

HOW CAN THE COST OF GOVERNMENT BE REDUCED?

The problem of reducing governmental expenses is one that is commanding the attention of thinking men and women in each unit of government—local, State and Federal.

In discussing the question, I shall attempt to do so without fear or personal bias. There will be no malice in what I have to say and no thought of being either critical or personal.

Not in a third of a century has there been so much independence manifested as was displayed by the members of both the House and Senate during the special session of the Legislature.

The members of the Legislature are elected by the people and are their servants, and not servants of the Governor.

The action of the Legislature reflects the thought of the people generally, throughout the State. The plan of bonding the State and increasing the taxes, for unborn generations to pay, was not popular and met the disapproval of an awakened citizenship.

This can be done as follows: 1. Decreasing salaries. 2. Abolishing all useless Bureaus and Departments.

Salaries that have been fixed by an Act of the Legislature can only be reduced by a further Act, or by voluntary consent of those employed.

The Governor could reduce the salaries as well as the number employed by the State. Courageous action on his part would do much towards decreasing the cost of Government.

Abolishing useless Bureaus and Departments would not be so easy, but could be done by the Governor dismissing all who are employed in said Bureaus and Departments and refusing to appoint their successors.

Let us mention a few that we could dispense with. The Bureau of Markets is now doing about the same work that other State and private agencies are doing.

The Bureau of Plant Industry is also doing work that rightfully belongs to the College. The College must be maintained, why take away a part of her work in order that a Bureau may be maintained?

The Welfare Bureau is another example of how Bureaus and Departments have multiplied during a short time. With a Health Department such as ours, and with many local agencies helping in this line of work, this duplication of service is unnecessary and expensive.

The Department of Forests and Waters should include that of Game and Fish, and should be given power to prevent stream pollution. It is absurd for the Department of Forests to plant State land with trees and then have the Game Department raise deer to destroy them.

Fish are hatched and grown at a big expense to the State. They are then placed in our streams and killed by the million, by mine water and acid and factories and tanneries, owned by corporations which use our streams as a dumping ground for waste products.

If a fisherman catches a fish that is under-size, he is fined or imprisoned; but neither the Fish Commission nor Health Department has been able to prevent the wholesale killing of game and food fish by the big corporations. Why all this ex-

pense, if no one is to derive a benefit? The Department of Revenue is costing the State \$2,000,000 or more per year, and is only duplicating the work done by the State Treasurer and Auditor General.

A glaring example of how public money is wasted for political purposes is shown by a recent audit made by a well-known Philadelphia firm. A clerk in one of our State teachers' colleges misappropriated some of its funds.

The Department of Property and Supplies gives another outstanding example of how public money is wasted. I am informed that all State cars are bought from local dealers instead of from the factory.

The creation of a Greater Pennsylvania Council is another striking example of waste of public funds. The Council can do nothing that could not be done by other Bureaus and Departments.

The way to make Pennsylvania great is to give our citizens an equal opportunity under the law. Remove unjust burdens of taxation that have been placed upon them, and give to laborers a large share of the fruits of their labor, and no Council will be needed.

Since January 1, 1919, nearly all salaries have been increased; some have been doubled and even tripled. Let us mention just a few: Auditor General, \$8,000 to \$12,000.

Secretary of Agriculture, \$5,000 to \$10,000. Secretary of Banking, \$6,000 to \$10,000. Secretary of Forests and Waters, \$3,000 to \$10,000.

Secretary of Highways, \$8,000 to \$12,000. Secretary of Mines, \$5,000 to \$10,000. Secretary of Public Safety, \$5,000 to \$12,000.

The cost of maintaining the Executive Office during 1930, Governor Fisher's last year, was \$148,740. The cost during 1931, Governor Pinchot's first year, was \$189,240, or \$42,500 more than it cost Governor Fisher.

In spite of the many new buildings built on the Hill, we find that the State is now renting eleven buildings in the city for office purposes. Does not that tell the story of why the cost of State Government is ever increasing?

