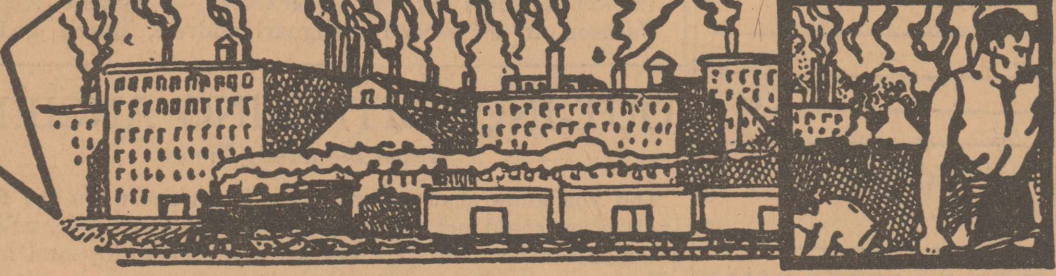


The Ferguson Forum

WE ARE
AGIN HIGH
INTEREST



WE ARE
AGIN HIGH
TAXES

Vol. XVIII

AUSTIN, TEXAS, THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 1936

No. 48

Why Let Oil Drillers Kill Fish and Mar the Beauty of Our Baycoast

By MEFO In The Houston Press

Oil companies are getting permits to drill in our gulf and bays and are preparing to use dynamite in some of their operations. If they get the oil the waters will be sprayed with the greasy fluid. What will the dynamite and oil do to our fish? Are they to be given any consideration? What will the oil derricks do to the beauty of our waters and the shores.

There is plenty of land in Texas for oil experimentation. In fact we have limited the number of acres on which wells may be drilled. Why therefore permit the purity and beauty of our waters to be destroyed and the fish killed?

We know it is illegal to pollute the waters. That would seem to be a protection, but can you drill an oil well in a waterway without letting loose some oil?

After the above was written this letter was received from another source:

"Knowing your fairness in dealing with matters pertaining to the public welfare, I am writing in the hope that you will give some publicity to the injustices that have been thrust upon the people in the leasing of 60,000 acres of subsea land beneath Galveston Bay waters between Red Bluff and the mouth of Trinity River by Gaddis Bass, general superintendent of the state land commissioners' office.

"Does it seem fair to the people of this state and particularly to those in South Texas to deprive them of the enjoyment of this body of water which will eventually be dotted with unsightly oil derricks, such as those on Tabbs Bay at Goose Creek now present.

"I am at a loss to understand why the many residents along the bay front have permitted such an outrage to be pulled on them by our authorities in Austin. Bathing as well as fishing will be ruined and I wonder why the property owners and the various boat clubs have not voiced their objection to this outrage."

'WAR IS HELL'

"War is hell" shrieks Ferguson's Forum, a personal political organ of "Ma" Ferguson's husband, Ex-Governor, Jim Ferguson. He also claims the credit for predicting in an interview at Houston more than a year ago this same turmoil and strife in foreign countries that now exist and relative to the League of Nation mix-up says:

"I wonder what all these sentimentalists and sob sisters will say now about the League of Nations and the World Court. Where, oh where, would we be today if our statesmen should have their time taken up in endless conferences held for the purpose of keeping us out of the war which now threatens all the Eastern Hemisphere. There are 4,000,000 soldiers under arms now over there and there are 20,000,000 more held in reserve to respond to the bugles call when the ambitious dictators choose to lay their yeamany upon the block of human butchery."

Texas will have as merry a political war this year as will Kansas and some other states. The Ferguson foot prints in the Lone Star sands have not been obliterated by a heluva lot.—Publicity, Wichita, Kansas.

HAD BUT FEW FAULTS
Wife (heatedly)—You're lazy, you're worthless, you're had tempered, you're shiftless, and you're a thorough liar.
Husband (reasonably)—Well, my dear, no man is perfect.

The cloud hiding the sun is only mist drawn up from the earth.

WASHINGTON TO ESCAPE SERIOUS FLOOD DAMAGES

Raging Potomac Reaches Crest And Engineers Say City Safe

WASHINGTON, March 22.—The raging Potomac reached a flood crest of 18.1 feet at 6 p. m. Thursday and the U. S. weather bureau announced that all danger to the national capital apparently had passed.

Experts said the swollen stream would not rise more than another tenth of a foot before receding.

As the peak of the worst Potomac river flood was reached, the waters still were more than half a mile away from the White House.

Across the river in Alexandria, Va., the high waters closed the large plant of the Virginia Public Service Co., which supplies electrical energy to Northern Virginia. Current was piped from plants in Richmond and Brems Bluff.

Thousands of government officials, clerks, stenographers, debentures and relief workers watched the swirling waters from Lincoln memorial and Washington monument.

The roof of a house ripped away by the pounding waters floated past with other debris. Three small cabin cruisers were pulled down the stream by a buoy which had been torn loose.

Water lapped at some points of dikes hurriedly thrown up to protect federal buildings on the mall.

No Loss of Life
Residents had plenty of warning and no loss of life was reported, although a score of homes along the river bank were submerged and some were washed away.

There were two spectacular rescues. A coast guard crew took 15 persons ashore from mid-Potomac at Point of Rocks, 30 miles up the river, when a bridge washed away and left them stranded.

Mrs. Eva Dell Meyers was rescued from the roof of her cottage, which the swollen river had separated from shore by 800 feet, as the water lapped at her ankles.

SPRINGFIELD MOVES TO STOP PILLAGING

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., March 22.—U. S. army officers, naval reserves and national guardsmen joined Thursday night in a drive to halt pillaging of evacuated homes in the flood-stricken south end.

Burglars in boats were making the rounds of abandoned dwellings and removing furnishings and valuables on a wholesale basis.

FLOOD PUTS OUT LIGHTS IN HARTFORD

HARTFORD, Conn., March 22.—All power in Hartford failed shortly after 6 p. m. Thursday, plunging the "insurance city" of America into darkness just as office workers were leaving their places of employment.

The Connecticut river continued to rise. The darkness hampered the rescue work of Red Cross workers who were administering to the needs of several thousand flood sufferers marooned on the banks of the river.

RAGING OHIO CAUSES WIDESPREAD SUFFERING

WHEELING, W. Va., March 22.—Sixteen persons were killed Thursday when flood waters of the Ohio roared across the city. Into schools, churches and auditoriums flocked 20,000 residents, seeking refuge from the angry river that was pounding against Wheeling.

Towns on both sides of the Ohio (Continued on page 3)

WHAT'S UP?

By JIM, The Editor

People are anxiously waiting the final disposition of the payment of Old Age Pensions. Every day I am asked the question if the Governor is going to call a special session to provide for the full and complete payment of the pensions when the pension law goes into effect on July 1st. I hoped that the Governor would call the Legislature in order to furnish this old age assistance so much wanted by the old people of the State. But for some reason, it is now quite evident that the Governor will not call the Legislature previous to the Democratic primary. I make this statement because on the 19th of this month, as quoted in the San Antonio Light, the Governor commenting upon renewed rumors of an early session of the Legislature said, "As far as I know at this time there won't be any session." Then on March 18th, the Governor's secretary wrote the following letter to Mr. J. H. Kyler of Denison, Texas. The letter is as follows:

March 18th, 1936.

Mr. J. H. Kyler,
113 South Seventh Street,
Denison, Texas.
My dear Mr. Kyler:

Please know that Governor Allred will be deeply appreciative of your letter of March 17th.

The Governor has not called a special session, inasmuch as there has been no indication that such a session would accomplish any more than has been true of the two previous called sessions, which represented an expenditure of over two hundred thousand dollars to the tax payers, without any revenue measures being passed to pay off the pensions.

The Old Age Assistance Commission has announced that there will be sufficient revenues from the liquor tax to begin payment of the pensions on or before July 1st, by which time the number of applicants eligible for the old age assistance can be determined.

I am sure that you would not want a sales tax as the revenue means for the pensions, since it would be a tax on poverty, and those least able to pay it would bear the brunt of the tax on their food, clothing and medicine.

Please be assured of the Governor's appreciation for your letter.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) George Clarke,
Secretary to the Governor.

GC:FW

So using this interview in the Light and this letter which, of course, was written by direction of the Governor, it is quite evident that there will be no session of the Legislature, at least until after the July primary and probably not until the regular session in January.

The question then arises how much will the Old Age Pensioners receive on July 1st. As 200,000 pensioners who are eligible for the full pension have already filed their applications, it will follow that whatever money is received from the liquor tax divided by this number of pensioners will be the approximate amount that every pensioner will receive. The latest quotation from the Pension Commission is that there will be a net amount of \$835,000.00 only to be payable to the pensioners on July 1st. Dividing this sum by 200,000 eligibles there would only be \$4.17 for one month per capita that could possibly be paid on July 1st. Even if there were only 100,000 pensioners, the amount of the liquor tax available for pension would be only \$8.35 per capita. As a matter of fact, I am sure there will be at least 250,000 people who will qualify for pensions and the total amount accruing from the liquor tax will be less than \$3.50 per capita.

Now mind you, that after the July payment there will not be any more funds available from the liquor tax until after August 31st. Most every informed person now understands that the liquor tax will not be as much next year as it was this year because there has not been sufficient legal sales of liquor to equal the amount received this year. A great many pensioners are resenting the fact that their pension is to be paid by a liquor tax and they are demanding that some other source of revenue be resorted to to pay the pension.

