

I do not for an instant believe this to be a final step. On the other hand, it is not an expensive temporary expedient, based on a dim hope that when and if conditions improve, our grandchildren will be able some day to pay the bills.

It should be accepted, I believe, as a safely beneficial and necessary step; and it is an honest step, and in full accord with the spirit of the Constitution of the United States and with the letter of the Constitution, also.

Possession of property of whatever type should not take the reward of production and enterprise. Economically, it is impossible. It did not take it when this Government was organized; and it should not take it now. That condition was a good condition, and it was an honest condition. Any other condition is a bad condition, and it is a dishonest condition.

It has been said that the N. R. A. was a long step forward, and somewhat radical. I have spoken of the N. R. A. today as a sound step backward, to much more solid ground. This step which I have outlined is the same type of step, in the same direction as the N. R. A., and to much more solid ground than is under us at present.

Further, gentlemen, the business structure, which the N. R. A. has been struggling so determinedly to haul out of its difficulties, now needs a market for its products and services, and it must have that market. This, may I say, is the soundest and most honest way to create that market.

It is only one of the many benefits to come from this new conception of property rights, and, if I may say so, the new understanding of the rights that people have.

I would like to ask you one question, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Yes?

Mr. WILLIAMS. Would it be possible to have those illustrations included also in the record?

The CHAIRMAN. This cannot be in the record.

Mr. WILLIAMS. They are all ready for duplication by the machine.

The CHAIRMAN. We will see about that. The clerk will have to make an investigation as to whether or not it would delay the printing.

Mr. WILLIAMS. It would not delay the printing of the record at all.

The CHAIRMAN. The clerk will investigate that.

The next witness is Joseph P. B. Weir, of Washington, D. C. How much time do you want, Mr. Weir?

Mr. WEIR. About 15 minutes.

The CHAIRMAN. We cannot give you 15 minutes; we will give you 10 minutes; but I may say that if you will just take your statement and put it in the record it will be considered. Just give us the high points in, your criticism, your praise, or your suggestion.

STATEMENT OF JOSEPH P. B. WEIR, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Mr. WEIR. Gentlemen of the committee, let us take the problem of old-age pensions and try to ascertain the best and least expensive form of helping all citizens in all States.

In the first place the Congress should not make appropriations to this end, neither should the several States make contributions to assist this cause, only upon one single extent, that be by contributing

1½ percent of all inheritance taxes collected by them. Any other form of assistance by either is **only** an added tax on our citizens. However, the Federal Government should handle all funds, **regard-**less to the source of such; in this we secure such funds to a greater extent than in any other manner.

It is **an** acknowledged fact **that** old-age pensions is a means through which citizens may be assured by our Nation a privilege not now recognized; it will cause a greater confidence, a lesser burden on the younger **generation**, and a help to industry that would **take** many pages to detail in full.

Due to the fact **that industry** does refuse to hire men past 40 years of age, plus the surrounding *conditions, physically and otherwise, that the age of 60 years is the most logical age to be given **con-**sideration.

Senator **KING**. Between 40 and **60?**

Mr. **WEIR**. **Sixty** years should be **the** age requirements.

States should be represented, and have equal voice in any such system that may be considered- by this Nation. Which should be national in scope.

This method of **treating**, and the **simplicity** therein contained **would** save us from many **ills**, and grief that **we** are assured will **grow** out of the provisions in the proposed act. Such will create confidence; treat all equal; tender States their right to assist, and avoid a possible revolution when once the true lines become familiar to our citizens.

It is well, should **the** Government care to **offer** old-age annuities to those who care to, or may take advantage of such but it is a proven fact that a voluntary system alone is not sufficient, and is more costly in the end if that be the only method of assurance.

There is much: talk by citizens who **have** never had the opportunity to experience conditions surrounding them, due to the fact that they have been in the more fortunate group, therefore do not honestly **realize** the **difficulty** many citizens experience, in **caring** for a large **family** on the wages paid the **greater** portion of our citizens. But in **our** almshouse today **we have** many persons who one day were well **fixed**, so-to speak, financially; the unexpected reverse causes them to **seek shelter** in almshouses, and they have **our sympathy**, and that's all. Therefore, it **is** for **that reason** I make **the** statement that all **citizens** should **come under the head** of **whatever** system we consider.

The Economic Security Act creates for our country a policy, or **plan**, that has **never** been attempt&d by **any other country**, in that it attempts to **cover** too many cares at one **time**—old-age pensions, old-age annuities, unemployment insurance, **maternal**, and child health. **A step** that **no other country, as yet**, has attempted all at one time;

Senator **KING**. You would favor dividing this bill then, and if we pass any feature of it, to pass the old-age pension. :

Mr. **WEIR**. That would be preferable; yes, sir.

Senator **KING**. Try that experiment and then at the next session—

Mr. **WEIR** (interposing). Not the one that is mentioned in the economic security bill, for the simple reason that it does not assist all citizens.

Senator **KING**. Very well, proceed.

Mr. WEIR. Other countries have had years of experience in this field, and it will be noted that they have **only reached** such extended cares by adding to, and by amending yearly, their original acts, and in some instances have made an entire change in, as many as three times to reach their goal, and at that it is known that no system is **as yet** complete.

Years of experience have we in the care of our aged dependents, and no credit is due anyone for the fashion in which such has been done, in the form of almshouses, poorhouses, and pauper farms, the cost of which has run, as per our own records, from \$4,374 per year for the care of one pauper **down to** \$36 per month. However, Wisconsin claims as an only State to have lowered **its** almshouse cost in 1933 to **\$21.70** per month. The average cost of almshouse care is about **\$40** per month throughout the States.

I here quote the words of our past **Secretary** of Labor.

Senator **KING**. Mr. Davis?

