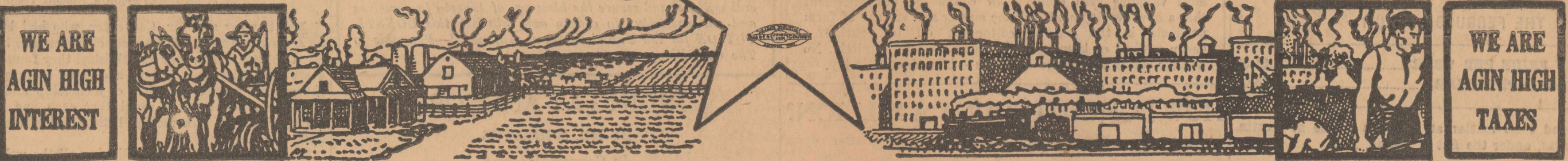


The Ferguson Forum

WE ARE AGIN HIGH RENTS



Vol. XVIII

AUSTIN, TEXAS, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1936

No. 41

Hon. T. H. McGregor Believes The Pension Law Unconstitutional

Austin, Texas, January 30, 1936.

Editor, Ferguson Forum,
Austin, Texas.

Dear Sir:

Having examined the Old Age Pension Law which becomes effective next month I have reached the conclusion that this law is invalid. I have set out in the enclosed argument the reasons which have impelled me to reach this conclusion. May I ask that you print this argument in an early issue of the Forum, to the end that if I am right a new session of the Legislature may be called together for the purpose of writing a valid law.

Yours, etc.,

T. H. MCGREGOR.

ARTICLE III OF THE TEXAS
CONSTITUTION AUTHORIZ-
ING OLD AGE PENSIONS
READS AS FOLLOWS:

"The Legislature shall have the power by general laws to provide, under such limitations, restrictions and regulations as may be deemed necessary by the Legislature, for old age assistance and for the payment of same not to exceed Fifteen Dollars per month each to actual bona fide citizens of Texas over the age of sixty-five years: Provided that no habitual criminal, and no habitual drunkard while such habitual drunkard, and no inmate of any State supported institution, while such inmate shall be eligible for such old age assistance; Provided that the requirements for length of time of actual residence in Texas shall never be less than five years during the nine years immediately preceding the application for old age assistance and continuously for one year immediately preceding such application. The Legislature shall have the authority to accept from the Government of the United States such financial aid for old age assistance as that Government may offer not inconsistent with the restrictions hereinbefore provided."

This is the entire amendment in full. It is the source and authority of the Legislative power to provide old age pensions. Prior to its adoption the Legislature had no such power. The amendment was not and is not self-enacting—that is it did not provide pensions but gave the Legislature the power to do so within the terms of the amendment.

It says: "The Legislature shall have the power by general law to provide, under such limitations, restrictions and regulations as may be deemed necessary by the Legislature, for old age assistance and for the payment of same not to exceed Fifteen Dollars per month each to actual bona fide citizens of Texas over the age of sixty-five years: Provided that no habitual criminal, and no habitual drunkard while such habitual drunkard, and no inmate of any State supported institution, while such inmate shall be eligible for such old age assistance; Provided that the requirements for length of time of actual residence in Texas shall never be less than five years during the nine years immediately preceding the application for old age assistance and continuously for one year immediately preceding such application. The Legislature shall have the authority to accept from the Government of the United States such financial aid for old age assistance as that Government may offer not inconsistent with the restrictions hereinbefore provided."

That class is established and its status is fixed by the amendment itself and cannot be restricted, limited or regulated by the Legislature. Then it is and was the duty of the Legislature to provide assistance for a class fixed by the constitution which it could neither diminish nor enlarge. It could under the amendment not do more nor less than its duty, which was to provide by general law for old age assistance and for the payment of same not to exceed Fifteen Dollars per month each to actual bona fide citizens of Texas over the age of sixty-five years. Under this amendment every such bona fide citizen in Texas was entitled to not exceed Fifteen Dollars per month each. They all possessed the same qualifications, fixed by the amendment, to wit: "bona fide citizens of Texas over the age of sixty-five years." Everyone so qualified was to receive the same amount "not to exceed Fifteen Dollars per month each." The word "each" in the amendment so placed makes this construction irrefragable and inevitable.

Now if the Legislature in writing the Old Age Pension Law did either (Continued on page 3)

GREENBACKERS' FIGHT SHIFTS TO FARM BILL

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—In a sudden shift of plans congressional inflationists today concentrated their currency expansion efforts behind the \$3,000,000,000 Frazier-Lemke farm mortgage program.

A tacit agreement among bonus and farm measure inflationists opened the way for prompt passage of the \$2,237,000,000 bonus appropriation requested by President Roosevelt without a fight.

A petition to force House consideration of the Frazier-Lemke bill calling for issuance of \$3,000,000,000 in fiat money is only three names short of the 218 required to bring the measure to the floor. The bill was carried over from last session.

Against Bonus Rider

Opposition of bonus forces to attaching an inflationary rider to the appropriation measure was understood to have influenced the decision for consolidation behind the farm mortgage bill.

The switch in plans is expected by inflationists to draw added strength from the bonus-inflationist group headed by Representative Wright Patman of Texas, author of the Patman inflationary bonus bill vetoed last session.

Patman said his group has not yet joined forces with the Frazier-Lemke supporters. He inferred, however, that the currency expansionists would fight side by side with the farm mortgage advocates in the fight for issuance of new greenbacks.

Tax Program Awaited

Administration leaders in both houses looked forward anxiously to President Roosevelt's tax program, expected to be offered this week. The Justice and Treasury departments have a tax bill to finance the Administration's new \$500,000,000 farm program virtually completed.

Most probable sources of new revenue are broadening of the income tax base, increased inheritance levies, and a manufacturers' sales tax.

The deficiency and independent offices appropriations have passed the House and have been reported to the Senate.

To Be Amendment

Senator James F. Byrnes (D., S. C.), it is understood, will offer the soldiers bonus appropriation as an amendment to one of the bills.

Inflationists planned to await start their big drive. New currency submission of the new tax bill to issues would be thrown out on points of order if they should be asked as amendments to the appropriation bills, they said.

Although inflationists have not decided upon any definite amount of new currency, \$5,000,000,000 has been discussed as the amount needed to meet extra-budget costs resulting from the Supreme Court's AAA decision and passage of the bonus, and proposed new farm refinancing at low interest rates.—Ex.

PARTY LOYALTY

By JIM, The Editor

A bare quorum of the State Democratic Executive Committee met, in pursuance to the call of the chairman, last Saturday in Austin. This meeting was called for the purpose of discussing matters of importance and in line with custom, it was expected that the place of meeting of the State Democratic Convention was to have been selected.

When the committee assembled, the first thing was the presentation of the resignation of about five or six of the committee and appointments had to be made to fill their places. It looks like this state administration is having a hard time keeping the morale of its crowd up. There has been more resignations under the Allred administration in one year's time than has been in two or three administrations previous to this one.

Several speeches were made by members of the committee and most of the time was taken up in telling what a great man Governor Allred was and what a success his administration had been.

Mind you, this meeting was for making preliminary arrangements for the selection of delegates to the National Convention which meets in June. It had nothing to do with the State Democratic Convention meeting which does not meet until September. But no place was selected for the State Democratic Convention for the selection of national delegates.

The whole trend of the discussion was that nobody should go to the National Convention from Texas unless they were Allred henchmen and aligned with that crowd. This will be a fine way to put up a unified fight for carrying Texas for President Roosevelt. It was to laugh to see this crowd, especially the Governor, Railroad Commissioner Thompson and Bryan Blaylock, all of hot oil fame shout so loud about the President. The public has not forgotten last year how Governor Allred was raising the flag of state rights and offering to give battle to the President for suggestion that Federal Oil Control was the thing to properly regulate the oil industry. For some reason now they have turned face about and have gone wild about the President and they want to read everybody else out of the picture that ain't for Governor Allred.

It looks to me like these people have the cart before the horse and we ought to settle the national delegate proposition from Texas and get everybody in line for the national ticket that we can. There are just as good democrats running for Governor as Governor Allred and his crowd and it is certainly out of place for the Democratic Executive Committee to begin to draw the line for National delegates.

One of the amusing things of the meeting was the weeping on each other's necks of Railroad Commissioner Ernest Thompson and Governor Allred. Governor Allred spent a lot of his time lambasting Governor Landon, a Kansas Republican, who might run for the Republican nomination for President, but who may not even be nominated. A good part of the rest of his time he spent in eulogizing Ernest Thompson for the fight he had made against federal control advocated by President Roosevelt and Ernest in return called Jimmy a great Governor and when one of the delegates said that Jimmy was the greatest Governor since the days of Jim Hogg Thompson joined in the applause.

It is quite widely believed around Austin that Allred and Thompson are getting closer together every day in order to carry out what is believed to be an extended political program for the state of Texas politics. It is believed by many that Thompson is to be the Crown Prince after Governor Allred and that their scheme is when Thompson is elected he will in turn appoint Governor Allred to fill out his unexpired term. It would not be breaking precedents for an ex-Governor to be appointed Railroad Commissioner. The people will remember that Governor Neff was appointed Railroad Commissioner after he had gone out of the Governor's office.

Just what the details and plans of the Allred and Thompson set-up is, nobody, of course knows, but it is said that Thompson even dines with the Governor at the mansion now, and they are the same as two in a bed with two hearts that beat the same as one. The public will watch the play as it develops from time to time.

