

PROPOSE FEDERAL TAX OF DOLLAR ON 10,000,000 DOGS

A Federal tax of \$1 or more per year on some 10,000,000 owned dogs in the United States, without reference to the taxes in effect in the various States, will be urged on Congress as a war measure this session. As a part of the food conservation program, it is proposed to devote the revenue derived from such a tax to the extermination of predatory wild animals on the sheep ranges of the West.

LIGHTLESS NIGHTS BEGIN IN NATION TOMORROW NIGHT

Downtown Washington will be as dark as the residence section tomorrow night. A "lightless night" has been prescribed by the fuel administration as a coal saving measure. It will be the first of the twice-week "lightless nights" to be observed throughout the country on Thursday and Sunday nights.

14 OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE GENUINE CHRISTMAS CHEER

Following its custom since 1910 The Times today presents to the Christmas givers of Washington fourteen golden opportunities for human helpfulness. Fourteen families need immediate assistance to preserve their homes. In eight of these the mothers are widows, four are deserted wives, one is a family of orphans cared for by the grandmother, and in one the mother is blind and the father partially so. In these fourteen homes to-behave there are fifteen blind and sixty-eight children, only a few of whom are old enough to begin earning.

Each family is well known to the Associated Charities which, after going over each family budget with the mothers, has conservatively estimated the minimum requirements for the coming year to keep these homes together. A chance to help is offered in \$2.50 a week or messenger service at \$8 a week or \$488. It is needed to supplement what this mother can earn.

Opportunity No. 1 Six Fatherless Children of Italy. The flood of misfortune broke loose upon this little Italian mother when her husband had to give up his trade on account of tuberculosis. At first he still did what he could to support his wife and six children, all under twelve, by selling flowers on the street, as the doctor said he must do for a few days. A month ago he died leaving his family with no means of support, except what his brother can contribute out of hard-earned wages. The church pays the rent. The mother is devoted to her children, and is doing her full part to keep her home together. Will you not help keep her family with her? Ten dollars a week or \$520 is needed for the year.

Opportunity No. 2 Doing Her Part. Mrs. C. can work all day away from home, oh, yes, easily, but then must take care of baby Bobby, and Mary, eight, and Elsie, nine—out of school hours? Their mother does go out a few hours each day while a relative stands guard over the baby, and she takes in sewing. The home though small is scrupulously neat and the children show the results of their loving care. In addition to Mrs. C.'s earnings and the help of relatives \$3.00 a week or \$116 for the year is needed.

Opportunity No. 3 Preparing to Plead His Mother's Cause. Jack and Harry with their industrious, loving mother appealed to us, for you must know that little Harry, seven years of age, has a weak back, and no one can look after him like his mamma, while Jack, ten years of age, feels that he is the man of the family since his father deserted so many years ago. Mrs. A. tells us that Jack has great ambitions and talks continually of the time when he will be a lawyer and make money for them all. He is such a talker, while at the same time such a famous helper in practical ways that his mother thinks he may accomplish his ambition. Just now, however, the family needs \$5 a week or \$260 for the year.

Opportunity No. 4 Sammy, 10, Would Fight. Ten-year-old Sammy Wants to Fight For Mother and Country. Described by her husband, Mrs. Camp is bravely trying to make a home for her four children, under eleven years of age, who are unusually promising. Sammy, the first born, is a sturdy little chap. He says he is going to be a soldier and fight for his mother and his country. Mrs. Camp needs help to keep the wolf from her door until Sammy is able to shoulder arms in her behalf. Ten dollars a week, or \$520 a year is needed to save this home.

Opportunity No. 5 Independence Only a Few Months Away. "Just one year, madam, and then," she nodded and laughed in her own cheery way, "then Julie will be married and her Guiseppi will help and with Julie's and my sewing and washing and mending and Guiseppi's good trade and the garden that Guiseppi and little Jean will make why we will be rich. Is it not so?" All this nice plan if Guiseppi does not go to war. The second draft will find him ready if needed, for he loves America. Madame X's husband died last summer. Besides seventeen-year-old Julie there is little Jean of the lame knee, and "La Petite Sauterelle," as her mother calls her, because she never chatters long enough to grow plump, and happy little Pierre, the "child of charity that is love." His mother called him so when he came at the time when the father was ill. It was the kindness of the big city that seemed so wonderful to Madame X when she found that a way was provided for her to keep her little flock together. Madame X and Julie make the larger part of the income on their thrift and industry, but \$5 a week, or \$260, is still needed for the coming year.