Mr. WEIR. Mr. Davis. He states:

On the whole, however, the entire management and control of **pauper** institutions is vested in local bodies, and State authorities and the public at large know practically nothing about them. How **serious** this responsibility is taken by the county officials to whom it is **intrusted**, what degree of **care it** insures the **inmates** and the cost to the communities, **depend** wholly on the interest and enlightenment of these elected officials and the **public** they represent. In consequence the story of American almshouses is a story of haphazard conditions, covering every degree of efficiency and economy, and of waste, extravagance, and mismanagement, of sympathetic treatment and honest effort to make an almshouse a home, and of neglect, indifference, and downright inhumanity.

It is possible for me to **continue in this way** by defining every **detail** of almshouse care, but I do **feel** that those, of **us** who are **familiar** with such study need not be **told** of such; therefore it is my plea that we do take some steps to rid ourselves of this condition, and that by making possible old-age, **pensions permit** those who are able to continue to live in their **own homes in the** same sphere in which they are accustomed to and at the **same time be of** some assistance to the younger generation. Here we all know almshouse care is not **desirable**. Now, as for the **States' pension acts**: They, too, **are** not a best plan or system, and by **no** means should we accept any measure as the Economic Security Act proposes **in that** it forces the States to accept a system that is acknowledged **as** a broken-down system.

We note that the State of Nevada enacted 'their pension laws' in 1925. That is enough years **to**, by now, know the goodness or the ills contained in any act.

The State of Kentucky **enacted** their 'pension laws' in 1926. That too is enough years of experience to **know** how their **citizens accept** such an act.

West Virginia enacted **their** pension laws in 1931 and that was not last year. Now, the last three **mentioned** States, with all the **years** they have had their pension **acts** on the books of their respective States, are not **paying** pensions. What good is **an** act on the books of any State, if their citizens do not benefit by **such** an act! Again **my** reason for making **mention** of these three States is **that**, in all press items, and in all radio speeches we hear the **same mentioned**, there are 28 States with a pension **act** on their books, **These**

3 States are in **that** so-called "**28 States**." Are they examples **we** should follow?

Maryland enacted their pension laws in 1927. There is a **popu-**lation of over **1,631,526** in 24 counties and in 1932 this **State** paid just 143 pensions to their citizens, and in 1933 they paid 141 pensions. Is this an example for us **to** accept as a proper plan to follow? There must be **something** wrong that in all these years one county alone recognizes such an act. Does it not seem possible that if such an act was acceptable or wonderful that the other 23 counties would not have found it out by now, and recognized **this** act too?

Wisconsin enacted their pension laws in 1925, and with **71 counties** in this State **there** are only **7 counties** that will recognize such an act.

Senator BARKLEY. Are these laws optional with the counties?

Mr. **WEIR.** They are optional, that is exactly **what** I say; yes, sir.

Senator BARKLEY. This bill **does not provide** for county option?

Mr. **WEIR.** No; but it forces a condition on the States.

Senator CONNALLY. That **is** what **you** want to do, isn't it?

Mr. **WEIR.** But the condition we are forcing does not cover **it**, and **the reason** these counties do not accept **this condition** is **that** it is too expensive in **that** way as they have to have it and there are not great enough number **assisted** by these acts.

Senator CONNALLY. The more that are assisted, the more expensive it would be. **On** the one hand you say it is not adopted by the States because it is too expensive, and, on the other hand, you say it is too expensive to be adopted by the States.

Mr. **WEIR.** Do **not** twist me **around**.

Senator CONNALLY. I am not trying to twist **you** around; I am trying to untwist you.

Mr. **WEIR.** The most of these counties are forced to pay two-thirds and the State one-third. **In some** cases the counties saddle **the** entire cost, but the citizens **have** not recognized this for the simple *reason it has not been official **to** a large enough group.

Senator CONNALLY. What is your plan **now**? I would **rather** hear **what** you propose.

Mr. **WEIR.** It is **my** intention to leave **this** proposed bill with **you**, Mr. Chairman, **also** my **objections** to the present social security bill, no. 1130.

The **CHAIRMAN.** **Yes.** You have made some very constructive suggestions.

Mr. **WEIR.** I have some of Miss Perkins' remarks.

Senator KING. We have heard **Miss Perkins**.

Mr. **WEIR.** Yes; but you have not heard her in the way I have.

The CHAIRMAN. Put those in the record and elaborate on anything that **you** desire.

Mr. **WEIR.** That is what I want to put forth there. Now comes this matter of cost. **New York** is **our** State which has the greatest population of **beneficiaries**. In 1932 **New York** expended \$15,550,000 **on** pension payments. **At the same** time it expended \$11,918,300 on alms upkeep for that same period. **It costs** **New York** in **this** year, 1932, \$23.80 to **pay** each pension. What I am getting at is that these pensions that we are trying to force on the States, to prove that **the greater number** of pensions paid the **more** it costs to pay **them**, which

is directly opposite to any business rule. Where mass production is afforded, there should be less cost per unit.

The CHAIRMAN. You have had 15 minutes. Thank you very much, and put it in the record, and the committee is going to study this record before anything is done.

Mr. WEIR. I certainly trust that they do.

The CHAIRMAN. They will. We have a pretty hard tangle here to untangle before we get through—to compose all of the differences that have expressed here.

Mr. WEIR (continued). My findings are that there is not a large enough number of citizens benefited by these acts to cause enough interest. This is due to the clauses necessary for individual States to include as a protection to States' money and in the words makes ineligible many honest, deserving, aged citizens. This includes all States. On the whole, States' acts are not what they were at first thought to be. Therefore, our experience has taught us a lesson. Let us be guided by such.

To support my contention that States' pension systems are broken down, let me at this time quote a publication on December 28, 1934.

Miss Perkins strongly endorses a plan which would provide Federal subsidies to States passing legislation guaranteeing an annual noncontributory pension for needy persons 60 or 65 years old. Such a program she feels is necessary because that the old-age system now in effect in 28 States has broken down.