On account of the extended winter there has not been much political activity in Texas, but it won't be long before the show will start. If the Legislature is not called in special session soon to provide a pension law that is constitutional, as well as funds to pay the pension, we are going to see a real political explosion like we have never seen before in Texas. Already from the highways and the hedges people are saying that Governor Allred, who was given a golden key by the Brass Collared Chamber of Commerce in Houston as the outstanding young man of the age, that he ought to use this key to unlock some revenue which people are expecting to be produced to pay the Old Age Pension. I am perfectly willing for Governor Allred to have time to think it over and I don't want to hurry him too fast, but he is losing a lot of good time. I am going to let him rock along for a while, but I am going to continue to make the fight to pay every person, 65 years of age and over, that is not disqualified by the constitution, a full pension of \$15.00 a month without prefixes or affixes and if nobody else will do it pretty soon, I am going to instruct the Governor myself to call the Legislature and carry out the will of the people expressed at the polls. People might not think the Governor would pay any attention to my instructions, but if he gets the idea that it means trouble if he don't call the Legislature, he will be glad to listen to me or anybody else that would give him an alibi to get from under the dilemma in which he is now placed. People just watch the play.

124-YEAR- OLD PLOW

Centennial Offered One Made Before Waterloo, Which Landed in Texas at Age of 29, in 1841

The San Jacinto Centennial Association has unearthed not one but many 100-year-old plows to turn the first earth for the San Jacinto memorial.

"Since The Press ran a story about our search for a 100-year-old plow, my office has received a score or more of letters, several telegrams and many telephone calls," Jeff Barnett of the association said today.

"All of them offered us the use of century-old plows. One was 124 years old."

B. M. Mayer of Austin wrote that he had a plow that "landed in Texas in 1841 from Perthshire, Scotland." Mr. Mayer quotes from a letter dated October, 1925, from Robert A. Wallace of the University of Edinburgh:

"Reverting to the correspondence I had with you about an old Scotch

Famed Messenger 'To Garcia' Recounts His Thrilling Trip

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 5.—He has guarded the secret for 38 years, but today Col. Andrew Summers Rowan, in the twilight of his life, revealed that his delivery of "The Message to Garcia" is a story lacking one chapter.

Had it not been for a renegade Englishman named Fleming, he disclosed, the famous message to the rebel chieftain of Cuba, which moulded Spanish-American war history, might never have been delivered.

Because it was Fleming who supplied the boat for Rowan's perilous crossing from Jamaica to Cuba.

"I've never spoken of this," the 79 year old veteran said today, "because I have regarded it as a contract of silence between two honorable men. Fleming was a traitor to his country, England, but he was an honorable man to me."

Rowan then told International News Service how the Britisher, who had been a "white collar pirate" on the north coast of Jamaica for years, aided him in the spring of 1898, by supplying the only means of conveyance by which to complete the arduous journey to General John Garcia.

"We gained the north coast of the island at 2 a. m., one morning. Near the shore we saw lights and soon came upon a white man working beside a boathouse."

face, and exclaimed: 'You are the first gentleman I have met on this coast in ten years! Who are you?'

"I explained my mission, and this man supplied me with the boat, asking no further questions."

Rowan's historic dash with "the message to Garcia" from President McKinley, is a story well-known to school children the world over. The essay of the same title, written by Elbert Hubbard, holds the world's record for circulation and translations.

Yesterday soldiers of the thirtieth infantry here reconstructed history. They commemorated the message to Garcia by running a relay race, with company teams of ten runners, from the city hall to Presidio Army Headquarters, with a perpetual trophy awarded the winning team. It was all part of the regimental organization day program, and it is planned to make "the message to Garcia" race an annual event.

But Colonel Rowan was not there to witness the event. A muffler wrapped about his throat, the old man, whose hand shakes so hard he can no longer write his autograph for admiring children, sat in his cottage atop Russian Hill.

He could not repress a smile when told of the "Garcia relay." The Austin Dispatch.

Roosevelt Calls For Repeal of Cotton Act, and Other Control Laws

ALLRED DROPS PLAN TO CALL SPECIAL MEET

Governor Says It Is Not Good
Business to Summon Solons
to Consider Pension
Funds.

AUSTIN, Feb. 3.—Governor Allred announced today there would be no special session of the legislature immediately.

"If it becomes necessary to call one later I shall do so," the governor said.

He said it was not good business to call the legislature to consider raising additional money for old age pensions until pension organization had been completed.

A recent poll by the governor of members of the legislature as to the advisability of a special session at this time showed divided opinions.

The governor declined to say whether he might call a session between February 14, when the pension law becomes effective, and the elections of next summer and fall.

"Notwithstanding it has had no legal status, the old age assistance commission has been working hard without compensation. This is a stupendous task, but application blanks will be ready for distribution February 14."

Investigations Required

The governor explained that each application for a pension must be investigated, and, although applicants who had been on relief rolls would be investigated first, data accumulated by relief officials did not give all information required by law. Pension payments must start not later than July 1.

He said the state auditor had advised that even if the legislature was called to provide additional finances it would not expedite administration of the law because of requirements as to detailed investigation of applications.

The treasury department announced \$1,060,288 had been received from liquor stamp taxes and revenue, yielding \$757,718 for pension purposes. Fifteen per cent or \$113,667, was required placed in a permanent reserve fund, reducing to \$644,051 the net amount now available for pension payments.

Income Allocated

Three-fourths of the liquor income was allocated to pension payments with one-fourth to the school fund and the liquor control board permitted to withdraw funds for operations. The treasury department said \$50,000 was set aside for that purpose.

Liquor taxes became effective November 15. The return during slightly less than two and one-half months was in the neighborhood of \$250,000 monthly. Collections likely will show a spurt prior to February 13, however, as annual renewal of temporary 90-day permits was required by then.—Houston Chronicle.

3.—Senate passage of the \$367,000,000 deficiency bill with an item of \$296,185,000 to pay benefits to farmers under acreage reduction contracts entered into before the Supreme Court decision Jan. 6. This measure must go through conference with the House before it is sent to the White House. An amendment was added to permit payment of cotton benefits still due, regardless of whether the Bankhead Act is repealed.

4.—Introduction by Senator Benson, Minnesota, of a bill permitting consumers and farmers to sue in federal courts for recovery of the \$200,000,000 on impounded processing taxes which the Supreme Court (Continued on page 3)

Congress Asked to Discard Three
Measures Because Program of
AAA Ended.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—Congressional leaders moved quickly tonight to carry out President Roosevelt's recommendation for removal from the statute books of three of the four remaining phases of AAA crop control.

As new farm legislation advanced on several fronts, the Executive forwarded an eight line special message to Congress urging "prompt repeal" of the Bankhead cotton control, Kerr-Smith tobacco and potato control laws. He did not mention the Jones-Costigan sugar control act.

"This recommendation is made," Roosevelt said, "because of the termination of the program of agricultural production adjustment under the Act of May 12, 1933, as amended, known as the 'Agricultural Adjustment Act,' to which the three acts mentioned were auxiliary."

Spokesmen Agree

Capitol Hill spokesmen agreed this should be done. Senator Russell, Democrat, Georgia, introduced a bill to repeal the Bankhead law soon after the message was read. Chairman Jones, Texas, of the House Agriculture Committee, said he would introduce repealers for all three laws as soon as possible.

It has been generally conceded in Administration circles that the three laws mentioned by Roosevelt were doomed by the Supreme Court's AAA decision. Most Administration leaders, however, contend the Sugar Act was not disturbed.

Senator Vandenberg, Michigan, who has been conferring with beet sugar men on a plan in event the sugar law is dropped, described the situation as "chaotic," but contended this act rested on a different basis than the others because two-thirds of it had to do with quota limitations on imports to offset tariff cuts on Cuban raw sugar. Other farm developments today included:

1.—Report by the House Agriculture Committee of the Jones soil conservation subsidy bill to provide a two-year substitute for the AAA. A vote of 17 to 6 sent to the House floor a bill a little different than the companion Bankhead measure which the Senate made its order of business for tomorrow.

Smith Law Passed

2.—Senate passage without a record vote of the Smith law authorizing \$60,000,000 for 1936 seed and feed loans. This now goes to the House.

3.—Senate passage of the \$367,000,000 deficiency bill with an item of \$296,185,000 to pay benefits to farmers under acreage reduction contracts entered into before the Supreme Court decision Jan. 6. This measure must go through conference with the House before it is sent to the White House. An amendment was added to permit payment of cotton benefits still due, regardless of whether the Bankhead Act is repealed.

4.—Introduction by Senator Benson, Minnesota, of a bill permitting consumers and farmers to sue in federal courts for recovery of the \$200,000,000 on impounded processing taxes which the Supreme Court (Continued on page 3)

A REQUEST

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

THE FERGUSON FORUM

Published Every Thursday by
THE FERGUSON FORUM

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE PER YEAR.....\$1.00
IN CLUBS OF FIVE PER YEAR.....\$4.00

Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at Austin,
Texas, under the Act of March, 1879.

BUSINESS AND EDITORIAL OFFICES, 306 EWELE NALLE
BLDG., AUSTIN, TEXAS
Phone 9546 P. O. Box 1158

ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION

JAS. E. FERGUSON.....Manager and Editor

THE FORUM IS NOT JUST ANOTHER NEWSPAPER—
IT IS DIFFERENT

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

ONCE MORE WE SAY, "SAY SOMETHING, GOVERNOR"

YESTERDAY'S editorial urging Governor Allred to say something about calling a special session of the Legislature to pay old-age pensions, appeared in but one edition before the governor talked.

That is no tribute to the power of The Press. The governor hadn't seen the editorial and from the way he has been acting in the matter we doubt very much if editorials urging forgetfulness of politics have any effect on him.

At any rate, the governor talked. But he didn't say much. He announced there would be no special session of the Legislature "immediately."

