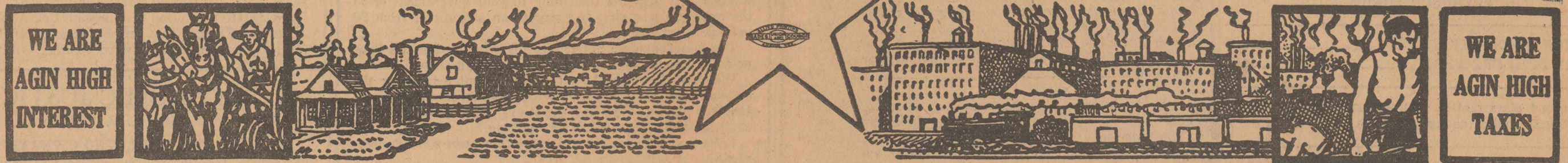


The Ferguson Forum



"Nations Were Angry With Hearts Failing Fearful Forebodings"

(The Garment Worker)

Next! Mussolini, having finished the orgy of the Abyssinians— Will now proceed to aggrize the League of Nations— Including the British Empire and other sources of oil— France is afraid of what Hitler might do if not watched— England is nervous over a growing temperance in India— Russia knows that there is to be an explosion from the Eastern border— It all makes for troubled waters and good fishing for dictator— And sleepless nights for decent people who have no thirst for blood It is altogether a splendid showing of individualism glorified— Together with the dangers lurking in half-hearted community effort.

If the neighbors living at those European crossroads could get together— Could turn all their guns over to some international G-men— Could agree that safety for all is the only method of safety for each— It would be easy to forget all about their barbed-wire and concrete— Cut their military bills to a joyful minimum— Turn their navies into excursion boats— Begin to discover the beauties of education freed from lying histories— Take the premiums off knavery in armament manufacture— Give ideals of personal honesty and intelligence a fighting chance— Make it possible to read the Prophet Isaiah without making faces.

But nothing like that is going to come up with the next year's surpluses— Instead, there are storm-clouds charged with fear and hate bulging up— Every nation, bankrupt or not, is putting wings on its canons— While cutting all plumes from their doves of peace— He who is now vice-roy of Ethiopia, Badoglio of Italy— Has taught to world the meaning and potency of war in motion— No longer will commanders wait for the infantry to march— On howling wings from out of the sky war will come now— Dropping pieces of hell and torment all over the earth— There will no longer be any fighting front— Unless it is the place where the most defenseless are hiding— Ask those half-naked Abyssinians, to get the up-to-date low-down on war— They could face machine guns, cannon and even flying bombs— (Continued on page 8)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

By J. GREGG HILL
In The Austin Dispatch

"Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Askelon; lest the daughters of the Philistines rejoice, lest the daughters of the uncircumcised triumph."

Governor Allred says he is opposed to a sales tax yet he advocated, secured the passage of, signed and appointed 687 investigators, case-workers, press agents etc., to enforce the so called liquor law with which to pay old age pensions. This is a sales tax law pure and simple. The governor then is either not opposed to a sales tax or is opposed to such tax unless it is on liquor. All of the revenue dedicated to the payment of old age pensions in Texas is derived from the liquor traffic. To us prohibitionist this is tainted money derived from the wickedest, vilest and worse business ever licensed by men—the liquor business. Its sale has wrecked more homes, ruined more men, debauched more women, emptied more cupboards, put more homes on the execution block, made more orphans, wrought more woe, misery and shame than any other legalized business in the history of the world. Every prohibitionist in Texas ought to hang his head in shame when he realizes that the governor of this state as dedicated this revenue to the old age pension fund. His doing so can neither clean nor consecrate such fund, yet it will unquestionably increase that fund and stimulate and make permanent the traffic in liquor.

A governor drunk with ambition and a rising generation drunk on liquor to raise funds to pension the aged, will eventually give this state a permanent case of delirium tremens.

Opened With Prayer

Old Mrs. McDuff was seriously ill, but not so bad as to preclude hopes of recovery. "But," her doctor warned her, "I must operate without delay." To his relief she consented, but only on the understanding that the minister must be present. "But—whatever for?" asked the astonished doctor. "What good could the minister do? I never heard of such a proposal!" "Maybe no," retorted Mrs. McDuff. "I ken that doctors is maistly heathens. But I ken whit's decent are fitin'. An' I'll tell ye, if I'm to b. opened at al, I'll be opened w' prayer."—Labor.

TEXAS POLITICS

By JIM, The Editor

The supposed harmony democratic convention that met in San Antonio last week is not exactly true. In fact behind the scene there is considerable political mess that hasn't been cleaned up and will probably lead to more silent political controversy. A seeming reliable story is going the round that General McCraw, Attorney General, was promised by the Allred forces their support for him as delegate at large for the National convention at Philadelphia. The story goes that the General relying on promises made him by the democratic authorities had made all his arrangements to go to the convention. At the last minute it is stated that General McCraw was told that there was no place for him as a delegate and to throw the fat in the fire. Ex-senator Walter Woodward, McCraw's opponent in last year's election, was sent by the Allred forces as a delegate and General McCraw was denied credentials. It is stated that General McCraw had Governor Allred's word and promise that he should be allowed to go on the Texas delegation.

Then in an attempt to clearing up the mistake, Governor Allred gives out an interview in Dallas to the reporter of the Dallas Times Herald that General McCraw would be the next Governor of Texas to succeed him, Allred, and that his election as Governor was assured, or words to that effect. Then Col. Ernest Thompson, Railroad Commissioner, goes up in the air because it was thought that he was to be the Crown Prince to succeed Allred and now Allred is trying to explain his predicament to both sides and it is said that he sought General McCraw's aid to suppress the interview publication in the papers, but alas, the papers had spoken. Up to date, Governor Allred has not retracted his statement that McCraw is to be the next Governor. There are other ambitious statesmen who have their eye on the Governor's office who are now watching Allred and his maneuvers in the present campaign.

Tom Hunter opened his campaign Tuesday night in Austin and had about 1000 people out to hear him. He had previously given out advance copies of his speech to the newspapers and with one exception, he followed his advance copy in his opening speech. For some reason or other, however, he did not discuss what it was stated on the streets of Austin he would discuss in connection with Governor Allred's collections of money from an East Texas Oil Company. Serious charges were made and the politicians are awaiting to see whether Hunter will discuss this matter in future speeches. It must seem funny, if not ridiculous to hear Allred and Fischer and Hunter shed so many crocodile tears over the old folks pension issue just when they begin to open their campaign for Governor. While Roy Sanderford was battling almost single-handed and alone in the legislature trying to put over an old age pension law that would have nearly a year ago given the pension to the old people in full, not a word was heard from Fischer, Allred or Hunter and nobody heard them chirp a word in favor of the old people when Sanderford was battling for their rights in the legislature. And now since the campaign is on and these three would-be statesmen are clamoring for the payment of the old age pension, not a one of them have been able to offer any definite plan of payment of the pension. To begin with Allred absolutely refuses to state now how he is going to raise the money to pay the pension. While he does say that the return from the whisky dollar tax will be turned over to a limited few of the old people on July 1st, amounting to approximately \$2,000,000.00, he refuses and fails to say how he expects to pay the balance of \$40,000,000.00 that will be due each year to the pensioners. While I think that he ought to stay in his office and try to work out something for these old people, yet I don't think it makes much difference whether he is in or out of Austin. I don't think he has brains enough to grapple with the question no matter where he is. If he would just not be so obstinate and call the legislature, they will promptly pass the sales tax and relieve him of his dilemma and enough money will be raised at once to make the old folks happy.

Tom Hunter viciously assails Allred's sincerity and takes him to task for the doing and not doing of a good many immaterial things, yet between Allred's insincerity and Tom Hunter's ignorance the people would be in a hell of a fix if they had to depend on either one of them as Governor. Allred stands in the way of payment of the pension by way of obstruction of the passage of the sales tax. Tom Hunter agrees with him on that proposition, but says that he would pay the pension with a 1 per cent gross income tax. Of all the political monstrosities, this is the most ridiculous and unfair proposition that I have ever heard advanced by any man who aspired for high office.

In the first place, he says that the collection of all taxes must be in proportion to a man's ability to pay. Jessie James nor Al Capone wouldn't take that position. If Tom is right, then the hard working thrifty people of this country who make a few dollars now and then should pay all the taxes to support the lazy and indolent and the unworthy people of our country. Common honesty should impel every American citizen to want to pay some part of the expense of keeping up the government. Then Tom turns right around and says that he wants to exempt from payment of his gross income tax all incomes of under \$6,000.00. If he wants to extort tax money purely on the ground of ability to pay, what would he do with the taxpayer who has an income of \$5,900.00 or any sum less than \$6,000.00. He would be perfectly able to pay and should pay and yet Tom wants to let him go free.

In the next place, there is not enough people in this country that have an income of \$6,000.00 or over to pay the forty odd million dollars that will be necessary for pension. If any voter will just look around in his county, he will find that people with \$6,000.00 or more income are as scarce as hen's teeth and any hope held out to the old folks that their pension will be paid from this source is certainly an insult to their intelligence and this alone ought to and will eliminate Hunter as a possibility for Governor. Already the people are giving him the horse laugh and the plain people that he talks so much about are beginning to see that if he had a chance in office, his ignorance would give them the hot end of the poker.

Big Fischer has slowed down. He is scrambling around trying to get rid of the politicians that want to help him spend his million dollars that he bragged about having. Fischer's proposition about abolishing 2 cents of the 4 cent gasoline tax has got him into trouble. When crowded for an answer, he denied that he wanted to abolish 1 cent of the tax for schools. He likewise denied that he wants to abolish 1 cent for road bond payment by the counties. Then he was reminded that the only way he could abolish 2 cents of the tax would be to repeal the 2 cents now for the highway department. Since he discovered that he had lanced an intestine and had pulled a political bonehead by bringing down upon himself all the highway people and county officials who do business with the highway department, he turns turtle and gives out an interview that he is not going to hurt the highway department.