I am in full accord with our Secretary of Labor in her feeling in this matter, and I greatly appreciate the truthful admission of one I know, does know, of this condition.

This again causes me to repeat that the economic security act does plan to force our States to accept a system that is known to be a broken-down system and not a best step to follow.

Here is another angle of this system.

The State of New York expended in the form of pension payments in 1932 the sum of \$15,454,308, and in the same period they expended on alms upkeep the sum of \$11,910,416. In this same year it cost New York \$23.80 to pay their pensions, or a total of \$1,289,603. A total expenditure in this year of the sum of \$28,654,327 to such care.

The State of Massachusetts expended in the form of pension payments in the same period, the sum of \$4,249,614 and on alms upkeep the sum of \$10,903,115.38.

Now here is a condition that is directly opposite to any business rule. It is known that where mass production is afforded, the less cost per unit, but with pension payments such is reversed, in other words, New York paid pensions to 54,185 dependents and it cost \$23.80 to pay. California paid 12,508 pensions and it cost \$22.08 to pay these pensions. New Jersey paid 7,000 pensions and it cost \$15.14 to pay these pensions. Utah paid 1,225 pensions and it cost \$8.03 to pay their pensions. In true words where the greater number of pensions are paid, the greater cost per pension to pay, and where the less in number to pay the less cost to pay.

This is the condition: Where the greater number of pensions paid, it affords an opportunity to slide in a greater number of political favors-paid persons—that will not be noticed, but where the less number pensions are paid it is not possible to exercise this favor

without notice. Therefore this is an unnecessary cost and not an efficient method.

In this I feel that it does to some extent assist in the estimation **and** weight placed on the proposed measure to force States to accept such a system with this information before us ; however, if such be requested I am in a position through **study** to give many more examples as to why we should avoid **this** step.

The economic security act does not provide means whereby **all States** may voice their difference, or explain reasons, arbitrate. They must accept the word of the administrator as final, one who is not elected but appointed.

It will create a political machine of high-salaried administrative officers. The entire system is without a standard. Old-age pensions should not be designed for loafers or wasters; every application must furnish proof of his character and his right; and all citizens should have this right. Taxpayer's money should not be wasted, as he is helping a worthy cause.

As per provisions, the Federal Government is within this act if it pay but \$1 a month to aged citizens in States recognized or less due to the omission of a minimum figure; section 6, article C, and section 7, page 8.

It does not state that the Federal Government shall pay one-half of States' expenditures for this purpose, nor does it state that the Federal Government will pay \$15 a month to each assisted citizen in the **recognized** States. That is the maximum; and as per section 6, article **C**, the States' allotments may be diminished to that percentage which the appropriation bears to the sum of all allotments; **\$125,000,000** is the sum after the first year.

That States' moneys who may not be in a position to accept these terms will be extended or used to benefit other States, and it will not benefit in any way by its own money paid to assist its government.

Any citizens who may by chance reside in a State which does **not recognize** this act will not be regarded as a citizen but as one not worthy of assistance in time of need, and he himself is not **responsible** for the act of that State's officials. This is not equal benefit, and I have every reason to feel and state that such may breed discontent and other conditions I fear to make mention of. I trust that it be understood.

It is known that the year of 1940 will naturally be the expiration of term of office for the present administration, should it be returned in 1936. This act is so arranged that nothing is to truly start until 1940. The tax increase begins, the age requirement will be dropped in that year, due to the fact that **70** years of age will be permitted to continue in the States' acts until 1940, and then it will be lowered to 65 years. We have 14 States with the age requirement of **70** years: Arizona, California, Indiana, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Montana, and Wisconsin, with North Dakota, 65 years required. All these States may continue their present age limits until 1940. These are the principal States on a **pen-**sion system. I foresee a condition forced on the next party, whoever it may be, due to this fact. It will make eligible millions more t 0 pensions.

The earnings tax starts in **1937** at one-half of 1 percent, and in 1942 it soars to 1 percent. That will be in the next administration, **and keeps on going up.**

Again I make mention of the administrator of the old-age pension, **title 1** of this act. What assurance for the future have we that **this** will be to the **best** interest of the people? The next party may change to a person who is not truly in harmony with this system, and in this **way** will have power to upset the entire system and force a complete **change** in all States' previously selected heads. As I have stated, this act **is** without a standard whereby all States may be assured or guided to some extent.

With greater than **one-half** of our States refusing to accept the **lines** in this act, cannot we place in our minds a picture of the success of this act?

I do trust **that** conditions **as set forth** in this act be realized, and **that** we do not attempt to force **such a** burden on ourselves as a Nation as do these outlined in **this** act suggest.

Whatever **system** we consider, let **us** give weight of that cost to our **Government** and to what extent and how all citizens assist this cause and the number of citizens **benefited** by such, **and to what extent.**

All elements of society should **assist** a cause so broad as this and **as** the words of the American Association for **Social Security** but **they do not** define such should by no **means** be made to exist only by the support, as in all such mentions when such **is** brought to our **attention**, be assisted only by those who are less able to aid such **systems**, and to permit those who are **more** able financially to be not mentioned in the lines due to the fact **that they** too benefit **greatly** in a way other **than benefits** paid.

It **is necessary** to understand all **systems—foreign** as well as **domestic—so** as not to miss any **section** of them that may offer **us** possible assistance.

In **viewing** the Civil Service Retirement Act of 1920 up to 1929 this system **was** unassisted by our **Government**, and from 1929 to 1933, June 30, our Government contributed the sum of \$103,450,000 to assist this fund and **created an annual** appropriation of \$21,000,000. In this **present** Session, Congress added to this fund \$20,000,000; in other words it **increased its** assistance 90 percent, **thus now** making an annual appropriation of \$41,000,000. In 1932 there were 25,567 annuities on the roll and in 1933 the roll was increased by 7,268, making a total of 32,838 annuities on the roll. In 1934, **June**, this roll was again increased by 11,875, making a total of 44,710 annuities on the roll.