So what is the real reason why the Legislature is not being called to carry out this will of the people expressed at the polls providing for pensions? Of course, there is a lot of political skulduggery going on behind the scenes that is not disclosed by the record. But my opinion is that the big oil companies are bringing pressure to bear to keep the Legislature from being called for fear that they might be taxed heavily to pay the pension and they believe that if the matter is put off until after the summer primary that the Governor would not be afraid to stop by veto, if necessary, any high tax on oil. If the matter is put off until after the primary, the Governor then would not run for office again until Senator Conanly would come up for re-election and criticism of any favor that he might show the big oil companies would not have any effect because the people would have time to forget the record.

If the legislature were called before the primaries, then the Governor would have to heed the distress signal of his oil friends, the big ones as well as the hot ones, and he would be placed squarely up against the sales tax to pay the pension. He evidently is afraid of what might happen and for that reason it is quite evident now that he will not call the session until after the primaries, if then.

Summing it all up, this whole political maneuver means that if Allred should be elected, there will be no payment on the pension except this little measly \$4.17 that will be paid the first of July with a big blare of trumpets and promises that more will follow. All this is cheap politics which is so damn plain that nobody will be deceived by it. If our friends hope to get a full pension as the constitution requires they have got to get them a new Governor who stands for the sales tax as that is the only source of revenue that will produce sufficient amount to pay the pension in full. Let our pension friends and their friends and relatives now be fully advised as to what is in the air. A great majority of the Legislature have informed the Governor that if he will call them back again that they are ready to vote for any tax necessary to pay the pension in full and his failure to accept their proposition puts the responsibility on him and not the Legislature for failure to act in the premises.

GOVERNMENT EXPOSES MORE BIG SALARIES

Business Machine Company Head Draws \$364,432

WASHINGTON, March 21.—Big pay envelopes carried home by movie stars and captains of industry in the calendar and fiscal year of the 1934 were listed Saturday in supplemental treasury reports of corporation salaries over \$15,000 made to the house ways and means committee.

Thomas J. Watson, of New York,

president of International Business Machine, topped all others on the list with a salary of \$364,432. He was followed closely by the late Will Rogers, who received \$324,314 from Fox Films Corporation. Janet Gaynor, also of Fox films, received \$252,583.

W. R. Sheehan, a Fox vice-president, received \$100,000. The salary report made Saturday supplements similar statements filed with congress last January under the revenue act. A move is now under way in congress to repeal the section which provides publicity for corporate salaries.

Shirley Temple's salary from

Fox was \$23,064.48. Others on the Fox payroll included Lew Ayers, \$103,489; Richard Arlen, \$22,499; Warner Baxter, \$184,000; Edwin Burke, \$91,750; John Boles, \$53,750; Charles Farrell, \$55,000; Stephen Fetchit, \$18,000; Director Henry King, \$156,192; Edmond Lowe, \$24,750; Jesse Laskey, producer, \$156,000; Victor McLaglen, \$30,000; Spencer Tracy, \$82,666; Helen Twelvetrees, \$46,311.

W. P. Chrysler, head of the Chrysler corporation, received \$197,568. Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., general motors, was paid \$201,693. Colby M. Chester, president of General Foods Corporation, re-

ceived \$84,480. The International Mercantile Marine company paid Pres. P. A. S. Franklin \$64,904.

The Rudy Vallee Orchestra Units Corporation, paid its president, Rudy Vallee, \$15,400.

T. M. Girdler, president and chairman of the board of Republic Steel Corporation, received \$129,372.

Anderson, Clayton and Co., Houston, Texas, salaries included: Lamar Fleming, Jr., vice president, \$100,000; H. Whittington, \$110,000; W. L. Clayton and M. D. Anderson \$20,000 each.—Ex.

Co-Operative Efforts Under Voluntary Plan Not Government Force

By V. BERNHARD
In Houston Labor Journal

ALLRED HASN'T DECIDED ABOUT SPEC'L SESSION

Rumors and reports that he will call a special session of the legislature May 1 are news to him, Governor Allred said today over long distance phone. If called the session would consider old age pension revenue legislation.

"I haven't discussed that date with any one," Governor Allred said. "It's all news to me. I am still waiting for more data on what we need for pensions before doing anything."

"I haven't made up my mind yet as to whether there will be any session at all. I understand there are about 100,000 pensions claims on file, but I need more information on them."

Will Be Early, If at All
"Of course, if I do call a special session it will be in time to let the boys in the Legislature return home for their campaigns. That would be only fair."

The governor isn't particularly worried about the state's financial condition.

"We are in the best condition in years, except for the added burden we have to face," he said. "We are much better off than most states."

Deficit Can Be Healthy
"The deficit in the general fund can no doubt be paid off in the course of a very few years, but I do not worry about the deficit. A deficit can be a healthy thing if it is not too large. It holds down appropriations and helps us to economize."

Recurrence of rumors that a special session would be called soon surprised not only the governor but most Houston observers.

Best informed opinion held there would be no session. Many have urged the governor to call the session but just as many have urged him to wait.—Ex.

ELLIOTT ROOSEVELT'S \$25,000 HOME GIVEN ON TAX LIST FOR \$720

The \$10,000 tract of land on which the \$25,000 home of Elliott Roosevelt stands at Fort Worth, is rendered for state and county taxation on an assessment of \$720.

This was shown in the Tarrant county work of the statewide tax survey project, carried on under direction of R. B. Anderson, state tax commissioner.—Ex.

THE FARMER'S VIEW

A mountain man, who rarely, if ever, visited a town of any size, drove into Statesville with his son, traveling in a decrepit car.

Climbing out of the car on one of the main streets, the old man appeared fascinated by the pavement. He scraped his feet on the hard surface, and, turning to his son, remarked:

"Well, I don't blame 'em for building a town here. The ground is too darn hard to plough, anyhow."

A cotton picking machine that will do the work of sixty human cotton pickers is being perfected and will be put on the market next year, and the inventors, the Rust brothers, are worried.

We had better be worried with them, I mean you and all of us. The inventors are worried lest their invention bring human misery instead of help, which it undoubtedly will, judged by past experiences.

Not that a cotton picker's life is anything to hanker after, for it is mostly penance and abject poverty, worse than outright slavery—economically speaking.

Yet even a cotton picker has some sense of freedom.

If unemployment keeps on increasing, liberty will eventually be destroyed for all of us. Even those riding at the top as masters will not have any real freedom.

And unemployment is really caused by labor-saving inventions. Machines are taking the work away from men.

It is possible to save the so-called capitalistic system and to preserve the personal liberty we value so highly, but not if the army of unemployed gets overwhelmingly big, which it is in a fair way of doing.

What can be done about it? And is it going to be done?

In Europe and Asia, all observers agree, things are moving towards general war and disaster. It may be a few years yet before the holocaust, but it seems to be inevitable.

Can the U. S. keep out of it?

I do not hesitate to answer this question in the negative, unless the people of this country take a quick and unexpected turn away from the profit motive.

The Rust brothers have a vision of co-operative farms where their invention really will lighten the burden of labor, and where profits will go to those who work. I have no doubt that the co-operative idea has salvation in it, but if it is not born and carried out by the people themselves, voluntarily, we face communism a la Russia.

Voluntary communism in the form of co-operative enterprises is not destructive of personal liberty. Quite the contrary; it enhances it. State communism is abject slavery.

The people of Great Britain and the Scandinavian countries have tried co-operation and found it good, increasingly so in the last half century. There are the co-operative enterprises practically control the commodity price levels.

In these countries there is no danger of state communism or fascism. The people largely run their own business for mutual profit.

Coming down to causes of unemployment we find, undeniably, that labor saving machinery employed for profit only is the chief, if not the only cause.

To remedy the situation it is absolutely necessary to remove the causes of the evil. No palliative measures will have any lasting effect, and our leaders are just beginning to find that out by practical experience. The so-called New

how. (Continued on page 3)

A REQUEST

When you have read your copy of Forum will you please pass it on to some one else? Thanks. We will appreciate this spirit of co-operation on your part; and your friends will appreciate your service to them.

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JAS. E. FERGUSON, Manager and Editor

THE FORUM IS NOT JUST ANOTHER NEWSPAPER—IT IS DIFFERENT

HOME OWNERSHIP

Senator Sanderford is already making an active campaign for Governor and will start his speaking tour about the middle of April. The fourth plank in his platform is causing much favorable discussion already. This plank reads:

"I favor a graduated land tax for county purposes beginning with small valuations. This will increase opportunities for home ownership and tend to discourage the holding of large tracts of land for speculative purposes. The Federal Government while loaning millions to banks, railroads, insurance companies, towns, cities and counties could render no greater service than to loan up to \$3,000.00 at 1 1/2 percent interest on 21 years time, without down payment to families with which to buy farm homes."

This is the most constructive piece of legislation that we have seen anywhere. The reason given by Senator Sanderford is so sound and logical that we fail to see how anybody could object to it. If the Federal Government will pass this legislation, it will be an answer to the dole and other relief expenses which are only temporary. The plan proposed by Senator Sanderford will provide a permanent settlement of the depression. It will answer the Socialist and the Communist and it will put more people back on the farms than any other plan that can be offered.

Every Congressman from Texas will favor this legislation and if the plan is put in force by the Federal Government, it will bring about permanent as well as needed relief.

The Government loaned the Dawes Bank \$90,000,000. This stupendous sum divided by \$3,000.00 as proposed by Senator Sanderford will furnish homes for 30,000 tenant farmers in Texas. If the Government would loan \$500,000,000.00 which it has already given away in Texas, it would provide a home for all the tenant farmers in Texas, now numbering about 300,000. Under this plan the Government does not give away anything, but only loans its credit at a liberal rate of interest on sufficient time that will make it possible for people to become home owners.