He gave no indication when one would be called, if ever. He said, "After the old-age pension law goes into effect, I will be in better position to determine the necessity for a special session and will act accordingly." He said the law will go into effect Feb. 14.

In other words, all the governor said was that the calling of the special session would not take place between now and Feb. 14—18 days.

That's something. The penniless aged know now that nothing will be done for them the next 18 days. Business can put off its worries for the same length of time.

The governor says a special session would be expensive. He's right, but would a special session called before the primaries be any more expensive than one called afterwards? Would a Legislature of men running for office be more interested in saving the state's money than a flock of lame ducks such as will make up any session called after the second primary?

The net effect of the governor's statement is nothing at all. The state knows no more now than formerly about the principal question involved—will there be a session before or after the primaries?

We say again as we said yesterday:
"Say something, governor."—Houston Press.

PENSIONS AND LIQUOR

In Houston Press

GOVERNOR Allred says the liquor tax will pay the old-age pensions until he gets around to calling the Legislature in special session to provide funds.

The suggestion that the aged be supported by liquor was mildly shocking to some, coming as it did from our prohibitionist governor. But that is beside the point, which is, can the liquor tax pay the pensions?

If you are a betting man, one will get you two in some places in Houston that the governor will not call a special session until after the primaries of July and August. Which means that the Legislature can not meet until September.

On Sept. 9 the liquor law ends its first year of life. At the present rate the taxes will total \$5,000,000. Of this, one-fourth must be given the schools, leaving about \$3,750,000 to pay pensions which are due beginning not later than July 1.

The most common estimate of the cost of pensions is \$12,000,000 a year.

Thus, liquor yields \$300,000 a month and pensions cost \$1,000,000 a month.

Perhaps if the Legislature meets in September and works fast, something difficult for a flock of lame ducks to do, and the revenue law becomes effective immediately after adjournment, which will require two-thirds vote of both houses, the liquor taxes and the pension payments may come out about even.

We repeat—may. But we are making no allowance for mistakes, for delays, for the playing of politics.

That is drawing the thing pretty fine. Why do it? There is no chance of postponing the matter until the regular session in January. Why postpone it now? A session costs as much in September as it does in February. More, in fact, because the lame ducks will slow the pace in September. Now they are all candidates and anxious to make records to submit to the voters.

Surely the governor doesn't think the revenue law the Legislature will write, and he will sign, will be so distasteful to the people that it will hurt him and the legislators in their campaigns for re-election this summer.

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.

VALUABLE COTTONSEED OIL

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

HOW LONG TO COUNT A BILLION?

(Contributed)

THIS is not a discussion in favor of or against the Townsend Revolving Pension Plan. It is merely offered as a criticism of unfair tactics exemplified in Feb. 1 issue of The Texas Weekly in its presentation of the chart under the above heading, and attributed to the New York Daily Mirror.

The chart, as presented, represents three stages of a man's career—Young Citizen Infant, Col. Middle Age and Grandpa Nongenerian. The Kid in 1936 has just begun to count, as it indicated by the figure 1 on the blackboard before which he stands. The figures on the board in front of Col. Middle Age announce the goal of 3 billion as having been reached by the year 1981. The third section of the chart represents an old man, burdened by years and humbled by the ravages of Time, as he completes his life work at 91, having rounded out six billion counts. We quote from the chart:

"Beginning as a baby, working ten hours a day until he is 91 years old, one long-lived man could count to 'six billion.' It would require the life work of two more healthy men to carry the count to 'EIGHTEEN BILLION'. That is the number of dollars the 'Townsend Plan' would give every year to all people over 60 years of age—but who will provide the billions?"—Courtesy New York Daily Mirror.

Rather distressing picture when viewed in the light of cost to tax payers. Eighteen billion dollars a year to be raised by assessing any nature of tax against all of us, prorated according to our purchases, is an enormous sum—enough to bankrupt any government that undertakes to execute such an expensive plan, unless the benefits to be derived therefrom are expected to overtop its cost. Proponents of the plan admit that it will be expensive, but insist that its benefits, first to the 7,500,000 men and women of the nation in excess of 65 years of age, and the immediate and compulsive release of this enormous sum into the marts of trade would outweigh the expense.

But, as stated at the beginning, this is not a discussion of the alleged merits or possible demerits of the Townsend Plan, per se. Rather, it is just another peep at the enormity of a billion dollars, reckoned as the legitimate requirement of a man during a maximum career of 50 years. For there be men during these "piping times" of "frenzied finance" of whom it is said they have accumulated this amount.

Let us take this thing apart and see how it "clicks"—in other words, do a bit more of counting. We begin with the statement that 50 years contain 365 times 50 as expressed in days. This gives 18,250 days, including Sundays, but not counting leap-years. In order to accumulate a billion dollars in 50 years, or 18,250 days, one must receive, on the average, a daily income of \$54,849.81!

Why do not these prophets of evil call attention to the real EVIL—the graph of inequity in the production and distribution of the nation's wealth wherein civilization is doomed?

"Ill fares the land; to hastening ills a prey
Where wealth accumulates and men decay."

INFLATION THREATENS

From The Dallas News

GREENBACKERS in Congress are making a vigorous campaign. They want the Government to issue three billion dollars in fiat money to refinance farm mortgages and more than two billion to pay the soldiers' bonus. Although failure is predicted for these efforts, the inflation movement is becoming disturbing and dangerous. The Nation's course will have to be steered carefully to avoid having American paper money become of as little value as the shipplasters of the Confederacy in its later days.

Such an outcome would be disastrous for rich and poor alike. Yet, if it is to be avoided, there must be a prompt curtailment in Federal spending and the imposition of new or higher taxes. Together, these steps will help restore the Nation to a position in which we can pay as we spend. The emergency of the depression has largely passed, and the time has come for steps to place the Government on a self-sustaining basis.

As Professor Sprague of Harvard recently pointed out, the amount of debt which the Government can carry safely depends largely on whether the deficit is increasing or declining. If the deficit is being trimmed from year to year, there will be little need to worry over the debt already incurred. In an election year, it is difficult either to curtail spending or to impose new taxes; but one or both of these steps will have to be taken soon, of the danger of money inflation is to be avoided.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Just keep your shirt on, Brother, and don't indulge any unnecessary "wolf calls" of potential danger arising from the issuance of "fiat" money; for, as a matter of fact, you nor I nor any one else ever saw any other kind of money. It takes the "fiat" of the Government to make money, even of gold of which there seems to be a famine in so far as circulation is concerned. (And—get this—money is not worth anything to the general public unless it is in circulation.)

Common people understand (but, as a rule, editorial writers do not have the common man's viewpoint of the matter) that the only difference between greenback currency and U. S. bonds is the fact that greenback currency is usually available for all of us who have the grit and energy to hustle for it, whereas, U. S. bonds are issued for the purpose of and made available for coupon clippers who continue to assert their special privilege of laying and collecting tribute against every avenue of industry.

WHY

BY MEO
In Houston Press

CRIMINAL aliens in this country face deportation. Many good citizens call for this action and a bill now before Congress sponsored by the Department of Labor, will result in 20,000 being sent to their homes abroad.

There is a law now that provides for the deportation of alien criminals, but it is so full of loopholes that many of the most dangerous cannot be expelled, according to a report given Congress by the commissioner of immigration and naturalization.

In our colonization days many a criminal came to this country from Europe and Asia. They were sent here and given a chance to reform. Some of them did good work in the new country; others fomented strife and lawlessness.

Nowadays we are trying to get rid of the criminal and the undesirable. We have grown so rapidly that we can take steps that were for many years deemed unnecessary.

Included in the 20,000 aliens to be affected by the new law are narcotic violators, racketeers or gangsters, smugglers and habitual criminals who have been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude.

Many aliens who have been lawabiding have been treated wrongfully by our Government. They have been separated from their families, who have been left here in destitute circumstances. It is gratifying to know that more attention will be given to the deporting of criminal aliens, and let us hope the other class will be given a chance to become citizens.

"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.

RIDING AT ANCHOR

BY MR. MODESTUS

In Garment Workers

Hocus-pocus: tiddle-de-wink—
It all depends what the judges think—
You don't need a nasty revolution—
It's so very easy to amend the Constitution—
Never no mind if it doesn't name your business—
Cause the Constitution's only what the judges say it is!
Judges think agriculture means just Georgia cotton roots—
They don't know that cotton fibre is in the shells Mussolini shoots—
In a few years we'll have judges with a new modern notion—
Who will hand you down quite a different Constitution—

Hey-diddle-diddle, the cat and the moon—
What ever woke up those judges so soon?
With the world wagging on, for a year and a day—
Quite startled, the court said aloud, "It's no play!"
All the bankers came pleading, "Just write your own ticket!"
Later on six judges said, "But that is not cricket."
Farm Board used to buy up all the cotton, wheat and corn—
But the Constitution rolled over, and it isn't being done—
So don't get excited and wrinkle up your phiz—
For the Constitution is exactly what the judges say it is.

When Uncle Sam was young he got his first suit of clothes—
Cut to fit his thirteen members by the founding father tailors—
Four members never thought it was a good fit—anyway—
So the tailors added ten patches right away—
Then Uncle Sam grew up, and stretched that suit!
It took another dozen patches to keep him partly covered up—
Every time he tries something new to keep up with his growing appetite—
He strains the seams and fabric of that suit of clothes—
Jobs that he used to handle with one hand—
Now affect the strain and circulation of his whole huge bulk—
Until the present garments of your Uncle Sam anew.
Are largely made up of court plasters—and apologies—

They say, it is a government of laws and not of men—
Would a government permit insecurity for Lingberg's Jon?
"Of laws"—How are you to know which laws, two years afterward?
"Of men"—Well, six old men have a lot to say about it—
While lawyers tell their clients to ignore the laws—
Just what would happen, anyway, that would be so awful—
If we should all lay aside legal "fictions" for a while—
Insist on getting government back to a human basis—
Declare that 11 million people out of a job are important—
At least as important as 40 billion dollars idle in the banks!

