to be no doubt among students of the farm problem that a subsidy, whether by that name or some trick phrase, for agriculture cannot be avoided. Some way, somehow, money is going to be taken out of the federal treasury to pay benefits, subsidies, to the farm population. I do not know whether anyone can predict where such a policy will lead as a long-term national program. Political figures seem to be content with a temporary solution, something to get farm votes. In all of the ventilators of the house and senate chambers, discussion of the farm problem on a long-term basis has been noticeably absent.

This fact is just as true when an old-New Deal farm program are subjected to a searching analysis as is

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OUR COMIC SECTION

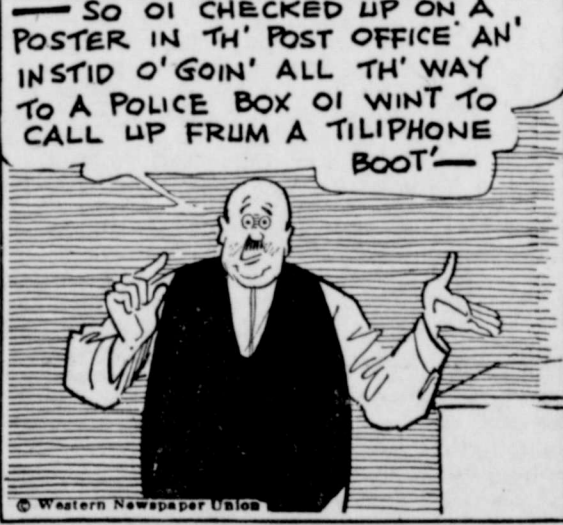
Events in the Lives of Little Men



FINNEY OF THE FORCE

By Ted O'Loughlin
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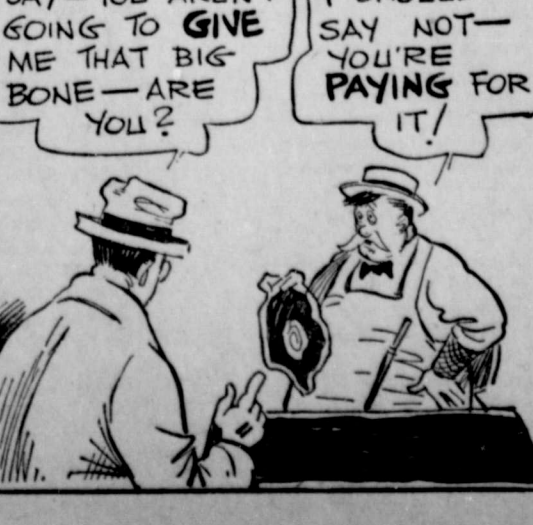
A Tight Squeeze



THE FEATHERHEADS

By Osborne
© By Western Newspaper Union

A Bone to Pick



Household Questions

Two tablespoons of grape juice added to a grapefruit after it has been cut gives a delicious flavor and a pretty color.

Apple pudding is a quick and easy pudding to make when you haven't a hot oven, as it can be made on top of the stove by stewing apples (or any other fruit) in a pudding dish; add a little water and sugar and nutmeg, then cover with a soft dough made same as for dumplings, and cover airtight with a close cover and steam for 15 minutes.

To remove a stopper from a glass jar, pour warm water into a pan and invert jar in it, gradually add warmer water until it is quite hot, but not so hot as to break jar. Leave in water for some time, occasionally trying stopper to see if it is loose.

Add a teaspoon of cornstarch to each cup of sugar when making fudge. This makes it smoother and creamier.

Water hyacinths will grow in the house in a shallow fish globe. Fill globe half full of coarse gravel and good loam, put one small plant in bowl and fill with water. Set in a warm, sunny place and add water occasionally.

When fish is to be served as the main dish at a dinner allow one half pound for each person.

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The Mind Meter

By LOWELL HENDERSON
© Bell Syndicate—WNU Service.

The Syllables Test
In this test there are two columns of syllables. Take a syllable out of the first column and unite it with one in the second column to form a word. When you are finished, you should have ten words.

First Column	Second Column
1. ros	1. tuce
2. pal	2. ise
3. na	3. cord
4. prem	4. rel
5. let	5. sar
6. cou	6. try
7. con	7. lect
8. col	8. trum
9. bar	9. pon
10. bur	10. sal

Answers

1. rostrum	6. coupon
2. paltry	7. concord
3. nasal	8. collect
4. premise	9. barrel
5. lettuce	10. bursar

Smiles

Pity Great-Grandpa
Mamoulean—We in this generation know more than our parents did, and our parents knew more than their parents did.

Simoleon—Maybe that's true, but I hate to think what fools your grandparents must have been.—Pathfinder Magazine.

Help! Help!
"What's your idea of civilization?"
"It's a good idea. Somebody ought to start it."—Tit-Bits Magazine.

In the Contest
Miss Aid—Jimmie is one boy in a hundred.
Miss Wait—Does he know he is competing with that man?

Any Kid Knows
Teacher—Who knows what the five senses are?
Peggy—Nickels.—Washington Star.

In His Steps
Prisoner (to jailer)—As a special favor, I wish you would put me in cell No. 38.
Jailer—Why so?
Prisoner—It's the one that my father always had.—Pathfinder Magazine.



Millions in China Bear the Same Popular Name
Perhaps it is just as well that the vast majority of the 385,000,000 Chinese are illiterate from the point of view of China's post office. For when, say, 384,000,000 of them learn to write and receive letters, a bit of bother will ensue over the Changs and Whangs, who are the Celestial republic's equivalent of our Smiths and Joneses.

A Chinese government department has estimated that there are about 25,000,000 Changs and Wangs, and about 16,000,000 Lis and Chaos, China actually has only 400 surnames for all the 385,000,000 inhabitants.

Do You Ever Wonder

Whether the "Pain" Remedy You Use is SAFE?

Ask Your Doctor and Find Out

Don't Entrust Your Own or Your Family's Well-Being to Unknown Preparations

THE person to ask whether the preparation you or your family are taking for the relief of headaches is SAFE to use regularly is your family doctor. Ask him particularly about Genuine BAYER ASPIRIN.

He will tell you that before the discovery of Bayer Aspirin most "pain" remedies were advised against by physicians as bad for the stomach and, often, for the heart. Which is food for thought if you seek quick, safe relief.

Scientists rate Bayer Aspirin among the fastest methods yet discovered for the relief of headaches and the pains of rheumatism, neuritis and neuralgia. And the experience of millions of users has proved it safe for the average person to use regularly. In your own interest remember this.

You can get Genuine Bayer Aspirin at any drug store—simply by asking for it by its full name, BAYER ASPIRIN. Make it a point to do this—and see that you get what you want.

Bayer Aspirin

In Young and Old
Hamburger steak is a concession to the growing infirmity of teeth.

FOR THOSE WHO TAKE PRIDE IN THEIR BAKING

Here's a baking powder, tried, tested and used exclusively by experts.

ONLY 10¢
Your Grocer Has It

CLABBER GIRL Baking Powder

THINKING OF HIM

He—Dearie, we shall have to economize somewhere.
She—Yes. I was just wondering what else there is that you can get along without.

In Police Court
Teacher—Is it possible to have a sentence without a verb?
Son of a Judge—Yes, sir. Thirty days.

WRIGLEY'S SPEARMINT THE PERFECT GUM

THE STANDARD OF QUALITY

