

## The Mountaineer

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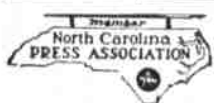
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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1937

### THE INSIDE OF "SOCIAL SECURITY"

In a lengthy editorial, The Hendersonville Times-News recently gave what they termed "the inside" on social security. The Hendersonville paper branded the social security set-up as a new deal scheme. Just where they got all this information, they did not say, but surely the conservative editor knew whereof he spoke, before making such statements as carried in his editorial, which was as follows:

At last the public is beginning to get a faint idea of the inside operations of the so-called "social security" law. It shows up as one of the smoothest tricks the new dealers have devised to separate the tax-payers from their cash. One thing which a large section of the country's population has heretofore overlooked is the fact that like all government schemes which cost money, this one will ultimately involve the entire population of the country. The idea has prevailed that as taxes are collected and benefits promised to certain classes of citizens only, other classes of citizens, while receiving no direct benefits, will escape the cost of the scheme. The fact is that the plan is a hidden tax scheme as far as these classes are concerned and they will ultimately be milked by the federal tax collectors, along with the employers and workers who are taxed.

As briefly as possible, it may be said that the old age pension scheme is planned to drain vast tax levies under so-called "social security" into the United States treasury, where they will pass into the general fund. From the general fund this money will be paid out on the numerous expense accounts of the government. As fast as it is collected this money is expended. It comes in at one end of the treasury and almost immediately goes out at the other end.

To cover this "social security" or old age pension fund borrowing by the government, the government's promises to pay, or bonds, will be issued and held by the treasury, so that at any time in the future beneficiaries of the law will not have their pension money in a trust fund held by the government but it will be represented by the government's promises to pay, or bonds.

The entire proposition may be summed up by saying that the government collects billions of taxes on this old age pension account, proceeds at once to spend the money (instead of holding it in trust for the pensioners) and thirty to forty years from now, or at any other date in the future, what the pensioners will have is the government's promises to pay them their pensions.

At this point in the discussion we can almost hear the excited protests of those citizens who want to know if we think the government will fail in its promises to these people, will try to cheat them of their pension money, or will be financially unable to meet its obligations in the future.

We answer by saying that undoubtedly these persons will have a just and valid claim against the government, but whether or not they can collect on it will depend on the government's success in collecting this old age pension tax money again, or, certainly, will depend on the financial condition of the country and the government at any time in the future.

Right here is the big, protruding point of the whole matter. Here is where the trick is concealed.

The government collects the old age pension fund and SPENDS IT. Clearly, then, when the pensioners are to be paid off in the future the government will not have that money with which to pay them. It will have gone with the wind.

The government's only possible plan for paying off the pensioners will be by COLLECTING TAXES AGAIN to pay off.

The government has no money except as it milks the tax payers or borrows. If it borrows, the debts must be paid by the tax payers, not by the politicians and office-holders.

Twenty, thirty or forty years from now if the government has spent all the money it has extracted from the pockets of Blank, Blank and Blank and their employers under the guise of "social security" taxes the only possible course for the government is to collect the taxes AGAIN in order to meet its promises to pay these citizens.

There is the new deal trick and we submit that it is a fairly slick trick and one calculated to fool many of the people much of the time.

This newspaper earnestly approves of and believes in the principle which is supposed to

be the corner-stone of this old age pension system. We think all intelligent, thrifty citizens believe in it. The trouble in the case under examination is that the new dealers never placed the corner-stone in the structure. In fact they failed to build any foundation whatever under it. They are slapping the structure together on the sands of political uncertainty and trickery.

All of which, and many more facts that could be cited, convince this newspaper that the so-called "social security" plan is merely a smooth trick, which the new dealers thought would have a strong "humanitarian" appeal to the American people, and would enable them to get their clutches on billions of tax money which would otherwise have to be milked from the tax payers by more clearly obnoxious methods.

### CONGRESSIONAL SWINDLE SHEET

The first piece of business to engage the special session of Congress will be the voting of congressmen's usual travel allowance of twenty cents a mile. That's comparatively lean pickings, for from 1866 down to the last few years the rate was forty cents. Even so—

Take the case of that monumental foe of graft and corruption, Senator Hiram Johnson, for instance. Hiram is from California, and his allowance for the trip both ways comes to exactly \$1,298.80. The actual fare, including lower berth, is \$217.50, leaving a net profit of \$1,081.30. Or consider the Hawaiian delegate who travels 10,800 miles at twenty cents a mile, \$2,160 in all. Consider even the case of unfortunate Senator Tydings who only has to go over to Baltimore, forty mile saway. Senator Tydings gets only \$16 for the round trip, but his net profit in the eighty minutes required for the journey is something over \$11. Moreover the Senators and Representatives do not even have to make the journey to collect. They can stay in Washington from one session to the next and still get paid. More yet, they are always paid the full allowance to their home towns, even though in the particular case, they are only coming from Alexandria. Nobody ever asks them questions. That would be a rejection upon our lawgivers, you understand.—Charlotte News.