Corporation counsel is the highest rank in Law—
Basic qualification for the Supreme Court—
Which is one degree below the American Liberty League—
The exclusive secret order of the nation's legal minds—
Mystic number of fifty-two members, and no waiting list—
All holiest and all-highest Guardians of—something—
To which they have attached the ancient tag of "Liberty"—
In sarcastic revelation of the method of legal logic—
Serving the public by pre-announcements of Supreme Court decisions—
Telling the world in advance for the general guidance—
What the judges think the Constitution is.

CHERRY TREE

EVERYWHERE they're talking about the Constitution. The Constitution of the United States. Men are digging into its history—what the Constitutional convention did and didn't do. Strange how many conflicting stories there are. Senator Borah writes a piece about the Constitution for a popular magazine. He thinks one way. The editor of a great newspaper chain thinks another way. And yet the same record is there for one man as for another. "The monkey chased the weasel." So it goes.

In a way life is made up of very unimportant matters—unimportant to almost everyone except ME,—and ME is whoever is considering the matter.

Such things as whether you get across the street safely; whether there is a job; whether the roof leaks; whether you can afford a new suit; whether the baby's cold will get better or worse; the happenings around homes and work places.

Millions read about the Constitution, AAA and so on; shrug their shoulders and wonder what "THEY" will do about it. "ME" leaves so very much to "THEY"—and the worst of it is that "THEY" are always on the job. Too often "ME" forgets or has no organized way of speaking and acting; "THEY" never forget, are always organized, always ready to ACT—always on the job for THEIR INTERESTS.

Of course, the Constitution is important to "ME" as well as to "THEY."

In the Constitution is the BILL OF RIGHTS, which contains the guarantees of our FREEDOM. The right to speak freely, to write freely, to go to ANY church freely, or to none, the right to assemble in peace, the right to PETITION GOVERNMENT, the right to go freely from place to place—and never forget the value of that right.

These are rights that do not exist in many other nations. In Italy, Russia, Germany and many other countries they are "all washed up"—done for.

These rights are IN our Constitution and although some say they don't amount to much and are often forgotten, they are just as alive as we demand they be. They give us more liberty than nine-tenths of the rest of the world knows anything about.

So, "ME"—every American—is interested in the Constitution. This LIBERTY part of the Constitution is as good as ever because rights never change—principles endure.

What stays good commands constant support. This is no reason to go blind and think everything stays good.

PRACTICES and METHODS and INSTITUTIONS have changed. And so what once may have been of purely village concern is now a matter of national welfare.

EXAMPLE: The commerce clause of the Constitution fits yesterday, but not today.

It needs changing; and if we don't change it, much of the Bill of Rights will lose its value to every one of us—including "ME". This Constitutional question today is a "ME" question for every American.

"THEY" will sock "ME", if we don't all look out.—AND DO SOMETHING.—The Garment Worker.

ECONOMIC JUSTICE

BY A. P. PEIRCE

EASY MONEY—AN ALLEGORY

(Continued from a Recent Issue)

MR. Sawyer and Mr. Carpenter, who had been all their lives hard working, wealth producing men now built a mansion for Mr. Doolittle. When they had finished they found that the price of everything they had to buy had been so increased by interest charges made upon transfers of ownership and that the amount paid them had been so small that each had to place a heavy mortgage on his own modest little home in order to pay up his bills.

Mr. Digger, who had been digging all the wells and ditches for the community now came and dug and planted for Mr. Doolittle until his were the most beautiful grounds in all the country. He had a most extravagant sunken garden and a race track for his fine horses. When Mr. Digger had finished, he, like Mr. Carpenter or Mr. Sawyer, found himself under heavy mortgage.

Mr. Wheelwright and Mr. Smith had made ox-yokes, an ox-cart, a plow, a harrow, a scythe and a cradle for Mr. Farmer. With these new devices he was able to raise wheat enough for the whole community. These mechanics had also helped Mr. Miller, Mr. Spinner and Mr. Weaver to make improvements in their mills. Mr. Shoemaker, by giving his entire time and attention to making shoes was able to make shoes for all. With such improved machines and methods of production it was very evident that much more could be produced with the same effort than before. For some unaccountable reason, however, everybody had to work just as hard and just as long hours as they previously had done. No one seemed to profit by the improved conditions except Mr. Doolittle who daily waxed richer and richer.

Now Mrs. Doolittle began to put on an air of superiority. She began to wear gold bangles from her ears and gold bands on her wrists and her fingers. Mr. Goldsmith was kept busy with her orders. She hired two of Mr. Carpenters daughters for her maids, also a couple of Mr. Diggers sons, one as her yard man and the other as her stable boy.

The elder sons and daughters of most of these families grew up to be like their parents, honest, hard working, useful people. The younger ones, however, as they looked at their plodding brothers and sisters and then at the aristocratic sons and daughters of Mr. Doolittle seemed to feel that there was a great injustice somewhere. A least that there was a great inequality was very evident to them. They began to say "Anyone who works with his hands is either a fool or a slave." That truthful, fair and honest view of life which had ruled in the hearts of their parents seemed to them entirely out of place in this new civilization.

Mr. Miller's youngest son said "Dad, you are working entirely too hard. We should use our wits as Mr. Doolittle has done. Brain work is what counts these days. We will organize a milling corporation. We will issue stock for double the value of the mill. We will raise the price of flour and make the people pay us dividends on our watered stock as well as on the real thing. Although the father objected the thing was done and the example was soon followed by the sons of Mr. Spinner, Mr. Weaver and Mr. Shoemaker. The sons of Mr. Taylor, when they began to use their heads organized a sweat shop, saying, "We will live on the sweat of the other fellows brow. Mr. Taylor said, "I do not like your view of life nor your attitude toward a human brother, but I suppose you young folks and this advancing civilization, as you call it, demand this sort of thing. To me it looks like advancing in the wrong direction."

Some of the sons of Mr. Farmer, Mr. Sawyer, Mr. Carpenter and Mr. Digger seeing no *get rich quick* opportunity open to them began to make wine and whiskey and to bootleg it to the great detriment of the morals and prosperity of the whole people. They found good customers at the house of Mr. Doolittle where easy money seemed easy to get. Other sons of those who could not have special privileges, feeling the sting of poverty, crept forth in the night to find a neighbors hen roost.

Still others made themselves some little bones with spots on the sides and started a gambling house.

The former habits of truthfulness, honesty and fairness seemed to be vanishing in the face of this new born fever for *easy money*. The thought of easy money, however, seemed to have had its foundation in the rapid rise to wealth of the man who invented interest and had then devised a way to collect it on nothing but his own indebtedness. There seemed to be two kinds of results from this new found labor of the brain. That of Mr. Wheelwright, resulting in the invention of the ox-cart, seemed to be of lasting benefit to everybody. That of Mr. Doolittle, in the invention of interest seemed to be of benefit to no one but to himself and was a blasting curse to everybody else, even to his own family.

There is a moral to this allegory, but we leave it to you to untangle for yourself.

(To be continued.)

O, WHY SHOULD THE SPIRIT OF MORTAL BE COWED?

(Please excuse it, Mr. Knox.)

O, why should the spirit of mortal be cowed?
By a swift-fleeting roadster, with siren so loud;
A flash as of lightning, the brakes wouldn't hold—
Man passes from life to his ultimate goal.

The fenders and tires and the bumpers and wheels
Are scattered about o'er the gardens and fields;
And the rich and the poor, and the high and the low,
Shall moulder to dust as in order they go.

The infant some mother watched over with care
Grew up over night and gave her the air;
But he soon joined the others, for how could he know
There was truth in the warning that cautioned: "Go slow!"

The peasant whose lot was to sow and to glean
Took his savings and purchased a motor-machine;
Then faded away like the grass that he trod
And went to his rest 'neath the damp, clammy sod.

The man who was good till he stepped on the gas
The sinner who dared any other to pass;
The foolish and wise and the guilty and just
Have transferred their bones to the care of the dust.

So the multitude goes, like the flowers or the grass
As they put on more speed so the others can't pass;
And they die as they lived with a smile on their face
And with joy in their hearts from the thrill of the race.

They died—sure! they died; for they wouldn't go slow,
They lived in an age of the battle-ory: "Go!"
They made in their dwellings a transient abode—
They wouldn't stay on their own side of the road.

In the wink of an eye, in the draw of a breath,
They passed out of life to an untimely death;
With their foot on the gas and no fear of a shroud—
Oh, why should the spirit of mortal be cowed?

MARVIN MORTON,

922 West Tenth street, Dallas.—In The Dallas News.

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."—Bill of Rights.

FRAZIER-LEMKE ACT IS VOIDED BY KENNERLY

U. S. Judge Here Rules in Case of Nueces Farmer, Says Revision of Bankruptcy Law Has Not Made it Constitutional.

Federal Judge Kennerly in a court decision her today held unconstitutional the Frazier-Lemke bankruptcy act as amended Aug. 28, 1935.

The ruling was made in the case of Henry Tschoepe and Mrs. Tschoepe, who have a 400-acre farm in Nueces County.

"The conclusion is that the act of Aug. 28, 1935, is contrary to the fifth amendment and the orders entered by the conciliation commissioner based thereon must be reversed," the judge said in his opinion.

Creditors Refused

The farmer filed his petition April 23, 1935. It was referred to the conciliation commissioner. The farmer then tried to get creditors to approve the composition for extension of time, but failed.