Again his proposition to tax oil 15 cents a barrel has so aroused the laboring masses who make a living out of the oil industry that it is now certain that Fischer won't carry a single East Texas county. Nobody now thinks for a minute that oil or gas could stand enough taxes to pay the old age pension and it has begun to dawn on the people that Sanderford's sales tax is the only hope of the pensioners and it is quite evident that they would never get their money if the plans followed by Hunter and Fischer, and Allred with no plans.

I am pleased to tell our friends everywhere that Senator Sanderford's campaign is growing rapidly. The people are beginning to realize that he is the only statesman in the race. He has by far the best platform of anybody in the race. He is the only one that offers specific relief in the way of reduction of taxes and economy in government and the payment of the pension. He is the only candidate in the race that offers some inducement for home ownership in this country and doing something for the tenant farmers of the state. Just this last week the President assured the people that he will give serious attention to the matter of purchasing homes for tenant farmers now in distress. With Sanderford's election, the homeless people in this country will have a champion that has got the courage and ability to battle for their rights. Senator Sanderford is speaking from two to three times a day and the people are hearing him gladly and the only thing that is uncertain about his race is the question of who will be his opponent in the run-off. Undoubtedly Allred is not as strong as he was when he was elected. Tom Hunter has lost thousands of his supporters who believe that a twice beaten horse can never win and his footless income tax will drive the rest of his friends away from him and as Fischer never had any following, it is a hard matter to tell which one of the three will be number two in the race with Sanderford. A few of our prominent friends have been holding back waiting to see whether Sanderford could make a showing or not and who want to get on the winner are now coming back to our crowd and I honestly believe that Senator Sanderford will get approximately the same vote in the first primary as my wife received with Sterling, in the first primary, 402,000 votes. In addition to this Senator Sanderford has made thousands of new friends and he is moving along and will soon have them all on the run.

The Need of Money, Like Bancho's Ghost, Persistently Remains

(The Houston Labor Journal)

The Frazier-Lemke farm mortgage bill, calling for three billions in new currency, was defeated in the house by about a two-thirds vote, but it is apparent that the demand for currency expansion is growing, and some time in the future this demand will not be resisted. It is probably well that this rising tide is kept back a little longer, until the nation gets sense enough to take precautionary measures against the human parasites who thrive on the "sound" money now in use, that does not exist at all.

Let us again look over the monetary situation.

ECONOMY IN GOVERNMENT

In these days of government extravagance, with bureaus and more bureaus being added at additional costs to taxpayers, the announced position of Senator Sanderford on this particular phase of our government problems should be read with much interest. The following was taken from Sanderford's speech at Alvarado, April 25, and is very clear on the subject.

Government Economy

"The first plank in my platform is a pledge for government economy. My experience as a member of the Senate Finance Committee has convinced me that normal government expense can be substantially reduced without lessening the efficiency of the various departments. This Senate Committee together with a like committee of the House, passes upon every item of expense and every dollar of appropriations. In 1933, in response to the former administration's pledge of economy, these committees reduced appropriations \$15,000,000, rearranged the revenue, amended the collection laws to catch the tax-dodger, changed the available school fund from a deficit of over \$7,000,000 to a surplus of \$2,000,000, paid teachers' salaries on due date and without discount, and made it possible to set the per capita apportionment for public school education at \$17.50. We also reduced the general fund deficit by several millions, making it possible for the Automatic Tax Board to reduce by 15c the ad valorem levy for this biennium. I prophesy that Mr. Allred will claim the credit for these accomplishments in which he had no part, because he is a past master both in the art of claiming unto himself credit which is due to others, and in shifting the burdens of failure upon the shoulders of others justly due upon his own.

This program of economy was interrupted by the advent of the Allred administration which has proven the most reckless and extravagant of any in the history of Texas. During the fiscal year of Allredism there have been created with additional \$15,000,000 appropriated over the amount appropriated for the previous biennium.

But, my friends, that isn't half the story. He had passed and approved a bill appropriating \$25,000,000 for old age pensions when he knew there could not possibly be \$2,000,000 income with which to pay it, I submit to any thoughtful citizen this proposition that if the manager or head of any business should propose to spend over ten times the estimated income for a single purpose, that he would be fired on the spot or if permitted to remain, would hopelessly bankrupt the business. And, my fellow citizens, that isn't yet the worst. He submitted to the Legislature a bill involving the credit of the State to the amount of \$60,000,000 to build a gas pipeline from Amarillo to Detroit, Michigan, when less than \$4,000,000 of the \$60,000,000 would have been spent in Texas. The gratitude of the entire State should be extended to a man

(Continued on page 3)

Bank deposits in the nation's banks are well above fifty billions. That represents, under the existing bank laws, the stupendous sum of five hundred billions of credit money, which our parasites insist is "sound" money, although it does not exist at all.

The federal reserve bank reports more than three billions of surplus on hand, and surpluses are piling up in all banks, more or less. So you see, the nation is practically wallowing in "sound" money.

Why does the money power object to currency expansion? What makes gold-backed government currency "unsound?"

The answer is, that the parasites can not feed on it.

When the boll weevil ravaged the cotton crop, the farmers went to work fighting the weevil.

If they could have found a variety of cotton that was poison to the weevil, the fight would have been easier.

But if the good weevils had had a spokesman, as for instance the human weevils have in little Herbert and his gang, such a spokesman would have made arguments thusly:

"Now, folks, do not fight nature. The boll weevil was sent here by God Almighty, so the purpose of raising cotton should be for the sole purpose of raising healthy, prosperous weevils. To introduce a species of cotton on which the weevil can not feed would be to defy Providence. Don't let us be guilty of such a gross transgression of nature's laws. It is quite true that the farmer depends on his living from the fruit of the cotton plant, but they should realize that the great purpose is to raise weevils, not to feed hungry human stomachs."

Our "sound" money run a straight parallel with this parable. Parasites can feed and get fat on it. But on money issued by Uncle Sam—money that does not have to be borrowed—the weevils can not feed. Such money would in fact, if issued in sufficient amount for the transaction of the nation's business, entirely crowd out and make useless the more than five hundred billions of "sound" money now in non-existence. But the weevils would die from starvation.

The only thing required to make government money potent to do this great work, is that congress must exercise its right and power to fix the value of such money in the terms not only of gold and silver, but also in terms of the commodities most necessary to human existence.

(Continued on page 2)

Senator Sanderford Announces Speakings

- Hearne, Thursday, June 4, 2:30 p. m.
- Georgetown, Thurs., June 4, 8:00 p. m.
- San Marcos, Monday, June 8, 8:00 p. m.
- Beeville, Tuesday, June 9, 2:30 p. m.
- Corpus Christi, Tues., June 9, 8:00 p. m.
- Kingsville, Wed., June 10, 2:30 p. m.
- Edinburg, Wed., June 10, 8:00 p. m.
- Harlingen, Thurs., June 11, 2:30 p. m.
- McAllen, Thurs., June 11, 8:00 p. m.
- Floresville, Friday, June 12, 2:30 p. m.
- Yoakum, Friday, June 12, 8:00 p. m.
- Cameron, Saturday, June 13, 2:30 p. m.

Senator Sanderford will discuss at these meetings Old Age Pensions, Sales Tax, Taxation, State Income Tax and Law Enforcement. He especially invites the voting public to come out and hear what he has to say.

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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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.

Eagle or Ostrich?

By T. H. McGregor

Austin, Texas,
May 29, 1936.

TO THE PEOPLE OF TEXAS:

Mr. Roy Sanderford, Candidate for Governor, says he favors a general sales tax. Senator Small says he favors a selective sales tax. Sanderford and Small both favoring a sales tax can easily get together as they each favor the principle of a sales tax. A selective sales tax, of course, is pro tanto a part of a general sales tax. Sanderford's proposition embraces all of Small's position and Small's position embraces a part of Sanderford's proposition, they go along together a part of the way. So it would be easy for them to compose their differences. Small is not a candidate for governor. He is known as a man of real ability and will long be recognized as an outstanding member of the Senate in which he served, and as a man who helped to shape the course of this State while in its service.

Governor Allred simply says he is opposed to a general sales tax "because it is a tax on poverty." Right there he stops and from there on out he "stands mute either of malice or the visitation of God." If his statement is true then the principle of the sales tax is unsound and Governor Allred should advocate the repeal of the 4 cent gasoline tax and the 3 cent cigarette tax for they are both sales taxes pure and simple and meet the idea of Senator Small as a selective sales tax. They also meet the approval of Sanderford as a sales tax for they are embraced in his proposition.

Therefore Sanderford and Small favor a sales tax on playing cards, poker chips, dice, dominoes, pool balls, billiard balls, billiard cues, tennis balls, racquets, etc., soft drinks, cigars, chewing gum and a thousand and one other non-essential articles. But Allred says "NO it would be a tax on poverty and I am opposed to that." The governor should take his head out of the sand for this is a time when the people need an Eagle not an Ostrich.

DEMONIZED DICTATORS

(The Garment Worker)

The dictators of the present day are running true to the type of tyrants in all lands and all centuries. All of them are nearly or quite insane with egotism. All of them have the sadistic love of cruelty which has marked their breed of human reptiles from the first records which have come down to us. All of them are enemies of mankind.

Mussolini rose to power in the Fascist movement, in which torture and if need be murder were the accepted ways of dealing with opposition. Hitler rose in the same way; and since his rise, admits the murder of more than 70 of his former followers. His persecution of the Jews is marked by every variety of indignity and torture.

Coming nearer home and looking at dictatorship on a smaller scale Fulgencio Batista of Cuba is of the same type and pattern. Chester Wright has told in International Labor News Service and in the Scripps-Howard press of the latest exploit of Batista's paid butchers. They seized two men known to favor free freedom for Cuba, took them to a torture place not yet revealed, emasculated them, and then pulled of their fingers one by one; and then their legs. They were dead, of course, before that last operation could be completed.

