

## The Key West Citizen

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The Citizen is an open forum and invites discussion of public issues and subjects of local or general interest, but it will not publish anonymous communications.

### IMPROVEMENTS FOR KEY WEST ADVOCATED BY THE CITIZEN

1. More Hotels and Apartments.
2. Beach and Bathing Pavilion.
3. Airports—Land and Sea.
4. Consolidation of County and City Governments.
5. Community Auditorium.

### HOW ABOUT THE BRIDGE CATWALKS? NEBLETT AND PAPPY READY TO ACT

When you hook a fish and are reeling or pulling him in, everything in the world, except landing the fish, is blanked from your mind. That's the reason why fishing from the Overseas Highway bridges is so dangerous. That's also why drivers alert themselves as they are nearing a fisherman, not knowing at what moment he may get a bite and become thoughtless of passing automobiles.

That's what happened to that young man who was killed recently on the bridge. His thought was concentrated wholly on the fish he had pulled up, and he dashed out in front of a car and was struck and killed.

Danger of fishing from Overseas bridges has been evident since they have been used for automotive traffic. Four years ago, Representative Bernie C. Pappy began a movement to have catwalks built along the bridges for the use of anglers. He continued to hammer away at the proposal till last March when the State Road Department appropriated \$150,000 to build the catwalks.

Pappy blames Chairman Cecil Webb of the department for the delay in beginning the construction of the walks. As Citizen readers may recall, only a few days before the fisherman was killed, Pappy complained about the department's failure to include the catwalks in its latest projects. But Webb said he was not to blame. He said the reason for the exclusion of the catwalks from the projects was because they had not been put in the priority list that had been submitted to the board by the member from this district.

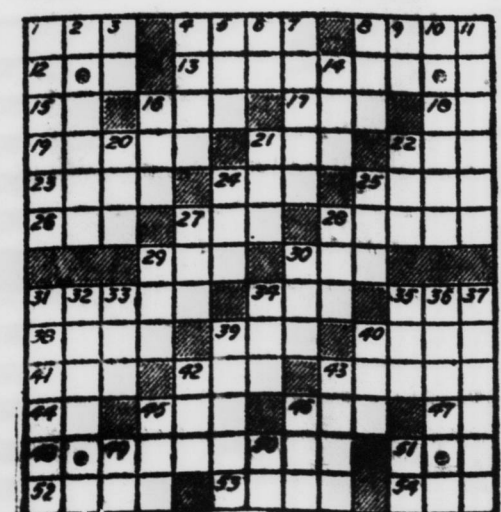
Senator-Elect Neblett and Representative Pappy will appeal to the incoming board of the State Road Department to include the catwalks in its first priority list. But the \$150,000 that has been appropriated will not be enough to build all the walks that had been proposed. At the time the appropriation had been made, the Overseas Road and Toll Bridge District had agreed to construct the walks within the tollgates at an estimated additional \$150,000. The department's appropriation is earmarked for the bridges outside the tollgates, including those from Big Pine to Boca Chica.

The Citizen feels confident that, with the passing of Webb and his board next Tuesday, Neblett, who will be senator by that time, and Pappy will succeed in getting action, not excuses about "priorities," from the new board. The walks not only will provide a safe place for fishermen but also will relieve drivers of the tension they sense when driving on a bridge where men and women are more concerned with fishing than they are with passing cars.

The members of every profession, with few exceptions, stress the importance of their profession, which means, incidentally, themselves.

### Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
1. Barrier
  4. Vocal solo
  8. Presently
  12. Australian bird
  13. Nonsense
  15. Italian river
  16. Permit
  17. Compass point
  18. Existence
  19. Aromatic root
  21. Animal of the deer family
  22. Small round mark
  23. Reported
  24. Shanty
  25. Cuban dollar
  26. Tree
  27. Stir the air
  28. Strength
  29. Grow drowsy
- DOWN**
20. Project outward
  31. Postpone
  32. Swamp
  35. Take the evening meal
  38. Sufficient
  39. Poetic
  40. Large fish
  41. Public vehicle
  42. Assistance
  43. Rectangular insect
  44. Have being
  45. East Indian title
  46. Kind of moss
  47. State of the Union abbr.
  48. The day past
  51. Secure
  52. Wild plum
  53. Scatterers seed



