

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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POSTAL RATE INCREASES

THE effort of the Post Office Department to wipe out its big annual deficit and operate on a paying basis is certainly a laudable one, but there is serious doubt that the method proposed would attain the objective, or that it would be in the best interest of the public if it did so.

Postmaster General Donaldson is seeking to increase all postal rates, except first class, to offset part of an estimated \$500,000,000 deficit. He contends that the deficit from handling second class mail is \$207,000,000, first class \$129,000,000, and from fourth class \$55,000,000. He contends that the low second class rates enjoyed by newspapers and magazines are the equivalent of a government subsidy.

No self-respecting newspaper would ask for a government subsidy of any sort. If there is a subsidy in this class, the people who get their newspapers and magazines by mail are the ones enjoying it, not the publishers. Thus, the low second class rates are a hidden average of 300 per cent, publications will have to raise their circulation rates accordingly.

Hearings before the House Post Office Committee have produced no real evidence that the Department has grossly exaggerated the role of publications in its financial work, and that the Department is merely trying to saddle someone else with the bill which properly belongs on its own shoulders.

CANADIAN FORMULA

MOST Americans are painfully aware of a new trend that's an expensive proposition to rehabilitate the world and create a social welfare state all at the same time. They see the costs of their government—local, state and national—zooming upward as the terrific race to dizzy heights, and there's not much they can do about it except gasp.

They know full well that the major portion of the Federal Government's expenditures are being used to pay for past wars and the Russian threat, diminished, they wouldn't have it otherwise.

But it's interesting to see what is happening north of the border in a country which was also engaged in the last great war. There it is to be involved if there ever is another one. Canada, which still clings to the old-fashioned theory that government expenses ought to be reduced in a period of stability, has just handed the Russian three billion dollars, and there's no doubt that Canada is approaching normalcy.

That this should be true is a tribute to the Canadian people who accepted controlled controls until their economy became canalized, thereby avoiding the ravages of American-style inflation, and who have thus far resisted the temptation to launch their government into fancy and costly social welfare measures of the fat dead stripe. They are now reaping the rewards of their wisdom.

OF PLEASURES GONE BY

RALPH McGILL, distinguished editor of the Atlanta Constitution, is a sad man. Being also a rather bulky gentleman of the Old South, Mr. McGill likes his food, and possibly a great deal of it, but he isn't one to be satisfied by any makeshift. He says, it is all but a lost art, practiced still in the Saturday Evening Post that he is fed up with Southern cooking.

What Mr. McGill really means is that he is developing a taste for the indigenous food of the South, and craves from the sort of groceries handed out on platters throughout the South, by chefs who falsely fix the famed "Southern cooking" banner. The true Southern cooking, he says, is all but a lost art, practiced still in some private homes and in such gourmet capitals as New Orleans. The rest of the South, he contends, is dishes out "specialties" that would give anybody anywhere from the most special tummyaches in history. He writes:

There are many Southern cooks who do marvellously well with such things as vegetables, such as turnip greens, the lowly cowpea, sweet potatoes, rice and string beans. And also with hot breads and desserts. But, on the whole, Southern cooking has been perverted by slatterns with a great skill.

Mr. McGill's complaint, albeit eloquently

LEGISLATING BY LABEL

THERE is a tendency in the 1949 General Assembly to disguise this or that piece of legislation by planning a label to it. Say "Socialism." The legislator is then advised to back off in fear of contamination. This has happened more than once. It happened when the House Finance Committee killed a bill giving housing authorities broader powers to acquire land for slum clearance.

Real estate interests called this measure, "The Housing Act of 1949." The Finance Committee killed a bill giving housing authorities broader powers to acquire land for slum clearance.

It is virtually impossible for the Post Office Department, under its antiquated and inefficient accounting system, to figure out precisely what it costs to handle any particular type of mail. All costs are lumped together in the postal organizations—personal, buildings, transportation, etc. If every newspaper now sent by mail—and the percentage of total newspaper circulation carried by the postal service is extremely small—were discontinued, it would not reduce the Department's expenditures materially.

The present ignores the historic U. S. principle that low-cost distribution and dissemination of public information is in the public interest. Newspapers now carried by mail mainly go to isolated rural areas, to subscribers who otherwise would not have access to news and information. They are the ones who would suffer. The newspapers, having found the postal service slower and less efficient than other means of distributing papers, would not be using the mails at all except for their rural subscribers.

It is true that all costs have gone up, and a reasonable increase in second class rates is certainly in order. But the Congress must consider the potential risks of the tremendous increases sought by the Post Office. High rates will certainly mean that the Department will greatly increase the cost to the subscriber receiving others.

A Dispatch From The Farm

Feathered 'Commiss' Vs. Capitalists

By JOHN GOULD (In The Christian Science Monitor)

THE Chickadee is the official State of Maine bird. In a good year, so it was a little interested to find that the bird lovers of the Chickadee official started a movement to make the Chickadee, it is found from Alaska to Newfoundland, New Mexico to the Carolinas, so there's no reason to believe it belongs to anybody.

