

Michigan Mirror

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hardware, lumber and drugstore business, they concede, when present stocks in many lines of merchandise are exhausted.

One hopeful sign in the state revenue sky is the memory of World War I when industrial workers insisted on spending money, even for silk shirts.

This philosophy of war-time spending goes something like this:

After a depression drouth when people were frustrated from the pleasure of luxuries and non-essentials, you can't expect wage earners to resist the temptation in 1913 when pay checks are bigger than ever and Washington insists the war might continue for many years.

Consequently, some wage-earners are going to spend money even if it is for goods or services which they otherwise normally would not demand.

Liquor sales are soaring. Beer taverns and night clubs are crowded. Youth is enjoying another "let ring." Juvenile delinquency is mounting everywhere.

If this pattern of war-time living is going to prevail, then actual spending will be maintained regardless of restrictions. The state will get its share in taxes. Do you agree?

Because elections are often won on the basis of campaign promises, legislators may not relish the prospect of going to Lansing and cutting "non-essential" expenditures to the bone.

And you can't blame them greatly at that.

The two-year term of a Michigan governor doesn't help matters either, for the governor is only human in hoping he may please enough voters to merit re-election in 22 months. Pleasing one voter by offending another is often the price of economy.

It merely emphasizes that economy in government is easier to talk about, and to write about, than to accomplish.

Some students of government are ready to concede that all this talk of government economy is a childish waste of time. Their argument runs as follows: Our machine age has caught us in a trap.

When someone invents a labor-saving machine which automatically will harvest sugar beets, for example, replacing human labor he has achieved, government must provide for the workers thus displaced.

And the argument continues by pointing out that social security, as we now understand it in the United States, is only a modest beginning of what is to come.

Bismarck introduced social security to Germany as a cure for socialism back in the 1880's. More than a half century ago Germany established a national system of accident insurance, sickness insurance and old age pensions.

Back in 1908 the British government provided for old age pensions with compulsory deductions from pay of workers and earnings of employers.

In 1911 the British authorized state health insurance on a contributory basis, and followed it up in 1912 with unemployment compensations for 50 per cent of all the working population. It is estimated that one-third of the housing in England is government-financed.

And all this 20 years before

F.D.R.

The advocates of state socialism either on a basis of being inevitable or desirable, point with satisfaction to a report just submitted to British parliament by Sir William Beveridge.

Among many benefits, the Beveridge plan would create a state system of insurance for the public, offering a variety of policies at low premiums. The state would extend security to the individual from birth to death with materials to burial payments also on a "pay in advance" basis such as we now have for old age pensions.

As Sir Beveridge sees it, here is the answer to "freedom from want" as proclaimed in the Atlantic charter. Obviously, has a tremendous propaganda value to the man and woman who are sacrificing heavily to win this war, whereas the last war was motivated by that paradox of ideas—a war to end war—this conflict would offer the appeal of a war to secure individual freedom.

Former President Herbert Hoover, addressing the manufacturers in annual session in New York City recently, called attention to the following change.

In the last war we trained and equipped six million men of whom we transported two million overseas, all of this being accomplished by a Washington bureaucracy numbering 425,000 persons.

In today's war, we have trained four million men, of whom less than one million are understood to be overseas, while the federal bureaucracy is a veritable army in itself, more than 2,000,000 persons. As Hoover sees it, the government is top-heavy. But, of course, many things have happened since 1918.

Every time a new public service is authorized, whether it be public welfare or unemployment compensation, it assumes almost a new obligation. More persons are needed to provide for the new benefits.

This trend has been clearly evident in all recent state administrations, Democratic and Republican.

Now the question arises: Can the 1943-45 state administration in Michigan halt the swing? Will the voters balk at home favor cut-backs in services which have brought new benefits into their lives? Can state aid to local government on the reduction of its expenditures be reduced? We don't see the responsibility of the Michigan state legislators and state officials in wrestling with the problem. It's a tough nut to crack.

AT THE REDFORD THEATER



Pictured above are Irene Dunne, Patric Knowles and Eugene Pallette in a scene taken from the hit picture, "Lady in a Jam" which is showing at the Redford Theatre Friday through Monday. On the same bill is "Traitor Within."