SEAS WERE ROW  
PALE AVER EVE  
AIRD DEPRIVED  
ARENA DENS  
RELATED LITER  
NARIS PRESENT  
DIG PROSE NIE  
SCORDED TACINA  
NUTS RESEAL  
THAS PAIRS  
STUNTERS ERGO  
ANT AGRE TUIT  
RIAS ATAS TEINT

Solution of Yesterday's Puzzle

- ACROSS**
1. Dethrone
  2. Not involving morality
  3. Greek letter
  4. Top cards
  5. Inside
  6. Feminine name
  7. Fruit drink
  8. Symbol for sodium
- DOWN**
10. At leisure
  11. Wise counselor
  14. Writing fluid
  16. Cover
  20. Edge
  21. Eternity
  22. Condensed moisture
  24. Passing fashion
  26. Cooking
  27. In behalf of
  28. Kind of dog
  29. Trot
  31. Decomposes
  32. Tooth covering
  33. Watch pocket
  34. Unpleasant
  35. Orb of the day
  36. Irregular
  37. Roof of the mouth
  39. Prevaricators
  40. Child's game
  42. Affirmative
  43. Is profitable
  45. Devoiced
  46. Uncooked
  48. Thus
  50. Perform
  52. Depart

## ANOTHER CHALLENGE TO THE CHAMP



Changes Ahead For 1955

## New Social Security Laws Affect 9 Out Of 10

WASHINGTON (AP)—New Year's Day brings a new look to the nation's vast program of retirement benefits for the aged and of death benefits to widows and surviving children of wage earners.

Sooner or later, this new look—embodied in amendments to the social security law taking effect Jan. 1—will affect the pocketbooks of more than 9 out of 10 Americans. It virtually fulfills the long-time dream of social security planners—retirement income for everybody.

The new law brings up to 10 1/2 million persons under the Old Age and Survivors Insurance system for the first time—farm operators, farm laborers, domestic workers and self-employed architects, engineers, accountants and funeral directors on a compulsory basis; state and local government employees and clergymen on an optional basis. After 18 months' coverage, many of these will be eligible for benefits for the first time.

The new law also increases benefits for everyone in the system (some increases took effect in October), increases taxes for some, and provides new advantages for millions of disabled workers and for other millions who want to continue some work and still draw retirement benefits.

About 3,600,000 farm operators—people farming for themselves—are covered for the first time. To qualify, they must make as much as \$470 profit a year. They must report on their income and pay a 3 per cent social security tax on earnings up to \$4,200 a year. Their first new social security returns will be due with income tax returns on 1955 earnings, filed early in 1956.

Farm operators get a number of special privileges. If their total income (receipts) for the year is below \$1,800, they don't have to figure their net income, or actual profit or earnings. They can arbitrarily report half their gross income as their net. Or they can figure their net if they choose to do so.

If their total income is above \$1,800, they have to figure their profit. If these net earnings are less than \$900, the farm operator can report his actual earnings or report an arbitrary figure of \$900—whichever he chooses. If his net is above \$900, he must report the actual figure.

In addition, some 2,100,000 farm laborers—people doing farm work for others—are covered for the first time. Farm laborers were covered in the past only if they were "regularly" hired by one employer and received cash wages of \$50 or more per quarter of a year from that employer.

Now they will be covered if they are paid as much as \$100 by a single employer in a single year. The worker himself has no return to make. For any wages paid after Friday, the employer is to deduct 2 per cent of the worker's wages, add another 2 per cent from his own money, and turn all this over to the government annually, or whenever the combined tax fund reaches \$100. Workers must obtain a social security number and card from his nearest social security office.

Optional coverage is extended for the first time to about 3 1/2 million state and local government employees. Many local governments already have their own retirement systems. Under the old law, employees covered by these systems could not come under the OASI program. The new law permits

them to remain in the state system and also join the federal program, provided a majority of the group votes to do so.

Optional coverage also is extended to 250,000 ministers, and members of religious orders who have not taken a poverty vow. They will be treated as self-employed persons, paying the 3 per cent social security tax along with their regular income tax returns.