But the State of New Hampshire has struck a snag, and it thinks things may be amiss before they are. As usual, the folks who like the friendlier feathered folk fellows have pushed the agitation. It would be the group that has come to be known as the "Aesthetes." They point out that the Chickadee stays all winter, can be taught to feed from the hand, sings a merry note, and in general, has a very few about. The school children, as a militant force, are ready available for the campaign, and as far as I know a thing of this sort aways through the legislative channels without a hitch.

OPPOSITION DEVELOPS. The bill had just been introduced, and a hearing set, when opposition broke the common rule of an introductory bill. The bill had just been introduced, and a hearing set, when opposition broke the common rule of an introductory bill. The bill had just been introduced, and a hearing set, when opposition broke the common rule of an introductory bill.

They told how many ponds of meat you could put on a broiler in so many weeks with so much fat. They said it was a real shame that the bird had just been accepted into the American Standard of Perfection, and was now "faced" as well as used, so they thought it would be a real shame to see it taken out of the public eye. They pointed out that by astute management they had brought the common rule of an introductory bill.

Then the poultrymen spoke nicely of the little Chickadee, saying he was a pretty fellow, and in brooding, Merrimack, facts which Russian scientists pointed out that he spreads virus, and brings in pathogenic bacteria. The New Hampshire newspapermen gleefully took up the topic, writing letters to the editor, and struck a new high in job-faction.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON. TOP American scientists held a private meeting with Secretary of Defense Forrestal shortly before he left office to urge that he publish the full facts regarding the Bikini bomb test.

The scientists included Dr. Harold Tracy of the University of Chicago, one of the originators of the Atomic Bomb, and Dr. David Bradley, author of "No Place to Hide"; and W. T. Holliday, present Secretary of the Office of Naval Research. Forrestal listened sympathetically, told the scientists that the final Bikini report was on President Truman's desk waiting for him to decide whether it should be published.

This left the matter entirely up to Truman. So after the Forrestal meeting was over, the scientists conferred with themselves as to what they should do about it. "It would be most unwise for us to bring any pressure on Truman. The best way to keep the issue fresh is to let it go. We will just get angry and apitful and will sit on our hands."

Real Estate Lobby Again BEHIND the current drive for a sales tax in the District of Columbia, Georgia, Indiana and other states is none other than our old friend—the real-estate lobby.



'You'll Always Be My Little Baby'

Marquis Childs Sick With Fear

NEW YORK CITY. A master Communist who has been carefully worked out to get the utmost public attention for the Communist Party, Marquis Childs, who has been the week-end, he could not be improved upon. What happened. The supposed enemies of Communism took care of all this.

They picked in noisy, marching crowds outside the Waldorf-Astoria and the Plaza. They carried banners and placards widely reported by newsreel and television camera.

Without all this voluntary advertising, it seems to me that the Communist Party would have been almost ignored. Americans have learned enough in the three years about Communist propaganda techniques not to be fooled by such a transparent device.

The very fact that a delegation from the Soviet Union, including such a showpiece as the composer, Dmitri Shostakovich, came to New York was sufficient proof of the importance the Russians placed on the occasion.

OPERATION TRUMAN. Back of that objective is the aim of failing the program of Americanization and restoring the strength and independence of American industry. That does not mean to accept world responsibility. That does not mean to let Soviet post-war aims, which are directly across the Russian goal of domination in Europe and Asia.

A Truman-Stalin peace conference would be a clear-cut victory for Soviet sympathizers and the deep desire of almost all who are peace-loving to see a lot. At the very least it would put the U. S. in the role of a peace negotiator. The State Dept. helped that impression along by its stupidly in refusing to say to those who wanted it.

DeWitt MacKenzie Closer To Peace? WASHINGTON. HOPES of generations of great Americans to see peace in Europe are moving closer to fruition—closer to reality.

Diplomatic representatives of ten nations are meeting in London to discuss the possibility of establishing a permanent European Council. Sweden, Denmark, Italy, Luxembourg and France. It is hoped to meet in Paris in session by the coming Summer, probably in Strasbourg, France.

When this Congress opens it will represent a brave beginning of the United States' policy of peace. It is a sign that the people are tired of the war and are looking for peace. It is a sign that the people are tired of the war and are looking for peace. It is a sign that the people are tired of the war and are looking for peace.

READ AND REMEMBER By W. L. Gordon. Cancer is one of the oldest known diseases, and it is curable. However, the project is being investigated. The second largest cause of death in the United States is cancer. It is not due to a germ. The highest volume in the world is the greatest danger spot in the United States. It is 19,500 feet high.

Little Mississippi Dictator SPEAKER SAM RAYBURN may have to settle a wide-open revolt in the House Veterans Affairs Committee, led by Rep. Walter Huber of Mississippi.

Little Mississippi Dictator SPEAKER SAM RAYBURN may have to settle a wide-open revolt in the House Veterans Affairs Committee, led by Rep. Walter Huber of Mississippi.

Jap Collaborator In Capital A LOT of collaborationists come chummy with Jap and Nazis are quietly eating back into power. It is a sign that the people are tired of the war and are looking for peace.

Scientists Fear To Insist On Report as well as State Income taxes, think they can head this off with a sales tax on consumers. This is one of the reasons back of the current efforts of the real-estate lobby to force Congressional approval of a sales tax for the District of Columbia.