Opportunity No. 6 Battling Against Chronic Ill-health and Poverty. Almost constant ill-health has made the fight against poverty doubly hard for this widowed mother. Her five children are devoted to her. The oldest child, a girl of sixteen, never strong, has spent much time in the hospital. Jack, an ambitious lad of fifteen, is his mother's right-hand man. He is a fine student and works out of school hours and on Saturdays. Last summer he and his mother had a very successful war garden. The three younger children are well, and do what they can to help their mother. On account of so much sickness \$16 a week is needed, or \$852 for the year.

Opportunity No. 7 A Quiver Full of Children. Ten children in one family—hard to believe these days? The industrious father, a Greek, died a year ago, leaving his widow with ten children under fourteen. He was stricken suddenly, and his family was utterly penniless. There was no insurance. The Greek Church is helping generously. Relatives, out of their small earnings, are doing more than can be afforded. The children, intelligent and attractive, have the making of good American citizens. They responded beautifully at Camp Good Will last summer. On their return they were very insistent that each one should be paid, and that hands should be washed before each meal. Twelve dollars a week, or \$624 for the year, is needed.

Opportunity No. 8 Four Deserted French-American Kiddlees. This little French woman, deserted by her husband five years ago, is taking good care of her four children under thirteen years of age. Her little girls are being trained to be good housekeepers. Each one has her own special duty to perform daily, even baby Helene, a baby, which is about all her tiny hands can do. While the children are at school, mother works out, but is unable to earn enough to pay all that four little ones need. She needs \$2.50 a week, or \$130 a year, to supplement what this mother can earn.

Opportunity No. 9 Future Assets vs. Present Liabilities. Mrs. E.'s husband died two years ago, leaving her with six children, only one of whom was old enough to work. She hardly knew which way to turn. A chance to learn a trade at \$2.50 a week or messenger service at \$8 a week was offered her for her boy. She took the long view and chose the trade. Now Henry is making \$9 a week with respect of more. The father was a builder, and when he died had partially paid for the house in which they live. The expenses on the house are \$8 per month—less than any rent. The assets of the family are: (1) heavy mother; (2) an industrious, clean boy learning his trade; (3) six normal boys and girls. Against these assets there is a present liability of \$10 a week deficit in their income, or \$520 per year.

Opportunity No. 10 A Father's Duty as a Young Shoulder. Many years ago the father forsook his wife and her four small children. The oldest girl, now eighteen, not overstrong, is trying to support her invalid mother. Nancy is working the harder so that her four-year-old brother may stay in school this year to fit him for better service. The two younger lads, eleven and eight years of age, are just happy, healthy boys at school, and we want to keep them so. The mother hopes that in another year she will be self-supporting, and is proud to think so. Six dollars per week, or \$312 per year, is needed.

Opportunity No. 11 Who Will Help John Carry His Load? John, a colored boy of sixteen years, the oldest of six children, is striving hard to be the bread winner for his younger brothers and sisters. He is learning his trade, and is already earning \$120 a day—good pay for one so young, but not enough to support seven people in these war times. When his father died his mother put her shoulder to the wheel to keep the family together. Now she, too, is gone. The grandmother, a superior woman, takes excellent care of the children besides taking in sewing. John takes great pride in keeping himself trim. When he comes home Saturday mornings he takes off his suit and presses it ready to wear to church the next morning. It will not be long before John's sister will be old enough to help, but for the next year \$2 a week or \$104 a year, will be necessary if this boy for which John is working so hard is to be kept together.

Opportunity No. 12 Embryo Wage Earners. Mrs. Weeks, a widow, is an encouragement to those who are afraid of tuberculosis. Once she had it, but through good care is now well, so that she is able to make an exceptionally good home for her four fatherless children under sixteen years of age. Her boys and girls show the result. The oldest girl has a scholarship in a business school, and is preparing to become a dress maker. Jack, the second boy, wants to be a farmer and raise livestock and grain for our army. Meantime he is going to school and helping his mother with the heavy house and garden work. Even four-year-old Bob, his mother straightened up the house after the other children have gone to school. \$14 weekly, or \$728 for the year, is needed.