On Oct. 7, 1935, the farmer filed another petition asking to be adjudged bankrupt under the amended act.

One of the creditors was Alfred Koenig, holder of an \$8,000 second lien on the land.

A \$2600 appraisal was put on the land and a yearly rental of \$1157 was set over Koenig's objections.

Asked Review of Action

Koenig then filed his petition to review the commissioner's action, claiming the Frazier-Lemke act and its amendment are unconstitutional.

The judge said that under Texas law a mortgage has the right to keep a lien against the property until the debt is paid, the right to be paid by a judicial public sale, the right to decide when the sale shall be held.

The conciliation commissioner's orders deprive the mortgage for three years of the right to have any sale of the property or to determine when it shall be made.

Cites Claims

The judge said that the amended act was claimed to "have pruned the Frazier-Lemke act back to within constitutional bounds."

He ruled that this had not been done and that even under the amended law the mortgagee is injured by denying for three years his right to foreclose.

One change in the amendment was reducing the number of years the mortgage is prohibited from foreclosing from five to three. The judge ruled this change did not make the law constitutional.—The Houston Press.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: It is said that "There are exceptions to all rules," and in the application of the so-called universal bankruptcy rule, it appears that the above is the exception. That it to say, the farmer who is in debt beyond his ability to pay, may not, or can not, share in the general privilege of insolvent debtors to apply to a bankruptcy court for the privilege of surrendering all his assets to his creditors and be absolved from any further obligations. Under the bankruptcy law business men generally may do this and receive full cancellation of all their indebtedness, even though their surrendered assets pay only a small percentage of the original amount owed. Thus the so-called "sacredness of contract" must ever be invoked against farmers regardless of the benefits of bankruptcy enjoyed and shared by others. Reminds us of the story of the Dutchman and his dog. Whereas, Fido, when he died, was through with all his perplexities and annoyances from fleas and other ills, the Dutchman, when he died, "had to go to hell yet." When a farmer has exhausted all his resources in the effort to pay his debts—when all his property is exhausted by reason of a mortgage foreclosure executed against him, he may not claim immunity under the alleged universal bankruptcy law, but must continue to dig and pay yet.

OLIVER HERFORD'S WILL
Oliver Herford, who died recently, was for many years the wit of New York, whose sayings were quoted widely. Here is one example:
Two actors were discussing the Sunday night! Restoration drama revivals in New York. One said that he never was a kicker, but some of the lines he had to speak were too salt for anything—flatly, he didn't like to say them.
"That's all right, boy," said the other actor, "mumble them, mumble them."
"I see," said Oliver Herford, who was sitting by; "an actor should be obscene but not heard."

PATMAN'S WASHINGTON PARAGRAPHS CONGRESSMAN—TEXAS

The So-Called Bonus

The President vetoed our bill to pay the World War veterans the remainder due on their adjusted service certificates. Congress by a two-thirds vote has over-ridden the veto and the bill has become a law. The following facts are pertinent:
1. Three and one-half million veterans hold these certificates. The money will flow into each of the 3,072 counties in the United States in proportion to the amount of the certificates held by veterans.
2. The payment will be made in \$50 bonds, dated June 15, 1936, and payable only to the veteran. The veterans will commence to receive interest at 3 per cent on the bonds after June 15th, but no interest will be paid on any bond redeemed prior to the expiration of one year from the date of issuance.

3. The certificates range from \$126 to \$1500 each. The average is \$1,000. The average veteran has borrowed \$500. Most of the April and May, 1931, soon after the loans were obtained in March, 50 per cent loan bill was passed.

On these loans the veterans will be required to pay interest to October 1, 1931, but not after that time. The reason is that a veteran was not entitled to an amount equivalent to the face value of his certificate until October 1, 1931, but was entitled to it then if an adjustment of interest were made and the certificates dated back to the time he rendered the service, which has been done by the enactment of the present law. This is vindication of the fight that I have made for 6½ years in which I have pointed out that the veterans were deprived of seven years' interest and were discriminated against in the interest rates. The new law corrects the injustices in the way proposed by me.

4. Veterans cannot pledge these bonds or transfer them. They can deliver them to a Post Office or any other place designated by the Secretary of the Treasury—he will probably designate the banks—and receive dollar for dollar for the bonds. Neither the bonds nor the proceeds from the bonds are subject to execution, garnishment or attachment.

It will require time for the Government to deal with millions of transactions; print and deliver the bonds, etc.

No fight has been more misunderstood and more misrepresented than the one to pay these certificates. It takes a long time to get the truth to the people.

There are 140,771 certificate holders in Texas. They have a remainder due of \$83,695,221.25.

Payment of this debt will stimulate business since it will increase the buying power of the people in every nook and corner of the nation. Such payment will not only help the veterans, it will help everybody as the additional money is very much needed in circulation. No new taxes will be necessary to pay this debt since the Government has title to and owns more than Ten Billion Dollars in gold and has outstanding only half that amount in actual money. The payment can be made by issuing gold certificates upon the gold or even in actual gold if desired that way.

Roosevelt—

(Continued from page 1)

ordered refunded to processors. Benson said processors had admitted passing these taxes on to others and were not entitled to the money.

Cotton Sales Proposal

5.—Introduction of a bill by Chairman Smith, Democrat, South Carolina, of the Senate Agriculture Committee to set up a three-man board to take over around 6,000,000 bales of government-controlled cotton and sell to the highest bidders from 20,000 to 25,000 bales weekly, with profits going to the original growers.

6.—Proposal by Senator Norbeck, South Dakota, of an amendment to the Bankhead soil conservation bill authorizing the Government to purchase 40,000,000 acres of grazing and timber land and retire it from production. The program would cost \$125,000,000 a year. The Secretary of Agriculture would be authorized to rent out the lands, keep reserve stocks of the commodities on hand and release them as demand arises.

Borah Approves

7.—Offering of a bill by Senator Pope, Idaho, to require a vote of at least seven of the nine Supreme Court justices before a law could be held unconstitutional. He said the people by their votes had approved the AAA program and added he did not propose to see the Nation under the "absolute rule of nine men, however wise."—Houston Press.

MAN ONCE HANGED TELLS ABOUT DEATH

NEW YORK, Feb. 3.—A short squat man who helped decide a state election after he was hanged 42 years ago, came out of the bayous of Mississippi Thursday night to describe how it feels to "die."

William Isaac Purvis, of Purvis, Miss., was hanged Feb. 7, 1894, because they said he shot and killed Will Buckley. They led him up the steps of the yellow pine gallows, strapped tight his arms and legs and wrapped a thick silk bandage around his eyes.

"Have you anything to say" they asked. Purvis choked back the tears, because he was 19 and had much to live for, and answered: "Before God I am innocent."

They cut the rope which sprang the trapdoor and Purvis plunged down to what should have been his death. But the knot slipped or untied—no one remembers now—and Purvis crashed eight feet to the ground.

Rope Scarred Neck
The tough hemp rope scarred his neck, tearing the flesh and Purvis collapsed, unconscious. A prison deputy scratched "executed Feb. 7, 1894" after Purvis name, but the 62-year-old Bayou farmer lives to-day, as the world's only executed prisoner, who can discuss his own "death."

Will Buckley was killed from ambush June 22, 1893, while riding back from Columbia, Miss., with his brother Jim, where they told a grand jury how the ku klux klan had beaten a negro to death.

Purvis was a member of the "White caps" and that same night he was arrested at his home near the town named after his family. Jim Buckley said he recognized a figure fleeing through the bushes as Purvis.

Had Given Up Hope

Purvis was found guilty of first degree murder and sentenced to die Sept. 6, but an appeal was carried to the state supreme court and the execution was delayed. Then the court affirmed the verdict the execution was set for Feb. 7, 1894, and the 19-year-old youth prepared to die.

Purvis, a ruddy-faced man with a barrel-sized chest, described it in his slow halting speech.

"I had given up all hope," he said. "I really didn't see the crowd. They were just a blur of faces. Maybe I was sobbin', I don't know, you see, I was so young then. But they didn't have to carry me up the steps like they did some, I went myself."

"You can't explain the feeling a man has, when he's about to die for a crime he didn't do. I can't describe it. I just suddenly felt all alone and cold, and a second later my feet dropped from under me and everything went black."

Rescued by Friends

C. C. McDavid, a friend of Purvis and publisher of the Perry County Herald in New Augusta, took up the story from there.

"When the crowd saw the rope slip, some of the women fainted," McDavid said. "A strange hush fell over the 4000 people. Then a minister leaped forward and screamed:

"This is an act of God. It is a sign of providence that this man is innocent. Shall we let him die?"

"They all shouted 'no!' and took Purvis away from the sheriff. Later he was returned because another appeal had been made to the state supreme court."

The court, however, refused to admit that Purvis was legally executed, asserting that he "did not hang by the neck until dead." Purvis' second execution was set for Dec. 12, 1895, but a few weeks before the date, friends stormed into the jail and rescued him.

For three months he remained in hiding as A. J. McClaurin, candidate for governor, campaigned across the flat water regions of Mississippi with the commutation of Purvis' sentence as one of the planks in his platform.

Gave Him Pardon

McClaurin won, and when he took office the third week of 1896, Purvis surrendered. McClaurin, who later became U. S. Senator, commuted the sentence, and after Purvis served 22 months on convict farms, granted him a full pardon.

Purvis returned met pretty Sarah Boone, a direct descendant of Daniel Boone, at his own homecoming party. They were married two years later, and for the next 20 years, Purvis and Sarah lived on a farm, rearing children.

