

NEW CURRENCY TO BE SMALLER, REPORT

TO BE ISSUED JULY, 1919

About One-Fourth Less in Size Than Present Bills; Grime of Filling Station Is Cause of Change

Announcement that the new "thumb-nail" size currency of the United States Treasury will make its initial debut within about July 1, 1929 was made this week by Assistant-Secretary of the Treasury, Henry Henick Bond.

Why the familiar sized bills are being reduced approximately one-fourth in size is an interesting story that probably not one in a thousand motorists know—but it is due primarily to the motorist that the old size currency is to be taken out of circulation and the smaller bill installed.

Filling Station Cause

Following the advent of the automobile it was found that bills of small denomination came back to the redemption bureau of the Treasury Department more often for reissuance. A study, made by the government, revealed that the grime and oil from the filling station attendant's hands does more than any other thing to soil notes, causing them to deteriorate faster than formerly.

The frequency with which a dollar bill comes back to a filling station has just been determined as the result of an interesting experiment made by the American Motorists' association in co-operation with The Automobile club of Illinois.

Result of Experiment

It was found that approximately every seventh time that a bill changes hands it finds its way back to the oil station, where it becomes more begrimed by oil and smears. The experiment was made by circulating 50 one dollar bills, with a request attached that each spender endorse on the slip what he spent it for, and that the person holding the bill after the tenth endorsement should return it to the American Motorists' association's headquarters at Washington. The fifty bills were circulated in ten cities with the results that out of 36 bills returned, containing 371 endorsements, 53 of the endorsements indicated that the bill had been spent by a motorist for gas or oil.

The smaller sized bill, which will be 6 5/16 by 2 11/16, will not be folded so closely and this will increase the life of each bill appreciably, the Department believes. A special study was made also by government experts—to make the bills as oil-proof as possible with the end in view of furthering their life against the necessary hard use put to them by motorists purchasing gas and oil.

The gigantic money presses of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing are now turning out the new issue at the rate of millions of dollars per day in denominations of \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100, \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000 and \$10,000. Approximately 53 per cent of the entire issue of one billion of bills will be of \$1 denomination.

Another interesting innovation in the new style of money will be that for the first time in the history of the United States the new bills will bear

the signature of the Secretary of the Treasury. Signatures of the Register of the Treasury and the Treasurer of the United States have always heretofore appeared on the currency.

SAYS AUTUMN MOST GORGEOUS SEASON

Writer Declares "Melancholy Days" Indicates Spiritual Backsliding

"When William Cullen Bryant wrote: 'The melancholy days are come, the saddest of the year', he became a spiritual backslider," says Archibald Rutledge, writing on Autumn in The American Magazine.

"Trivially viewed," says Mr. Rutledge, theshrdetaoinietaoinshrdlutaledge, "autumn may be sad; but but in a broad and general sense it is the most gorgeous, the most opulent and the most enamoring of all seasons. The time of harvest, of mellow fruitfulness, of strangely renewed vigor and strength, of the sumptuous funeral of foliage of old, the splendor of the mighty southward migration of birds, of the smoke from burning leaves and from cleared gardens, of Indian summer, of matchless days when the earth seems hardly to breathe under her canopy of golden mist, of piles of yellow corn, of rows of corn-shocks like Indian wigwams, of heaps of ruddy apples, of bubbling cider presses, of aromatic odors from the fields, the woods, the roadside—such is autumn.

"Nature has yielded her all; she is a little tired but triumphant, fading but beautiful. She is the proud mother. Her beauty has the noble effulgence of maturity. The fragile flowering of maidenly spring has at last borne its fruits and its grains.

"Autumn is the long afterglow of summer, a time in which any heart may rejoice. It used to be called St. Martin's summer and it was the favorite season with lovers. There is about autumn the golden glamour of a memorable farewell."

MAY TAKE GAS RATES BEFORE STATE BODY

Winnetka Council Hears That North Shore Towns are Paying Too Much

According to a report made by Trustee C. J. Easterberg, chairman of the Public Utility committee to the Winnetka Village council last week says the Winnetka Talk, it appears quite probable that the municipalities from Winnetka to Waukegan will have to bring joint action before the Illinois Commerce Commission to secure the desired reduction in gas rates.