There is nothing new in all this horror. It is the old, old tale of horror; of men who love cruelty for its own sake.

Phalaris, dictator of the Greek-Sicilian city of Agrages some 570 years B. C., had an artist make him a brazen bull. The bull was hollow, a victim was put inside; a fire kindled under the bull's belly, and the throat was so contrived that the shrieks of the man inside made the bull bellow as if he were alive. Winwood Reade sums up the carrier of that device in one sentence: "The first experiment was made by King Phalaris upon the artist; the last by the people upon King Phalaris."

In his "Age of the Despots," a study of the Italian Renaissance, John Addington Symonds has given the best account of dictatorship as a profession which can be found in the language. He tells of Ezzelino di Romano, a "small, pale, wiry man, with terror in his face and enthusiasm for evil in his heart" who murdered thousands, exterminated whole communities, and died at last when the reigning Pope launched a crusade to rid the land of such a monster. Ezzelino went beyond the record of Mussolini—but not so very much; Hitler has come closer to it; and the Spanish-American dictators of whom Machado and Batista are samples have matched the archfiend, Ezzelino, at every point.

Dictatorship is not grand, it is not wise, it is not noble. It is a whole range of crimes rolled together, and practiced on a national scale. An enormous proportion of those who, down the ages, have seized despotic power and held it have sadists, lovers of cruelty for its own sake, creatures who exulted in

THE SALES TAX A MONEY SAVER

If you are a farmer or working man earning \$300 per year and contributing \$5.00 per month to aid a dependent relative over 65 years of age it costs you per year.....\$ 60.00
If you vote a 3% sales tax to pay the old age pension and spend your entire \$300 the tax per year will be..... 9.00

Saving to you.....\$ 51.00
Your dependent relative now receiving from you the sum of.....\$ 60.00
If granted the \$15.00 per month pension as authorized by our state constitution he would receive per year..... 180.00
Subtracting the \$60.00 which you are now giving him..... 60.00

Increase in relative's annual income.....\$120.00
If he qualifies under the Federal Security Act he would receive per annum an additional.....\$180.00
Increase to your dependent relative's income.....\$300.00
Saving to you.....\$ 51.00

Total increase in family income per year.....\$351.00
If you do not have a dependent relative over 65 years of age, then you hope to reach the age of 65 yourself, and when you do, you will want to participate in the Old Age Assistance Fund which you have helped to create.

VOTE FOR SANDERFORD-SALES-TAX SECURITY.

the agonies of their fellows.

From Phalaris and Ibrhimi ibn Pasha down to Hitler and Machado and Batista, the record of dictatorships is a chronicle of blood and horror. It is time and past time that this plain fact received general recognition.

"Intolerable Tyranny" Curbed

In passing on the right of the Securities and Exchange Commission to indulge in certain practices under the Security Act of 1933, the United States Supreme Court did not pass on the constitutionality of the act itself, but laid down in no uncertain terms of lengths to which a commission may go in exercising its powers.

The majority decision of the court said that fear that some malefactor might go unpunished, "weighs as nothing," against a just and strong condemnation of the means used to achieve the end, when these means are unlawful. The decision said in part: "A general, roving, offensive, inquisitorial, compulsory investigation, conducted by a commission without any allegations, upon no fixed principles, and governed by no rules of law or of evidence, and no restrictions except its own will or caprice, is unknown to our Constitution and laws; and such an inquisition would be destructive of the rights of the citizen and an intolerable tyranny."

Commenting, the New York Times said editorially: "To that declaration of principle a great majority of Americans will subscribe. The court had before it only a question of law, a single case. But it has warned all branches of government that even a short step in the direction of inquisitorial power must be resisted, lest it serve as a precedent for further advances in the same direction."—The Industrial News Review.

A Court Test of the Old Age Pension Law

By T. H. McGregor

Austin, Texas,
May 29, 1936.

TO THE PEOPLE OF TEXAS:

A great many of my friends have asked me why I did not institute a suit and test the constitutionality of the Old Age Pension Law. A number of my friends have said they would gladly help finance such suit. That is exactly what the sponsors of that law would like for us to do. If we tied up the law they would then lay its vines on us by saying we were delaying its operation. If we got it held unconstitutional the election by that time would be over and they would then write another law as vicious as this one and we would then be back right where we started. It is not now and never has been my purpose to test this law in the courts because we will lose if we did.

The thing to do and what I am trying to do is to carry the issue directly to the people and elect a Legislature which will write an Old Age Pension Law in the language of the Constitution.

Ask your candidate at the public meetings, publicly, what they are going to do on this question and unless he openly, publicly and repeatedly states he will vote for such law swat him as you would a house fly.

I will not vote for any man for the Legislature nor Governor who does not openly, publicly and repeatedly declare that he favors an Old Age Pension Law in the language of the Constitution. Carthago Delenda est.

OUR CHANGING GOVERNMENT

(The Country Gentleman)

The article Billions for Bureaus, by Senator Bennett Champ Clark, in June issue of Country Gentleman, deserves the attention of every American. Government now has come to be a matter of direct concern to everyone, whether he or she wishes or not. Until very recently, except in its local forms, it acted upon the individual only remotely. That was what the founders intended. But, as Senator Clark points out, in recent years the Federal Government has spawned a vast number of agencies, with enormous grants of authority as to expenditures and over the affairs of people.

In this process two things happen—the spending of vast sums of money by jobholders who are not accountable to the voters, and a steady encroachment of all interests within the sphere of government.

By general agreement Thomas Jefferson was the clearest American thinker on matters of government. Against the first of these present tendencies he uttered this warning: "The same prudence which, in private life, would forbid our paying our money for unexplained projects, forbids it in the disposition of our public moneys."

Against the second he gave this equally plain warning: "Our country is too large to have all its affairs directed by a single government. Public servants . . . must, from the circumstances of distance, be unable to administer and overlook all the details necessary for the good government of the citizens; and the same circumstances, by rendering detection impossible to their constituents, will invite the public agents to corruption, plunder and waste."

"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.

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.

Where the Money Has Gone

(From Texas Tax Journal)

The following statement of the Old Age Assistance Fund and the Liquor Board up to May 1, 1936, and for the month of April only, was furnished by Honorable Charley Lookhart, State Treasurer, except the number of employees. These official figures tell the story of the tremendous cost of collecting the tax money with which to aid many old people.

The statement follows:

EXPENDITURES OF OLD AGE ASSISTANCE FUND	
Salaries to April 1, 1936	\$ 78,537.32
Salaries for April, 1936	66,781.02
Total salaries	\$ 145,318.34
Expenses to April 1, 1936 (Rents, stamps, salaries, etc.)	16,163.62
Travel expenses for April	1,382.37
Supplies for April	29,432.38
Total expenses	\$ 47,988.37
Total salaries and expenses	\$ 193,306.71
Amount in Old Age Assistance Fund May 1, 1936	\$1,190,000.00
Number of employees of the Old Age Assistance Commission based on salary warrants drawn for the month of April, 1936, was 546—432 full time and 24 part time. (This item furnished by the Comptroller.)	

EXPENDITURES BY LIQUOR BOARD	
Salaries to April 1, 1936	66,597.13
Salaries for April, 1936	26,235.15
Total salaries	\$ 92,832.28
Supplies for April, 1936	12,891.63
Expenses for April, 1936	35,448.01
Traveling expenses for April, 1936	16,016.35
Supplies to April 1, 1936	6,598.65
Total expenses	\$ 70,954.70
Total salaries and expenses	\$ 163,786.98
Amount the Liquor Board has turned over to the Available School Fund since the Liquor Law became effective	\$ 268,006.38
The amount now (May 1, 1936) in the Permanent Old Age Assistance Fund	225,130.00
Total amount collected by Liquor Board to May 1, 1936	2,166,020.44
Amount in suspense account May 1, 1936	13,601.00
Number of employees of the Liquor Board based on salary warrants drawn for the month of April, 1936, was 176—164 full time and 12 part time. (This item furnished by the comptroller.)	

According to the above figures, \$2,166,020 was the amount collected by the Liquor Board to May 1, 1936, and out of this amount (\$2,166,020) there remained \$1,190,000 May 1, for old age assistance.

LABOR CHOOSES WISELY

I. all the years the Labor Jo has espoused the interests of labor in East Texas, it never has occurred to us to doubt the worthiness of those in whose behalf we labored. In fact, we have had innumerable evidences of the fact that the rank and file of labor is composed mainly of hard-working law-abiding, radical-hating, and patriotic American citizens.

Last week this faith of ours received fresh vindication, when organized labor in this state selected a man to fill the office of president of the Texas Federation of Labor. By the tremendous majority of 273 to 69, the federation re-elected William B. Arnold of San Antonio, as president, over his only rival, Robert Oliver, of Baytown. In that action, the federation went on record as favoring a conciliator rather than an agitator, as its chief, and in so doing, deserves, we think, the commendation of the entire state.

At any rate, it looks like organized labor in Texas is not inclined to listen any longer to the siren song of trouble makers and self-seeking agitators. If that be true, then in all probability this great movement is due to receive greater encouragement and better co-operation than it has ever received before at the hands of industry, and we, for one, shall be glad to see it.

A KNITTING NUISANCE

(From Houston Labor Journal)

From Tuesday's news dispatches we gather the important information that Mrs. Norman Thomas, wife of the Socialist party's nominee for president, "during all the nominating speeches and the enthusiastic welcoming of her husband, sat knitting unconcernedly."

Now, of course, it is by no means a new experience for Mrs. Thomas to see her husband nominated for president, hence nothing to get excited about. Neither are his chances of being elected president sufficient to bring on palpitation of the heart. So these reasons, all of which are as well known to Mrs. Thomas as to anyone else, make her "unconcern" quite understandable. What is not understandable, however, is why any lady, including Mrs. Thomas, or Mrs. Roosevelt, who frequently knits while attending a session of congress or the theatre, thinks that public gatherings are appropriate places to carry her knitting.