With the sum of \$21,000,000 allotted to this fund, and 44,710 annuities, this is at the rate of \$39.14 per month our Government is assisting to pay those retired and otherwise relieved from service, besides the 3½ percent paid by Federal employees. And with the new sum, \$41,000,000, allotted, it is at the rate of \$79.41 per month our Government assists to **pay** those on the rolls, exclusive of the 3½ percent paid by Federal employees.

In other words, citizens outside the civil-service employment are **forced to assist this fund** in the form of **taxes** and in no way have any right to claim benefits therefrom. Do we consider **the** conditions upon which these pensions are paid? **Regardless** to property hold-

ings or **financial** standing of those receiving or eligible to such **pen-** sions, we pay same, and no **mention** is made of Such. There are persons in Washington, D. C., who own 2 and 3 houses, getting revenue from such, and at the same time citizens who have no claim to such benefits are made by law to pay these pensions.

This is only a fair view of this system ; and it is my contention that a similar system can be extended throughout this Nation, and that the sums now contributed **to** this cause be diminished, and **that** all citizens do assist in a different manner, which, in turn, will relieve all States of their now burden and overtaxed condition that does exist. In this way we will be extending such rights to all citizens and not only a few who may by chance come under its head. I have a complete **plan** that I have concluded only after **7** years' constant effort and study, and unassisted by anyone knowingly. I am satisfied at any time to explain in full this system and do at this time offer the **chairman** of this committee an outline of this **plan**. Trusting that I may be given that opportunity to explain their lines, as I know there are phases included that may not be fully **understood**, I am at leisure at any time it is the pleasure of this committee or any other parties they may direct or suggest.

I thank you.

(The matter referred to above follows :)

OBJECTIONS TO S. 1130, SOCIAL-SECURITY BILL

The entire bill is without a standard.

It creates a political machine of high-salaried administrative officers.

No State has any right to arbitrate on any differences that may arise.

Forces States to enact an individual State pension law, which has been proved to be an unsuccessful venture and has been admitted to be a **broken-** down system, in which only a small number of citizens can be cared for; due to the added clauses necessary to protect citizens of that State, in turn, makes ineligible citizens who are deserving and honest otherwise.

Is not constitutional, due to the fact that more than half of the States will be forced to pay taxes for benefits which they themselves will be denied. Not an equal benefit-section 8, Constitution of the United States.

Further, the higher reaches of society are, protected from assisting a cause, so worthy and broad as this aim.

The entire bill is arranged so as that nothing will start until the present administration has left office, 1940, at which time the next party, **whoever** it may be, will be subject to the advanced payments as arranged in the bill.

No benefits will be effective in the near future.

The **70-year** age requirement is permitted to remain until 1940.

The 10-year-resident clause need not be changed as per the **bill**.

Not an assurance for the future; in this way the **administrator who** is appointed has full power. The next **administrator, who is not elective, may** not be in harmony with the system ; but, due to the fact that **he** has the power, he can upset the whole system, and the States are not, permitted to voice their side ; therefore, they may be ignored as States and citizen & **for-** gotten as all States in the start who do not join in a known failure.

The bill will be carried, as per lines, if the United States Government paid only \$1 a month per aged citizen, or less-section 7 and section 6, article 0:

Many references throughout are made to assuring subsistence, **compatible** with decency and health. No definition is given to this ; therefore, it can be made to mean as the administrator may choose. Such should be replaced **with** a minimum figure.

No mention as to the status of railway, State, and Government **employees**; should they become unemployed ; there should be some protection offered.

Here is a comparison : The Civil Service Retirement Act is just a little **over** 14 years old.

The **Federal Government** made no **appropriation** to assist this **fund from** 1920—its origin—until 1929. Then, from 1929 up to June 30, 1933, the Federal

Government assisted this fund to the extent of **\$103,450,000**; and from June 30, **1933**, to June 30, 1934, there was an annual appropriation of **\$21,000,000**. **Now** this session this **\$21,000,000** appropriation was increased 90 percent, or **\$20,000,000**, thus making a total of **\$41,000,000** annually allotted to this fund.

In 1932 there were **25,567** annuitants on the roll.

In 1933 there were 32,838 annuitants on the roll, an increase of 7,268.

In 1934 there were 44,710 annuitants on **the** roll, an increase of 11,875; **this** is as of June 30 in these years.

Now, with the Federal Government contributing **\$21,000,000** to this cause, with 44,710 annuitants on the rolls, as of this year, at this rate the Federal Government is paying \$39.14 per unit per month; and with the **90-percent** increase, or a total now of **\$41,000,000**, that is at the rate of \$76.41 per month the Federal Government is **paying** for each civil-service retired employee.

The citizens of the United States are forced to pay this amount in tax form for this purpose and are in no way subject to the benefits.

If the Federal Government can afford to pay \$39.14 per month; besides the three and one-half contributed by the employee, to retired civil-service employees, why cannot this system be widened **to** include all citizens and only those who honestly need help? And in place of the **Federal** Government contributing, cause all elements of society to assist this cause?

This is only one of the many angles necessary to understand in this study. In viewing the foreign acts we see many instances whereby we by no means could give them a thought, much less consider them.

I like to give examples of everyday life, in comparing possible plans as to why such is necessary and why such could be avoided. Therefore I cannot content myself, and be satisfied to explain my plan or ideas, in only a few minutes. It has taken me years **to** understand, therefore **to** be honest with the subject it cannot be properly explained in a small space of time.

We have many conditions in the United States which **should** not be tolerated, and such is known officially.

Bill proposed by Joseph P. B. Wier.