In the past, domestic servants, maids, cooks, chauffeurs, gardeners and other such workers have been covered if they worked 24 days for a single employer in a quarter. Under the new law they are covered if they earn as much as \$50 from a single employer in a quarter, or three-month period. This will bring in an estimated

250,000 more. Starting Saturday, each employer who pays \$50 or more a quarter to a domestic worker should withhold 2 per cent of the wages, add 2 per cent from his own money, and turn over the entire amount to the government in quarterly returns. If the housewife chooses, however, she may pay the entire 4 per cent tax from her own money, withholding none from the worker's wages. The worker files no return but should get a social security card. Employers may be prosecuted if they fail to comply.

Coverage also is extended automatically to about 100,000 self-employed professional people—architects, engineers, accountants and funeral directors, who have heretofore been excluded.

## A Grain Of Salt

By Bill Spillman

A young fisherman was killed recently by a motorist in an accident on the Overseas Highway. There is no doubt that this boy's life may have been spared if we had catwalks for fishing from the bridges.

The money for these catwalks has been appropriated. Local politicians claim that the State Road Department has been giving the county the run around on the issue. I don't profess to know the what's and why's of the delay. But it is known that a young life was stamped out that might otherwise be living today if he had been fishing from a catwalk instead of the road portion of the bridge.

If anyone purposely let personal feelings or politics delay construction of the vitally needed safety projects, they have committed a terrible crime. It takes a sadistic person to obstruct the construction when dangers to human life are knowingly involved.

Perhaps the catwalks have not been built because of a system of rape or people who lack initiative to correct the defects.

It is too late for anyone to say, "I told you so." One death has already occurred. It is also very possible that more of the same type of accidents may occur again before the lead is pulled from members of the State Road Department that are responsible.

There have been many headlines on the catwalk issue and there will probably be many more. But then, we don't need headlines, we need catwalks on the bridges for fishermen.

CORAL DUST—A school principal (whom his club friends call fingers) was advised recently to drive extra carefully on S-D Day to avoid being pinched.

—Look for a story involving private use of city equipment.

—"Kept" men have women do their dirty work for them.

—B-Drinking is still going on in the city. (No free advertisement).

—The airport use panel has completely reversed a former ruling. That of, "The use of federal money to duplicate airport facilities where

there are already existing military airports, is a luxury that this country cannot afford." Remember this decision the next time you pay your income tax—and election.

—The pier at county beach is getting worse and worse.

—The city is getting some snazzy looking motels.

—National Airlines reportedly has permission to fly from this city to Havana but could not compete with the Cuban airline in price because of rates set by the Washington agency.

—Robert Valdez is to be complimented for the fine work he did in making up the new rules concerning city civil service employees.

—The city ordinance on B-drinking should be repealed if it is not enforced.

—There is nothing wrong with a man hiring his wife to work in a public job provided the wife works the same as anyone else would.

—A crack down is in the making for the use of public vehicles for private purposes; instances, going to drive-in movies, etc.

—Unless the man who wants to lease Garrison Bight comes up an acceptable offer before the next commission meeting, one commissioner is going to recommend that bids be requested in conjunction with using the city fund to improve the Bight.

—TV artist unions are thinking about forbidding the use of programs by stations that permit telecasts to be used by organized closed circuit systems. They claim that high profits made are not getting down to actors and actress level. They say also that it is like reprinting a published book without royalties.

—Jack Delaney is starting his fishing column again.

### FANATICS TO DIE

CAIRO, Egypt (AP)—A military tribunal Tuesday sentenced five more leaders of the fanatic Moslem Brotherhood to death by hanging and headed prison terms ranging from five years to life to 20 others.

Pheasants were introduced into the United States from China in 1880.

## PEOPLE'S FORUM

The Citizen receives numerous letters addressed to the People's Forum which are not accompanied by the signature of the writer.

If your letter is suitable for inclusion in the Forum, we are happy to publish it, with or without your name as you desire, but it is necessary for the letter to be signed when it comes to our office.

The Citizen is interested in helping you put your opinions before the public, and we will carefully withhold your identity if such is your wish, but we must have your signature.