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday the double feature program includes "I Married an Angel" and "Gambling Lady," both of them being top flight pictures.

WEST POINT PARK

Mrs. William Zwahlen

Mr. and Mrs. John Harley of Detroit were Saturday evening guests of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Middlewood.

Mrs. Clifton Ault, who underwent a serious operation at Sessions' Hospital of Northville, last Monday, is getting along as well as can be expected.

Jerry Bolyard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Bolyard of Hubbard Avenue, was ill all last week.

Misses Lora and Freda Ault called on friends in Highland Park Thursday.

Mrs. Arthur Muir and son, Jimmy, visited her mother-in-law and grandmother in Detroit Thursday.

Mrs. W. J. Eddington was a business caller in Detroit last Wednesday.

Mrs. John Timmer of Muskegon spent the weekend with her brother and family, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin L. Johnson of Mayfield Avenue.

Mrs. Emerson Ault was a visitor in Plymouth last Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Schilling are mourning the death of Mr. Schilling's mother in Detroit, last Thursday.

The Sunshine Sisters held a well attended meeting at the home of Mrs. "Chuck" Huff, Mayfield Avenue, Wednesday afternoon. Plans were made for special activities during the holiday season. A feature of the meeting was the presentation of a gift to the new baby in the Huff home, "Desert Sunshine" was served.

It has been announced that the Neighborhood Bible School will hold its Christmas party and treat on Saturday evening, December 25. Friends and neighbors are cordially invited to participate in the service.

The Sunshine Sisters will hold their annual Christmas party in the Neighborhood Church (Wednesday) afternoon, December 23 at 7:30 p.m. Following a song service

and program there will be a social hour during which there will be the usual "grab-bag" exchange of gifts. Each lady is requested to bring a wrapped gift, preferably home made to place in the bag.

Mothers with children will bring a gift for each little one, to be placed in a separate kiddies grab-bag. There will also be a box ready for donations of fruit, canned goods, sick notes, etc. for helping out in making up the special treats distributed by the Sunshine Sisters to the sick and aged at Christmas time. All ladies in the neighborhood are cordially invited to attend and bring their friends with them. The usual "Desert Sunshine" will be served.

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Addis, daughter Jeanne were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Jeska of Detroit.

Mr. and Mrs. Eumer Heichman were Saturday evening dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Addis of Farmington.

WEST FARMINGTON

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Heliker and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Borgue attended the annual P. C. A. meeting held at Pontiac Monday afternoon.

Mrs. Grace Heliker, Mrs. Smith Green, Mrs. Walter Heinke, Mrs. Elmer See and Mrs. Irvin Knapp attended the Walled Lake W.C.T.U. meeting held at the home of Mrs. Arthur Pierce Tuesday afternoon.

The Walled Lake Extension Group met at the West Bloomfield Town Hall to get the lesson for November and December from Michigan State College on the care of electric equipment, now in the household. A pot luck lunch was served at noon, and the meeting closed with a Christmas party, everyone receiving a gift. The next lesson will be at the home of Mrs. Wendell Green on January 7.

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FARMINGTON MILLS



Home is a long way from our men fighting in the jungles of Guadalcanal and the sands of Tunisia—yet not too far for thoughts and hopes to travel on Christmas Day. But millions of other young men in uniform are closer to the ones they love and the places they want to be—near enough for festive visits home before they are called to far battlefields.

Men on leave deserve first call on transportation—and get it. But because gasoline rationing for private motor cars has added so greatly to the civilian's need for Greyhound service, the cooperation of every

traveler is more important now than ever before.

You will find it more comfortable to take your trip before the heaviest Holiday rush—and to return after it's over. Voluntarily saving a bus seat for a soldier or sailor the week before Christmas—that's the American way. At the same time, you'll be aiding the buses to carry as many as possible of those who have reason to travel—both military and civilian.

To help our boys get home, many of us can easily stay home during the Christmas Rush season!

A few suggestions for wartime travel: go on mid-week days whenever possible—avoid holiday and rush periods—take less baggage than usual—get tickets and information in advance.

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