

Sanford Herald
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No Pork Barrel Money

Those who recall the huge appropriations of the recent special session of Congress and have noted with feelings somewhat akin to perturbation the rising costs of public works will be interested in an article appearing in the current issue of the American magazine in which Secretary Ickes who has charge of the disbursement of some \$3,300,000,000 of public works money explains that there will be no pork barrel politics in this expenditure.

"Every citizen has the right to ask whether these \$3,300,000,000 constitute a pork barrel," Secretary Ickes writes. Are powerful local politicians to be allowed to build palatial post offices in crossroads villages? Are Democrats to be preferred to Republicans? Are contracts to be shot through with graft and profiteering?

"I can answer simply by saying that if the President had intended to use this money for partisan purposes he would have permitted Congress to apportion it in the public works bill according to the old system. And he would not have appointed any Republicans on the state advisory boards. Nor would he have approved the elaborate system of safeguards which we have thrown around our spending plan to minimize waste, graft, and political influence.

"These safeguards have already proved invaluable in withstanding the deluge of pleas for funds which have descended upon us from individuals and communities ever since I took office as administrator. Huge as the appropriation is, if we were to act without investigation upon all the suggestions and requests that have been made to us, we could allot it all in one month. The pressure from local communities is tremendous. Delegations of politicians, business men, contractors, and leading citizens have laid siege to our offices in person, by mail, by telegraph and by telephone. Among the pleas for special favors which we have received, one of the most curious has been the attempt of certain private businesses to smuggle under the wing of the public works benefits on the pretext that theirs is a municipal project.

"A delegation comes in and says: 'We represent the city of Soandoo. Our city wants to build a tobacco (or cheese, or lumber, or candy) factory. It will give work to our unemployed and be a fine thing for the city.' We ask: 'Does the city itself intend to operate this factory?'"

"Then there is a pause. 'No,' says the leader of the delegation. 'The city intends to lease it out to some experts qualified in that business.'"

"Ever since the days when ancient Rome built her wonderful roads, drainage canals, and aqueducts, there have been attempts to use public works for public plunder. In America a public works system has often been justly called a 'pork barrel' system. By this system each congressman tried to get as large an appropriation for his own district as possible, without regard to whether the buildings, harbors, or river improvements were really necessary or desirable. No legislator dared to object to the wasteful items of his colleagues for fear of imperiling his own share of the gravy. Research men say that in the past a good half of our public works appropriations has been wasted in this way.

"In recent years a check has been put on such practices by requiring approval of a project by army engineers or the head of the federal department involved. But the essential evil of the pork barrel, which consists of basing local appropriations for federal public works on temporary or political advantage, instead of considering permanent national utility, remained until the dawn of the present public works program which was approved June 16th last. It is the greatest public works plan ever attempted.

"The idea back of this act, new in our national policy, is that Congress appropriate a lump sum and turn it over to the President, who, through a Public Works Administration, may spend it according to a national need and a national plan. This change is a revolutionary one. It is in line with what students of government have been urging for years. Whether we shall stick to the new policy in the future, or return to the pork barrel, depends upon how honestly, impartially, and ably the present fund is administered.

"But the new policy does not change human nature. The appetite for pork, pampered for a century, cannot be legislated out of existence by an act of Congress."

Protests Against The "New"

When we read about the strife and discord generated centuries ago when the first horse-drawn plow supplanted human labor, we smile that people could have been so prejudiced and short-sighted in not seeing the advantage of labor-saving devices.

But despite the fact that with each new invention and improved method of work there actually have been given more jobs to people, the same resentment exists today whenever a machine is invented or adopted that will save human hands.

The unemployment problem in Western Europe is nothing as compared to the times when everything was done by physical labor, and yet we see today hundreds of bargemen of the Seine and Olse Rivers blocking the streams with their barges in protest over the competition of motorized boats.

Their argument is that the faster and more economical vessels will force the horse-drawn barges out of business. And no they will, but because of the fact that the power-driven boats can supply so much better service and at a reduced rate, the river traffic will be greatly enhanced, and, where there used to be one slow-going barge, there will be ten modern ones. There will be more men engaged in the traffic than ever before.

The only thing that can be said for the protesting bargemen is that their method of propulsion is more picturesque and romantic. From an economic point of view the slow-going horse drawn barge is doomed but from aesthetic consideration it far out-classes anything running under engine power.

DOMASIELLO TELLS OF PLAN TO AID PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Speaker Of Florida's House Addresses School Officials

Peter Tomasello, speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, told a group of more than 100 members and friends of the West Coast School Officials' Association, meeting in the Florida House today that if the State Board of Education adopts a plan he will lay before it tomorrow, the payment of teachers' salaries and the opening of a majority of Florida's public schools may be expected within a few weeks.