We hope that no one will believe us to be unappreciative of the really useful art of knitting, or that we shall be accused of being lacking in respect for the new who still cling to that homely virtue. The fact is, that until a few years ago when we read about Mrs. Roosevelt knitting while her husband addressed a joint session of congress, we had thought that there was none such; that knitting, like a few other old-fashioned things, had been relegated to the limbo of forgotten or lost arts. And right here we pause to say that none could have been more distressed over the matter than we were. In fact, we sort of regarded ourselves as among the chief mourners.

But as deeply attached to the homely virtues as we are, there is still a lingering conviction that there is a time and place for all things, and believing so, it just strikes us as foolish and inappropriate to hear of a person knitting at a great national convention or at a joint session of congress. Of course, at a husking bee, or gatherings like that, it may be all right for such of the ladies as do not like to hulk to employ and enjoy themselves by knitting, and certainly so far as we're concerned, they'd never be criticized for it. But even so, and to be perfectly honest and frank about the matter, the only really logical place in the world to knit is by one's own fireside, where Papa and Junior are usually on hand convenient for try-on's, and where they, more than anyone else, will appreciate Mama's old-fashioned accomplishment, and will never harbor even the suspicion of a thought that she is simply knitting as a pose.

Honor Those who Voted Against War

WASHINGTON.—A wreath was placed on the statue of the late Senator Robert La Follette in Statuary Hall Monday April 6, honoring those who voted against war, nineteen years ago. Senator Robert La Follette Jr. of Wisconsin, Representative Knutson of Minnesota, Col. A. W. Little, Miss Jeannette Rankin, first woman member of Congress, and former Representative Edward Keating.—AP report

ECONOMIC JUSTICE

(By A. P. PRICE)

THE BANK, WHO OWNS IT?

The nature, function and management of banks, where people are encouraged to place their savings and liquid capital, is such that people in general are often deceived as to who, in reality, is the rightful owners of the institution. The stock holders, the so-called owners, are usually owners of the plant only, while the people, the depositors, are the rightful owners of the major part of the bank's resources. In 1929 25,330 banks reported to the comptroller of the currency that their combined capital and surplus was but \$8,408,676,000 while their combined deposits amounted to the \$57,901,641,000. This shows that more than \$7.00 belongs to the depositing public for every \$1.00 that belongs to the bankers themselves. In other words the public owns more than seven-eighths of the banking business. Should not this fact place the interest of the public far above the interest of the bankers and make of the bank, really a public institution?

The public has another interest, besides that of ownership, in the banking business. It is a welfare of the community interest. Bank credit, which is dependent upon the deposits of the people, is such a very important part of our currency system, our means of exchanging ownership, that almost the very life of our business is dependent upon it. It seems to be the common source of liquid capital; the common source of most of our vehicle of exchange. Since actual cash money is kept so scarce that a major part of our business transactions have to be settled for with bank credit rather than with money has not bank credit become far too important a part of our medium of exchange to allow it to be controlled by the whim, the prejudice, the favoritism or the speculative desire of a private citizen or a privately owned corporation?

So great is the temptation to speculate, or to assist a relative to do so, with funds belonging to the depositors that it is next to impossible to safeguard their interest so long as the banking business is left in the hands of private owners. It was Henry Ford who said something like this. Placing one's money in a bank is too often like leaving one's automobile at a garage, for safe keeping, only to come back to find that the garage man has rented it out to someone who has gone off with it where you cannot get it.

Look about you! Look about you, see who is the best fed, best clothed, best housed, best entertained, most extravagant man with the most leisure in your community. Is it not the banker? Did he get that way because he earned it or because an unjust financial system has given him a special privilege, that none but a banker can have? Could it be that he has been allowed to collect a rate of interest that is highly unjust? Could it be that he has been allowed to collect interest on what did not belong to him—to collect interest on his own indebtedness?

TRUE FUNCTION OF MONEY

The real and true function of money is to facilitate exchange. The foregoing statement is submitted only for the benefit of those whose minds are not clouded by the army of pandering orthodox writers on the subject of money. Those who consider the primary function of money as a means of investment for speculation and profit in the game of playing the markets are hopelessly befuddled on the subject, and no amount of reason will avail them.

The much-played-up mare's nest of inflation, so conspicuous in the press of late is evidence of the truth of this statement. The same may be true, except in reverse order, as to deflation. In the name of common sense—if, indeed, there be such mental habit in the public mind of today—what does the major portion of the people care about money for investment purposes, when they are hounded by the wolf of hunger, and out of employment? Their problem is to secure enough money, or credit to give in exchange for bare necessities of life, and the primary obligation of civilization is to see that this is possible. Always, their needs are in excess of their supplies; and the few dollars they may be able to acquire from time to time must be used to provide covering for conspicuous patches of their nakedness, or to allay the hungering demands of a stomach too long on a fast.

But, in spite of the truth of all this, the public is even now being swept from its feet by the raucous cries of the howling mob of propagandists engaged in spreading the smoke screen to conceal the real facts of the money problem. They call it "dispelling the fog;" but "dispensing the fog" would be a better term.

In the meantime, the merry-go-round of faked fights over alleged party issues continues in the spotlight; and soon now, very soon, as it appears, the participants therein will be rushing home "in high" to report to their constituency—rebuild their ramshackled political fences—how valiantly they have fought, for or against, the New Deal. If their pastures green happen to be in those regions of the country in which the democratic mule is waxing fat, they will report their devoted loyalty to the enthroned patriots now ensconced at Washington. If, on the other hand, their barrens abound in those regions over-grazed by the republican elephant, they will be heard squaking their protests against an alleged dictator surrounded by his coterie of brain-trusters now doing business with the iron hand of regimentation. Both sides have a very good smoke screen to conceal the really important issues involved—relief from a burdensome bureaucratic government, a substitution of currency for interest-bearing bonds, etc. It's a great game, that—covering up the real issues involved, peddling bunk to a hungry public who enjoy these delicious viands. No; I'm not indulging in the common alleged habit of criticism without offering something in lieu thereof. Just at the moment the defenders of bonds and bureaucracy are challenging Demosthenes himself in the enunciation of this time worn and oft-repeated slogan. The records of a few, very few, members of the Congress, together with articles widely disseminated through magazines, show that the present congress, also the one immediately passed, Herculean efforts were made, and are yet being made, to recover from Shylock the constitutional power to control for the benefit of industry (the people) the volume of money to be circulated in the nation. These measures, sponsored by Patman, Terrell, Frazier, Lemke et al, are some of the efforts that have been made to restore the function of issuing money to the people by the Congress, as per the Constitution. But they didn't get anywhere; and Shylock is yet in the saddle with a tight rein on all industries.

"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.

DELINQUENT TAXES

(SAM H. CANTRELL)

The delinquent tax question is a nightmare to every session of the legislature. With a well adjusted system of taxation there should be no appreciable delinquency in the payment of taxes. But as the situation now stands there seems to be nothing but a recurrence of the problem.

Many people look upon the collection of delinquent taxes as an important source of revenue. When a law-maker seeks a new field to raise needed revenues he is told by entrenched interests to collect the taxes now delinquent. Tax dodgers have made wide estimates of the amount of delinquent taxes, their estimates range from 300 million to 500 million, depending upon the amount of revenue to be raised. In fact their statements have become so enticingly juicy that every budding young lawyer wants to cut out a slice of fortune for himself by becoming a vulture over the property which cost many an hour of toil and hard labor, matters of which he has no acquaintance. Some would set up a state tax delinquent board operated by the state tax commissioner to collect the delinquent taxes. Farms and homes unable to meet mortgage interest and high taxes would be sold for delinquent taxes. Such a board would no doubt give the young lawyers a chance at glory and the game would be more exciting than the receivership racket.

But to clear the record concerning the amount of delinquent taxes, the following data has been worked the state comptroller's reports, 1921 to 1935 inclusive, taking state taxes only and excluding local taxes. Delinquent taxes previous to 1921 can hardly be collected because of length of time and inadequacy of records, and the revenue derived from such collections would not be appreciable. Unpaid taxes as listed by the comptroller are delinquent (ad valorem) and insolvent (ad valorem); delinquent (poll) and insolvent (poll). Delinquent taxes are such as have a real property obligation attached, and insolvent taxes are such taxes without a real property obligation, involving personal property in the main or personal liability.

Taking the period 1921 to 1935, delinquent ad valorem (real property) taxes amounted to \$48,669,074, and insolvent ad valorem taxes for this period of years is as follows: Delinquent, \$26,925,533; insolvent, \$1,250,259; interest and penalty, \$2,476,814; total amount both delinquent and insolvent, \$57,705,755; total collections, \$30,652,606.

The poll tax (delinquent and insolvent) was as follows: Delinquent, \$2,478,013; insolvent, \$9,136,902. Tax collections of poll (delinquent and insolvent) amounted to \$420,131 (delinquent) and \$133,385 (insolvent); total poll (delinquent and insolvent) is \$11,614,915; total collections, \$563,516.

The grand total for all delinquent and insolvent taxes, 1921 to 1935 inclusive, is \$69,320,670; the grand total of collections, including interest and penalty, \$31,206,121, excluding interest and penalty, \$28,729,307. When collections are taken from delinquency, there remains a net delinquency of \$40,591,262 for the period 1921-1935.

But the above figures do not imply that the total sum of \$40,591,670 can be collected. That story will come out in a succeeding article.

Voters of Texas

"Honor thy Father and thy Mother that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." Did not the President and Congress of these United States realize the great depression and the sore distress of the people and appropriate millions and then billions for relief?

(Who Received This Money?)

The extremely poor, the young men and young women, the so-called white collar class, we, the Fathers and Daughters of the living in Texas, who are the Sons and Daughters of the Soldiers of the Alamo and Goliad have not received one penny.