When a farmer finds that he has more stock than he can stable, he does not rent more room, but sells the culls and worthless stock, keeping only the best. That is exactly what the State must do.

The increasing cost of Government, both county, State and Federal, can be prevented by a decided reduction in salaries, abolishing all useless Bureaus and Departments, stopping all over-lapping and duplication of effort, requiring efficiency rather than ability to get votes, as a recommendation for appointment.

The cost of Government from the smallest to the highest unit is too high and constantly getting higher. To meet this condition requires courage and decision. The Governor has declared against the padded pay roll and inefficiency. His statement meets the approval of a discouraged and determined citizenship who are looking for constructive action.

The pay roll of our State should be given a rigid examination to determine how many have been added, how salaries have been increased, and then begin to prune. The Governor further tells us that we are facing a deficit. Before this happens we should make a determined effort to conserve the funds we have.

It is useless to talk about bond issues or additional taxes, as we have reached the breaking point. The only way we can reduce the cost of Government is to cut expenses.—Pennsylvania Grange News.

58411 FAIL TO PASS AUTO TESTS

Of the 220,093 persons examined for operator's licenses in 1931, 58,421 failed to meet the tests. The report of Captain G. H. Keller, commanding Troop C, examining troop of the Pennsylvania State Highway Patrol, shows last month 9093 persons took the examination and 2106 failed.

—Get your job work done here.

TOURISTS ACCOMMODATED

(Continued from page 2 Col. 6)

"Never mind the present. The future looms." "Not mine. I can't see that I've got any."

"Just the point. We must now consider ways and means." "Well, I haven't got any of those, either," commented the young lady with commendable cheerfulness.

"Particularly means." "However, there is home and Moth—and great-aunt."

"Great-aunt, yes. Home, no." "No? This is serious. Exactly what did the Colonial Dame say when you so tactfully sprung it on her that you weren't married?"

"You wouldn't believe it in this day and age." "Maybe I would. Try me." "Well, she pulled the old melodrama never-darken ukase on me. She actually did." Winchle laughed, but there was a quiver in it.

"You don't mean the never-darken-my-door-again wheeze?" he exclaimed. "Right the first time. 'Until you are a respectable woman, is the rest of it, Act Two, Scene Three. Wiggly music and sound of snow beating on window pane."

"Door-darkening, eh?" He ruminated on that for a long minute. "Did it ever occur to you, Winchle, that two can darken a door better than one?"

"It sounds reasonable." "And that I'm one of the swellest little door-darkeners in these enlightened United States?" "You don't look it."

"Try me." "As how?" "Lead me to great-auntie's insufficiently obscured portal." "How will that help?"

"Be not so dumb, sweet maid. You knock at the door. It opens. Great-aunt appears. You say, 'Behold me, a respectable woman.' You point to me. She falls on your or my or both necks. All is well. Selah!"

"What? Two husbands in two days may be your idea of respectability. I can tell you it isn't Aunt Jessie's. It's very kind of you," she added primly, "to offer to save my reputation."

"Hold hard, my hearty! I'm asking you to save mine." "Yours! Where does yours come in?"

"Innocent and helpless young bachelor discovered at dead of night in more or less abandoned farm-house with mysterious, sinister and beautiful young adventuress—"

"Discovered? Who discovered us? Don't joke about it. Did anyone really see us?" "The family cat. She spoke to me about it over her morning mouse. Severely."

"Oh, if you won't be serious about anything—" "I will. Extremely serious about you, Winchle, will you marry me?" "No."

"Pop goes another dream, and with it the birthday present." From his pocket he took a small glowing object upon which he gazed pathetically.

Pop went Winchle's eyes, also. "What's that thing?" "Your rejected present. After all the trouble I went to, too, robbing the jewelry store. Small, neat inexpensive, real and personal, as per specifications. What could be more so than a wedding ring?"

Her breath became quavery and uncertain. The gleam of the gold had imparted a formidable sense of reality to the blithe fairy tale of overnight.

"I never heard of anything so absurd in my life." "Try it on and maybe you'll feel better."