To provide old-age security for all persons over 60 years of age in the United States of America. To raise revenue by an income-assurance tax. The management of, method of securing places to be established for.

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this act be known and cited as "America's aim, old-age assurance act."

DEFINITIONS

SECTION 1. When used in this act the term-

(a) "All persons in the United States," **shall** mean all persons over the age of 21 years; citizens or aliens, so long as they have established a **residence within** the continental limits of the United States of America for a period of more than **8** months.

(b) "Employer" shall mean person, persons, partnership; "association, or legal representative, trustee, or representative of any group transacting any business whatsoever, so long as they **have** assisting them, or employ, more than four persons.

(c) "Identification card" shall mean a card to be held by all persons in the United States and **to** be **produced** within 24 hours when inspection is **re-**quested by such persons authorized to inspect same. Identification cards to **bear** name of such person, with space of dates, amounts paid, and seal of receiving agent.

(d) "Income assurance tax" shall mean a payment of 3 percent of all earnings from \$600 per annum to \$6,000 per annum and of **1½** percent of all earnings in excess of \$6,000 per annum, whether it be salary, commission paid from dividends earned, or from profits arising from any other nation, so long as United States currency is involved, directly or indirectly. The Federal or municipal governments shall not contribute in any other way than by **1½** percent of all inheritance taxes collected by them. Charitable institutions (where no fee is charged for their service) **are** exempt from any tax whatsoever.

(e) "Exemption" shall mean the payments received by foreign consuls and their aides for services rendered their respective countries; further, it is here understood that foreign **representatives** are in a position to deal direct with the United States Government or subject themselves to the **same** income assurance **tax**.

(f) "Agents to receive income assurance tax" shall mean any branch post office where money is received as deposit, or as may be directed by the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States of America.

(g) "Commissioner of _____" shall mean a person presented by the President of the United States to the Senate and the House of Representatives for their approval, with the following qualifications :

1. A United States citizen by birth.
2. Over 50 years of age.
3. Is in harmony with such a plan, and understands same.
4. Is not a member of or a stockholder in any business-transacting group.
5. To be responsible for the management and maintenance of the system.

6. To be compensated by an amount not to exceed \$9,000 per annum and necessary travel to properly direct.

(h) "Assistants to the Commissioner of _____" shall mean three persons to be appointed by and in the same manner as the Commissioner of _____, with the same **qualifications.**

1. To be under the direct supervision of the Commissioner of _____.

2. To be compensated by an amount not to exceed \$7,000 per annum, and travel as directed.

(i) "Chief surgeon" shall mean a person presented to the President of the United States by at least two medical or surgical institutions **in good standing** in the United States, in turn is offered by the President to the Senate and the House of Representatives for their **approval.**

1. With the same qualifications as the Commissioner of _____, further, to be a regularly licensed physician and surgeon.

2. To be responsible for all medical and surgical activities on all places that may be established.

3. To be compensated by an amount not to exceed \$15,000 per annum and necessary travel to properly direct.

(j) "Assistant to the chief surgeon" shall mean three persons appointed by, and in the same manner as the chief surgeon.

1. To be under the direct supervision of the chief surgeon.

2. To be compensated by an amount not to exceed \$7,000 per annum, and travel as directed.

(k) "Head matron" shall mean a woman appointed by, and in the same manner as the Commissioner of _____ with the same qualifications, except the age shall not be under 40 years ; **to be a trained nurse.**

1. To be responsible for all activities of such nurses as may be necessary on all such places as may be established.

2. To be compensated by an amount not to exceed \$7,000 per annum, and necessary travel to properly direct.

3. To function in harmony with the chief surgeon.

(l) "Student assistants" shall mean such students as may be assigned to such places as may be established, by their respective colleges, medical or surgical, to advance their knowledge in medical or surgical science, such assigning institutions shall be in good standing in the United States..

1. To be under the direct supervision of the chief surgeon.

2. To be dismissed at any time by the chief surgeon on findings not in harmony with the system and/or does not respect all dealings to and for.

3. Not to be compensated for their duties but, quarters to be furnished.

4. No assignment shall be for less than 3 months duration, but may be extended to any period, deemed to be advisable.

(m) "Places to be established" shall mean such places as may be established in a similar manner to a town. To consist of apartments for living quarters, hospitals, administration buildings, occupational buildings, as per plans outlined by Joseph P. B. Weir, to be submitted and arranged so as to **comply with** the laws of the United States.

1. To be located as near as possible to the greatest populated centers. (One place may care for inmates from 4 or 5 States.)

(n) "General rule" shall mean no religious sect, no political party, no fraternal organization shall be given any **preference.** All to be equal.

(o) "Organization (America's aim)" shall mean the representatives and delegates formed to unite in the management of such system, and **places,** from the several States and territories in the United States.

(p) "The masculine shall include the feminine."

AMERICA'S AIM BODY, MANAGEMENT, ELECTION OF, AFTER 3 YEARS, AFTER 5 YEARS,
DUTIES OF

SEC. 2. (a) After 3 years from **date** of announced opening, a body shall be formed to consist of 1 person for every 15,000 population in the several States and Territories in the United States, to be termed as representatives of that State or Territory.

(b) To be selected by and in harmony with all States but to be **distributed** as per populace and not all from any one city or town.

(c) To meet once each year, to the convenience of that State.

(cl) To discuss management of places established, for the betterment of, **and** to elect delegates to attend the yearly convention (1 delegate for every 10 representatives) and to properly instruct such delegates.

(e) The several States and Territories shall be duly notified as to place of convention, and time in advance of **same**.

(f) A like number shall represent the registered persons.

(g) A **registered** person may represent that State in which he may be assigned to an office or agency outside the limits of such place as may be established but in such case will not be considered as a registered person representing.

(h) All delegates shall have verified any complaint they may have to offer at the yearly convention.