The laboring people in the cities will be for this plan because already there are too many people who have been driven from the farms to the cities who are now competing with the wage earners in the city and there are not enough jobs to go around. This legislation would put the people that have flocked to the cities back on the farms and they can begin to produce food stuff for their own home consumption and for sale to the city wage earner at prices that will relieve the present high cost of living.

We hope the people will give due consideration to this proposition of Senator Sanderford as it means much to the welfare of everybody.

LET'S PROFIT BY OUR PROPERTY TAX LESSON

From Texas Tax Journal

It may be stated as an agreed statement of facts that land and personal property can not carry any part of the tax load necessary to meet the requirements of the Old Age Assistance Law. We have heard, in the past, that this or that bond issue should carry because it would make land more valuable. Did the bond issues make land more valuable? The facts are land values have gone down lower than they have been in forty years. More farms have been abandoned within the past few years than ever before. Never in the history of Texas have farm improvements deteriorated and gone to ruin as they have in the past few years, all caused, in the main, by too much taxation on a few, to pay bond issues voted by those who paid none of the debt. If all had been taxed only a small amount, the home life of Texas would not be at such a low ebb, and the homeless could afford to own a home.

Having very largely ruined the value of land by taxation we are being told to go to natural resources and other lines of business as though they pay no taxes. Any honest and capable person charged with the duty of raising money for the old people should investigate the facts as to how much of the net income of each line of business went for taxes last year, and then investigate what property and the amount escaping taxation, and then make the property escaping taxation bear its share of the cost of government. An honest and capable investigation might prove that comparatively a small amount of additional money would be needed. Property should be relieved of all State ad valorem taxes so Texas could get back to a state of home owners, where it was 35 years ago, and then evidences of prosperity would be everywhere. The principle of making anyone or even a few of the lines of business bear the cost of Old Age Assistance instead of having every one bear a small part of the cost, is to jeopardize payrolls and property and place them in the same condition land is in as to taxation. If there were no mineral prospects in Texas land would be the cheapest character of property in the State.

A SALES TAX NUT

If the sales tax is not paid to the government the merchant keeps it. In other words, the purchaser does not save anything by not having the sales tax—it is a question of whether you will give something to your government or to the merchant who already charges you a profit of from 20 to 80 per cent.

The merchant does not reduce his price because we have no sales tax, but adds all the purchaser can stand.

Which shall we do, help the government a little, or the merchant more? Instead of being a tax on poverty, a sales tax is a means of getting something FOR poverty, something that the merchant is now getting.

Sales tax and pensions are twins that must not be separated.

Under the obligation of that solemn oath which I am about to take, I shall continue to exert all my faculties to maintain the just powers of the Constitution . . . inculcating by my official acts the necessity of exercising by the general government only those powers that are clearly delegated to it; and to encourage simplicity and economy in expenditures by the government.—President Andrew Jackson, in his second inaugural address, March 4, 1833.

OUT-INQUISITIONING ANCIENTS

From Big Sandy Times

Did you know that we are living in an age when the Spanish Inquisition could not compare to the tortures sheriff, police and other enforcement officers are inflicting on guilty and innocent alike?

Did you know that no citizen is free from the ever-present danger of being arrested, without a warrant properly issued, being taken into the torture chamber where he is subjected to the most cruel torture in an effort to compel him to testify against himself, convict himself for a crime he may or may not have committed?

Unless something is done to halt these unconstitutionally practicing district attorneys and sheriffs and policemen, G-Men, national guardsmen, and rangers, and protecting the people, the innocent and the guilty citizens from their cruel tortures, we will soon be back in the midst of those dark ages when the "Kings' minions could do no wrong!"

Read these paragraphs: Dallas Dispatch, March 11.—"The farmer was taken to Dallas, (1933) questioned for EIGHT DAYS, but released when authorities were unable to shake his story that he knew nothing of the family's whereabouts.

The farmer was taken (last week) to Tyler, placed in jail and questioned continuously by Sweeten, Ranger Captain Dan Hines and Rangers Dick Odem and John Gregory."

And here is what followed: Same paper speaking: "Sheriff Jess Sweeten announced he had obtained a signed statement from George Patton (the farmer referred to above) that he had killed J. W. McGehee, wife and two children."

Admitting that McGehee did the crime, it none the less makes the sheriff, rangers and district attorneys who put him thru torture after torture to make him sign his own conviction, guilty of a more dangerous crime than murder; for history has proven that no citizen is safe when law enforcement officers may torture him until he breaks and makes a confession, too often when he is not guilty.

Our laws wisely protect the accused from having to testify against himself; then why should we turn loose a lot of thugs who wear sheriffs', rangers' and policemen's badges, abetted by as mean district attorneys, loose to arrest at their sweet will and torture without the victims' having recourse?

These practices are spawning criminals faster than all others and should be stopped. Submit a man to these tortures, and he will ever have his hand against all law, and you can't blame him. Our criminal courts induce criminal practices—they make a business of criminality. It should stop.

A COSTLY LESSON

From San Antonio Light

The crisis in Europe had hardly broken into print, when reports became current that an offer would be made by our European debtors, notably France and England, to discharge their debts to the United States by the payment of a lump sum in compromise.

SUCH AN OFFER WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE RECEIVED IN THIS COUNTRY WITH COOLNESS AND CONTENTMENT.

The fears which prompt it, the motives behind it, are very transparent and border on the despicable.

The fact is that our debtors, but yesterday so shameless, are frightened and realize, perhaps for the first time, that they can hardly turn for help, with good face and prospect of success, TO A NATION ALREADY CHOKED WITH THEIR REPUTATED OBLIGATIONS.

They are somewhat late in learning that DEFAULT is a poor basis for CREDIT; that a BROKEN PLEDGE is a bad foundation for CONFIDENCE; and that an ungrateful recipient of help even a nation, is apt to find a benefactor who has been played false in one instance averse to new exploitation and betrayal.

It was thought by many Americans that France and England would hesitate long, at least on grounds of self-interest, before defaulting on their war-time borrowings from the United States; that they would be farsighted enough to realize that loans which had saved their very existence were of a very special character and could not be flouted, without destroying completely all faith in their promises.

Warning voices were raised, even in England and France, against the short-sighted folly of REPUDIATION, but without effect. Now, confronted by the renewal of dangers which they thought forever behind them, they are frantically seeking mutual alliances and calling upon lesser powers to rally to their aid.

Only too aware that it was America's loans of billions which enabled them to feed their armies and civil populations in the last war, and to preserve their governments from collapse, they turn their thoughts again to us as the dread phantom of war stalks once more upon the scene.

But in addition to the formal position which congress has taken that only payment will dispose of the war debts, Europe is confronted by the Johnson law, prohibiting even private loans to debtor nations who are in default to the United States government.

A proper retribution, indeed, for faithless debtors, wholly deserved—because nothing could surpass the CALCULATING SELFISHNESS and CALLOUS INGRATITUDE with which our European debtors decided to default even the reduced interest on the reduced principal of their obligations to us.

Experience is, indeed, a dear teacher, for individuals as well as faithless nations, but, as Franklin said, "Fools will learn from no other."

Perhaps England and France now realize that their politicians, who chose THE YELLOW WAY, THE CROOKED WAY, to avoid their debts and bring their budgets to fictitious balance, HAVE AFTER ALL PLAYED THE FOOL.

At any rate, both countries are brought up suddenly with a very round turn.

They are face to face with some painful facts, and one is that THE WAY OF THE WELCHER, NOT LESS THAN THE TRANSGRESSOR, IS HARD—AND DOUBLY COSTLY IN THE LONG RUN!

LEST WE FORGET

"We hold these truths to be self evident—that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights; that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness; That, to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; That whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness."—Declaration of Independence.

"WE THE PEOPLE"

"We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this CONSTITUTION for the United States of America."—Preamble to The Constitution.

THE TUGWELL "LOAN"

From the Houston Labor Journal

Last week it was announced that Columbia University had agreed to lend Dr. Rex Tugwell to the government for another year. In all probability that announcement will be received with mixed feelings, not only by the general public, but by administration aides as well. For instance, there is Postmaster General Farley, who has a very difficult campaign to manage this year, and who, in the course of it, will be called upon to apologize for many things that Dr. Tugwell says and is trying to do. Among other things, many will want to know what Dr. Tugwell meant when he called upon the farmers and workers of the nation to unite for a "peaceful" revolution. But, of course, there are many other blazing indiscretions of speech credited to Dr. Tugwell, many of them almost as intemperate as his call for a revolution.

However, if Dr. Tugwell sticks to his resettlement job and does not insist on taking too prominent a part in the campaign it is quite probable that all will be well—except, of course, with the tax-payers, who will continue to grumble. In the meantime, even these may be somewhat comforted in the reflection that Columbia University, instead of making the government an outright, permanent gift of Dr. Tugwell, is, in fact only lending him, and may call the loan in the near future.

But after all, and in view of the hectic career that Dr. Tugwell has had as a government servant, it is quite probable that none will be gladder than he to retire. In fact, his feeling about retirement probably could be no better expressed than by a variation of a popular theme song, running something like this: "I would like to go back to my old campus shack, 'round which the cold blizzards roam. So speed on the plane from resettlement lane, and Doctor Butler will welcome me home."