### FAKERS AT LARGE

Fakers and impostors frequently make it hard for those who are "on the square." Practically all young people who go out to solicit subscriptions or to sell books use the appealing story that they are trying to work their way through college. Many who do that particular kind of work are sincere, but the hundreds of others who are not, tend to create a spirit of distrust in the minds of the public.

Only recently several towns in this section have been visited by a group who preyed upon the sympathy of their prospective customers with a like story. One claimed to be a graduate of a certain denominational orphanage, and a ministerial student to boot, when soliciting members of that particular faith. Investigation, however, proved that the solicitor in question had never been in the orphanage named, and chances are that he is not now, or ever will be, a minister.—Simpson Independent.

### "SERVICE TO THE PARTY"

Not long ago we were talking to one of our State officials and something was said about a certain individual who recently had been given a political job.

"How did he happen to get appointed to that position?" we inquired.

"Oh, we just had to give him some kind of a job," said the official. "You see, he's been a loyal worker and has rendered fine service to the party for a number of years."

"And was that the reason why he was given the job?" we inquired.

"Of course," was the answer.

It so happens that we have known the man in question for a number of years. He has been unable to hold a position for more than two or three months at a stretch. He either gets tired and quits, or else he is discharged. On one occasion he was fired because he stole some money. At another time he and a confederate were caught late at night while in the act of carrying some merchandise through the back door of the store where he was working. He has been a consistent gambler for many years and also drinks to excess.

And yet, because he helps to collect absentee ballots before elections, posts political placards over the countryside, whoops and hollers at speech-makings, fawns upon the powers-that-be, aids in the registration of voters and assists in hauling them to the polls, he is considered a great asset to the party and, as a result, is given a political job.

All things being equal, "service to the party" might be given some consideration. The trouble in the past, however, has been too much consideration. Our local, state, and federal governments would be on a much more efficient and economical basis if we placed more stress upon a man's character and ability and paid less attention to his "service to the party."—The State, Raleigh.

### NOT THRIFTY TO BURN LEAVES

Burning leaves seems to be a growing practice among gardeners and small farmers. Surely if they only stopped to realize what they were burning, that they would adopt a different method of disposing of their leaves.

Leaves make one of the best fertilizers known. They put back into the soil plant food that few other things will.

It only takes a little time to put the leaves in the garden and cover with enough dirt to keep them from blowing away. Then next spring the rotted leaves would take the place of other fertilizers.

Right now, however, the sole aim seems to be to get rid of the leaves—and forget thrift.

### THE OLD HOME TOWN

By STANLEY



### Random SIDE GLANCES

By W. CURTIS RUSS

As I started to the Rotary Club last Friday, I met an old friend from Hendersonville. I knew this man was interested in civic clubs, and had at one time taken an active part in the Hendersonville Boy Scout movement.

He accepted the invitation to be my guest at the club, but before we got there I checked on his official title. I knew he was connected with WPA in some capacity, but wasn't sure as to his present title.

"I am an investigator for WPA," or what you might call an adjuster of claims. When a WPA worker gets hurt, it is my duty to check on all details," he said.

His first words were enough—I intentionally forgot the rest of his title.

At the club I introduced him to those at our end of the table, then whispered around that he was a WPA investigator. Every one of the members at our section weighed every word before they spoke. They immediately took it that my guest—John Todd—was making another investigation on some WPA project.

He was introduced to the club as a WPA investigator, and several members wondered how I rated entertaining such folks. Perhaps I should have explained further in detail his whole title, but since there has been so much talk in Haywood about WPA investigations, I felt it would be justified in letting some of the members get a close-up view of one that had a similar title, but a different type of work.

After the meeting, several expressed themselves freely to Mr. Todd, while others passed on after a good look.

Since the fire, the boiler has been out of commission, so we erected a temporary heating system, which consists of a trash burning heater. It keeps the office plenty warm, in fact too warm at times.

I am enjoying the heater, though, because it affords me the opportunity of throwing scores of pieces of matter sent in for publication that is nothing more than propaganda, direct into the fire.