In 1920, Joe Beard, living in Columbia, Miss., confessed that he planned to kill both Buckley brothers, but that Louis Thornhill did the actual shooting. Two months later Beard died, and the Mississippi legislature gave Purvis \$5000 "for services rendered to the state" during his prison days. Thornhill was not indicted, because Purvis already had been "executed" for the same crime. A few years later, Thornhill confessed on his deathbed that he shot Will Buckley.—Austin American.

Hon. McGregor—

(Continued from page 1)

more or less than the amendment required its action would be in conflict with the amendment and would be unconstitutional and void, and of no force and effect.

Now with this preliminary statement let us, in its light, examine the Old Age assistance law, as passed by the Legislature, and see if it squares with the amendment and is valid; or whether it violates the amendment and is invalid under the rule that where a statute conflicts with the constitution the statute is void. An unconstitutional law is no law. If the old age assistance law is unconstitutional then we have no old age assistance law and the Legislature will have to try its "prentice hand" again.

Now we have noted that every person over the age of sixty-five years who is: (1) not an habitual criminal, (2) not an habitual drunkard, (3) and is not "an inmate of any State supported institution, is under the amendment entitled to "not to exceed Fifteen Dollars per month each."

SECTION ONE OF THE LAW READS:

"Subject to the provisions of this act every person over the age of sixty-five years, residing in the State of Texas, if in need, shall be entitled to aid in old age from the State." By the words "in need" the Legislature seeks to limit the class of those who shall be entitled to aid in old age. It undertakes to impose a new and additional qualification on each of the members of the class which the amendment itself qualified. This it cannot do. Under the law the question of whether an applicant "is in need" if regarded as a Legislative question would be a delegation of Legislative powers to a commission and would be void. If regarded as a judicial question then it is a delegation of judicial power to a subordinate agency of the Executive department of the Government which cannot be done and the section is unconstitutional. Thus for two reasons and maybe three the section is void and it follows the law is unconstitutional and void.

SUBDIVISION (d) OF THE LAW READS AS FOLLOWS: "Is not at the time of receiving such aid an inmate of any public or private home for the aged, or any public home or any public or private institution of a custodial, correctional, or curative character; provided however, that aid may be granted to persons temporarily confined in a private institution for medical or surgical care."

Note how this subdivision enlarged the disqualification of the amendment which only disqualified the "inmate of any State supported institution." Under the law as written an otherwise qualified person who is in a city hospital (a Fraternal Home, a home for old women, or a County Poor House would not be entitled to the aid which the amendment qualifies them to receive but which the statute says they shall not have. This is not only an unconstitutional discrimination which renders the statute void but is an unjust and cruel discrimination.

SUBDIVISION (f), (g) and (h) READS AS FOLLOWS:

(f) Has an income, if a single person, from any and all sources not exceeding Three Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$360.00) per year, if married, a combined income from money and all sources not exceeding Seven Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$720.00) per year.
(g) Does not own property real, personal, of mixed other than cash or marketable securities, the fair value of which taking into consideration assessed valuations for State and County tax purposes less all incumbrances and liens, exceeds, if single, Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or if married does not own property real, personal, or mixed other than cash or marketable securities, the fair value of which taking into consideration assessed valuations for State and County tax purposes less all incumbrances and liens, exceeds Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$7,500.00).
(h) Does not have or own cash or marketable securities, the fair value of which exceeds Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) if single, or if married, does not have or own cash or marketable securities, the fair value of which exceeds One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00).

There is not a word in the amendment justifying these subdivisions. They are excrescences fastened on to the qualifying clause of the amendment which debase the will of the people as expressed at the polls in the amendment. They take from the qualified citizen the aid which the amendment says he shall have and thereby denies him a constitutional right and defeats the will of the people by incorporating in the law disqualifications which the amend-

ment does not contain. For this reason also this law is unconstitutional and void.

SUBDIVISION (j) READS: "Who has no husband or wife, as the case may be, able to furnish him or her adequate support."

Suppose the husband or wife is able "to furnish him or her" and refuses to do so. Then and in that event "he or she" would be denied and because "she or he" could furnish and would not.

But this is also a disqualification not found in the amendment.

Section 7 of the law has 7 subdivisions, too long to be quoted here, not one of which is authorized by the amendment, and all look to establishing disqualifications which the law imposes but none of which the amendment recognizes.

There are thousands of men and women in Texas who under the amendment are qualified to receive aid, which is denied them by this law. I wonder how many of them will vote for a man who is responsible for a law which taxes them to pay a pension to another man or woman, who possesses the same constitutional qualifications they do, and denies them a pension.

But the real "nigger in the wood pile" in this law is found in the last part of subdivision (a) of Section 9 of the law which reads: "Provided that the assistance granted herein shall be granted in such amounts as will provide a reasonable subsistence in keeping with the accustomed standard of living of the applicant." I say "nigger" in the wood pile because it was argued that by putting it in there it would clothe the Pension Board with power to give the nigger and Mexican less than Fifteen Dollars per month and the white man Fifteen Dollars. If this is done in the administration of this law it will go squarely up against the 14th amendment of the Federal Constitution and the law will be declared void.

But the wording of this provision of this law is a fulfillment of the Biblical prophecy: "that to him who hath (had) much, much shall be given, but he who hath not, even that which he hath shall be taken away from him."

"Provide a reasonable subsistence in keeping with the accustomed standard of living of the applicant."

If the applicant, though a spendthrift wasting his substance in riotous living has been accustomed to Tea Bone Steaks with mushrooms and potatoes on a gratin etc, then he will get Fifteen Dollars per month and be assured of ham and eggs at least once a day. On the other hand the man who has been poor earning an honest living in the sweat of his face while he wore overalls and ate beans and bacon will have to eat his beans without bacon because under this flexible rule the amount of his pension will be fixed on his accustomed standard of living as determined by the whim of an Autocratic Board in Austin.

Under the amendment the fixing of the amount of the pension which must be uniform for each pensioner is a Legislative power which the Legislature could not delegate and having attempted to do so the law is void.

I favor an Old Age Pension Law: One that is just and fair. I believe that the benefits of Government should, like the burdens, be shared by all. This is equality before the law. This is justice under the law. This is what is meant by Section 3 of Article 1 of the Texas Constitution the Bill of Rights—which this law violates as written. That section is the very corner stone of our form and theory of Government when it says: "All free men, when they form a social compact, have equal rights, and no man, or set of men, is entitled to exclusive separate public emoluments, or privileges, but in consideration of public services."

If the Old Age Pension Law had kept within the bounds of the amendment authorizing it, it would not have conflicted with this Section 3 and would have been valid. Straying from the bounds of the amendment it runs counter to Section 3 and is void and should be so declared.

It appears to me that the wise and proper thing for the Governor to do would be to call the Legislature together and have them pass a valid and constitutional Old Age Pension Law.

T. H. MCGREGOR.

CONSIDERATION FOR THE FLEET

Navy orders to mariners to keep clear of the fleet area during the last naval review were rigidly observed. They were obeyed also by two little holiday-makers.

Said a five-year-old to her cousin, a boy of the same age: "Shall we go and bathe this morning?"

"No," was the reply. "I don't think we'd better bathe today. We might get in the way of the battle ships!"

THE PEOPLE KEEP FAITH

The spirit of Huey Long marches on!

The people of the State of Louisiana went to the polls last week to pay a stirring tribute to their assassinated leader by electing the entire Huey Long ticket to office with overwhelming majorities and at the same time, administer to his opponents one of the worst beatings in the history of Louisiana politics.

Progressives the nation over, hail that victory with rejoicing. The spirit, the determination, and the loyalty of the people of Louisiana in avenging the death of their martyred leader at the ballot box will make glad the heart of every liberty-loving citizen of this country.

The smashing triumph of the Huey Long forces at the polls demonstrates once more that the common people do not easily forget the men who dare to take leadership in their cause. Nor do they forget the sacrifices such men made for justice and fair play against the mighty forces of special privilege and entrenched greed which stop at nothing to accomplish their ends.

Huey Long was murdered in cold blood by his political enemies—shot down in his tracks because he dared to champion the rights of the plain man, the farmers and workers, not only of Louisiana but of the nation. The political gangsters who plotted and perpetrated that deed have never been brought to justice.

With Senator Long "rubbed out" by an assassin's bullet, the forces of special privilege and their political hirelings thought they had taken the first step toward getting back their throttle-grip on the state of Louisiana. With that wanton and ruthless display of their power they thought they could browbeat the people of Louisiana into deserting the cause for which Huey Long had laid down his life. Last week, the politicians got their answer. The people went to the polls to nominate the Huey Long ticket by a smashing three-to-one majority.

To the people of North Dakota, that action on the part of Louisiana voters is of more than usual interest. It recalls a similar answer delivered at North Dakota ballot-boxes at the primary election of June 1934, when the people of our own state marched to the polls to nominate William Langer their governor by a 70,000 margin just ten days after his political enemies had brought in a conviction against him in federal court. So ruthless was the persecution in North Dakota, however, that the expressed will of the people was roughly brushed aside and Governor Langer ousted from office on the trumped-up charges against him.

The governor carried his fight to the higher courts and last month won a complete and smashing vindication that cleared him of every charge leveled against him in the attempt of his political enemies to ruin him and discredit the Nonpartisan League organization. Throughout those weary months of court strife, the people of North Dakota stood back of Governor Langer just as the people of Louisiana remained true to their great leader.

Although the governor's victory in the federal courts brought him complete exoneration, justice was powerless to undo the great wrong that resulted when the state supreme court ousted the people's champion from office on charges which have since been so completely shattered. But fortunately in democracies, the people must have the final word. And the voice with which they spoke in Louisiana last week should serve forever as a warning to those who would throttle progressive organizations by persecuting their leaders.—North Dakota Leader.