ECONOMIC JUSTICE

(By A. P. PEIRCE)

CREDIT MONEY

There are two plans by which paper money—(credit money) can be made to circulate and transfer ownership. One of these plans is to make all credit money redeemable in gold or silver. The other plan is to make all such money a full legal tender.

The former plan we find insisted upon by all who are interested on the side of the money lender; by all who would keep money so scarce that it can be controlled by them: So scarce that it can be cornered: So scarce that nine tenths of all transfers of ownership will have to be made with bank credit instead of with money: By all who reap a profit from the credit system. These people will hold up their hands in holy horror at the very mention of making our credit money legal tender.

We will hear them talk about a lack of confidence in our government's ability to pay gold on demand should some one present a paper bill for redemption. It is claimed that, should some foreign power conquer us and our government fall, down would go our legal tender money because there would be nothing behind it. This sounds good so far as it goes. Have they considered that, should a foreign power conquer us to the extent that our government should fall, that power would most likely carry away all our gold and silver. What would then be left behind their gold redeemable paper or bonds either for that matter? Does not this lack of confidence talk usually come up like this? When the people begin to lose confidence in banks, the bankers would divert their attention and pass the blame to Uncle Sam, pointing to him and shouting "Lack of confidence. Balance your budget to restore it."

Money should function for the purpose of transferring ownership, and for paying up for transfers that have been made and payment deferred, namely, for paying debts. Is it needed for any other purpose? How can any thing make money serve these purposes better than the legal tender quality? With such a money what need can there be for a lack of confidence? How can there be such a thing while the government is solvent, and continues to function?

President Andrew Jackson seemed to have understood what a special privilege was being given to bankers when they were allowed to issue their credit in the form of paper money and he seemed to see the injustice that was being done to the rest of society by making them a present of all the profit from doing so. After vetoing a bill to renew the charter of the Bank of the United States he seemed, however, not to know what should be put in its place. There never was gold and silver enough to furnish a sufficient medium of exchange.

HOW MUCH IS TOO MUCH?

I'm repeating that this is not an argument in favor of any specific Pension plan; but, in order to get at the real thought in mind, it is necessary here to note at least one of the most common criticisms of one of these plans. I am referring to the "canned" statement so often encountered that the amount proposed per month is entirely out of all reason, because old people, as a rule, would not know how to spend so much money."

For the sake of being entirely fair in the application of this criticism to the real purpose of this discussion, it is here freely granted that the average old man does not need and would, perhaps, not use to the best advantage, either for himself or the community, the amount proposed. Then what shall we say about the millions, not to mention billions, now in the hands of a few people, old or young, who "toil not nor spin," nor can SPEND, in equity, the enormous sums which by law and custom have been allotted to them to be wasted in "riotous living"? These millionaires come from the same sort of common clay as the rest of us; and no more need nor can use, in equity, these enormous accumulations than can we. Nor did they produce, by their own unaided efforts, these princely sums which the law says they own.

The reader's attention is called to a news item in another column of this issue. It is headed "Government Exposes More Big Salaries." Read it, and do your own thinking, if you haven't lost the habit of thinking.

No, this is not intended as an argument raising the flag of "class consciousness." I am merely applying the argument of the critics of the suggested plan to endow old people with more money than they need or can use equitably; for, in its final analysis we are all but heirs of some six feet of sod—equal in the earth at last."

IF TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS PER MONTH IS TOO MUCH FOR THE AVERAGE OLD MAN OR WOMAN, THEN A MILLION DOLLARS, MORE OR LESS, IS TOO MUCH FOR THE AVERAGE MAN OF WEALTH. To make any distinction in this matter is unfair, unsound, unequitable, not to mention its dangers to civilization.

"When it shall be said in any country in the world, my poor are happy; my jails are empty of prisoners, my streets of beggars; the aged are not in want; the taxes are not oppressive; the national world is my friend, because I am the friend of its happiness; when these things can be said, then may that country boast of its constitution and its government."

—THOMAS PAINE.

VALUABLE COTTONSEED OIL

It is no secret to Texans that cottonseed is one of the State's valuable assets; in fact, cottonseed is Texas' second most valuable cash crop. Now comes the announcement that a new development in home curing and storage of farm products is the use of cottonseed oil to provide a cheap method of keeping home-raised pork indefinitely. No wonder cotton is popular in Texas!—The Texas Weekly.

THE TEN PLAGUES IN EGYPT WERE TYPICAL OF PRESENT-DAY EVENTS

By I. B. ALFORD

PLAGUE SIX—BOILS

Boils on the body indicate a foul or corrupt condition of the blood. There are never any boils on the person whose bloodstream is pure. And, "the life is in the blood." Corruption of blood, therefore, in this picture, is an indication of impure or corrupt blood.

Now, there are two distinct features about boils. They come to a "head" and at the surface of some part of the body. Moreover being painful, they are extremely annoying, and have the habit of upsetting one's peace of mind. While the intensity of boils may vary from ordinary pimples to most uncomfortable, sometimes fatal, carbuncles, always there are the two phases mentioned.

The assertion is here repeated that the plagues in Egypt were, according to Paul's statement, types or figures of present-day events and recorded for our information at this time. And it would appear that this is especially true of the plague of boils—corruption of so-called civilization exposing itself by coming to the surface.

Crime of every nature is rampant in the earth today. It affects every avenue of human activities. Remember that in the picture boils represent a surface manifestation of corruption within. Never at any time in the history of civilization have there been so many "exposures" resulting from "investigations."

The outstanding evidence of the corruption of civilization today is the constancy of eruptions that are taking place. Strikes, lock-outs, riots, racketeering, chiselling, garterism, hijacking, divorce suits, financial crises, kidnaping, political crookedness, religious intolerance with their hypocrisy exposed, and many other eruptions are the surface evidences of internal conditions. These outward manifestations of humanity's ills are indisputable evidences of the uneconomic and inequitable conditions precipitating such disorders. The great economic error of the present and past century is the cruel and inequitable currency system that has permitted Shylock a free and uninterrupted hand. Present conditions are but the inevitable result of causes gone before—allowing restriction and congestion of the bloodstream of industry to be tampered with. The congestion of this stream is an outstanding cause of the present "famine in the midst of an abundance."

The varied upheavals of today are our compensation for fostering and propagating the uneconomic and inequitable custom and practices by means of which a few of us have acquired possession of the bulk of the necessities and comforts which all of us need and want. In these upheavals we are merely going into action in protest against the present, and an effort to possess that which we do not have, but want to obtain—paroxysms of pain accompanied by an attempt at relief.

RIDING AT ANCHOR

You balance that Budget—
While we dodge the Texas—
If you tax incomes, we'll put the money in surpluses—
Tax surpluses, and we'll call it depreciations—
If your experts call us on that, we'll pay big dividends—
And that will bring about a stock market boom—
And that will mean a very dangerous inflation—
After which will come some more deluges of depressions—

No matter what else you do—
Balance that Budget—
And keep away from that Tax stuff—
We will not—pay out the money for wages—
That would demoralize the workers—
They would begin buying silk shirts again—
Their women would demand some new houses again—
These laborers would be sending their children to college—
They would fill their houses with electric gadgets—
They might even have the nerve to hire a "maid"—
Getting up into the "leisure class" with Mr. Morgan—
Stop spending government money—
It interferes with private business—
Which means government interference with private profits—
Which reduces the possibilities of dividends and surpluses—
Which worries corporation lawyers whose business it is to dodge taxes—

Which stirs up the Liberty League and the Manufacturers Association—
Brings business into politics, and politics into business—
Confuses everything, and reduces the rates of interest!

Don't you know yet how to reduce that Budget?
Stop spending money for all this unnecessary food for worthless people—

Then you won't have to be inventing new taxes to collect money—
And remember, there is no use trying to get us to pay it out of wages—

Because, just as sure as you increase wages—you cut profits—
All the cutting must be on the other side of the column—
If there is going to be any "red" let it be on the wages' side—
Because corporations must accumulate profits—
There is another depression coming, according to the cycle prophets—

And how can corporations pay depression dividends if they have no surpluses—

And if you take away the surpluses by taxation you will scare folks—

They will take all their money and go to Europe—
Germany would be glad to have them bring their money there—
Italy would jump to welcome a lot of American millionaires—
France is getting lonesome for them to come again to see Paris—
Even London would be glad to have a lot more Astors and their billions—

So now, if you want to keep the "best people" in your country—

Here is the program for you to follow:
First, Balance that Budget—you know what that means now—
Then, wipe off that Wagner Labor Act—we don't like that—
This Social Security is a nuisance, and is impossible anyway.
You can't do a thing like that for every old man and woman—
Social Security, indeed! they wouldn't appreciate it anyway—
Only "certain people" know how to use leisure, and culture—
And don't keep fussing about unemployment—God made it!
Poverty cess-pools and slums are not nice to smell of—
But we have always had them, and always will—
You can't balance those things, like you can a Budget!

Thus the corporations talk—
How do you like it, anyway?

Purchases of Fire Arms To Fight Strikers Shown

Many Bought Secretly by Big Firms Expecting Trouble Senators Learn

WASHINGTON, March 25.—Evidence now before a group of senators, it was learned today, shows that major American industries have made large secret purchases of tear gas, guns and ammunition in anticipation of labor troubles.

The evidence was taken from the files of Federal Laboratories, Inc., of Pittsburgh, the principal American seller of tear gas and sickening gas. The company also acts as an intermediary for the sale of pistols to industrial buyers, and it is agent for the Thompson machine-guns.