The rates of the North Shore Gas company are said to be higher than those of the Public Service company, which serves the territory immediately south of Winnetka, and negotiations for a reduction in the rates of the North Shore company have been underway for a long time.

Trustee Easterberg stated that he had discussed the matter recently with Mayor Lewis of Highland Park, who also feels, he said, that it will be necessary to make an appeal to the Illinois Commerce commission, since, he stated further, the North Shore Gas company has shown no disposition on its part to grant a voluntary reduction.

Trustee Easterberg was requested by the council to negotiate further

with Mayor Lewis relative to calling a meeting of representatives of the various municipalities affected that they might further the plan of appealing to the commerce commission, according to the Winnetka paper.

WHITE RAG ON DOOR SUMMONS PHYSICIAN

Away in Interior of North Carolina Natives Thus Call For Doctor

Far away from modern civilization, in the interior of North Carolina, a white rag hung on the front door serves the purpose of the telephone, according to The American Magazine.

A grapevine telegraph system it is called by the country doctors in those parts who know that such a sign on the door is the call for medical assistance. Persons living in that far away part of North Carolina know that the doctor passes by their doors on his calls every day. And by arrangement they hang out a white rag, much the same as people used to hang out the ice card, as notification that they have sickness in their household.

An account of this comparatively primeval form of communication is contained in the story of Dr. William T. Griggs, one of the few remaining old time country doctors. Dr. Griggs averages about four hours sleep a night, so much is he in demand by his country clients. Before automobiles came into use he kept eight driving horses and two drivers.

"I kept my drivers so busy that I had to raise their pay to hold them," says Dr. Griggs. "Now that I use an automobile it isn't so hard on me."

MORE CARS MORE CASH FOR ROADS, IS SLOGAN

Ohio Farmers Have Idea That Gasoline Tax Helps Them Get Highways

Looking out across their farm lands at the automobiles whizzing by, the Ohio farmers are able to count up, as each car passes, more money for good roads.

A tax of three cents a gallon on gasoline supports all expenses con-

nected with state highways in Ohio, Farm and Fireside has found in a recent good roads survey. Two cents of this pays for maintenance and the other cent pays for new construction and the elimination of grade crossings. The counties no longer have to chip in to pay for state highway construction.

Such a saving for the farmer is all part of laws enacted under the urge of C. A. Dyer, who represents Ohio taxpayers, serving both the Ohio State Grange and the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation.

"Two cardinal propositions in all the policies Dyer has advocated are these," says the magazine, "first, pay as you go; second, taxation only in proportion to the benefits received."

As a result of Dyer's activities, which have received strong backing from an awakened farm group all over the state, much of the terror has been taken out of taxation there.

"Organized farmers in Ohio are slowly but relentlessly driving toward their ideal of fair taxation and a dol-

lar's worth for each tax dollar spent," says the magazine.

ELECTRIC RAILROAD EFFICIENCY GROWING

That the efficiency of the electric railways of the country has increased during the last five years is shown by figures for 655 companies made public here by the Department of Commerce, which is conducting a survey of the industry.

During the year 1927, the 655 electric railway companies operated 89,642 cars 2,120,774,257 car miles; while in 1922, the year of the last previous Department of Commerce census, 95,931 cars were operated over only 2,081,085,455 car miles.

Other figures for 1927 follow: Miles of line (first track), 27,966; passengers carried, 14,521,977,963; motor coaches operated by the 655 electric railway companies, 3,878; motor coach miles, 130,015,315; coach passengers carried, 398,323,932.

Illinois, with a total of 42 companies, ranks fourth among states in the union. Pennsylvania is first with 81, New York second with 80, and Ohio third with 55. Delaware, Idaho, Nevada, Rhode Island and South Dakota tied for last place with one apiece.

Dreamers make good story tellers; the more wool a man gathers the more yarns he can spin.—Farm and Fireside.



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