"Why—why—why, I don't know you." "Then you certainly haven't availed yourself of your heaven-sent opportunities," was the bland response, "for I've told you more about myself in the last thirty-six hours than any of my biographers will ever find out. However, if you wish me to enlarge on it—"

"I don't. I want to go ho-o-ome." "So do I. Same home, Back to Aunt Jessie. Carrier unanimously." "Do you think you're quite sane?"

"The obvious answer is, I was 'till I met you." Therefore I won't use it. Allowing that I'm not, just consider my other qualities. A good lad, as lads go. Not much to look at" (A murmur of interruption: "I like to look at you!") "but a heart of gold. Poor enough to be interesting. Very handy about the house. Easy-tempered or he'd have demolished friend husband completely. Not wholly devoid of the joy of living, and absolutely raving about you—yes, already and from here on, whatever happens. And quite easy to call Tick."

"Tick," she experimented. "So you are, Tick." And got herself soundly kissed. Winchle looked thoughtful. "That's an argument, too," she admitted.

"I can advance any number of those." "Wait," she warned. "We're not through the other kind yet." "Practically. I've spoken my little piece." The boyish face before her suddenly became less boyish, more anxious and pleading. "Look here, Winchle; this is going to be an awful flop for me if you don't care about me. I'm terribly in love with you. And I think we could make a go of it if you'd give me the chance. What do you think?"

She gave him a slow, sufficient look. "Tick," she murmured, "you've said a heartfelt!"

First came the wind, then the rain. It buffeted a small runaway slithering along a country road as if with particular and personal animosity, but made no impression whatsoever upon the occupants, a young man and a girl quite close

Two Chicago Bankers Prominent In Drive Against Depression



Charles G. Dawes (left), Chairman of the New Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and Melvin A. Traylor, Chicago Banker.

CHICAGO and the Middle West have a double interest in the success of the gigantic Reconstruction Finance Corporation which is now being organized in Washington following speedy action by Congress.

Charles G. Dawes, whose name is almost synonymous for the business community of Chicago will sit in the driver's seat as the active head of the great \$2,000,000,000 Federal corporation just authorized by Congress.

Another Chicago banker, a Democrat who is being repeatedly mentioned as a man of Presidential timber, has the distinction of making a vital contribution to the initial strength and success of the Reconstruction Corporation. That man is Melvin A. Traylor, president of the First National Bank of Chicago, who was the first to visualize

and propose that the Reconstruction Corporation render some service to thousands of depositors of small banks which had failed during the past two years. The gist of Mr. Traylor's proposal before a Senate Sub-Committee was that the Reconstruction Finance Corporation be authorized to make loans to closed banks as well as to financial institutions and others needing its aid.

Mr. Traylor's suggestion made such an impression that it was embodied in the Bill as finally passed by Congress. He, more than any other man, is responsible for the timely assistance that will now be possible for many depositors of small banks throughout the country.

together. A light as of the splendor of life was in the young man's eyes and in his ear a couple of grains of rice. He chanted: "When the wind's before the rain H'ist your tops'ls up again."

"I didn't know you had such a nice voice, Tick," said the girl. "You've got lots of valuable information about me coming to you, darling," he averred cheerfully. "Gee! What a storm! I believe it's worse than the original one, day before yesterday."

"It's a grand storm," said the girl. "I love it. Where are we?" "Haven't a notion. Don't care a darn. No wedding trip ought to start out with any notion of where it's going."

"There's a sign, though. On that post. Let's look. Just for fun." He jumped out and flashed his light. In a moment he was back.

"Winchle, he said, 'you wouldn't believe it.'" "Yes, I would."

"Maybe you would. But not anyone else. That sign says—'" "Tourists Accommodated," she gurgled.

"Nice Room with Bath," finished Tick. "I can't possibly be the same sign."

"No; but it's just as good a one." "Well?" "I've always believed in signs, Winchle," said Tick. "Journey's end, Tick," said Winchle.—Hearst's International Cosmopolitan.

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