The purchases were made secretly, according to the company's correspondence, lest workers find out about them.

Letter to Smith & Wesson

In a letter from Federal Laboratories to the Smith & Wesson Co., pistol manufacturers of Springfield, Mass., the vice president of Federal Laboratories said:

"I hope you will let nothing prevent your shipping out to us for the Weirton Steel Co., Weirton, W. Va., the 47 .38 military and police S&W 6-inch barrel revolvers. "On account of their desire that their employees be not familiar with what they are doing, they require that we use great secrecy in the way bills are handled."

It appears from the correspondence that in some instances gas and guns are shipped to a sheriff, who subsequently turns the arms over to the actual buyer.

Cudahy's Purchase

Thus a letter from Federal to an agent in Minneapolis, concerning a purchase by the Cudahy Packing Co., said in part:

"We have ordered the Cudahy Packing Co. clips (for machine guns) shipped from Auto-Ordinance direct to the sheriff of Washington County.

"We believe the Government will approve shipping these clips to Cudahy, but if they want extra clips, that is just what has to be done, even though a previous order went through, because they are not a law enforcement body.

"I am counting on you not getting us in 'dutch' on this."

Further subterfuges to evade detection among workers were indicated to a purchase made by the H. C. Frick Coke Co. of Pittsburgh. The order was for \$3391 worth of riot guns, gas masks, projectiles, shells, grenades, etc.

Instead of shipping to Frick direct, the order stated: "Ship to Mr. John B. Michles, Wolvin Building, Duluth, Minn., invoiced to H. C. Frick Coke Co., Frick Annex, Pittsburgh."

For Steel Strike

In May, 1934, when there was talk of a steel strike, Federal Laboratories sent the following letter to one of its associates in providing weapons to fight strikers—the Hunter Arms Co. of Fulton, N. Y.

"Confirming our phone conversation, wish to advise that the pending steel strike will require probably 500 riot guns to equip the National Guard. We have but 150 on hand.

"The National Guard has asked us to be prepared for the emergency and we are passing this request on to you."

Among Federal's customers are the principal steel, coal and coke companies of the Pittsburgh area, and the Southern Natural Gas Co., Tennessee Coal, Iron & Railroad Corp., and the Gulf States Steel Co., all of Birmingham, Ala.—The Houston Press.

WASHINGTON

(Continued from page 1)

river were menaced. Marietta, Ohio, and Parkersburg, W. Va.,—below here—already were threatened by the yellow water. Huntington, W. Va., had a river stage of 48 feet and the water was rising. City officials there were encouraged, however, by the fact that the rise of the river was proceeding at a slower rate.

At Portsmouth and Cincinnati where the river will not reach flood stage for another 24 hours or more, workmen were busy piling up sandbags in the "bottoms" to check some of the river's fury. As far down the river as Louisville, officials were not alarmed, believing that favorable weather conditions would allow the big stream to run off rapidly with small damage.

G. D. CLARK, Truck Crop Estimator.

LATEST REPORT BY TOM MOONEY MOLDERS' DEFENSE COMMITTEE

When the hearings reopened after two months' recess (except for one day when former District Attorney Brennan was on the stand), the petitioner by stipulation was allowed to present three more witnesses.

The first of these was a really remarkable character, George W. Grimmer, alias Honsberger, alias Anderson, who for many years was a labor spy for street car companies all over the United States, and who graduated from that to be president of the civil service commission of Los Angeles.

Grimmer was hired by the United Railroads in 1905, with instructions from President Patrick Calhoun to join the carmen's union and "holler strike from the house-tops." "We want to force a strike and lick hell out of them," Calhoun told him. As there was no fund to pay for this "special work" (Grimmer acted as a regular conductor as well), he was instructed to "hold back" fares to any sum within decency. When the strike came, he was asked to take out the first night car on one line, and warned that "something might happen, there might be a little explosion." He refused to take the job.

In 1916 Grimmer was again in San Francisco, and asked the new president of the United Railroads, Lillenthal, for a job. Lillenthal sent him to Melnotte McCants, assistant general manager. McCants told him he could use him. "We've got a number of no good men in this city," he said, "whom we want to run out of the state or across the bay" (Meaning to San Quentin). Mooney was one of those he named; another was Edward Vandeleur, now head of the Central Labor Council. Grimmer shadowed Mooney for a few days, but got nervous about the assignment. "Do you want to frame them?" he asked McCants. "Of course not," McCants answered sarcastically. "Nobody likes to hear the word 'frame.' We just want you to be at the same place where Mooney is, at the same time, if anything happens." Grimmer refused to go on with the assignment, and McCants gave him \$15 and told him that was the last money he would ever get from the United Railroads.

On the day of the explosion he was on a California street car and heard the blast. "I guess that's going to be pinned on Mooney," he remarked to the conductor and to the inspector at the end of the line. About a week later, when he was on another car, three men came up to him and said, "You've been throwing up your guts about this case. The best thing you can do is to beat it." Scared, he left and went to Los Angeles.

In the 1907 strike Grimmer became acquainted with a strike-breaker, a halfbreed Indian named Jones. Daugherty. This man had shot two or three persons who tried to raid his car, and had "crushed out of it." In 1920 Grimmer met Daugherty again in Los Angeles, very nervous, and expecting "to be shot or stabbed any minute." Grimmer asked him, "Who do you think pulled off that stunt at Stuart and Market? Mooney?" Daugherty put his hand on his own shoulder, and said, "That wouldn't have the guts. I could put my hand on the man's shoulder that pulled that stunt. Mooney had absolutely nothing to do with it." Daugherty was later murdered in Chicago, his head cut off. (This was confirmed by Chicago dispatches.)

The second witness was George Miller, now a Fresno insurance man, formerly a special policeman for the Southern Pacific. As such, he helped to hire 150 scabs for the 1917 United Railroads' strike. On the basis of this, he struck the United Railroads for a job in 1919, and was taken to the same Melnotte McCants (now dead). McCants said to him one day, "Miller, Mooney and Billings are going to remain in prison as long as the United Railroads can keep them there. We know they're not guilty, but they're agitators, and cost us a million dollars in this strike." Cleary decided not to risk cross-examining Miller at all.

The third witness was Draper Hand, a former San Francisco Police officer, one of the Bomb Bureau in 1916, one of the frame-up gang, who confessed to Fremont Older in front of Mayor (later governor) James Rolph in 1920. Since then Hand has been in difficulties; he is now on parole on a grand theft conviction, and the probation officer tried to haul him up for not reporting regularly, in spite of the fact that he had been promised no harm would come to him if he testified in the Mooney case.

Hand's testimony was sensational, and he plainly enjoyed baiting Cleary. He told how he staged a "demonstration" of the Eilers

Building roof scene with the witnesses, so as to synchronize their accounts of when the Mooneys came on the roof. At the end, Assistant District Attorney Brennan said, "We have the wrong person—Mooney was up on the roof. We're going along the wrong line." Later Duncan Matheson came to Hand and told him to watch Brennan, it looked as if he had sold out to the other side.

Then he told about the Edeau women, about Mrs. Edeau's first story of being at Stuart and Market throughout, then how she came to the Bomb Bureau and said she really had been with her daughter in front of 721 Market and had seen "everything that Estelle Smith saw." Hand had already reported her first conversation; now Matheson told him to make a new report consolidating the two contradictory stories. This second report was produced in court, but Cleary said he could not find the first one. The vast probability is that it was long ago destroyed by the police or by Fickert's office.

Hand told how Oxman had said to him, "Draper, don't you think they'll know we're lying?" and how John McDonald threatened if they did not get him a job to "spill everything." He related how Fickert told him to show Oxman Weinberg's auto, and how Oxman made him sit in it and hang his hand over the side to see if a man could hold a suitcase on the running board. He recounted how he took Mrs. Edeau to see Mooney, Billings, Weinberg and Nolan, and had them "identified" by calling each by name.

Asked if Older had given him any inducement to make his confession in 1920, he said, "Yes, he told me I would feel better if I told the truth and helped to free a man who did not commit the crime when I know who did do it." Cleary made no attempt to cross-examine him on this last provocative remark. Caught in a contradiction—he had said he did not encourage the Edeaus to claim reward, whereas a letter was produced in which he had done so—he blandly replied, "Well, she admitted perjury for the reward, why not pay her?"

The petitioner's case was then closed. Instead of putting Brennan on the stand again, his further testimony was postponed, and the state reopened its case by calling Goff. When the week's session ended Goff was still under direct examination. His testimony took the form of complete denial of every charge made against him by McDonald and by all other Mooney witnesses. Every "identification" he claimed, was regular and positive—the Edeaus, McDonald, Vidovich, Estelle Smith, and all—and he was "very much surprised" when they picked out Mooney and Billings as the men they had seen.

A final interesting note on the week's proceedings: On one occasion Cleary referred to the charge of conspiracy against Fickert and his staff. John Finerty, Mooney's lawyer, remarked that the conspiracy still going on. Referee Shaw thereupon overruled an objection made by Finerty, and said sarcastically, "The conspiracy may go on."

Miriam deFord.

PRESENT TEXAS VOTE POLL WILL RUN 1,317,500

Poll tax collections reported by counties to the comptroller indicated today Texas would have a voting strength of 1,317,500 this year.

With 28 counties unreported collection of the tax from 880,709 persons was shown by final reports from 227 counties. Statisticians in the comptroller's department estimated the 28 counties would show collection from 265,000 additional making a total of 1,145,700.