## This Rock Of Ours

By Bill Gibb

Folks all over the country are getting pretty disgusted with the postal situation. No longer does a mail box signify something private—it is merely a receptacle for a confused mass of advertising material—material slapped together with no regard for the reader's sensibilities.

The government, using taxpayer's money, is delivering this so-called "junk mail" practically free of charge. Because it comes in such huge quantities, the average household carts it to a wastebasket without bothering to look at it. But there is always a good chance that an important letter, written in a normal size envelope, can become tangled in the junk and inadvertently thrown away.

Postmaster General Arthur Summerfield is the one who is responsible for the costly and irritable conditions which prevail now with regard to this third-class mail. The "experiment," as he calls it, has turned our mail carriers into walking pack mules. If it continues, first-class postage rates will have to be raised in order to defray the expensive service being provided business concerns which haven't enough interest in their customers to address mail by name.

Local Post Office  
Postmaster Stickney of the local

postoffice, is doing a wonderful job—this is especially true of the way he and his personnel handled the difficult Christmas situation. I've heard nothing but compliments about the ease in which routine business could be conducted, packages mailed, stamps purchased, etc., this year, Christmas cards which were mailed in the morning were even delivered the same day.

It is nice to know that our local postoffice is performing an efficient job in spite of apparent bungling from the top ranks.

Standing Room Only  
This little island is becoming so crowded as the winter season opens that perhaps we're going to have to hang signs at the City Limits reading: "Standing Room Only."

I'm told that most of the motels and hotels are packed to capacity. Traffic situation is becoming more acute, too. Perhaps it calls for a word of warning: many guests do not know local stop streets. We permanent residents need to exercise unusual care in driving—giving our visitors a break by understanding their errors in traffic. Also, we should give them a chance to sight-see without becoming irritated at their slow driving. After all, we invited them to Key West to see the sights and enjoy themselves!

## The World Today

By James Marlow

WASHINGTON (AP)—Four years ago Congress handed the government a harpoon to stick in the Communist party. It will be many months, perhaps years, before the government knows whether the harpoon has a real barbed point.

In 1950 Congress passed the Internal Security Act to force the party to register with the Justice Department as a Russian agent and at the same time give a list of its officers and members.

The party said at once it would never register. It hasn't done so yet. It almost surely never will. To register would be to admit that the American Communist party was a Moscow tool bent on overthrowing the government.

The inability of the government so far to force the party into registering—or defying the law—is due to the deliberate machinery of delay built into the act by Congress itself.

The machinery, intended to give the Communist party a full hearing and its day in court to defend itself, worked like this:

If the attorney general declared the party an instrument of the Kremlin he would then ask the Subversive Activities Control Board, specially created by the security act, to order the party to register.

But this couldn't be done until the attorney general presented evidence to the board to back up his charge and until the party had a full chance to defend itself against or deny, the attorney general's accusations.

This meant a long hearing. And there was a long hearing. The government and the Communists argued before the board in 1951-52. In 1953 the board agreed with the attorney general.

It found the American Communist party to be a Russian agent. But the party still didn't have to register and wouldn't until it fought the security act and the board's findings all the way up through the courts.

Thus it started. Last Thursday, the U.S. Court of Appeals here upheld the constitutionality of the Internal Security Act of 1950 and the right of the board to order the party to register.

But the party can, and most likely will, ask the appeals court to rehear the case. The appeals court will probably refuse. It will be some time in 1955 before that answer comes down. Assuming the party is turned down, it will then appeal to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court would prob-

ably not be able to give a decision before late 1955 or sometime in 1956. No one can foretell the high court's decision. It may find the security act unconstitutional.

That would mean five or six years' work had gone out the window and the party would not have to register. But suppose the court upholds the act and the order to the party to register.

Since the party says it won't register, it can be assumed it won't. But suppose the party announced, on the day the Supreme Court ruled against it, that it no longer existed. What could the government do then?

The announcement by the party that it was out of business wouldn't kid anyone. But how could the government legally prove the announcement was a sham and that the party still existed?