Did not the Federal Government appropriate \$15.00 for each and every old age person in the United States? Has not the government already paid, helped and prepared work for all other classes of its people, while we, the old of all classes have not received a penny!

Who kept the Fathers and Mothers of Texas from receiving their own money that was appropriated by our Federal government and kept Texas from receiving hundreds of thousands of dollars that was appropriated for Texas?

(Did the People Do it?)

NO. In August 1935, the people of Texas voted, four to one to pay all persons past the age of 65, \$15.00 to match the Federal gift of \$15.00, making a total of \$30.00 per month.

Who cast aside and trampled beneath their feet the vote and voice of the people of Texas and betrayed the Fathers and Mothers of all living in Texas?

(Answer). The governor was then entertaining, base-balling and appointing movie stars as Texas Rangers.

The Legislature, like the wayward son returned unto their Father's house to ask forgiveness of their awful act, but the Fathers and Mothers of Texas did not kill the fatted calf and make merry and put a ring on their fingers.

(Listen Voters!)

Texas was won and bought by the blood of our Fathers. And we, the aged, now being called paupers are the Sons and Daughters of those brave and grand old characters that handed to us that burning torch of Liberty, Love and Freedom. Shall we bow our heads in shame to the wayward Sons of Politics and cast aside this burning torch of our Fathers? NO! We are the same race of the same blood. Remember the Alamo! Remember Goliad! And the banks of the old San Jacinto!

Why call the aged paupers? Has not the Federal Government and State provided security either by cash or made work? Is it not a fact Mr. Governor and Legislators, that we, applicants for a pension, called paupers been ostracized, disfranchised, disqualified and under our alphabetical government are not permitted to qualify and secure a job from any department of mad work? Then, why of all classes and elements would we be fed to the howling wolves of poverty?

(Crucifixion)

We, of all citizens are being crucified at the hands of politics by sheer neglect. Upon the Cross Jesus asked for a drink of water they gave Him vinegar. The Fathers and Mothers of Texas ask for assistance that they might have bread and raiment. The Governor of Texas and our Legislators have promised us a mite, providing our Sons and Daughters will drink enough whiskey to produce the revenue. What a gift, the dregs of vice, sin and blood of our children. Shall the Fathers and Mothers say unto their children drink more whiskey that on tomorrow, we eat? The first time in all civilization has the official of State tied a whiskey bottle to their Fathers and Mothers.

(Who Did This Thing and Why)

The Governor of Texas and our Legislature. Why did they fix our hope of assistance on whiskey? Whiskey, the only thing that Texas has that had its conception in Hell. No individual or corporation wished to lobby against Satan.

Where are the natural resources of Texas that God made, in the hands of great corporations that lobbied to stay this tax off their products? Did they do it, Yes we are told that in case the whiskey fails to produce sufficient revenue to pay this old age assistance, that this same body of men are going to tie on us all the gambling of Texas. Come on, you Sons and Daughters, drink and gamble that Father and Mother might eat.

Now, after nearly a year of waiting on our Sons and Daughters to drink enough whiskey to produce a revenue, payments of some nature must be made by July the First, to conform with the Federal Security Act. Now, the pitiful mite is so small and only goes to just a few, the governor would have us to believe the reason we are not getting any more, that he, the governor had to conform to the Federal Social Security Act. This is cold politics. The Federal Government had nothing to say or do with Texas tax or how much they pay Mom and Dad.

(Un-Constitutional)

The present applied system of the old age pension is not what

Economy—

(Continued from page 1)

majority of the legislature who joined in the defeat of that measure and thereby saved the State that added burden and disgrace. But if left alone, mind you, Mr. Allred would have involved the credit of our State during the first year of his administration with a \$100,000,000 additional burden. The plank of progressive leadership upon which he ran for Governor two years ago evidently meant leading Texas to destitution, bankruptcy, and destruction. There are many justifiable economies that can be effected without reducing the salaries of salaried employees or without decreasing governmental service, and I promise to use the veto power, if necessary, to accomplish these economies. I propose to abolish the Pension Commission; the State Liquor Commission; the State Planning Board; to consolidate the Reclamation Department with the Board of Water Engineers; to assemble all welfare agencies in one department under the Board of Control; and to adhere to strict budgeting for all departments of the State. Starting such a program will not only lead to other economies, but also to greater efficiency throughout our State Government.

Nations—

(Continued from page 1)

They could capture the moving tanks with their primitive spears— By dint of willingness to die while chargings against engine driven steel— But when they were invaded by an Italian inferno (without grace of Dante)— When mustard gas flamed up on hands and face, within lungs and belly— When to shell-shock there was added what made breathing a torture— Mere heroic courage met the zero hour and bowed to the brutes. For all of this the Roman megalomaniac now demands an accolade—

Bears the supposed rulers of Europe in their supreme council— Declares he has proven the need of their reorganization— Will doubtless in his own time and manner finish what Hitler began— While hope of human peace, highest fruition of civilization— Turns its face, in dejection looks down the darkening road— Which leads the feet of mankind in the downward spiral— Into another recurrence of the Dark Ages.

Is it the final resurgence of the Racketeers? It has become the substitution of the individual Will— Against the struggling Consistence of Communities— It is the Logic of the Human Surplus—

The failure of co-operation coordinated, self-controlled— Democracy in twilight, and Liberty's definition lost— Unless the crisis shall put forth some final spark— To shock Labor into unity of thought and action.

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The people of Texas voted on. They voted to pay every person in Texas past the age of 65, \$15.00 that had lived in the State five years and not a habitual drunkard, criminal or inmates of some state institution. Then, why call an election in Texas to vote on any bill if some individual or bunch of politicians can change and disinherit that only the most needy paupers will receive whatever our five thousand a year State appointed investigators and inspectors recommend.

Yes, it is true that the voters of Texas under the great strain of poverty and want voted whiskey back into our borders. The writer being a Democrat and never scratched a Democratic ticket is perfectly satisfied for the purpose for which whiskey entered our State. For the purpose and hope of producing some revenue to help maintain the political, commercial and industrial avenue of a depressed State, but not to be fed indirectly to the Fathers and Mothers of this, the greatest, wealthiest State in the Union.

Putting the Old People on the Spot

We have often heard of a shoe string business and putting people on the spot, but this whiskey tax for feeding the aged old people has surpassed all racketeering of modern age. One hundred per cent of all preachers of Texas are preaching, praying and begging the people not to drink whiskey. Ninety per cent of all wives and mothers are pleading with their husbands and children not to drink. All departments of education and society are educating our children not to drink. The drunkard and whiskey boozers are ostracized from society. No department of State or Labor wants a drunkard. Then, who is working to help to increase the old folks pension?

(Answer). Only Satan and our Legislature. God did not make whiskey or authorize it to be made, but God did make all the natural resources of Texas. Let the people vote against every State official and Legislator that helped to create such a whiskey tax to feed our Fathers and Mothers.

J. J. ROSS.

PROVERBS

THE MAN who knows not, and KNOWS that he knows not, is simple; TEACH HIM. The man who knows, but knows NOT, that he knows, is timid; ENCOURAGE HIM. The man who knows, and KNOWS that he knows, IS WISE; HEAR HIM. But the man who KNOWS NOT, but KNOWS NOT that he KNOWS NOT, IS A FOOL; LET HIM ALONE.

The Need of Money

(Continued from page 1)

The human weevils, unfortunately, have brains, which the boll weevil has not. The human weevils are able to lie, cheat, and deceive their fellow humans, and they are doing this aplenty. Here is the rub.

They have a weapon wherewith they can defeat, not only the issuance of real money, but the economic welfare of the nation and the whole world as well. That weapon is the power to fix prices on commodities. If constituted governments, rise up in their might and deprive the parasites of this weapon, these same governments can issue real money and through such action bring general prosperity to the whole world.

I am telling you the exact truth.

Even without price fixing, Uncle Sam might go in the banking business himself and put all private banking out of commission. Suppose your uncle availed himself of his right to engage in the banking business.

Then, instead of borrowing money by selling bonds, those who had money to invest would simply deposit it in uncle's bank and draw a reasonable interest on it. Now, for each dollar deposited, your uncle would, under existing banking laws, have ten working dollars.

At least that is the way the parasites work it, and why should not Uncle Sam do the same? In a little while, the government would be on a cash basis, and its debts would be paid in full.

All the remedies so far proposed for the cure of our economic ills are calculated, first and foremost to preserve the weevils. Even the president says that if we destroy the weevils, our whole social structure will collapse.

Thou sluggish, dull and unthinking thing who call yourself a human and a sovereign American citizen, go to the cotton field and contemplate the boll weevil fight.

Either the weevil or the cotton must be destroyed. "Nature, unaided, will fail!"

The Stein Family

The doctors have a name for what ails Gertrude Stein. They have, in fact, four names for it, to wit: pallialia, verbal perservation, echolalia and verberigation, which is four different ways of saying that she is afflicted with mania for repetitiousness.