Opportunity No. 13 Mother Blind, Father Almost So, and Seven Children. Try to put yourself in the position of this mother, who is totally blind. Think what it would be never to have seen and some of your seven babies with all their cunning ways, never to have seen their smiles, and to have added to this the fact that the father's sight is almost gone and we have a picture of the family, and unfortunately are the family, the children especially for their sakes that we ask your interest. The woman adds to the slender income of the family by transcribing books for the blind, and especially for their sakes that we ask your interest. The woman adds to the slender income of the family by transcribing books for the blind, and especially for their sakes that we ask your interest. The woman adds to the slender income of the family by transcribing books for the blind, and especially for their sakes that we ask your interest.

MELBA CHARMS LOVERS OF MUSIC IN LONG PROGRAM

Mme. Melba was the bright, particular star of the concert at the National Theater yesterday afternoon, with Winifred Christie, pianist, as assisting soloist, and Frank St. Leger, accompanist. Arthur Hackett, who was to have sung two groups of songs, was storm-bound and could not reach the city.

The world of coloratura singing to which Mme. Melba belongs has fewer votaries among the rising singers, and so it is that her singing of the "Jewel Song" from "Faust" and particularly the Arditi waltz song, "So Saran Rossa," with its double trills and its weird passages, come almost as a novelty on a program.

Audience Responds. The waltz song brought such warm response that Mme. Melba added two encores that are very personally her own. "Comin' Thru the Rye" and "Annie Laurie," the latter in an attractive Lisa Lehmann setting. She was most generous with her encores, giving also "The Cuckoo," by Lisa Lehmann, the old English "Mary of Argyll," and a most pleasing song by her accompanist Mr. St. Leger, entitled "A Fallen Leaf." A "Venezian Song," by Bemberg was very charming with its distinctive Italian flavor, and Mme. Melba gave also the Rimsky-Korsakoff "Chant Indou," "The Butterflies" of Chausson, Grieg's "The Swan" in English and "The Blackbird Song" of Cyril Scott.

Miss Christie Pleases. Miss Christie is at her best in the delicate playing of the modern French school. She gave in this mode the Ravel "Jeux d'Eau" and, as encores to the Moszkowsky "Concert Etude," the Rachmaninoff "Prelude in G" that she also held an impressionism in music. Her program included Chopin and a Liszt "Hungarian Rhapsody." The accompaniments of Mr. St. Leger were sympathetic and admirable. J. MacB.

UTILITIES BOARD GETS BRIGHTWOOD CAR SERVICE KICK

The Public Utilities Commission today received a protest from the Brightwood Citizens' Association, who record themselves as tired of what they term the "incompetent, unsatisfactory, and inadequate condition" of the street car service given them by the Washington Railway and Electric Company. The roadbed of the com-

pany's Brightwood line also needs new springs and matting, significantly speaking, according to the protest which describes its present status as very bad indeed. Resolutions incorporating the grievances were unanimously passed at a meeting of the association last night at the Brightwood Public School building, and forwarded to the Commissioners. Resolutions commending the present fight for outages in Washington also were passed, and kicks were forthcoming at the proposed increase of rates by the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company. The proposition to build a new street car line between Georgia avenue and National Park was discussed, but no action taken thereon. Four new members were admitted last evening as follows: Alfred H. Hollidge, John Boland, J. Walter Bernhard, and John B. Abraham.

NEW, LONGER TERMS FOR JAIL BREAKERS

William Preston, colored, who recently was captured after escaping from the penitentiary at Lorton, Va., where he was serving a sentence of nine years for housebreaking, begins a new term of twenty years today, Justice Starnord sending him to prison on two indictments charging housebreaking and larceny. "And see that he isn't put in the front yard this time," observed the court when imposing sentence. Darrall D. Bancroft, nineteen years old, was sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary, pleading guilty to a charge of housebreaking. He escaped from Coocquan several years ago while serving a term for housebreaking and joined the navy. Several weeks ago he returned here.