It would have to gather evidence on that. What then? The 1950 law says it's a crime for anyone to remain a member of the party if the party fails to register once there has been a final order for it to do so.

So the government could proceed against some individual who, it was convinced, was still a member of the party which had said it no longer existed. If convicted, this individual would appeal all the way through the courts to the Supreme Court.

The government might not want to try any other underground Communists until the Supreme Court had given a decision on this first test, which would take more years.

And suppose the Communist party, announcing it was dissolving, bobbed up under another name, which is what happened in Canada. Would the government have to go through the whole procedure again to prove it was really the Communist party?

That's a bridge the government will have to cross if it comes to it.

### PROFS OUSTED

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP)—Government authorities announced Tuesday the dismissal of 45 professors, including five Roman Catholic priests, from the National University of Cordoba.

The wholesale firings, carried out by a special representative of President Juan D. Peron, were a result of the bitter dispute between the Peron government and part of the Catholic clergy in Argentina. Cordoba and its university are considered a chief center of Catholic strength.

## Snow White Is Altered To Suit Russians

By TOM REEDY

BERLIN (AP)—The cold war has caught up with Snow White and the seven dwarfs.

It started in the Soviet zone of Germany, where Communist producers at Greifswald rewrote the fairy tale and won high praise from the Russian literary monthly "Today and Tomorrow." The Soviet writer commented that the Grimm version needed certain changes and explained:

"Snow White should not be a member of the court, but must be presented as an outcast. She is being educated with the children of the castle janitor and is on very good terms with the farmers, who are actually revolutionaries. That's really why the queen hates her."

The revamped plot is based on social consciousness and the need for unseating feudal barons and dividing the land among the peasants.

RIAS, the American High Commission radio in West Berlin, reported the East zone's thespian shenanigans and went on:

"This plot needs thickening, let us finish it."

The dwarfs, RIAS went on, are kept busy digging uranium. Their home is "a grotto of peace" with seven white doves sitting on seven little white beds. Miniature copies of the works of Stalin are placed on seven night tables.

The wicked Queen poisons Snow White with tainted canned goods from the United States. A People's Police commissioner, in search of potato bugs dropped onto the crops by foreign enemies, finds Snow White in her glass coffin and liberates her. She leaps out, shouting "friendship" and the dwarfs join in until the cries of joy are heard in the Urals.

RIAS concludes: "And then the young couple went back to the fatherland of all working people. If they have kept to the party line, they are still alive."

## Fingerprints Trip Youth Who Felt "Real Ornerly"

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—A man with a memory for fingerprints spotted one he had studied on a set of fingerprint cards Sunday night. So police fingerprint technician Wade Robinson notified his superiors. They brought in a 17-year-old youth whose statistics were on the card.

Monday they announced the youth has confessed stealing 23 autos last summer and kicking in dashboards and fenders, breaking glass and—sometimes—jumping up and down on their hoods before abandoning them.

Robinson said he had taken so many prints from the vandalized cars he had managed to memorize every detail of the pattern.

Asked why he wrought such destruction on the cars he stole, police said the youth replied:

"Cause I was mad. I was real ornerly during the summer months."

## Key West In Days Gone By



December 29, 1934

Hopkins Hapgood, well known writer and an authority on international politics, and Mrs. Hapgood, also well known in the literary field, are residents of Key West and have decided to remain for the next three months.

Steamship Cuba sailed for Havana yesterday with 232 first class passengers, 18 second class, 10 automobiles, four tons of freight and 165 sacks of mail.

December 29, 1944

Key West Lodge, 551 E. P. O. Elks, this afternoon purchased \$3,000 of Series G. War Bonds.

Seven acres, with ocean frontage, on Plantation Key, have been sold by Dexter Woods to M. H. Tallman for \$2,000.

## COUNTERFEIT GANG NABBED IN ITALY

MILAN, Italy (AP)—Police announced Tuesday the arrest of 18 men after a seven-year investigation of a counterfeit ring.

Agents said they found in Milan a clandestine money mill which had printed 113,000 American dollars and 1,800,000 Austrian schillings (about \$70,000). Police said those arrested were of Hungarian, Lithuanian, Austrian, Yugoslav and Italian nationalities.