(i) Any group who may oppose any motion for the **good** of the **system** will be required to take the floor and explain the reason for such opposition and make same clear.

(j) Each group of delegates from the several States shall have the floor **until** all business they may have to offer has been finished. One or more may be selected to speak for that group, but all **shall** vote.

(k) **No** vote will be taken until all groups have been heard, and all voting will be by signature, not by secret ballot.

(l) Those to be present at these yearly conventions shall include the chief surgeon, one assistant, the commissioner of ———, one assistant, the head matron, and any other person found necessary to **have** been appointed for the proper functioning of a system of this nature.

(m) **Delegates** will not be compensated for this duty, but such can be arranged to care for transportation. (By State cooperation.)

(n) After 5 years from date of announced opening, all previously **appointed** persons shall be elected by the delegates in the yearly convention for a period of 4 years' duration, and to be finally accepted by the Senate and the House of Representatives, and signed by the President of the United States. Such persons elected to take office 3 months after election.

(o) The principal of this system will in no way be changed' without a **three-quarters** favor.

(p) No **group** shall dictate to this system except designated to **do** so by the delegates in the yearly convention. It is here to be known **that** the delegate representing **the** several **States** and Territories are the members of **control** and that this is a national **problem**.

(q) America's aim, old-age assurance:

PERSONS REGISTERED

SEC. 3. (a) All persons registered to be governed by all rules that may be necessary to establish from time to time for the good of all concerned.

(b) To assist in the management of by honest attention to the various **duties** that may be assigned him, necessary to function in a system of this nature.

(c) To make a report of any irregularities that may come to his **attention**.

(d) To in **every** way make cheerfulness be an outstanding aim.

(e) All persons accepted from whatever State or Territory they **may** have made application.

FORM OF COMPENSATION

SEC. 4. (a) All registered persons shall be directed to report to that place established nearest to place of enrollment, or as directed.

(b) The **necessary** travel will be cared for by the system, when traveling on order.

(c) A registered person may, if so directed, be assigned to such duties as recorder or assist in the management of such **office** or agency as may be **deemed**

necessary by the Commissioner of ——— providing physical conditions and qualifications are deemed sufficient to carry on such duties.

(d) Registered persons assigned to an outside duty may reside at any place convenient to himself, so long as such is agreeable, clean, and healthy.

(e) No registered person shall be made to reside at any designated place **while** on duty outside the limits of such places established.

(f) Registered persons assigned to an outside duty shall be compensated by an amount not to exceed, and not less than \$45 per month.

(g) **Monthly** payments shall be computed by, and with the added, any other income that may exist.

(h) Any registered person assigned to an outside duty **may** be recalled and his outside assignment terminate for . . .

A. The abuse of the use of **alcoholic** beverages.

B. Is not honest and properly performing the duties assigned him.

C. His physical condition no longer permits.

D. Conduct has caused the attention of the police courts; further, no interference will be made in any case where a registered person has committed himself and a term is allotted him in any jail or workhouse. All moneys that may become due shall cease on date of conviction, and when such time has been served, such person will be directed as to where and how to report.

REGISTERED PERSONS, ELIGIBLE TO BE

SEC. 5. (a) Any person in the United States of America who—

(b) Is a citizen of the United States of America by birth, or having filed final papers for **such** no less than 15 years immediately preceding date of application.

(c) Has attained the age of **60** years or upwards.

(d) Is not in any jail, prison, workhouse, insane asylum, or any other correctional or reformatory institution.

(e) Is not a known habitual drunkard.

(f) Is not a known drug addict.

(g) Is not a known immoral character.

(h) Has not purposely evaded his income-**assurance tax**.

(i) Has an identification card.

(j) Does not possess property value in excess of **\$3,000** if single, and not in excess of \$5,000 if, married.

(k) **Has no** income **in** excess of **\$600** per year.

(l) Does forfeit rights if registered, that if through inheritance an estate of sufficient value be awarded him, that such cost at the rate of \$30 per month for such time care has been tendered him shall be paid this system therefrom, and the same be paid at death if such sums are found in **registered** person's **name**.

(m) **The** administrator of such estate shall be ordered to pay such claim before any other, except Federal or municipal governments.

(n) Has not been tried for murder, and acquitted on the grounds of insanity, later adjudged sane, and given liberty.

(o) Has no son or daughter or any other person liable for his support by law (such persons liable) deemed to be able to support a dependent, if total earnings are in excess of **\$1,800** per annum.

(p) **Is** not an habitual criminal, deemed to be such if convicted on two or more major crimes?

(q) No person who does purposely dispose of property or any other **valuables** so as to be able to claim eligibility to this system, within 3 years immediately preceding date of application.

(r) No person who does desert his wife, or her husband, leaving children under the age of 16 years, except in such cases where a court has decided in favor of such party. The deserting party in this act is not deemed to be a **dignified** person, and not worthy of honor or consideration.

DUTIES AND POWERS OF COMMISSIONER

SEC. 6. (a) The Commissioner of ——— shall have full power to direct the management of such places as **may** be established, as to location by the Senate and **the House** of Representatives . . .

(b) To properly establish a **system of** recording and such offices or agencies **as he may deem** to be the best advantage to all concerned.

(c) To properly direct his assistants, and elect one to be at all times on such places as may be established, to represent himself.

(d) **To** assign such registered persons as recorders, and to such offices or agencies as near as possible to their place of enrollment, providing physical conditions permits, and they are **qualified** to carry on such duties.

(e) To permit all outside assigned registered persons to reside as per section 4, article (d) and (e).

(f) To assist the chief surgeon in the purchase of supplies and sign with him all such bills, and in every way to function with him in the management **as** a unit.

(g) Not to hire any outside help as recorders or in any office or agency so long as there are registered persons able to carry on such duties. Further, if such becomes necessary, not to hire any person under the age of 50 years.