WHAT NEBRASKA SAVED.

Nebraska is the first State to make a complete return showing the amount of food saved by hotels and restaurants during November. The savings in 1,267 hotels and restaurants was as follows: Wheat flour, 1,502 barrels; meat, 211 tons; sugar, 195,441 pounds.

TWO SAILORS DROWNED.

AN ATLANTIC PORT, Dec. 15.—Naval vessels are searching today for the bodies of two sailors who were swept out to sea yesterday when they started in a small boat to assist a patrol vessel that had become entangled in a submarine net across the harbor. The names of the sailors are not given.



"My Mother Has a Victrola!"

Santa: "Well, why not give her some records, they are the next best gift. Go to Cohen & Hughes, Inc., and ask about our outfit, Record Lights, Albums, and Opera Books. Our most efficient sales force will be glad to help you make your selection. Ask about the Record Certificate.

Stop in— Rest and Hear the Best Cohen & Hughes, Inc. 1221 F Street N. W.

Advertisement for Record Lights, Albums, and Opera Books. Includes text: "It is Easy to Send HIM the News From Home Every Day" and "Men in camp and at the front want news from 'back home.' The Washington Times will give them all the news of Washington and all the world. Just send HIS name and camp address, together with— \$3.50 for 6 months \$7.00 for 12 months TO THE CIRCULATION MANAGER OF THE WASHINGTON TIMES."

HE ACTUALLY GOT COAL THROUGH FUEL OFFICIALS

Joseph Atkins, of 2155 L street northwest, is one man in Washington today having faith in the fuel administration. For three weeks Atkins tried to get coal. Being a stranger here, he first tried his nearest dealer, this failing, he tried daily to get coal from many dealers and finally from the fuel administration. Already the fuel authorities have procured a half ton of coal for Atkins, and he is today resting on his promise to deliver more.

Central Union Mission advertisement. Text: "\$2.50 Will Supply a Dinner for a Family of Six. Make Checks Payable to Central Union Mission, & Send to 622 Louisiana Ave. N.W. Central Union Mission Incorporated 622 Louisiana Avenue N. W. John S. Bennett, Supt. Invites your co-operation in making this Christmas a merry one for the poor. The demands upon the Mission at this season of the year are always great, but more families need help this year than ever before. At 7:30 Christmas night there will be an entertainment and Celebration For 500 Poor Children. A huge Christmas tree and distribution of dolls, toys, clothing, and stockings (filled with candy, nuts, and fruit), by Santa, himself. Will YOU help us bring this touch of the Christmas spirit to families with little children who would otherwise know none of the joys of the holiday season? More appeals for help than ever before are coming in daily, because so many families are affected by the high cost of living. WE NEED 250 pounds of hard candy, 500 oranges, 500 apples, 200 pounds of nuts to fill the stockings. Warm clothing, toys, groceries, and money will also be necessary. Help Make Xmas Merry For Such Kiddies As These. Your Gift, Large or Small, Will Be Gratefully Received. THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION"

CROWDING THE TELEPHONE DOOR

The situation confronting this Company in Washington is filled with difficulties; of these the most serious is the steadily rising tide of telephone calls. For months the daily burden put upon us has been all but service-breaking. With us there is no physical barrier to hold in check the calling public. The manufacturer says, "No more orders for immediate delivery." The railroads say, "Embargo." Even the elevator boy can say, "Next car, please." The telephone operators, though they may be overwhelmed, must keep on striving to answer and complete each call—important and unimportant—as it comes in.

Washington's telephone operating difficulties, like many of the recent commercial disturbances, could not be foreseen. But as far as it is humanly possible the Telephone Company is endeavoring to keep up with the demands. Over 900 skilled operators, including 250 from other cities, are working as they have never before been called upon to work to handle the telephone traffic of the city. The force is being increased as fast as labor and housing conditions permit.

It is because of this telephone traffic situation that we have asked the Public Utilities Commission to approve certain revisions in our schedule of charges. We trust it will be recognized that here is a situation which ought to be relieved, and that the plan which we propose is designed to bring this much needed relief.

THE CHESAPEAKE AND POTOMAC TELEPHONE COMPANY logo and name.