Unreported exemptions were calculated to add 171,800 qualified voters to the state list. Information on the number of exemptions was incomplete as reports were required only from cities.

Peak in 1924

Texas reached a peak with 1,370,000 voters in 1924 while the maximum number of ballots in a democratic primary was attained in 1934, when more than 1,000,000 were cast. In 1934, the last election year, there were 1,108,086 poll tax payments with exemptions boosting to 1,275,000 the estimated number qualified to vote.

Counties which had not made final reports on collections, which ended Jan. 31, were Bee, Bexar, Brazoria, Brewster, Duval, Eastland, El Paso, Glascock, Harris, Henderson, Hidalgo, Hill, Hopkins, Jack, Johnson, Kaufman, Limestone, Navarro, Nueces, Red River, Shackelford, Smith, Starr, Titus, Victoria, Wharton, Willacy and Zavala.

Collections in other counties included:

Anderson 6504, Andrews 374, Angelina 6457, Aransas 457, Archer 2479, Armstrong 1021, Atascosa 3452, Austin 4451, Bailey 1418, Bandera 1251, Bastrop 4269, Baylor 2219, Bell 10,444, Blanco 1414, Borden 405, Bosque 4528, Bowie 7732, Brazos 3965, Briscoe 1341, Brooks 1206, Brown 5972, Burleson 3399, Burnet 2758.

Caldwell 4579, Calhoun 1234, Callahan 2536, Cameron 10,937, Camp 1758, Carson 2061, Cass 3866, Castro 1219, Chambers 1860, Cherokee 5435, Childress 2941, Clay 3138, Cochran 950, Coke 1533, Coleman 4433, Collin 8475, Collingsworth 2843, Colorado 4034, Comal 3104, Comanche 4060, Concho 1690, Cooke 5600, Coryell 4017, Cottle 1909, Crane 692, Crockett 734, Crosby 2336, Culberson 448.

Dallas 1897, Dallas 62,364, Dawson 3017, Deaf Smith 1460, Delta 2501, Denton 7089, Dewitt 4833, Dickens 2169, Dimmitt 1483, Donley 2041, Ector 1275, Edwards 855, Ellis 8567, Erath 4592.

Falls 5054, Fannin 7215, Fayette 7316, Fisher 2020, Floyd 2888, Foard 1482, Fort Bend 4173, Franklin 1375, Freestone 3846, Frio 1715, Gaines 943, Galveston 15,225, Garza 1437, Gillespie 3811, Goliad 1798, Gonzales 5059, Gray, 5635, Grady 13,018, Gregg 12,530, Grimes 3021, Guadalupe 4628.

Hale 3993, Hall 2394, Hamilton 6330, Hansford 968, Hardeman 2947, Hardin 3607, Harrison 5363, Hartley 694, Haskell 4113, Hays 1656, Hemphill 1484, Hockley 2460, Hood 1654, Houston 4179, Howard 4519, Hudspeth 675, Hunt 8162, Hutchinson 3633.

Irion 772, Jackson 2402, Jasper 2851, Jeff Davis 579, Jefferson 29,298, Jim Hogg 1417, Jim Wells 2692, Jones 4006, Karnes 4059, Kendall 1618, Kenney 78, Kent 923, Kerr 2804, Kimble 1495, King 333, Kinney 847, Klieberg 2669, Knox 2854.

Lamar 8071, Lamb 3553, Lampasas 1779, LaSalle 1621, Lavaca 6345, Lee 3072, Leon 8176, Liberty 4188, Lipscomb 1205, Live Oak 2185, Llano 2922, Loving 169, Lubbock 8671, Lynn 3037, Madison 2180, Marion 1159, Martin 1325, Mason 1836, Matagorda 3522, Maverick 1616, McCulloch 3202, McLennan 16,990, McMullen 565, Medina 3296, Menard 1365, Midland 2133, Milam 6242, Mills 1995, Mitchell 2994, Montague 4073, Montgomery 4311, Moore 728, Morris 1513, Motley, 1392.

Nacogdoches 5433, Newton 2360, Nolan 4160, Ochiltree 1406, Oldham 537, Orange 3366, Palo Pinto 4232, Panola 4016, Parker 3666, Parmer 1456, Pecos 2522, Polk 3212, Potter 8264, Presidio 1739, Rains 1432, Randall 2132, Reagan 778, Real 639, Reeves 1633, Refugio 2559, Roberts 517, Robertson 3935, Rockwall 1535, Runnels 4716, Rusk 6154, San Jacinto 1234, San Patricio

sire not only to live, but to live; a recognition of the fact that riches can be acquired only by despoiling our fellows. After all, the American philosophy of life had its birth in the pioneer days when land and its natural resources were waiting for the taker.

Now we take from each other only.

DIDN'T MAKE SENSE

Burglar—What are you laughing at?

Householder—That you come at night without a light to look for money where I can't find any in broad daylight.

OUR HOME TOWN & OTHER TOWNS

By HECK

A Japanese Christian leader, Mr. Kagawa, is in Houston and he made some speeches this week. As I have not seen any reports of his utterances at the time this is written, I can not comment directly on them, but his personality and his message has been so well described in the press that we have much to go on.

He is not only a professed Christian, but he has won world-wide renown by his writings and organization activities. His Christianity has taken a practical turn, and practical Christianity is bound to be resented in some quarters.

COMMENT ON WORLD EVENTS

Dispatches from Europe repeat the many times told story that British statesmen are ready to give up the island of Cyprus to Greece. It is known that Britain has refused to fortify the island and from this it is deduced the theory that, since Italy is fortifying her islets in the Eastern Mediterranean, Britain would like to turn over the defense of Cyprus to someone else.

There may be a better reason. Britain long ago gave Greece a number of fine islands populated by Greeks before Italy ever thought of challenging the British Empire. The population of Cyprus is Greek, too, about 70 to 80 per cent; most of the rest are Turks. Britain may have learned that managing islands populated by alien people is an expensive business which seldom brings returns.

Cyprus is a queer island at the eastern end of the Mediterranean; an island shaped like a squat coffee pot, with the spout sticking out toward the coast of the continent of Asia. It contains about 8,500 square miles, which is to say three times the size of Rhode Island. It has around 350,000 inhabitants, and some sort of civilization has prevailed there since 3,000 years before Christ. But there never has been a nation of Cyprus.

It was one of the chief copper mines of the ancient world. The Greeks called the island "Kupros" and gave the same name to the red metal. Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Saracens, Crusaders and Turks all have ruled it at one time or another; and the English have been governors of the island since 1878. If it comes back to Greece, it will return to the country, which has had more to do with it than any other; and Britain may save some money and make friends by the job.

In an illuminating editorial briefly summarizing the German situation, *Labour*, official organ of the British trade union movement, said: "Reichminister Gobbels told the German people that they could 'do without butter, but not without guns, because butter could not help us if we were attacked one day.' The remark reveals not only the mentality of the Nazi leaders, but also the economic wretchedness of the German people.

"The Nazis seized control over Germany three years ago. Hitler promised the German people bread, freedom, security and the respect of neighboring nations. An acute food problem now faces the German people. Reichminister Gobbels admits the lack of butter while boasting of the plenty of guns. But a shortage of bread as well as butter threatens to become a dominant feature of Germany's domestic situation; the production of cereals is diminishing; the potato crop has fallen; the scarcity of fodder has resulted in the enforced slaughter of cattle and pigs; and in reduce production of butter, eggs and other dairy products.

"Wages, in terms of purchasing power, by less in the towns and are still sinking in amount. Forced labor consents without lessening the volume of unemployment. The Nazi strangle-hold upon the political, religious and cultural life of the German people tightens daily. "Throughout the world the German Government is execrated as a murderous tyranny. These are the actual results of Nazi rule. It has lasted for three years and may survive for some time yet; but the condition of abject misery and shame to which it has reduced the German people must hasten its inevitable end. Like Mussolini, Hitler may seek in war the preservation of his regime, but his downfall on the path will be reached all the sooner."

As simple as that.

The two objections to Mr. Kagawa's teaching here cited are representative of two groups. The objecting minister represents one, happily diminishing, group of Christians who believe that Christianity consists in believing in certain creeds and the going through with some rites. This group believes it will ride into a future heaven simply as a reward for certain beliefs, and not as a reward for meritorious actions.

This kind of Christianity has not saved the world, and never will.

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Cyprus is a queer island at the eastern end of the Mediterranean; an island shaped like a squat coffee pot, with the spout sticking out toward the coast of the continent of Asia. It contains about 8,500 square miles, which is to say three times the size of Rhode Island. It has around 350,000 inhabitants, and some sort of civilization has prevailed there since 3,000 years before Christ. But there never has been a nation of Cyprus.

It was one of the chief copper mines of the ancient world. The Greeks called the island "Kupros" and gave the same name to the red metal. Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Saracens, Crusaders and Turks all have ruled it at one time or another; and the English have been governors of the island since 1878. If it comes back to Greece, it will return to the country, which has had more to do with it than any other; and Britain may save some money and make friends by the job.

In an illuminating editorial briefly summarizing the German situation, *Labour*, official organ of the British trade union movement, said: "Reichminister Gobbels told the German people that they could 'do without butter, but not without guns, because butter could not help us if we were attacked one day.' The remark reveals not only the mentality of the Nazi leaders, but also the economic wretchedness of the German people.