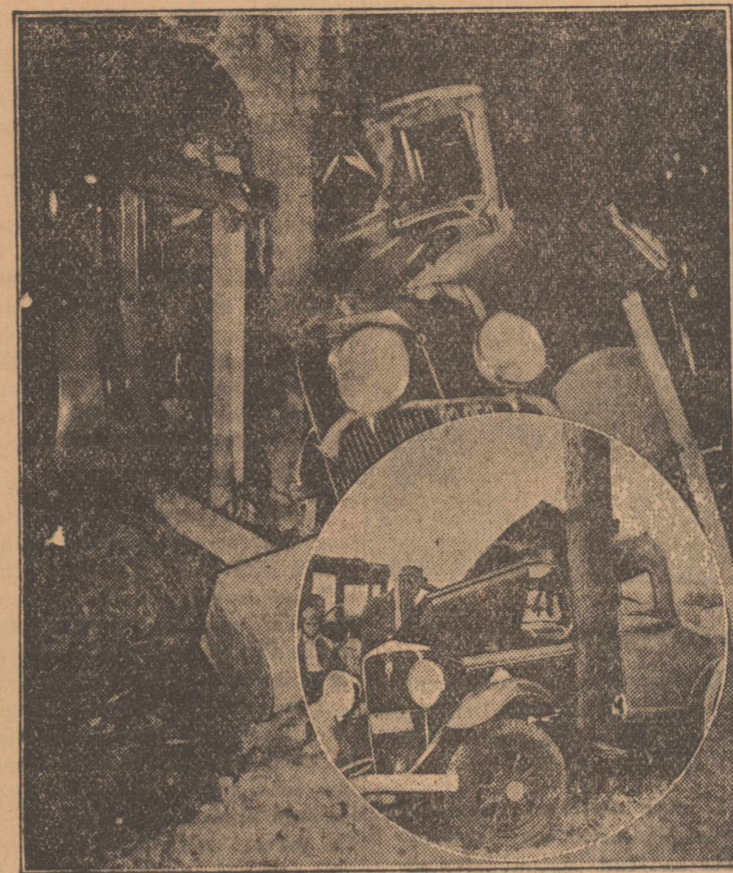
Doubtless they are right, although we suspect there is more point to the conclusion of the wag who undertook to dispose of the whole Stein question by way of the Ilmerick. As we recall, it's summed up something like this:

"A remarkable family is Stein; There's Gert and there's Ep and there's Ein. Gert's poetry is bunk, Ep's statutes are junk, And nobody understands Ein."

Yes—Just a Little Party

"Well, sir," said the village shopkeeper, writing down the order, "that's three hot water bottles, two dozen lemons, and a large tin of bath mustard. I'll send them around right away. All well at home, sir?"

Right to the Door



Right to the door with the freight on board. Crushing business for the undertaker. Conventional too. For whom else?

The finale of a Beethoven symphony never bespoke its motif of despair and tragedy any more forcibly than this picture of human and mechanical ruin.

This was the end of a perfect cure, taken too fast, the beginning of eternity for car and man, thought, for the driver, too. But,

fortunately—yes, miraculously—he crawled out from beneath the wreckage unhurt. He did succeed, however, in turning a thing of beauty and pleasure into a mass of motorized junk in the fraction of a second. The penalty again, of thoughtless driving.

Try to remember this picture the next time you are to take a fast turn. It visualizes perfectly the end of the trail for many a motorist.

CANALIZATION OF THE TRINITY RIVER

By W. H. GALLAGHER, Chairman Legislative Board, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. (From Southern Railway Journal)

I am employed now, and have been for the past 36 years, as a Locomotive engineer on the Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad. I am also the State Legislative Representative of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and speak at their authorized representative on questions such as now under consideration. On this occasion I speak also for the Order of Railway Conductors, and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen in Texas.

Our opposition to the canalization of the Trinity is, to some extent selfish. We could not afford to incur the expense of appearing here if we did not have a personal interest in the question under consideration. But in considering this and all other questions affecting public welfare we are not unmindful of the fact that we are citizens before we are rail employes and that the welfare of the public is superior to that of any individual, group or community. We hold that a public question is not properly disposed of until it is settled upon a basis that is economically sound and socially just.

I have heard some talk about making the Trinity navigable to Dallas ever since I first came to Texas, but I always thought the proposition had very little merit, and never gave it much attention until a few days ago when I was called upon by those I represent to file a protest. I am sorry that the time and opportunity at my disposal for studying the question was so limited that I can offer only a few of the many reasons why we think the canalization of the Trinity River should not be authorized.

The organizations I represent are not opposed to the creation of water transportation projects where the utilization of natural facilities make such projects economically beneficial, or where there is a lack of needed transportation facilities which can be supplied at less cost by improving the water channels which nature has already provided.

We are opposed to the project under consideration for four major reasons.

First: Nature has not made reasonably adequate provision for water transportation between Fort Worth and the coast.

Second: The territory the canal would serve already has transportation facilities far in excess of its present or near future need.

Third: The proposition is economically unsound wasteful and destructive.

Fourth: It is socially unjust, because, if carried into execution, it will cause irreparable loss to thousands of Texas citizens, unbalance the transportation map of the State, and give Dallas and Fort Worth an unfair advantage over other inland cities in Texas and nearby states, and the injured communities will be required to help pay the cost.

We wish to call attention to a few self-evident facts and arithmetic figures in support of our contention. The Trinity River does not have a natural flow of water upon which to carry commerce. On my first visit to Dallas, nearly 40 years ago, one of the first things I looked for was the Trinity River. I crossed it three times looking for it. The water needed to supply a canal will have to be captured and stored and the channel through which it is to flow will have to be built. The promoters propose to construct a canal where they admit nature has not provided either water or channel.

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Nature, with sparing hand, brings the water inland and spreads it over hill and valley to enrich the earth that a nation may be clothed, fed, and housed. If the proponents of this undertaking proposed to impound nature's bounty, in its abundance, and release it, as needed by the soil or for other socially beneficial purposes, which nature intended rain to supply, we would be for it. But, as we understand, their purpose is to divert it from its natural use of providing the elements of commerce, and in so doing, rob that which they would have us believe they seek to serve.

It is not unreasonable to hope that before many years the United States will inaugurate a system of water impoundable on the headwaters and tributaries of our main water courses, not to supply inland waterways, but to provide needed moisture for the ground and for other domestic and social purposes which water alone can supply. When such a system of water conservation is completed, few, if any, of our water courses will have water enough to float commerce. When that day comes, and it must come before long, if we preserve enough fertility in our soils to feed, clothe, and house the teeming millions that will populate the nation, the nation, the millions that this project would cost will be a complete loss.

The advocates of canalization of the Trinity River, propose to build a canal where nature does not provide the water or a channel to carry it in. Man must provide both, and in addition thereto traffic to support it. They do not propose to add a single element of strength to the economic structure of the State. Their undertaking, if successful, will be an economic parasite, that will feed upon the blood of society's two most faithful servants, agriculture and established transportation. They would take from agriculture the moisture that nourishes its soil and from the railroads the traffic that makes their continued existence possible. They give nothing. They take all.

Conclusive evidence of the lack of merit in the proposed project is its enormous cost as compared with other inland water projects. Its initial cost will be almost one fourth the total cost of building and maintaining all the other inland waterways in the United States the past 27 years.

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Fourth: It is socially unjust, because, if carried into execution, it will cause irreparable loss to thousands of Texas citizens, unbalance the transportation map of the State, and give Dallas and Fort Worth an unfair advantage over other inland cities in Texas and nearby states, and the injured communities will be required to help pay the cost.

We wish to call attention to a few self-evident facts and arithmetic figures in support of our contention.

Fort Worth-Dallas and Houston-Galveston handled 26,457,627 tons of freight. If utilized to their full carrying capacity they would carry 363,345,936 tons, or 13 times as much as they did carry. Less than 8 per cent of the service existing lines could render was actually used. Although more than 92 per cent of the transportation facilities now in existence are laying idle, these proponents propose to build an additional system that will cost more than it would cost to reproduce all those now in existence. In 1932 the Railroad Commission placed the reproduction value of all the railroads in the state at \$43,124,000 a mile. On that basis the 2,859 miles of railroad operated between Fort Worth-Dallas and Houston-Galveston could be reproduced for \$123,142,316.00, leaving \$3,714,684.00 of the \$126,857,000.00 the proposed canal will cost, untouched. Would any intelligent man consider duplicating a transportation system that was using only one-thirteenth of its capacity?

In addition to the cost of building this proposed transportation system there is an annual carrying, operating and maintenance charge of \$14,252,000.00 or 11 per cent of the cost. In 1932, the latest figures I had access to, the gross revenues of all the railroads in the State was \$114,350,458.00, or less than 12 per cent of the \$909,453,343.00 it cost to build them. The cost of building the canal will be 14 per cent of that amount; therefore, if the canal is to pay its minimum fixed charges it must absorb nearly 14 per cent of the total tonnage of the state and charge the same rates the railroads are charging. If it reduces rates it must get more tonnage. All from the railroads operating between here and the coast. They comprise 16.6 per cent of the total mileage of the state. With reduced rates the canal would have to take it all. That, of course, is an absurd proposition, but, in my opinion, it affords food for serious thought.

But they say the Federal Government will pay the cost of building and maintaining the canal. I tell you that neither the Federal or any other government will do anything of the kind. Government cannot pay for anything. It is only a collecting and disbursing agent. The primary sources of every dollar spent for transportation is out of the pockets of the people. The people must pay the cost of building, operating and maintaining every water agency or avenue of transportation, and every kind of transportation that is not needed is an unnecessary burden on the backs of the people.

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A PRESSING PROBLEM OF MERCHANTS

Austin, Texas, June 4—There are three outstanding uncertainties confronting the cotton industry at present, according to Dr. A. B. Cox, director of the Bureau of Business Research at the University of Texas.

"The most pressing problem of merchants, and especially of spinning mills which have bought cotton on 'call,' he said, 'relates to July futures.' What will the Cotton Producers' Pool do with its long 300,000 bales of July futures contracts? It is undoubtedly in position to squeeze the people who owe these contracts. It is probable that large share of these outstanding contracts represent cotton which merchants have sold to mills in this country on call based on July. To the extent that this is the case, mills will suffer as a result of any squeeze operations. The result will be the reduction of consumption to the minimum in the United States until after July is liquidated; that will tend to increase the carryover above what it would otherwise have been and thus injure the cotton growers."

"There are no official figures available to indicate the extent to which cotton growers are cooperating with the government in its soil conservation program. The first official figure on acreage planted to cotton will be issued by the Crop Reporting Board on July 8. In the meantime, private reports indicate an increase in acreage over last year of between 12 and 15 per cent. Probable foreign production of cotton has become of increased importance in recent years, because of the greatly increased percentage this production bears to the world's total production, and to its importance in making cotton prices. All reports and other indications point to increases in cotton acreage abroad, but this goes not necessarily mean increased production."