His plan involves a new wrinkle as far as the school system of this state is concerned. The State Board of Education will authorize the issuance of time warrants against the anticipated revenues for school purposes. Banks will be permitted to purchase these warrants, and the funds will be deposited with State Treasurer W. V. Knott, to be released upon receipt of an approved voucher from the school board. The Treasurer is permitted to accept the time warrants as security for state deposits in various banks throughout Florida.

"If this plan is accepted," Mr. Tomasello stated, "it would permit the payment of teachers' salaries to the total amount of the anticipated revenue at once. Payments would probably not be made in a lump sum, but as needed by the various school boards."

As he began his short talk, given this morning in lieu of a scheduled address by Senator M. G. Fitch, who was unable to attend the meeting because of illness, Mr. Tomasello told the school officials and teachers that "you are facing the most crucial period in your history. Unless something is done at once to establish a sound financial basis to get it out of the hands of the politicians, it is on the verge of an immediate collapse that will require from 10 to 15 years to repair."

Referring to the recent session of the Legislature and his efforts to aid the school system of the state, Mr. Tomasello stated that "his hope was to place the school industry on a parity with all other departments of the state government, including the payment of salaries."

Opposition developed which precluded such an attempt, he pointed out as he added that "if I could have had my way I would much rather have had the governor and his cabinet, all state officials, and all high salaried attendants do without a pay check rather than jeopardize the school system."

Mr. Tomasello stated that a breakdown in the morale of the teachers, "fine men and women who have spent hundreds of dollars preparing themselves for a life's work of service and duty," is one of the most serious consequences attending the collapse of the school system.

"Subjected to the humiliation of low salaries, and with their social and business standing disrupted," Mr. Tomasello said, "what can we expect of them? We and our children will be the ones to suffer."

"In my judgment," he said, "the next session of the Legislature must once and for all determine the school system."

He little girl last Saturday. Mrs. D. L. Thrasher left last night for New York where she will spend some time. News was received in the city this morning of the death of Mrs. M. L. Allen at Rutland, Vt. where she had gone in an effort to regain her health. Mrs. Allen had been a resident of Sanford for several years having conducted a millinery business, and was highly esteemed by all with whom she came in contact.

Mrs. Deane Tupper and Donna, Jr. are at home again after a most delightful summer trip that took in Thousand Islands and other places in the North.

They'll Cut Like New! Surgical tools all kinds of steel and brass. Write for list of all kinds. J. W. Shaffer.

LAWN MOWERS Repaired and sharpened. Write for list of all kinds. J. W. Shaffer.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Britt, recently of Savannah, have returned to this city to reside and Mr. Britt will hold a position with the Seminole County Bank.

Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Woodruff and wife have returned from a pleasant summer visit in North Carolina.

ward, it still was attended by heavy gales over a considerable area—aid the Washington weather bureau—and by a series of hurricanes over a small area. Warnings flew from the Maine coast to Jersey, and shipping was cautioned as far south as Atlantic City.

Other speakers at the morning session included Judson Walker of Orlando, Fred T. Williams and T. W. Lawson of Sanford, and George Marks of DeLand. Captain George M. Lynch, of Pinellas county, president of the Association, did not preside over the meeting until about noon. He made a short talk in which he set forth the plight of the school system, comparing it to others throughout the nation.

He pointed out that Florida teachers are now owed over \$1,000,000 in back salaries, and he said that this debt has been brought about "not because of a misappropriation of funds, but because of a collapse of the tax collections."

STORM WINDS RAGE TOWARD MAINE COAST

(Continued from page 1) Frying Pan Shoals. The Albert S. Fall, a schooner was aground off Sealwells point in Hampton Roads, Va., and the coast guard cutter Mascoutin was sent to her aid.

The Jacksonville-bound Clyde-Mallory liner Henry R. Mallory, overdue at Charleston, S. C., since Saturday, was safe about 100 miles south of Scotland Lightship, off the Jersey coast. It was expected in Charleston Tuesday.

The Ward line received a report from its liner Morro Castle, unreported for 24 hours, that it, too, was off Scotland Lightship and was proceeding cautiously in heavy seas. It was expected here today with 140 passengers aboard. It sailed from Havana Wednesday.

The storm was reported yesterday about 150 miles east of Atlantic City, moving northeast.

DR. HENRY McLAULIN, JR. Ophthalmologist 113 Park Ave.

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SANFORD, TWENTY YEARS AGO

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Britt, recently of Savannah, have returned to this city to reside and Mr. Britt will hold a position with the Seminole County Bank. Mrs. Frances Gonzalez is at home again after a pleasant little visit to Daytona Beach. Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Phillips and children are among the Sanford people sojourning at Daytona Beach. Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Luffer are receiving the congratulations of their friends on the arrival of their newborn son.