"The Nazis seized control over Germany three years ago. Hitler promised the German people bread, freedom, security and the respect of neighboring nations. An acute food problem now faces the German people. Reichminister Gobbels admits the lack of butter while boasting of the plenty of guns. But a shortage of bread as well as butter threatens to become a dominant feature of Germany's domestic situation; the production of cereals is diminishing; the potato crop has fallen; the scarcity of fodder has resulted in the enforced slaughter of cattle and pigs; and in reduce production of butter, eggs and other dairy products.

"Wages, in terms of purchasing power, by less in the towns and are still sinking in amount. Forced labor consents without lessening the volume of unemployment. The Nazi strangle-hold upon the political, religious and cultural life of the German people tightens daily. "Throughout the world the German Government is execrated as a murderous tyranny. These are the actual results of Nazi rule. It has lasted for three years and may survive for some time yet; but the condition of abject misery and shame to which it has reduced the German people must hasten its inevitable end. Like Mussolini, Hitler may seek in war the preservation of his regime, but his downfall on the path will be reached all the sooner."

As simple as that.

The two objections to Mr. Kagawa's teaching here cited are representative of two groups. The objecting minister represents one, happily diminishing, group of Christians who believe that Christianity consists in believing in certain creeds and the going through with some rites. This group believes it will ride into a future heaven simply as a reward for certain beliefs, and not as a reward for meritorious actions.

This kind of Christianity has not saved the world, and never will.

Chronicle represents the group which is now repaying material benefits from the competitive system. These benefits consist not only in large individual fortunes born of the profit system, but also in many and well-paid pages of advertisements from those engaged in competitive enterprises. The newspapers and magazines have my sympathy, but I am still in favor of co-operatives.

I venture to say that the depression, with its unemployment, would be over sooner if we would spread profits instead of spreading employment, as we now are doing.

NO RETURNED EMPTY

When Carlyle was told that Margaret Fuller Ossoli had said in her best manner, "I accept the universe," he growled back, "God, she'd better."

There is something of the spirit of Margaret's remark in the gesture of Chief Sitting Eagle of the Sioux Indians, who is reported to have said his tribe would not take North America back as a gift.

His words were: "We had this country once, and it was in a lot better shape then. The Palefaces won it, and Indians always play for keeps. You got it. You keep it."—*Labour*.

MINIATURE TALENT

The gent who carved the Declaration of Independence—or whatever it was—on a pinhead has nothing on Mr. Farley, who has just succeeded in putting the Grand Canyon on a postage stamp.

A SLIGHT DIFFERENCE

Instead of "the hand that rocks the cradle," we now have the birth control movement—the hand that knocks the cradle.

The city of happiness is in the state of mind.—*Trotty Vech*.

NATIONS SLIP INTO WAR

Nations slip into war when they no longer find steadiness or happiness in peace.—*Andre Maurois*.

CONTENTMENT CONSISTS NOT IN GREAT WEALTH

Contentment consists not in great wealth but in few wants.—*Epicurus*.

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AUSTIN THE DRISKILL

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MARCH WINDS STIR TROUBLE IN DUST BOWL

By FRANK HOUSTON

LOGAN, N. M., March 18.—Completing a 1500-mile tour of the Dust Bowl of the Southwest, I have seen the March lion shaking his mane over that stricken area in the first of what may be worse dust storms than the ones which shocked the country last year.

From Amarillo, Texas, westward to Clovis, N. M., then northward into Colorado, eastward again into Kansas, and down through the Texas and Oklahoma Panhandle, an area larger than all New England, we have seen a stage set for tragedy. Within five days three dust storms were encountered.

The land throughout the Dust Bowl is in just the right condition to blow away. Frozen hard throughout a rainless winter, it has now thawed out and pulverized, fine as face powder.

Sweeping Away

The rising March winds have already begun to sweep it away, and there is every reason to expect more disastrous dust storms than those of 1934-35. Already the havoc of this spring's "dusters" is pitifully evident.

Here are fences buried in powdery dunes, and there a deserted and disintegrating farmhouse. The ditches along the highways are filled with rippled silt. It rises in choking clouds with the slightest breeze.

It is like another world, some strange deserted planet in an H. G. Wells fantasy. It is unbelievably barren. No trees, except an occasional dead one stretching gaunt arms above a scarred, sere trunk. No grass or shrubs except an occasional tumble weed rolling crazily across the plain. No longer can you see the miles of waving golden grain that used to be.

A few gasping farmers cling to their homes and their acres. Around Clovis, N. M., the young green wheat stands a couple of inches high. The farmers have done what they could.

But now they stand about the village store waiting, apprehensively watching the skies for the dark clouds in the north which show that the dust is flying again.

Just Waiting

One weatherbeaten old man at Clovis told me: "I've plowed wide furrows across my fields, as the government said. If that doesn't work, and the dust gets at us again like it did last year, I lose a whole square mile of wheat. I'm just here holding my hands and waiting. If we get it down here like we did the last two years, it's all off."

As we moved northward, at Naravisa, N. M., we met our first "duster." The car quivered in the wind. We could see only a few feet in front of the radiator cap. The sun disappeared, leaving an eerie half-light.

Choking Dust

Oncoming cars were only two glowing discs which went by in a swirl of dust. More dust sifted through the closed car windows. We coughed and choked. Soon we were forced into a roadside filling station.

In long conversations, natives did not even mention the dust that had been nearly killing us.

"Why, this isn't any storm," said a man loafing in a drug store where we went to buy some wash for our smarting eyes. "We could stand worse than this without endangering the row crops. This is just dust settling here from up north."

The dust had settled next day, and we proceeded northward. About 25 miles away we came on a farm-house which told the whole story of the Dust Bowl. It was deserted.

Desolate Scene

The windmill blades had fallen off, and the drifting sand was piled high in the yard. The stable was covered to the eaves by sand. The storm cellar was covered with drifts so deep that no one could enter.

We peered through a window-pane. It was almost like the frosted glass used in office buildings, etched by the flying sand.

The farmhouse floor was covered by several inches of fine silt. All furniture had been taken away, but there remained a broken baby buggy, one tattered shoe, a frayed broom sticking up out of the dirt.

On the wall a grimy calendar told the story. It displayed the month of April, 1935. That was the month of the worst dust storms in this area, when the wheat literally was blown out of the fields. In April, 1935, this farmer gathered up his belongings and trekked away, defeated.

AN INTERESTING LETTER ON THE SALES TAX

A. D. & L. Oppenheim, Inc. Capitol at Lamar Jackson, Miss. February 6, 1936.

Mr. H. E. Corbyn, Managing Editor Southwestern Retailer, 405 South Poydras St., Dallas, Texas.

In reply to your letter of January 31st, the writer believes it is necessary to go into a little history of the past four years, in order to answer your inquiry intelligently.

Four years ago the State of Mississippi, like a number of the other states, had an unbalanced budget. The sales tax, it was claimed at that time, would balance our budget. While I am not fully familiar with our political setup, I might say that the sales tax, to my knowledge, has done the following:

By virtue of the revenue collected in this manner, the state was able to establish a Homestead Exemption, which when first became effective was considerable relief to home owners. After about three years of the sales tax, this exemption has been increased from its original amount of \$1,000.00 to the present \$2,500.00.

The privilege tax on retailers has been reduced fifty per cent, effective as of 1936, which was by virtue of a surplus accumulated through the balancing of our budget, made possible by the collection of sales tax.

Personal property has been exempted, such jewelry and many other items that were formerly taxed but which produced very little revenue.

When the sales tax was first talked about in Mississippi, the retail merchants put up quite a fight to defeat it, but were unable to stop it from being passed.

Our law, in reality, is a tax on sales and technically, I presume, should have been paid by the retailers. However, we are having no trouble, whatever, collecting same from the consumers. For your inspection, I am enclosing a sales slip from our store. The customer seems to be willing to pay this and we never hear a complaint regarding the tax from Mississippians.

A good many retailers, however, are trying to absorb this tax and not pass it on. There, however, are the smaller types of merchants, who probably would be more apt to be classed among the chiselers.

After having become accustomed to the sales tax, we find no inconvenience caused by it, other than a slight amount of record keeping.

The sales tax had a very important part in giving many of the state's institutions their finances, which enabled these various institutions and departments to pay salaries and for supplies with money instead of, as previously, with warrants that could not be cashed. Jackson being the capital of the state and having a good many many state employees residing here, it made quite some difference. However, having money to pay with on time was naturally a help to any locality that had a state institute of any description in it.

There is no question but that the sales tax had a good part toward the reestablishment of the credit of the state of Mississippi. The writer believes that it is one of the most equitable types of taxes, by virtue of the fact that the tax is paid, based on the amount of money spent by each individual. If a fellow has an income of \$1,000 per year and spends it all in Mississippi, he pays based on what he spends, then the fellow who has \$6,000 and spends it, pays more tax. This also catches a good many people who pay no other type of tax.

Summing the entire matter, the writer would say that if Texas needs additional revenue to balance its budget and not to increase any of the present appropriation, the sales tax will do it and will not be detrimental to any great extent.

I am enclosing a pamphlet which you might find interesting. I trust that the information given will be of some benefit.

Very sincerely, A. D. OPPENHEIM, In Southwestern Retailer.

ALL BY KINDNESS

A woman from the city was spending the summer in a small town, and one day, while doing her marketing, she asked the butcher how he happened to choose his business. He hesitated a moment and then:

"Well, I don't know," he answered, "but I always was fond of animals."