HOW COULD HE KNOW?

Mose became heir to a few hundred dollars and immediately went downtown to pay a grocery account of long standing, after which he strolled down the street about two blocks into the Jones grocery store and purchased a large supply of groceries, for which he paid cash.

The groceryman with whom he had the large account saw him, and a few days later stopped him and inquired:

"Mose, why did you buy a large bill of groceries from Mr. Jones after I have carried your account

A COMMENT ON WORLD EVENTS

Three items of news coming on a single day in recent papers deserve to be considered together.

One of these items came from New York. A short circuit developed in one of the power plants which supply the vast city with light and with current for transportation in street cars, subways, elevators. Just in passing, that power plant is privately owned and operated; so no one will find here a text for a sermon on the inefficiency of government business.

The current went off in a large part of the city a little after four o'clock in the afternoon. Sixty thousand passengers were stalled on one subway system. The total passenger stall must have been close to half a million. Operations in hospitals were finished by flashlight, by emergency lights with storage batteries, even by matches. Office workers walked ten and twenty stories down to get to dark streets.

Another item came from London. Japan has walked out of the naval conference. She made proposals which would give her absolute mastery of the waters fronting eastern Asia. They were refused, as Japan knew they must be, and Japan walked out to start a naval race if she can raise the money.

The third item originated in Moscow. Military officials reported to the Soviet conference that Soviet Russia has 1,800,000 men under arms, and that these men make up the personnel of the finest army in the world.

New York's experience gives a faint, feeble shadow of what will happen in modern war. Japan's action shows that war is closer than the world has feared for some years, and the report from Moscow bears witness that war, if it comes, will be fed fat with millions of men and mountains of munitions.

The world is wrangling on a constantly growing heap of dynamite; great cities will be vast concentrations of horror if the dynamite lets go; and there is no assurance whatever that the explosion now so plainly threatened can be kept within even continental limits.

Dinosaurs were once the greatest beasts on earth. Scientists tell us that dinosaurs died out because they had too small brains for their vast bodies.

Will modern civilization follow on the trail of the dinosaur, and for the same reason?

Many thousands of members in American Federation of Labor unions in Philadelphia, represented by the Trade Union Conference Against War, are demanding that Congress place an embargo on all trade between the United States and belligerent nations. Included in this large group are employees in various industrial plants which are either directly or indirectly engaged in producing munitions or material of value to warring nations.

Alfred Hoffman, chairman of the Federal Government should make provisions to adequately compensate workers thrown out of employment as a result of stopping shipments to warring nations. This would be cheaper than war and probably a good deal more effective in the long run.—Garment Workers.

U S DELEGATION TO NAVAL MEETING WANTS TO LEAVE

LONDON, Feb. 5.—The American delegation to the London naval conference has been sickened by the complications of continental intrigue and would like to withdraw from the parley, International News Service learned today.

Only the troublous Far Eastern situation and the hope of an understanding with Great Britain about it are keeping the Americans in London.

The Americans are cool toward the British desire to have Germany and Russia join the naval talks, fearing such a step would further submerge American naval needs under the wages of continental problems and difficulties.—Ex.

so long?"

Mose looked surprised and replied: "Ma goodness, Mr. Smith, I didn't know you sold groceries for cash."—Labor.

HOUSE LEADERS FEAR POSSIBLE PARTY SPLIT

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—Facing the possibility of a party split over inflation, taxes and other issues, house leaders today planned to summon the Democratic steering committee into action.

Chairman Sabath (d) of Illinois, of the committee announced it will be called into its first protracted meeting of the session today or tomorrow.

Disension Issues

While little legislation is being sought by the administration, house leaders saw gathering clouds of disension in these issues:

1. Bonus payment and farm inflation fights.
2. Administration neutrality bill.
3. Demand for legislation by "anti-court bloc."
4. New taxation legislation.

As plans were made for the committee session, Rep. Patman (d) of Texas, called his own steering committee into a meeting to consider ways of forcing payment of the bonus in currency backed by treasury gold and silver.

Meantime, backers of the Frazier-Lemke \$3,000,000 farm mortgage inflation bill were striving to complete a petition so they can force the bill onto the house floor.

Dispute Over Inflation

A possible split between bonus and farm inflation forces may ease the task of the house leaders.

Although Sabath is a member of the bonus inflation steering committee, he opposed the Frazier-Lemke bill.

Sabath said the steering committee may discuss bills to curb the appellate jurisdiction of the supreme court and talk over the tax and neutrality situation.

Sabath also will seek endorsement of his own bill for creation of conservators for defaulted real estate mortgage bonds.—Austin Dispatch.

HIS PREFERENCE

"Are you keen about corn on the cob?" we asked the Kentucky mountaineer.

"Wall, stranger," he replied, "hit's all right, but Ah prefers cawn out of a jug. You see, Ah kin enjoy that even if mah teeth are all gone—and Ah kin get it all year round, too."

FORUM CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

RULES AND RATES

Rate, 5 cents per word for each insertion. CASH must accompany order. No classified advertisement accepted for less than \$1.00. Each sign number or initials counts as a word. We do not forward replies—your own address must appear.

Ferguson Forum Austin, Texas

LONESOME! Get free membership in active Matrimonial Club. Send full description of yourself. Paper 10c, Lists 25c, and stamp. W. H. Besson, Box 769, Houston, Texas.

EXPECTED TO DEFY LEAGUE TO MAKE MOVE

3000 Blackshirts Are Slain in Battle, Say Ethiopians. Battle on North Front Raged More Than Week Before Ethiopian Victory

WAR SITUATION
ROME: Mussolini calls meeting of Fascist Grand Council which is expected to result in new defiance of League of Nations, and statement that blockade to enforce oil embargo will mean war.

ETHIOPIA: Official Ethiopian communique says 3000 Blackshirts of crack October 28 division wiped out in victory on north front in battle lasting more than week and ending Thursday in Ethiopian victory.

ROME, Feb. 1.—Premier Benito Mussolini today summoned his chief Fascist counselors to work out a diplomatic and military plan of campaign for Italy.

The Fascist Grand Council—inner circle of the country's leaders—was expected to approve decisions of great importance in connection with the long-threatened oil embargo at a meeting late today.

Premier Mussolini also convoked a meeting of the National Supreme Defense Council for Feb. 4 for the reported purpose of discussing new internal defense measures arising out of the again impending oil penalty and the consequent threat of a European war.

The meeting of the Fascist Grand Council, Italy's supreme ruling body, will be held in secrecy and at night. There may or may not be a communique revealing its decisions.

But it was widely reported that it would result in the dissemination of information that a naval blockade to enforce an oil embargo would be considered an act of war and treated accordingly, and that Mussolini may have to revise his idea of Italy's obligations under the Locarno treaty because of the British-French agreement to co-operate in the Mediterranean.

Under the Locarno treaty Italy, France, Great Britain, Belgium and Germany are pledged to protect, by force if necessary, the existing German-French-Belgium frontier.

THE BONUS ISSUE IS SETTLED

Far from believing, as some charge, that the bonus was passed by a Congress motivated by personal interests, we believe, instead, that primarily it was passed because Congress knew it was the right and square thing to do.

In saying this, we do not mean to convey the foolish idea that in the bonus question there was no politics. On the contrary, we think there was plenty of it, although it is certainly true that not all the political pressure was exerted by the veterans themselves or their friends. In fact, on last Sunday night, just on the eve of the Senate's vote, Henry H. Curran, a powerful New York banker and president of the National Economy League, "honored" each senator with a personal telegram, imploring them to "stand fast against the bonus." That appeal, however and all other of like nature, were rejected by 76 conscientious senators, while 19 senators, including Senator Tom Connolly of Texas, preferred to "obey their master's voice," and voted in opposition. Right here we digress to say that later on Tom will hear quite a lot about his misrepresenting and defying the will of his constituents. That he knew better can not be doubted, for he has been in Congress almost twenty years, and should have learned in that time that he was not sent there to vote his own preferences and prejudices but to represent the sovereign will of the voters who elected him.

But aside from Senator Connolly's inexplicable action, the fact remains that the veterans will soon collect the just debt that is due them, and we do not think that any considerable number of American citizens will be sorry to see them get it.—The Houston Labor Journal.

Sow every day that which you would like to reap when you get older.—George I. Nodwell.

MRS. LONG WILL SERVE HUEY'S SENATE TERM

Expected to Use Franking Privilege to Rebuild His Vast "Share-the-Wealth Organization"

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 4.—Friends of Mrs. Huey P. Long, appointed to serve the unexpired Senate term of her slain husband believed today that she will attempt to revive his share-the-wealth movement and follow his independent policies.

Silent on Policies
Receiving flowers and messages of congratulations by hundreds today in the \$40,000 home her husband left her, Mrs. Long refused to discuss her policies. She will go to Washington within a few days to become the country's third woman senator.

Reviews of her recent past uncovered little to help those interested in her future conduct, for she remained in the background of Long's career for several years, but observers recalled with new interest that she had obtained clear title to copyrights, patents and the mailing list of his Share-the-Wealth clubs.

When Long was making his first meteoric assaults on Louisiana political redoubts, Mrs. Long, preferring domesticity, proved herself a capable political worker. Long repeatedly attributed his first election successes to her.

In Washington, with the assets of the Share-the-Wealth organization and with the congressional mail franking privilege at her command, she may decide to seek power on her own account, friends believed.

Long built the Share-the-Wealth clubs through use of the franking privilege, employing a large staff to maintain contacts. He claimed 10,000,000 members. The Rev. Gerald L. K. Smith, his principal aide, has worked hard to keep to clubs alive since the "Kingfish" was slain. The magic of the Long name might rejuvenate them.