I have always said, that the ideal editorial office, would have a large chute at the editor's desk, which went direct to the furnace.

### HEADLINES of The PAST

#### NINETEEN YEARS AGO

From the files of Nov. 14, 1918  
 Joy's in the World For Peace Has Come. Jessie Daniels Boone. Peace Parade—Waynesville and Surrounding Country assembled 4,000 persons strong on Monday and celebrated.

Contributors to the Nurse Johnson Memorial Fund Named. Brigadier-General Harley B. Ferguson Visits Home in Waynesville. An apple costs Ten Cents in France.

#### FIVE YEARS AGO

From the files of Nov. 10, 1932  
 Haywood ranks seventh in Value of Farms. County Goes Democratic by Over 3,800 Majority.

Franklin D. Roosevelt and Garner Win in Landslide in Tuesday's Election. Welfare Officer is employed by County.

Prospect of Haywood's Tobacco Crop. Elaborate Armistice Day Program arranged.

#### ONE YEAR AGO

From the files of Nov. 5, 1936  
 Haywood Goes Democratic by Almost 5,000.

President Roosevelt Carries Every State in Union But Maine and Vermont.

Will Snathers Elected Senator in New Jersey. Cheaper Electricity to save customers of Duke Power Company.

12 Girls from Haywood County at W. C. U. N. C. New Equipment is Being Added to Power Sub Station.

in which the editor could throw propaganda matter.

At any rate, I'm enjoying disposing of the free publicity matter now, and watching it burn—it is much more fun than just throwing it in a waste basket.

Since the appearance of the article about the fire, several people have inquired as to the number of parts in a Linotype machine. The article said SEVENTEEN THOUSAND. That figure is correct, according to the machinists. Some of those who doubted the statement, came in and looked over the tables of parts that were being cleaned. They gasped, and one man remarked, "I believe the figure is still wrong, after seeing all the parts, I'd say 25,000."

A columnist on a certain W. N. C. paper, had a squib about the fire, saying: "A hot paper in Waynesville—so hot it set the plant on fire." To this remark, our local punster said: "Yeh? That's better than having such a rotten paper that the plant has to be sprinkled with So-Hy to keep the odor down."

Now, now boys, Tut, tut.

### POINTED PARAGRAPHS

The most provoking husband is one who talks indistinctly in his sleep.

Too many try to begin at the top. Of course, it's all right for a well-digger.

When one sticks his nose into a family row he usually finds he has "put his foot in it," too.

Greek learned in college is useful in enabling the alumnus to remember the name of his fraternity.

Most women seem to be content when they reach 40. By that time they've either got a husband or quit worrying about it.

If you can live past babyhood there's never very much danger in being killed by kindness.

A census report says "the average family pays \$75 a year to the doctor." That's probably news to the doctor.

Maybe more fathers would send their children to college if they knew the kids wouldn't come home and criticize their grammar.

Possibly the nations of the world would get better results if they would hold a conference for the limitation of dictators.

The shower bath was invented by a man whose wife was always bawling him out for leaving a ring around the bath tub.

The only reason some husbands don't lie oftener than they do is because their wives are sometimes too tired to ask questions.

An Arkansas man has just celebrated his 52nd wedding anniversary and, as a claim for special distinction, says that he has never been out of the state and never has hunted or fished. How in the world can a man who does not hunt and does not fish put in his time in Arkansas?



Any one—anywhere—any

For convenience in getting things done, for quick help in emergencies, for sincerity in sending greetings, for the thrill of voice-to-voice visits with friends and family, for speed and efficiency in your business affairs—turn to your telephone. And remember, long distance telephone service is fast, effective and low in cost.

SOUTHERN BELL TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH INCORPORATED

### The Real Yardstick

Mother and daughter can secure their toilet needs at a department store, Dad can buy his cigarette the corner grocery, and little Johnny can swing his nickel for an ice cream cone at the candy kitchen when it comes to prescriptions, the whole family rely on their druggist.

This being true, the worth of a drug store should be judged by the character of its prescription work—that's the yardstick we WANT you to apply to its stitution.

ASK YOUR DOCTOR

ALEXANDER DRUG STORE

Phones 53 and 54

Opposite Post Office

QUESTION: Is there more enjoyment in Camels because of those finer, more expensive tobaccos?

ANSWER: Camels are the LARGEST-SELLING cigarette in America

People do recognize that the finer, MORE EXPENSIVE TOBACCOS in Camel cigarettes make a big difference in the way they enjoy smoking. More Camels are smoked than any other cigarette in America.