"If world business continue to improve, the market will be able to absorb at least a two-million-bale increase in world production of cotton this year, without a decrease in price." Texas University News Service.

Keep your temper if it is good, and don't lose it if it is bad. Newspapers' Job. Sir Willmont Lewis, Washington correspondent of the London "Times," thus defines the responsibility of the press: "The duty of newspapers is to comfort the afflicted and to afflict the comfortable." They Admitted It. Woman (in crowded street car, to her friend)—I wish that good-looking man would give me his seat. Five men stood up.

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A Spotlight Picture Modern Civilization

By WFSTBROOK PEGLER In The Houston Press Night Club Entertainers Often Bait for Crooks; U. S. Gambling Houses Are Run by Racketeers, With Aid of Criminals in Public Office.

WASHINGTON, June 2.—I suggest that the editorial and advertising departments of many of our newspapers should look into the night club and roadhouse business and decide whether they want to continue to be parties to a system of entertainment which often serves merely as a come-on for jewel thieves, blackmailers, gunmen and gambling-house operators.

Some of our papers constantly exploit in their amusement sections the singers, dancers and band leaders who work in plants conducted by underworld characters and the advertising departments accept business from resorts which are known to be dives. The so-called society columns and gossip departments also contribute to the publicity for places of this type and the effect is to ballyhoo premises which should be treated not with cordially but suspicion and would seem to lie within the province of the police reporter.

This connivance with the rogues of the entertainment business is due to a careless habit, a hangover from the prohibition era, rather than to willful sordidness. But, whatever the explanation, there is no good excuse to continue to publicize as legitimate entertainment the programs which are used for no other purpose but to lure people into gambling houses under alcoholic conditions.

Not All, But a Very Large Number Are Dives Of course, this note is not to say that every rural chicken-reel or urban cocktail parlor is necessarily a den of sin or that the wheels are spinning in all of them.

But not to back down very far, I will still insist that many city resorts which are constantly receiving free mention in the papers in a tone of voice which makes them seem attractive are the hunting grounds of thieves, swindlers and predatory ladies of interest to the police and are well understood to be such by all who know anything about them.

I do not go so far as to say that it is the duty of a newspaper to lead each reader under by the hand, like a nursemaid guiding a child. The people who frequent such places are supposed to be grown up and to know their way around, and if they insist upon being suckers that is their business. But when a paper ballyhooes a place which is a joint by printing pictures of the showpeople on the program and social prattle about those present, that comes pretty close to aiding and abetting.

Presently They Fall to Scrapping and Bombing Moreover, given this encouragement the criminals who run the plants grow stronger and holdier and presently fall to scrapping and bombing and then we have crime waves and scandals in the police force, the sheriff's office and the county prosecutor's department.

As this we run pictures of the midnight raid, the confiscated wheels and crap tables and our editorial asking, "Can such things be?" when we knew damn well along that they not only could be but were.

Some of the people of Louisville, Ky., are upset year after year to read in out-of-town papers descriptions of the dives which operate openly on the Indiana side of the Ohio River as accessories to the Derby celebration. The promoters of these traps are all criminals operating at the connivance of crooked public officials of Indiana and they generally arrange to bring in, strictly as bait for the suckers, famous Broadway entertainers who are publicized as distinguished artists to the complete neglect of their true function, which is to create publicity and attract victims. Criminals draw other criminals and the conditions on the Indiana side during Derby week are so flagrant that it is no exaggeration to describe the occasion as the crooks' old home week there.

Crookedest Town in U. S. Is Miami Beach

The crookedest town in the United States today is Miami Beach, Fla., a beautiful winter resort which has simply been handed over to the underworld of New York, Chicago, Detroit and St. Louis in the last 10 years. It started well with fine intentions. Millions were spent on good hotels and beautiful the local politicians were grafters

and some of the local business men thought it would be a good idea to let in just a few criminals from the North to run gambling rooms as a diversion for the visitors.

But in very little time, Miami Beach was overrun with the most notorious racketeers and thieves in the United States and became the winter quarters of Lucky Luciano, Johnny Torrio and Al Capone, among a thousand others. The people who own the homes will never get their town back now.

A rather pretentious resort has recently opened for the summer just outside New York to the accompaniment of no little acclaim in the papers. This is the most notorious gambling house in the New York region and I suppose we may assume that the operators of a gambling house in such territory are criminals.

Yet all mention of the opening which I have seen has had to do with the entertainment and the swanky crowds to the total exclusion of the gambling, which would seem to be much more newsworthy than the ballyhoo about the false front.

Gambling, as such, is not necessarily bad. But gambling houses in American communities where the laws forbid are criminal institutions run by racketeers with the consent of criminals in public office and nobody can get around that.

William Green, Pres. A. F. L.— "The decision is very disappointing. It emphasizes the growing need of organization among workers.

"After all, we must rely on our economic strength. If we cannot enact legislation of this kind in an orderly way, we will be irresistibly drawn to use our economic power; that can be done only through thorough and complete organization; the more thorough and complete it is the greater will be our economic power.

"The decision emphasizes the need for labor to unite in all fields better than before."

John L. Lewis, Pres. Miners.— "It is a sad commentary on our form of government when every decision of the Supreme Court seems designed to fatten capital and starve and destroy labor."

William L. Hutchinson, Pres. Carpenters.— "I only hope that the United Mine Workers will realize that only by organizing will they get anywhere and that they will have sense enough to stay in their own union and use their own economic and not depend on the government to get something for them selves."

J. Warren Madden, Chairman Labor Board.— "It is clear that the decision does not affect the application of the National Labor Relations Act as to certain types of industry. The extent to which the decision does apply to that act involves issues too important for early determination."

An eminent scientist gives two reasons, among others, for his belief that we are emerging from the depression—decreasing church attendance and increasing marriage and birth rates.

A revival of hope pushes out faith and ends in charity, may be one interpretation.

The dual personality of the AAA, which made the burden of the share croppers worse while bettering the lot of landlords, had at least one beneficial result. It taught the tenants the lesson of organization.

The Southern Tenants' Farmers' Union is now striking for \$1.50 for a 10-hour day for its members. And the strikers are meeting with the usual opposition—scabs, billyes, and tear-gas, according to latest reports. —The Brewery Worker.

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 tax 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.

run into the tens of millions of dollars, and has averaged two or three million dollars annually, and that the loss of human life has run into the hundreds. Every day that the funds of the Authority are tied up by injunction means delay in completing dams which would prevent this enormous damage and loss of life, and constitutes a continued menace to the lives and property of our people. Therefore, the fundamental question is whether the selfish interests of these seven power companies deserve greater consideration than the interests of the citizens of Texas, and is to be given greater consideration than human life."

Wirtz said that while the plaintiffs' Bill of Complaint in this case showed they took over thirty-five million dollars per year in receipts from the people in Texas, they actually supplied only a little over fifty per cent of power sold by private utilities in Texas and that over two and three-fourths millions of the people of Texas are wholly without electric service, amounting to 17 per cent of the population without service. "In face of those facts," he said, "the plaintiffs are seeking to prevent the construction of these projects because power will be developed and distributed from them. They not only desire to dictate in respect to the control of our rivers, but assume to dictate in respect to what all of the people of Texas shall receive in the way of electric service. If they are successful in doing this, then another flag should be added to the collection of those which have flown over Texas, and the people of Texas may prepare to do homage to the flag of the power companies."

Asked whether, in his opinion, the seven plaintiff power companies had any legal right to assume to dictate what new electric facilities can be provided for the people of Texas, Wirtz said that if plaintiffs have assumed the exclusive right to supply electric energy to the people of Texas, and to prevent competition by any State agency, they are assuming greater power than the State of Texas, and it would indicate to his mind that some agreements have been made which might violate the law against monopolies, and that the Attorney General might be called upon to look into this phase of the matter.

"I trust the plaintiff power companies will have their officials, together with their records and contracts, at the trial of the case," said Wirtz, "and that we will have the opportunity of asking them a few questions concerning the basis of their asserted right to exclusive power generation, distribution and sale in the State of Texas. I think the people should know whether they are claiming this privilege by right of conquest, or merely by agreement between themselves."—The Burnet Bulletin.

JOIN THE FORUM CLUB

Do you want to take a part in this political campaign? Do you want to have something to say about who should be elected to office? Do you want to help in a campaign having for its purpose the election of a proper man for Governor and the election of competent people to other offices including the Legislature?

In unity there is strength and if you want to become connected with a unified effort to give the people a better government and lower taxes and the enforcement of the law and other needed reform, here is how you can do it. I have decided to bring together the readers of the Forum in a movement to be known as the Forum Club. It is no partnership, it is no corporation, it is just me and you Mr. Voter if you join and together we will start something for the good of the people. Here is the idea.

Send me fifty cents and I will send you six copies of the Forum each week from now until July 22nd. You can then hand these papers out to the same people each week or what would be more effective to hand them out to different people each week and thereby you will aid in the Forum's campaign for distribution of political information and you will become a member of the Forum Club in good standing with all the rights and benefits incident thereto.

So if you want to take some active part in this campaign this is the way to do it and thereby we will start a movement that will sweep this state for the election of the right man for Governor and he election of the proper people to the legislature who will stand for reduction of taxes, the payment of the old age pension and the dissemination of other facts that will enable the people to bring about political reform.

Senator Sanderford's campaign is growing every day. Good men are announcing for the Legislature and the people have begun to talk already and if you would like to join this movement just fill out the blank hereto attached and put fifty cents in it and address it to me at Austin, Texas, and you thereby become a full fledged member of the Forum Club for the purposes herein set forth. Come on. I need you and you need me. The country needs us both and that's the reason why we must act together.

JAS. E. FERGUSON.

Hon. Jas. E. Ferguson, Austin, Tex.

Dear Sir:

I herewith enclose you Fifty Cents for membership in the Forum Club and for six copies of The Ferguson Forum to be mailed to me each week from now until July 22nd beginning at once. My address is.....Texas.

Signed.....