Aside from reorganization of the Share-the-Wealth club, no one among either the Long faction's friends or enemies could predict with any plausibility what Mrs. Long would do.

It was possible to assume, and many did, that the Long machine had not appointed a successor to Long who would upset its applecart. If Mrs. Long gives loyalty to her husband's organization she probably will be forced to fight many anti-administration battles before her term expires next year.

Mrs. Long was appointed yesterday by Governor James Albert Noel. In a formal statement she said she was "proud of the honor" and hoped "to be able to render profitable service to the people of Louisiana."

She will find at least one close friend in the Senate, Mrs. Hattie Caraway (D. Ark.). Mrs. Caraway went to the Senate in similar circumstances, as her husband's successor, and won re-election in 1932 because Huey Long took his sound truck and his oratory to her aid in one of his most spectacular campaigns.

Leaders of the Long faction were jubilant at Mrs. Long's appointment. They had been worried by the unplanned elevation of Noel, former lieutenant governor, by the death of former Governor O. K. Allen. Today they accepted him as a dependable wheel-horse.

Frank J. Looney, Shreveport attorney who unsuccessfully opposed Allen for Long's senatorial place in the recent primary, said that she is "a fine little woman and if I had to select somebody from that crowd I would rather pick her than any one else."—Houston Press.

EARLIEST PSALM WRITTEN 1500 B. C. IS FOUND IN SYRIA

Origin of Ancient Inscription, Puzzle to Scientists, Solved

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Feb. 3.—The discovery of the earliest known written psalm was announced on Wednesday by Dr. Julian J. Obermann, professor of Semitic languages at Yale University.

In presenting the results of his work to the Semitic and Biblical Club, Dr. Obermann told his audience that a cuneiform inscription of about 1500 B.C., which had puzzled scientists since its discovery several years ago at Ras Shamra in Northern Syria, was in reality the earliest known written psalm.

The Yale authority added that through the discovery it now was possible to establish the source of Hebrew psalmody of some thousand years later.

Dr. Obermann said that while students of the Bible for many years have sought the origin of the forms peculiar to Hebrew prayer in remote centers of influence, such as Babylonia and Egypt, he had established that the literary expres-

SENATOR ROY SANDERFORD ANNOUNCES 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 lines of 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 pay-rolls.

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 percent.

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

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

Fourth. I favor a graduated land tax for county purposes beginning with small valuations. This will increase opportunities for home ownership and tend to discourage the holding of large tracts of land for speculative purposes.

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 and cooperation 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.

sion of prayer came from a center next door to Palestine. He added: "The language of the tablet is that of the Canaanites, who possessed a flourishing literature during the middle of the second pre-Christian millennium, about 1500 B.C. This was about the time when according to tradition, Moses is said first to have molded into being the national religion of the Hebrews. The old Canaanite literature is being brought to light increasingly by the excavations at Ras Shamra.

"Puzzling at first as to its form, purpose and meaning, the text of the tablet now may be said to represent a transcription of an oral liturgy that served to accompany public worship at the great temple exhumed at the site of Ras Shamra."

He said it was by observing that

Our doubts are traitors, and make us lose the good we often might win by fearing to attempt.—Shakespeare.

ADVANTAGES OF SALES TAX

The writer's friend Senator Bob Poage, in The News makes the statement, that "foreign owned utilities, oil, insurance, railroads, etc., are attempting to force the passage of a sales tax in Texas." This is sad if true, but is it true?

It has become quite popular for us Americans to shift on goats, all our sins of omission and commission. The soulless corporation is generally the goat, and they are damned if they do and damned if they don't. The writer has no interest or connection with any of them, but likes to see fair play for the underdog. Senator Poage further states, "Other States have found this form of tax most burdensome, and wherever the people control their State Legislatures, they repudiate this tax."

Over half the States in the Union have adopted the sales tax, and claim it is fair and just and gets a large percentage of tax-shirkers. The man that buys most, pays most, while the poor, due to exemptions, pay little or nothing.

Senator Poage's repudiation can apply to all taxes—tariff, process, nuisance, gasoline, etc. The Nation is full of tax discontent, and yet continues to bonus out money like drunken sailors. Some people are like termites, always eating into our structural laws. Some want to repudiate the American Constitution. In nearly every city where there is a capable city-manager form of government, these termites have once fed at the public trough, want to go back to the aldermanic form of government where no city ever received as much as 50c returns on the dollar tax. In this outspoken form of American government, one can never get anything good without a fight, and it takes a continuous fight to keep it.

The writer has no special love for the sales tax, but knowing that such a tax would be considered by our solons, during the last two summers drives through sales tax States, we made it a point to ask many people what they thought of it. Most laboring men said that three were so many taxes they could not tell one from another. They were not paying more for food except pork products. They asked the writer, "Why did the

Government kill off baby pigs? All we could answer was "Asininity." These laborers said that they were for the sales tax or any other tax that would give their old folks pensions, and they all had dependants. Merchants told us that they had opposed this tax, thinking it would affect their sales. They were agreeably disappointed. In Michigan we found exemptions on purchases under 15c. In Ohio under 8c. We learned that most of the opposition had come and was still coming from those who had not been paying any direct taxes.

In Texas we have probably a million or more persons, most of whom have cars, who make little or no contribution to cost of government. The reader as well as the writer knows hundreds of these people and they say it is no fault of theirs. They are renters on farms, in city dwellings, apartments, boarding houses, hotels, etc. The landlord pays the taxes, insurance, repairs and as the years wind up, gets a lemon. Added to this renter class, some thousands of floating population, increasing yearly. They come to Texas with the robins, and live in trailers attached to cars. We met hundreds of them in a recent trip through the Valley to Brownsville, and they enjoy to the fullest the lovely fruitful, tropical Valley. Catch them with a sales tax.

Many million people will visit Texas this year, all with money to spend. Why not let them help to pay for the wonderful exhibits that Texas will have for their enjoyment? The writer buttered his bread heavily with sales taxes spread in a dozen or more States, and he got value received, and so will our Centennial visitors. Why shunt the expense of these pensions onto the railroads, utilities and other companies. These poor folks are ours, not theirs. All taxes are like boomerangs, and come home to the hands that threw them. Why not stand up and take our medicine like men, and not cry the baby act? Tighten the belt a little and cut out some of the booze, cigarettes, horse race betting, joy riding gasoline, etc. Don't give the old folks their small moiety grudgingly while trying to shunt it on others. Give it with a smile and the open hand and God bless you old folks, be you white, black, brown or yellow. May your few remaining years be full of pleasant memories. God only knows why we are not in their boots.

W. GOODRICH JONES,
Waco, Texas.—In Dallas News.

THE ONE EXCEPTION
Little Girl—Daddy, when you see a cow ain't you afraid?
Daddy—Of course not, darling.
Little Girl—When you see a great big worm ain't you afraid?
Daddy—No, of course not.
Little Girl—When you see a horrible, monstrous bumble bee ain't you afraid?
Daddy—No, certainly not.
Little Girl—Ain't you afraid when it thunders and lightnings?

Daddy—No, no, you silly child.
Little Girl—Ain't you afraid when of nothing in the whole world 'ceptin' mother?
FAST ACTION NEEDED
A young lady rushed into a drug store and asked: "Do you sell films for pocket moving picture cameras?"
"Certainly," said the clerk.
"Then give me one, quick! Father's being chased by a bull."

Oldest European Discovery Against Stomach Troubles and Rheumatism Acclaimed Best by Latest Tests

Since 1799 thousands of people have regained their normal health after years of suffering from stomach troubles of all types, such as constipation, indigestion, gas, and sour stomach which are the basic factors of such maladies as high blood pressure, rheumatism, periodic headaches, pimples on face and body, pains in the back, liver, kidney and bladder disorder, exhaustion, loss of sleep and appetite. Those sufferers have not used any man-made injurious chemicals or drugs of any kind; they have only used a remedy made by Nature. This marvelous product grows on the highest mountain peaks, where it absorbs all the healing elements and vitamins from the sun to aid HUMANITY in distress.

It is composed of 19 kinds of natural leaves, seeds, berries and flowers scientifically and proportionately mixed and is known as LION CROSS HERB TEA.

LION CROSS HERB TEA tastes delicious, acts wonderfully upon your system, and is safe even for children. Prepare it fresh like any ordinary tea and drink a glassful once a day, hot or cold.

A one dollar treatment accomplishes WONDERS; makes you look and feel like new born. If you are not as yet familiar with the beneficial effects of this natural remedy LION CROSS HERB TEA try it at once and convince yourself. If not satisfactory money refunded to you.

Try it and convince yourself with our money-back guarantee.

ONE WEEK TREATMENT \$1.00
SIX WEEKS TREATMENT \$5.00

In order to avoid mistakes in getting the genuine LION CROSS HERB TEA, please fill out the attached coupon.

Lion-Pharmacy, Dept. 13054
1180 Second Ave.,
N. Y. City, N. Y.
Gentlemen:
Enclosed find \$_____ for which please send me _____
treatments of the famous LION CROSS HERB TEA.
NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____

Get The News

Every indication now is that we will have an eventful and exciting political year.

The Forum is a political newspaper. We want you to have the political news. The subscription rate is \$1.00 a year but to give everybody an opportunity to be informed the price has been reduced in clubs of five or more to 50c a year. We will be glad to enter your subscription today.

Using the following form fill in your name and address—

THE FERGUSON FORUM
P. O. Box 1158,
AUSTIN, TEXAS

Dear Editor:

For the enclosed please send me the Ferguson Forum one year.

Name _____ Address _____

Name _____ Address _____

Name _____ Address _____

Name _____ Address _____

Name _____ Address _____