(h) To tender whatever data requested by the several departments of the United States Government for record, when possible.

(i) To see that such places established are beautified to the greatest possible extent.

(j) **To** enforce the general rule in the conducting of all duties.

(k) **To** consult in person or by letter the States authorities in such matters that are necessary where a registered person has committed himself assigned to an outside duty, and be governed by their advice.

(l) To see that no industrial plant be established that will produce any article for sale, on such places as may be established.

(m) To assist in every way in the arrangements of and to be a church of any denomination whatsoever, if such request has been properly made.

(n) To cause farm activities to be a factor in the management.

(o) **To** treat **all** registered persons as persons paid at all times.

(p) **To** attend the yearly convention of that body known as the "America's Aim Body", and arrange that one assistant also attend.

(q) **To** be governed by the activities of such meetings, be mutual.

DUTIES OF ASSISTANTS TO THE COMMISSIONER OF _____

SEC. 7. (a) The assistants of the Commissioner of _____ to

(b) Accept the orders of the Commissioner of _____ as duties of.

(c) **To** report any irregularities that may come to his attention.

(d) **To** treat all registered persons, as persons paid at all times.

(e) **To** enforce the general rule in the conducting of all duties.

(f) **To** travel only **on** the orders of the Commissioner of _____.

DUTIES AND POWERS OF CHIEF SURGEON

SEC. S. (a) The chief surgeon shall be **directly** responsible for all medical **and** surgical activities on all such places as may be established.

(b) **To** confer with the Commissioner of _____ in matters of purchase of supplies, and sign with him all such bills.

(c) **To** arrange that one assistant be stationed on all places that may be established, to represent himself.

(d) **To** attend the yearly convention- of that body known as the America's Aim, delegates' convention, and arrange that one assistant also attends.

(e) **To** arrange with such medical and surgical institutions as may be in good standing in the United States, so as to advance the interest of the students and the system and to advance medical and surgical science.

(f) **To** arrange for quarters for students as may be assigned to such places as may be established, to advance their knowledge in medical or surgical, studies.

(g) **To** cause a clean, healthy, inviting place at all times.

(h) **To** enforce the general rule in the conducting of all duties.

(i) **To** treat all registered persons as persons, paid at all times.

(j) **To** assist and cause to be such lectures, at any place that may be established (hospital **auditorium**) that of medical and surgical science, to advance the interest of humanity.

(k) **To** tender whatever data requested by the several departments of **the United States Government for record**, when possible.

(l) **To** be guided by the general actions of the delegates in **the yearly convention**, be mutual, reciprocal.

DUTIES OF ASSISTANTS TO THE CHIEF SURGEON

SEC. 9. (a) The assistants to the chief surgeon shall accept the orders of the chief surgeon as duties of.

- (b) To report any **irregularities** that may come to his attention.
- (c) To enforce the general rule in the conducting of all duties.
- (d) To treat all registered persons, as persons paid at all times.
- (e) To travel only on the orders of the Chief Surgeon.

DUTIES OF HEAD MATRON

SEC. 10. The head matron shall govern all activities of all nurses on all such places as may be established.

(b) To accept the orders of the chief surgeon in all medical or surgical activities, and the Commissioner of _____ in matters of housing. To work in harmony with the system as a unit.

- (c) To enforce the general rule in the conducting of all duties.
- (d) To treat all registered persons as persons paid at all **times**.
- (e) To report any irregularities that may **come** to your attention.
- (f) To attend the yearly meeting of that body known as the America's Aim. Be governed by their actions, be mutual.

INCOME ASSURANCE TAX, HOW PAID, BY WHOM

SEC. 11. (a) Income assurance tax shall be paid weekly by all persons who receive their earnings weekly.

(b) Income-assurance tax shall be paid monthly by all persons who receive their earnings monthly.

(c) Income-assurance tax shall be paid, yearly, by all persons who receive their incomes yearly, be it from salary, **dividends earned**, commissions received, earned interest, bonds, stocks, securities, loans, or **any** other income from any transaction whatsoever.

(d) To any branch post office where money is received as deposit, or as may be directed by the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States.

(e) Organizations employing more than four employes shall deduct the sum equal to proper income-assurance tax from **each** employe weekly and make such payments in lump sum, not itemized, such payments shall be properly **recorded** on organization card. Sums deducted shall be properly recorded on employees identification card, with amounts, dates, and organization's seal. All identification cards of employes **shall** be kept in the office of the employer and returned when employment **ceases**:

(f) All incomes not regular such as inheritance; gifts, by one not regularly employed such as housewife and others **who** have their cards sealed monthly by recorders, created for that purpose, will be instructed by said recorders as to the proper course to follow.

(g) Housewives, and others not **employed**, shall have their identification cards sealed by recorders for **that purpose**, and when employment is secured such recorders- shall be so advised.

IN DEFAULT OF INCOME ASSURANCE TAX

SEC. 12. All persons in any class income-assurance tax who does default such payments shall be subject to a **fine** equal to three times the amount defaulted, and the cost of any court action necessary to secure same, or **imprisonment** of **90 days**, or both.

METHODS OF SECURING PLACES TO BE ESTABLISHED

SEC. 13. A certain year shall be taken as the key year.

(b) The total expenditures on alms upkeep, and the care of the aged citizens in that State or Territory in the key year.

(c) One-third of expenditures as per section 13, article (b) shall be termed the figure payment.

(d) Each of the several States and Territories shall make the **figure pay-**ment on entry of their share in -securing such **places** to be established; when these places are fully paid the **figure** payment ceases.

(e) No act is to be created that may **cause** any State or Territory pay any part of maintenance of such places as may be established.

(f) The **United** States Government shall advance a sum, or credit, so as such places to be established, may be started on, and on entry of the States citizens, the figure payment, shall be the method by which the United States Government be repaid for such advance.

