

PENNY AUCTION MOVE WORRIES ALL CREDITORS

So Far Restricted to Chattel Mortgages, but May Be Extended.

By Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance
TOLEDO, O., Feb. 7.—Where is the penny auction move for farm debt cancellation leading?

This question is worrying creditors of all classes as northwestern Ohio farmers unite to extend their practice of taking over foreclosure sales and by silent intimidation keeping the bids down to a few cents, thereby defeating the foreclosure and keeping the property in the debtor's possession.

So far the united farmers have aimed their blows only at holders of chattel mortgages, which under Ohio's personal loan laws may legally collect interest of 3 per cent a month, 36 per cent a year.

But the chip is on their shoulders. In union these traditional individualists have found strength and their leaders now talk of cancelling all their debts by "penny auctions."

Settle Things Our Way*

A mortgage moratorium is not enough for them now, they say. "We asked for a moratorium two years ago and couldn't get it," said Ralph K. Weaver, farmer of near Postoria, O. "Now we'll settle things our way."

Whereas the farmers were fighting foreclosures a few months ago, they may soon be forcing them under the "penny auction" movement.

When a creditor refuses to foreclose, the leaders of the debt strike say, a dummy second mortgage will be executed on the debtor's property by one of his neighbors.

Within a short time the neighbor will foreclose, the property will be sold at a penny auction, the pennies will go to the holder of the first mortgage, and the farm will be returned under a dummy lease.

The movement hasn't reached that stage yet, but the leaders are talking about it and creditors are worried.

"It's illegal," say the mortgage holders, and in at least one instance court action has been started to set aside a penny auction.

Sheriff Aid Farmers

Sheriff Bruce Pratt of Wood county attended the first penny auction and prevented the crowd from manhandling a loan company representative, but made no move to stop the sale.

On the contrary, the sheriff climbed aboard a wagon, and told the 700 cheering farmers he himself was ready to bid a few cents for some of the goods and return them to the debtor.

The sheriff of an adjoining county refused a mortgage holder's request to call off a foreclosure sale which attracted 5,000 farmers. The same creditor was unable to get service on a replevin suit to recover the goods before they were sold.

Want Cheaper Money

Debtors in the cities and towns are listening to invitations to join the farmers' campaign.

The farmers have had popular sentiment on their side to a great extent so long as they have concentrated their attack on small loan companies, the 3 per cent a month creditors. Their protests that this high rate of interest is unfair have not fallen on altogether deaf ears, and today there is pending in the Ohio legislature a bill to reduce the legal rate of interest to 1 1/2 per cent a month.

With remedies for general farm conditions, the penny auction movement is not primarily concerned.

"What we need is cheaper money," one farmer said, "and if that means inflation, then let's have inflation." The farmer's immediate objective is to rid himself of his debt burden.

TAXI RATE WAR IN CITY IS POSSIBILITY

Council Votes Against Minimum Fare Seek "Gentlemen's Agreement."

Possibility of a return to the former taxicab rate of 15 cents for the first one and one-third miles, and 10 cents for each succeeding two-thirds of a mile appeared today. The city council Monday night voted against a proposed ordinance to place a legal minimum on taxi fares.

Thomas F. Ruckelshaus, president of the Red Cab Company, declared, following the council's action, that he would call a meeting of representatives of the various cab firms of the city today. Object of the meeting, he said, would be to reach a "gentlemen's agreement" on cab fares.

Agreement with the plan was expressed by Frank D. Sisson, attorney for the Union Cab company.

If no agreement is reached, a rate war will follow, operators of cab fleets said.

SCREEN STAR IS BRIDE

Josephine Dunn's Marriage to Attorney Is Revealed.

By United Press
NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—The marriage of Josephine Dunn, musical comedy and screen star, to Eugene John Lewis, Philadelphia attorney, was revealed Monday.

Miss Dunn was a Wampus baby star in 1929, and played opposite Al Jolson in the "Singing Fool."

The marriage took place at Great Neck, L. I., on Jan. 6.

MAY HEAD BUREAU



Judge Robert Marx (above) is being proposed for the \$12,000-a-year job as head of the United States Veterans' Bureau, to succeed General Frank T. Hill, when the Democrats enter Washington.

Judge Marx, wounded and decorated in the World war, was an organizer of the Disabled American Veterans.

Settle Things Our Way

A mortgage moratorium is not enough for them now, they say. "We asked for a moratorium two years ago and couldn't get it," said Ralph K. Weaver, farmer of near Postoria, O. "Now we'll settle things our way."

Whereas the farmers were fighting foreclosures a few months ago, they may soon be forcing them under the "penny auction" movement.

When a creditor refuses to foreclose, the leaders of the debt strike say, a dummy second mortgage will be executed on the debtor's property by one of his neighbors.

Within a short time the neighbor will foreclose, the property will be sold at a penny auction, the pennies will go to the holder of the first mortgage, and the farm will be returned under a dummy lease.

The movement hasn't reached that stage yet, but the leaders are talking about it and creditors are worried.

"It's illegal," say the mortgage holders, and in at least one instance court action has been started to set aside a penny auction.

Senate Balks Army Economy

Limitations on Officer Pay

Stricken From Bill as Made in House.

By Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—Two

limitations on the pay of active and retired army officers, imposed by the house, have been stricken from the war department appropriation bill just reported to the senate.

The two amendments were de-

signed to save some \$4,000,000—

covering amounts added by the house to the bill for citizens' military

training camps, the R. O. T. C. and

organized reserves.

The first amendment removed

from the bill by the senate com-

mittee forbade payments to retired

officers raising their total income

above \$2,000 a year. The second

provided that in computing pay of

both active and retired officers no

service should be counted except ac-

tive commissioned service.

This last amendment would affect

the pay of 5,064 commissioned of-

ficers, reducing them by amounts

ranging from \$1146 a month to

\$161 a month, in addition to the

\$113 cut imposed by the economy

act.

It would fall with particular

severity upon officers who served in

the ranks of the regular army and

wore their shoulder straps in

service. Many of them were com-

missioned in the regular army after

the war and, under the present law,

received credit for their enlisted

service in computation of pay.

\$4,000 ESTATE GIVEN TO BATTLE ON T. B.

Failure to Fulfill Conditions of Will Bring Probate Court Order.

Estate of Leander S. Burdick, who died in Indianapolis in 1915, leaving

property valued at nearly \$4,000, was

given to the Marion County Tuber-

culosis Association today on order of

Probate Judge Smiley N. Chambers.

Failure to fulfill Leander's will led

the court to direct disposal of the

estate as nearly as possible within

the terms of the will.

Leander left the estate to a house-

keeper, after whose death it was to

be used to build a cottage for bene-

fit of sick mothers and children at

Fairview.

The charity organization of Indi-

anapolis named as beneficiary, de-

clined the gift because it could not

carry out provisions of the will.

Loretta Fullen, housekeeper, died

Aug. 6, 1928, leaving \$3,590. This

goes to the tuberculosis association

on petition of the Indiana Trust

Company, administrator.

Albert H. Perdue, given \$500 in the

will, has not been located.

POSEY COUNTY ORATOR MAY BUY EAR MUFFS

Combination of Weiss and Tally Clerk Likely to Force Action.

Senator Jesse E. Wade, the fiery

orator from Posey county, is con-

sidering the purchase of ear muffs.

Or, perhaps, he will decide to stuff

his ears with cotton.

It's this way. Wade's seat is next

to that occupied by Senator Jacob

Weiss of Indianapolis, and is in di-

rect line between Weiss and the tally

clerk.

Agreement with the plan was ex-

pressed by Frank D. Sisson, attorney

for the Union Cab company.

If no agreement is reached, a rate

war will follow, operators of cab

fleets said.

By United Press

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—The marriage of Josephine Dunn, musical comedy and screen star, to Eugene John Lewis, Philadelphia attorney, was revealed Monday.

Miss Dunn was a Wampus baby star in 1929, and played opposite Al Jolson in the "Singing Fool."

The marriage took place at Great Neck, L. I., on Jan. 6.

HOW'S MICHAEL'S COUGH?

GONE OVERNIGHT—THANKS TO SMITH BROTHERS COUGH SYRUP

"I used to be afraid to give my boy Michael medicine—because almost everything upset his stomach. Last week he had a bad, dry cough—I tried Smith Brothers' Cough Syrup. Would you believe it, his cough got better after the first teaspoonful. Soon it was gone. And the syrup never upset his stomach." L. F. Manheim, Forest Hills, L. I.

DOWNSTAIRS at AYRES

ENDURING QUALITY ★ ★ ★ CAPTIVATING FASHIONS



Spring Dress Fashions Are Divided Into Three Definite Clean-Cut Silhouette Types

All of Them Are Here to Choose From, at a Low Price!

\$7.95

Sizes for Women and Misses

This spring, Fashion is sponsoring three distinctive silhouettes, which in many ways influence the design of all daytime dresses. (1) A simple, manly, broadshouldered silhouette with rather straight lines. (2) The manly swagger silhouette—usually with loose, comfortable fitting jacket. (3) The decidedly feminine, rounded shoulder-cape silhouette! Beautiful variations of all these types are offered in this splendid group—in styles for every hour of the day. Choose tomorrow, while assortments are complete!

—Crinkle Crepes
—Rough Canvons

—Gay New Prints
—Print Combinations

—Downstairs at Ayres, Where Fashions Are Less Expensive.

Spring Hats

Are Either Mannish or Lady-Like—But FLATTERING!

\$1.98

Hats with a manly look, to emphasize your femininity—really lady-like hats—and "inbetween" types! All are here in this beautiful assortment of new spring fashions! There are dressy sailors, sports sailors, toques, turbans, berets and manipulated brims! In every wanted spring color.

—Downstairs at Ayres.

Smarter Than Ever, Are Our New Spring American Girl "Silhou-Welt" Shoes

Light and Dainty As a Dancing Slipper... Yet Sturdy and Comfortable As a Walking Shoe!

Sizes 4 to 9
—AAAA to C
\$4.95

Pair

MORE than a "style shoe"—MORE than an "arch support" shoe—yet it offers the best features of BOTH! That's what thousands of Indianapolis women have discovered about these marvelous American Girl "Silhou-Welt" shoes!