SOME COMMENTS ON THE MUCH DISCUSSED GUFFEY COAL MEASURE

A little less than a year ago, a committee of the House of Representatives was considering a bill which had the strong support of the administration, but which was regarded as unconstitutional by many congressional lawyers of both parties. Committee members also favored the bill—but the constitutional question made them hesitate to recommend its passage. So President Roosevelt sent the committee brief note which was to make headlines throughout the country: "All doubts should be resolved in favor of the bill, leaving to the courts, in an orderly fashion, the ultimate question of constitutionality. . . I hope your committee will not permit doubt as to constitutionality, however reasonable, to block the suggested legislation."

That note stirred up one of the liveliest debates in the New Deal's history. Friends of the administration said that the president had shown a sensible and logical attitude—that it was up to the courts, not a group of congressmen, to decide whether or not a law is constitutional. Opponents said that the note made it apparent that the president was seeking to circumvent the basic law of the land.

The bill was the Guffey act, designed to stabilize the long chaotic bituminous coal industry. In effect, it created a "little NRA" with sweeping powers over this industry. It had hardly passed both houses of congress and received the presidential signature before court action was started. Slowly it wended way through lower courts with fair success—Federal jurists seemed to think that, after all, it was a constitutional law. Then, a few weeks ago, the Supreme Court spoke the fatal word. The Guffey act was unconstitutional.

However, the high court's decision did not entirely blast the hopes of friends of this type of legislation, and it did bring to the fore some interesting possibilities.

The act imposed a tax of 15 per cent on all the bituminous coal mined in the country—with the provision that operators who complied with the code defined in the act would get 90 per cent of the tax back, while those who did not comply with the code would get nothing back. The Supreme Court, in a six-to-three decision, read by Justice Sutherland, held that this was not a real tax at all but a penalty, and was illegal.

Thus, there seems little chance that Congress will be able to create valid legislation to control an industry's labor policy (unless that industry is beyond doubt in interstate commerce) or to use the power to tax to destroy elements within an industry which refuse to abide by congressional strictures. However, the act also contained

another vital provision—it allowed a National Bituminous Coal Commission appointed by the President to fix minimum prices at which coal may be sold. And on this phase of the law, the high court was much less definite.

The majority decision did not pass on the constitutionality of price-fixing. It simply said that inasmuch as all provisions of the act were, in its opinion, inseparable, all must fall together if one were found invalid. The minority decision, read by Justice Brandeis and approved by Justices Brandeis and Stone, regarded price-fixing as legal. An a third lone decision, read by Chief Justice Hughes, dissented from the majority decision—with which he agreed on other phases of the act—on the grounds that the various parts of the act were separable, and that consideration of price-fixing was premature.

Upshot of all this is that New Dealers feel that Congress can pass laws fixing prices for an industry, as long as it refrains from passing labor provisions or tax-penalty provisions. It is apparent that many administration aims could be achieved through price-fixing alone, inasmuch as wages, working hours and similar matters hinge to a very large extent upon prices. Thus, those who believe in the principles of such measures as the NRA, are going to make their sentiments again felt in proposed legislation, and the potentialities are highly interesting and important.

The Guffey Coal Act has again raised discussion as to just what President Roosevelt would like to do to the Constitution.

As everyone knows, the New Deal's Supreme Court battling average has been bad. It won in the gold seizure and TVA cases—it lost in all other cases of importance, including the NRA, the AAA, and the Railway Pension Act.

The opinion is growing in some quarters that President Roosevelt, if reelected, may go before the people and ask for an amendment to the Constitution which would either curb the powers of the High Court, or expressly make legal acts which are now illegal. It is thought in other quarters, that the President may prefer to

Texas Under Six Flags; Headed for The Seventh

Senator A. J. Wirtz On Suit of Utility Co's to Stop Work On the Colorado River Dams.

Shown newspaper dispatches from Washington quoting John P. Bullington, one of the attorneys for the Texas power companies who brought the injunction suit in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia to tie up funds of the Colorado River authority and the Brazos District, to the effect that the power companies are trying to subpoena R. E. Morrison, of San Antonio, to testify in the case, A. J. Wirtz, General Counsel of the Lower Colorado River Authority, said that in his opinion this was only a move in furtherance of the attempt of the plaintiff power companies to postpone trial of the case.

"I have hitherto refrained from giving out any interviews in respect to this litigation and have refused to be quoted in respect to the case," said Wirtz, "believing that the proper forum for the trial of a law suit is in the courtroom and not in the newspapers; but plaintiffs' attorneys seem to be trying to take advantage of the same character of propaganda which was used by the Chicago Tribune, one of the leading anti-New Deal newspapers, to defeat legislation in Texas, and I think it should be branded for what it is."

Wirtz pointed out that Morrison is not now and has never been connected with the Lower Colorado River Authority and never had any right to speak for or bind it. He said: "I have no brief for Mr. Morrison and do not care how soon and how often plaintiffs' attorneys may question him, but in my opinion any testimony he could give would not be material on any issue respecting the constitutionality of the law under which Mr. Ickes has been acting, or the legality of his acts in approving a loan and grant to the Lower Colorado River Au-

thority." Wirtz pointed out that the power companies have been long camouflaging their activities in respect to the development of the Colorado River. He said that they first pretended they were not opposing legislation creating a State agency to develop and own the project, but later a member of Mr. Bullington's firm appeared in the Supreme Court to contest the validity of the Act, and when the Supreme Court held that the Act was constitutional, they then transferred their activities to Washington. He said that when the suits were filed, power company officials sent out propaganda in the form of mimeographed interviews to Texas newspapers stating that they did not desire to prevent the construction of the flood control portions of the project, when, as a matter of fact, their Bill of Complaint asked that the Government officials be enjoined from advancing any funds whatever to the Authority for any purpose, and they are now trying to postpone the case until November under a restraining order which will have the effect of stopping construction work on all of the projects except Buchanan Dam, and seriously interfering with it.

"The fundamental issue," said Wirtz, "is whether seven power companies can dictate respecting the improvement of our rivers. The citizens in the watershed of the Colorado River have been laboring for more than 20 years to bring about this improvement; it has been endorsed by all the Governors of the State during that period; and has received the approval of the Legislature, and has been held valid by the Supreme Court of Texas. The testimony given in the case now pending, by Mr. John A. Norris, who was a member of the State Board of Water Engineers for nearly twenty years, shows that property damage caused by floods in the Colorado River has

THE BUREAUCRATIC MIND

How bureaucracy operates to protect itself is graphically illustrated by the AAA report on the status of sharecroppers and tenants in the South under the cotton acreage reduction program. The report was made by the Department of Agriculture's own economists, but because its findings were damaging to the prestige of the AAA, it was carefully suppressed. It has now been made public by a Washington newspaper and the accuracy of the publication is vouchered for by a former AAA official, who was discharged because he sponsored the cause of the dispossessed cotton farmers.

Since the report was written, it has been corroborated by a study made by the Federal Emergency Relief Administration and by a book entitled "The Collapse of Cotton Tenancy," by Dr. W. W. Alexander, Assistant Administrator of the Resettlement Administration, and his collaborators, Charles S. Johnson and Edwin R. Embree. What happened in the South was that the AAA program was dominated by planters and landlords, who in many cases grabbed the benefits that should have gone to sharecroppers and tenants. Nearly a million of the latter were dispossessed and left without a means of livelihood.

Suppression of the report was as futile as it was vicious. How the officials of AAA could suppose that so profound a change in the condition of the sharecroppers could go unnoticed is difficult to understand. They would stand in far better case before the country if they had openly accepted responsibility for a major catastrophe in the operation of the acreage reduction program, and had taken immediate remedial steps. But to the bureaucratic mind, the instinct for self-whitewashing is irresistible.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.



Government Assistance to Students

All young men and young women who desire to attend schools and colleges this fall and desire to receive assistance from the government should make application now. If the student desires to attend a high school or local college, applications should be made by the student to the superintendent in charge. Those who desire to attend the State University, A. & M. College or any other state institution and receive government aid, and who reside in the First Congressional District, should make their wishes known to me at once and I will see that their applications are properly filed immediately. I am assured that their applications will receive every consideration.

Vocational Education Congress seems determined to continue vocational education, believing it is one of the best programs that has ever been undertaken by the Federal Government. The Southern and Western members are especially interested in this legislation and will make every effort to obtain the maximum appropriation. The House passed a bill adopting a permanent policy of assistance in vocational education. We have reasons to believe it will soon become a law. The funds will be used for agricultural education for our farm boys and home science education for the girls who are interested in learning better methods of home education and for vocational training in trades and industry.

Reports of state boards of vocational education reveal many interesting and illuminating facts with reference to the rapid and valuable progress being made in this work. Evidence presented by a State instructor of vocational education at the hearings disclosed that in one rural community, where vocational education has been taught for the past several years, in 1935 the citizens of the community canned approximately 50,000 pounds of fruits and vegetables and 170 beef cattle, all of which was consumed in the community and none of it was shipped outside of the county. The testimony disclosed that not a person in that community had been on relief during the past 3 or 4 years. Other similar and most interesting facts and conditions supporting the value and benefits of vocational education were submitted to the committee. A perusal of the hearings will disclose many illuminating and interesting reasons why the vocational education program should not only be continued but should be broadened as provided in the House bill.

Usual Caution

The Scotch patient was fumbling in his pocket. "You don't need to pay me in advance," said the dentist. "I'm no' going to," was the reply. "I'm only counting my money before you give me the gas."

Unless you are ashamed of yourself now and then you're not honest.

Too Much Advice

"Are you leading the people?" "I am," answered Senator Sorghum. "Where are you leading them?" "I'm not sure. I feel like a man who is at the steering wheel with hundreds of back-seat drivers."

wait until a number of justices retire—which is forecast for next year—in the belief that he could get a more "liberal" court through his appointive power. Little is heard from public officials of such possibilities—they're too full of political dynamite. — Industrial News Review.

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