INTENTIONS OF THIS ACT

Sec. 14. The provisions herein contained shall in no other way be taken than—
(b) An act to care for, and provide assurance for all citizens of the United States of America who have attained the age of 60 years or upward, and qualify.

(c) An emergency that does exist, and will continue to exist, at such period of life beyond control, where citizens due to their age are no longer capable to compete with the younger generation **in** trades.

(d) Are not recognized **as** desirable by hiring agencies, or by firms doing business for profit.

(e) All now paid pensions of any State or Territory, may be transferred to this system by that State—assisting in its creation by the payment of the figure payment, therefore, it will be a total saving to all States, and a lesser tax burden on the citizens of all States in the United States of America.

(f) It cannot be termed as a charity system, it is a paid for assurance.

(g) The Constitution of the United States does specify that benefits shall be equally shared by all.

(h) It is noted that industrial organizations refuse to hire men who pass 40 years of age.

(i) All citizens who may by chance some day need assistance is herein recognized.

(j) Sixty-five and seventy years limits are illogical. Sixty years is the true and proper age requirement.

THE TRUE TONE OF BILL S. 1130

A citizen of the United States of America, regardless as to how honest he may have been in the past, or how faithful he has been to this, his country, and to industry, if his State's authority sees fit *to ignore the dictations of the administrator, he is to be ignored as a citizen of the United States and be permitted to lay about the streets and starve or freeze.

Too great an undertaking, no nation has undertaken to cause all social needs to be satisfied by the creation of one act. It has taken years of experience for them to conclude or cause all social measures be cared for in some manner or another. Therefore we should be guided by this experience. Many lines in bill 1130 are no more than those of foreign acts, 'but not condensed sufficient to be properly placed.

.. Nevada enacted their pension law in **1925**. These are years enough to go by to know to what extent their citizens have accepted such act.

Kentucky enacted their pension law in 1926. That too is years enough to have by now made experts of their pension heads.

West Virginia enacted their **pension** law in 1931. That was not last year. Now neither of the three last-named States, with all the years such laws have been on **the** books of their respective States, are not paying pensions to their citizens. My contention is, what good is such an act if the citizens of such States do not benefit by such acts?

Maryland enacted their pension law in 1927, with a population of **1,631,526**, and 24 counties. With all the years this State has had this act on the books of their State, **should** it not by now have caused **enough** recognition by the 23 counties who do not recognize such act, if it was so wonderful? December 31, 1932, this State paid just 143 old-age pensions, and in 1933 it **paid** just 141 pensions.

In my interviews with citizens of Maryland who pay taxes in this State and who were born in this State, never resided outside the limits, have no knowledge of any pension system whatsoever in their State.

.. Wisconsin **enacted** their pension law in 1925. There are **71** counties in this State; '8 counties only recognize such an act ; 63 do not recognize such an act. Is this not possible there must be something wrong, when counties surrounding these few counties who do recognize their act, and are able to understand the conditions, still refuse to have anything to do with the pension laws?

New York in 1932 expended in pension **payments** the sum of **\$15,454,308** and in the same period expended on alms' upkeep the sum of **\$11,910,279.44**.

Now in New York, the greatest State in **number** of pensions paid, dropped in pension payments to the extent of 3,079 in 1933. This is the greatest drop noted in any period in any State paying pensions. Their total in 1932 was **54,185** pensions paid. At this time it should have been increased as other States with a pension act on their books. It is impossible to place all the data before you, so I will save it for reference for you at any time you so choose such. On any angle, I feel capable to define conditions, therefore it is for anyone to prove different.

Four million aged citizens ; \$45 per month equals a 44-cent. per capita **weekly** tax to **125,000,000** population, or **\$2,860,000,000**. Cost, **\$2,160,000,000** ; surplus, **\$70,000,000**.

The **CHAIRMAN**. The next witness is the Rev. George Reid Andrews, of New Haven, Conn.

STATEMENT OF REV. GEORGE **REID ANDREWS**, EXECUTIVE **SECRETARY OF** THE AMERICAN EUGENIC'S SOCIETY

Mr. **ANDREWS**. I am addressing myself to title 7 of Senate bill 1130, dealing with maternal health and child welfare. I am representing the American Eugenics Society, being its executive secretary. The Eugenics Society exists to see that our children are well born and well bred. We are, therefore, interested in eugenics **and euthenics**. We want to see at least four children born to every couple capable of bequeathing to their children a sound mind in a sound body, and able to provide for their children a fit home and proper character training ; and conversely, we want to see fewer children in families unable to provide adequately for their **offspring**, and no children born to the feeble-minded, hereditarily diseased, the insane, and the habitual criminal. Anything, therefore, which affects maternal **health** and child welfare is of concern to us.

We rejoice in this plan of greater **economic** and health security as set forth in this bill, especially its features relating to maternal and child welfare, although we wish that the **appropriations for** these purposes might have been more generous. The provisions of **the bill** go far, but we do not believe **they** go far enough. There are aspects of **maternal** health of great importance which are not mentioned **and, if** considered at all, are vaguely hinted at. The condition, of **a** mother's health at the time of conception and during pregnancy **affect** the vitality of the child. Moreover, the ability **of** the mother to care for the physical, mental, and spiritual needs of her children in her home is of great **importance** for both mother and children. The Eugenics Society believes that the **times and** frequency of pregnancy are of vital consideration in any program of maternal health and child welfare. A program which ignores these elemental aspects of maternal and child health closes its eyes to facts we ignore at our peril.

We wish to recommend, **therefore, the** incorporation in this bill of provisions to study the crude and health-destroying practices of distraught mothers in their efforts to prevent unwanted conception, and the methods employed to interrupt **conception** once it has taken place, and above all to provide adequate and scientific information for mothers by which they **may** voluntarily limit their **families** in keeping with their health and economic **ability to care for their** children.