PLATFORM OF SENATOR ROY SANDERFORD FOR GOVERNOR



To the People of Texas:

In announcing my candidacy for Governor subject to the Democratic Primary, July, 1936, I wish to make the following statement:

I am a native of Bell County, Texas, and am in my 41st year. I have had fair educational advantages in the common schools, Wedemeyer's Academy, from which I graduated in 1914, and was for two years a student in Baylor University of Waco. I taught a rural school for one year. In the fall of 1917, I voluntarily enlisted for flying duty in the United States Air Corps in which capacity I served for 21 months.

I am married and have three children, all within the scholastic age. I have been a member of the Baptist Church for over twenty years. I served for two terms as tax collector of Bell County and have been in the automobile and associate business continuously since 1923. I am not a lawyer. I was elected to the State Senate from the 21st District over two worthy opponents in the first primary in July, 1932.

When I am elected I shall respect the constitutional rights of the people to have a governor who will stay on the job, cooperate with the Legislature and will neither squander the people's time nor abuse the opportunity for service by continually engaging in social, political and pleasurable affairs. I will not use the powers of the office to place my relatives on government payrolls.

I favor:

First. A substantial reduction of Government expenses and where conditions will justify I shall, if necessary, use the veto power to reduce appropriations twenty-five per cent.

Second. A three per cent retail sales tax for the purpose of paying the Old Age Pension and to take the place of the present real estate taxes for general revenue, schools and Confederate Pensions.

Third. I am opposed to any state income tax, as the Federal Government has already preempted the income tax field. It would be a wise state policy to prohibit enactment of such a tax by constitutional amendment. This would invite new capital to our state, result in the development of industry and the employment of more labor than perhaps any other one thing that could be done.

Fourth. I favor a graduated land tax for county purposes beginning with small valuations. This will increase opportunities for home ownership and tend to discourage the holding of large tracts of land for speculative purposes. The Federal Government while loaning millions to banks, railroads, insurance companies, towns, cities and counties, could render no greater service than to loan up to \$3,000.00 at 1 1/2 percent interest on 21 years' time, without down payment to families with which to buy farm homes.

Fifth. I favor a reasonable chain store tax provided it treats everybody alike and does not exempt any special class of business.

Sixth. To promote employment, I favor a constitutional amendment exempting from taxation all textile, leather, paper and woolen mills, and other similar factories for a period of twenty years that have 50 or more employees.

Seventh. I favor the right of suffrage being extended to any citizen on the payment of a small registration fee in lieu of our present poll tax.

Eighth. I subscribe wholly to the principles of local self-government with the enforcement of all laws administered honestly by local authorities and with the backing of the state government.

Ninth. I believe that labor has the inherent right to organize and bargain collectively through representatives of its own choosing.

Tenth. Since the people of Texas have voted repeal, I favor the passage of such laws as will insure strict regulation of the liquor traffic and reduce the evils of this trade to a minimum.

I shall conduct an active campaign and for the present will be my own manager. I shall be pleased to hear from interested voters from over the state who may address me at Austin, Texas.

ROY SANDERFORD.

DAT MAN'S WASHINGTON PARAGRAPHS CONGRESSMAN—TEXAS

Monopoly

Monopoly is one of the greatest evils in our country. President Woodrow Wilson said that private monopoly is indefensible. An individual or corporation that has a monopoly in any line of endeavor should be taken over by the Government and operated in the interest of all the people. The best way to prevent Government ownership is to encourage small enterprises and small business institutions which will give employment opportunities to more people and permit the farmers and wage earners to earn a living wage.

How Monopoly Affects Tobacco Farmers

Many years ago two tobacco buyers were going down the road to visit tobacco farms for the purpose of purchasing the tobacco the farmers had for sale. They agreed that one would only buy from farmers on the west side of the road and the other one would only buy from farmers on the east side of the road. That practice prevailed in all the tobacco growing sections, which resulted in the companies that such buyers represented finally obtaining a monopoly on tobacco. That policy has been brought forward in recent years and in 1932 all the tobacco growers in the United States, the farmers, received the total amount of \$68,000,000 for their tobacco. This was without deducting any expense whatsoever, in other words the gross income from tobacco. The manufacturers during the same year received in net profits on this same or an equal amount of tobacco \$146,000,000 after deducting all expenses, including hundred thousand dollar a year salaries, dividends, bonuses, operating expenses, taxes and every other item of expense.

What has happened to the tobacco farmers will finally happen to the cotton, wheat, dairy and all other farmers, if monopoly is not curbed. If we permit a few concerns to obtain a monopoly on retail distribution, that will result in the farmers having to sell for whatever this monopoly says they must sell for. It will also result in wage

earners receiving a very small wage for converting the raw materials into finished products. Usually the purchasing power of the Nation is about 16 times the purchasing power of the farmers. Therefore it is in the interest of the entire Nation that the farmers have buying power. Monopoly will not only destroy the farmers' buying power, but it will destroy the wage earners' buying power, then the farmers cannot buy what the factories produce and the wage earners in the factories cannot buy what the farmers produce. Our policy should be "to live and let live." Any other policy is destructive to the interest of our country.

TRAGEDY 42 YEARS AGO RECALLED WITH WATER 15 FT. DEEP

Flood waters surged to a depth more than 15 feet through the streets of Johnston, Pa., Tuesday night, while hundreds of marooned residents huddled in downtown buildings awaiting a recession in the waters so they might flee to higher land.

The Conemaugh river went on a rampage again in almost the same way it did 47 years ago to take a toll of more than 2000 lives. Only one drowning was reported in Tuesday night's deluge.

Thousands of townpeople took refuge in the Highland suburbs after being warned late in the day of the approaching flood crest. Estimates of the damage could not be made by official sources Tuesday night, but police said they believed it would run into several billion dollars.

Reports traveled through the flooded area that the Wilmore dam, a small reservoir 180 miles north of the city, had collapsed but telephone company employees denied it.

Telephone Girls Marooned

The terrific current impeded rescue work.

Miss Luella Miller, an operator, told of futile efforts to bring motor boats into some parts of the flood-town. She said:

"I don't believe they would do much good. The water is running so fast boats couldn't get up to the buildings."

Telephone girls were marooned at their switchboards overnight while the waters swirled around the building.

In the meantime the National Red Cross threw its full disaster relief

staff into the field for the first time since the Mississippi floods of 1927 and 1929.

At Rossiter, a coal camp in the same region, five persons, believed to have been members of the same family, drowned after a dam burst and flooded a narrow valley.

The state highway patrol at Indiana, Pa., received a call from a man who reported flood waters had "washed away" the village of Huff and had carried away three men trying to rescue a marooned family.

As fresh floods threats sent a Red Cross staff worker hurrying to Portland, Me., Gov. Louis J. Brann of that state estimated that its loss would amount to \$10,000,000.

Wilkesbarre in Second Flood

Miss Helen Moses heading the disaster relief workers in the state of Pennsylvania, was ordered to Johnston but found herself headed off by a washout of the Pennsylvania railroad 10 miles east of the flooded city. She plans to continue by airplane Wednesday.

At Altoona workmen labored through the night placing sandbags to prevent a threatened break of a reservoir which might flood the city.

Flood waters of the Potomac river and Wills creek roared through the business district of this famous Cumberland Gap town Tuesday night, marooning scores, forcing others to flee and causing heavy damage.—Austin American.

BASEBALLICLY SPEAKING

She was a bright girl and her escort, who was also her intended, was delighted to find how quickly she grasped the points of the game. She got on so well that he ventured a light witticism on the subject.

"Baseball reminds me of the household," he remarked, "there's the plate, the batter, the fowls, the flies, etc."

"And it reminds me of marriage," she retorted. "First the diamond when they are engaged, then the struggles and the hits, then the men going out, and finally the difficulty in getting home."

BRIGHT BOY

Teacher—Robert, explain what are the functions of the skin.

Bobby—The chief function of the skin is to keep us from looking raw.

FLOOD SITUATION AT A GLANCE

WASHINGTON.—President asks \$3,000,000 for Red Cross, which estimated homeless at 200,000; Potomac flood visible from White House; dikes protect monuments.

WEST VIRGINIA.—Floods from Pennsylvania rush upon large cities with vast damage; many lives lost; Wheeling inundated and isolated.

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA.—Floods subside at Pittsburgh, Johnstown and other points. Death toll may reach 44; damage \$100,000,000. Transportation, communications still paralyzed.

EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA.—50,000 homeless; property damage in millions; many cities severely hit; Susquehanna carries fresh threats.

OHIO.—Thousands flee homes, factories heavily damaged as Ohio river reaches crest; preparations made for valley's worst flood.

MARYLAND.—Swollen Potomac takes four lives, buries Cumberland under tons of slime; \$5,000,000 damage in valley.

NEW JERSEY.—Traffic crippled, hundreds driven from homes with Delaware river on rampage.

NEW YORK.—400 homeless, two dead, many roads blocked. Binghamton faces winter shortage; relief mobilized as waters slowly recede.

MASSACHUSETTS.—Thousands homeless, factories idle, traffic halted; Boston faces milk rationing.

CONNECTICUT.—Hartford faces worst flood in history; Connecticut river still rising.

VERMONT.—National guard called out at four places to aid marooned families and guard abandoned property.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—Ice jams dynamited in overflowing rivers; towns isolated, roads closed.

RHODE ISLAND.—Blackstone valley flooded; sandbags placed around Pawtucket city hall.

VIRGINIA.—Richmond guarded by 2000-foot dike as James river threatens disastrous flood.

TOO LATE

"One of the tragedies of a theatrical man's life is the fact that no one ever gives us a dinner until we don't need it."—Channing Pollock.

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