



"Cooperator" Incorporates; Local Journalists Organize As Producers' Cooperative

The granting of a charter of incorporation last Tuesday by the District Government officially dissolved the parent body of the Cooperator and instituted in its place a corporation known as the Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Association, Inc.

Incorporated under the District of Columbia cooperative laws, the new organization is empowered to print newspapers, do all types of printing, etc., and is pledged in its incorporation articles to "support the cooperative movement, boost the town of Greenbelt and maintain complete freedom of the press."

It is believed that the charter granted is the first of its type in the United States. So far as can be discovered no other producers' cooperative operating a newspaper exists and therefore Greenbelt has another "first".

The new association will operate along the usually accepted lines of such organizations with the exception that being a producers' cooperative, the first requirement for membership is active work and participation in the activities of the association. The membership will elect their officers at semi-annual meetings and these officers will have the usual powers conferred for like positions elsewhere. Election to an official position will automatically place the officer on the board of directors and, in addition to the officers, the board will contain two additional members at large elected directly to the board by the membership. The board of directors will handle all the business details of the Association subject to the final approval of the membership as a whole. The board of directors will appoint the editor of the Cooperator and he will be directly responsible to the board.

The officers of the old Association will assume like positions of the two members at large for election by the membership at a general meeting next week. The officers of the new association are: President, Francis C. Fosnight, first vice president, Katherine Arness, executive vice president, Sol Z. Shub; secretary, Frank Penn; treasurer, William Stewart. Incorporation as a producers' cooperative comes as a climax to a long period of attempts to stabilize the paper's finances, editorial policy, and staff organization, and accompanies the recent shift from photo-offset process to a printed make up in giving the local community a more mature and carefully prepared newspaper.

County Firefighters Aid Locals Fight Big Blaze

The largest fire in the history of Greenbelt cost a great deal of work and worry, but no real property damage, on Monday, September 22.

A 20-foot deep ravine, filled with rubbish, caused the Greenbelt, Berwyn Heights, Branchville and College Park fire departments six hours of fire fighting before the fire was extinguished.

The alarm was received by Buddy Attick, acting fire-chief, at 5 p.m. Together with eight maintenance men, he rushed the truck and hose to the scene of the fire, and immediately started pumping 500 gallons of water per minute into the solid mass of smouldering refuse. The fire was checked in short order, and kept from spreading to the \$100,000 worth of lumber stored by the J. A. J. Construction Company, nearby.

"We intended to put the fire out by ourselves," said Mr. Attick, "but the services of the other fire departments was greatly appreciated. They came in answer to a general alarm given by a Berwyn telephone operator." Mr. Attick said further that the lighting system of the Branchville Fire Department was used after dark.

It was Mr. Attick's surmise that a lighted match or cigarette

Old Council Clears Dr. Silagy

At a special Council meeting last Saturday, a resolution was adopted completely exonerating Dr. Joseph Silagy of any blame in the poliomyelitis situation. Evidence was presented by Dr. Silagy, and Drs. Mary and Clesson Richardson. Mrs. Wundrum, who had been asked to testify, was unable to attend.

Called as the result of an editorial appearing in the Cooperator for September 19, the meeting lasted more than two hours. The adopted resolution claimed that the aforementioned editorial was written without sufficient facts.

Now in a Washington hospital is Greenbelt's third victim of poliomyelitis. Asked for official confirmation, Dr. Joseph Silagy, Greenbelt Health Officer, issued the following statement:

"The citizens of Greenbelt are again warned of the necessity to observe the suggestions made some time ago by the Department of Public Health in reference to the control of poliomyelitis. Although as Dr. Riley, director of the state department of health, has indicated, the peak of this year's epidemic is over, constant vigilance is required to protect our children and ourselves against the occasional case which may still appear. We have had at this writing only three cases of the disease.

"Remember, all people who are ill should be isolated pending diagnosis by a physician."

Mrs. Walther Heads Nursery Board

Officers of the parents' board of the Greenbelt Nursery School were elected at a meeting of the members Friday, September 19. The following were elected to office: President, Mrs. Dwaine Walther; vice president, Mrs. Mildred Monfort; treasurer, Mrs. Leah Chinitz; secretary, Mrs. Lucille Howell.

It was explained to the parents that the Nursery School is a cooperative organization and is run entirely by the parents of the children in co-operation with the teaching staff.

After the elections there was a great deal of discussion on the lack of a sufficient number of children in the class for the 3 year-olds. It was finally decided to have a one-week campaign for additional members. If it is evident at the end of that time that not enough parents are interested in that age group, then a few children of 2½ years will be admitted to the school. Many mothers of the younger age group who have indicated a great deal of interest in enrolling their children in the school. Any one interested in either age group should contact Mrs. Monfort who is in charge of the membership drive or Mrs. Walther or Mrs. Wagner the Nursery School teacher.

Stringed Orchestra Meets Tonight

At a meeting to be held tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the kindergarten room of the Elementary School, instruments for the new stringed orchestra which have been brought from Washington, will be on display. Anyone who is interested in joining the orchestra and does not have an instrument will have this opportunity to select one.

A preliminary lesson will be given by Henri Sokolov, to determine whether potential pupils are to receive beginners' or advanced lessons. In the future, these classes are to be divided into two groups. The beginners' classes will start at 7 p.m., the advanced at 8 o'clock.

Mrs. Mary Jane Kinzer, who organized the orchestra, advised that if 25 persons register, the fee will be only 50 cents per person, per lesson.

Hospital Auxiliary Gets New Head

Betsy Woodman was elected to the presidency of the Hospital Auxiliary last week upon resignation of Josephine Maguire. Mrs. Maguire was elected at the annual meeting in May, but illness caused her to resign the position. Mrs. Woodman was last year's president and had been selected to serve as ways and means chairman this year.

The auxiliary will hold a special meeting in October, details of which will be announced later.

Bates Scores High On Gun Club Team

Leading five members of the Gun Club at the shoot held near Baltimore on September 14, Harry Bates turned in a 393 in a heavy wind to cop the medal for high on the team.

Other shooters and their scores: Hesse, 385; Kling, 378; Slater, 374; Zimmerman, 367.

Cooperator Gives Membership Notice

Pursuant to the authority granted in the constitution and by-laws of The Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Association notice is herewith given that all those persons residents of the Town of Greenbelt, Maryland, interested in joining the aforementioned Association should have their application on file in the offices of the Association (the Cooperator office) on or before the 15th of October, 1941. Upon approval by the board of directors, the applicant will become a member.

Application forms may be obtained at the offices of the Association on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday nights or by mail addressed to the Association.

Run-off Election Brings Council Seats to Barker, Lastner, Ricker and Bauer

Curtiss F. Barker, Frank J. Lastner, Thomas B. Ricker, and George F. Bauer emerged victorious in the run-off election for Town Council held Tuesday, September 23. Along with Allen D. Morrison who was elected in the previous week's voting these men will serve as councilmen for the next two years.

Mr. Barker, who is prominent in Greenbelt athletics, took an early lead and led the field in the final count with 457 votes. Mr. Lastner, who was recently named chairman of the board of directors of Greenbelt Consumers Services, ran second with 351 votes. Third place went to the only hold-over from the previous council, Mr. Ricker, who polled 316 votes. Mr. Bauer was the remaining candidate to receive the voter's stamp of approval with 298 votes.

New Literary Club Starting Tuesday

A literary club, fostered by Mrs. Reva Harris, Greenbelt librarian, will meet Tuesday, September 30, in the library.

Taking the place of the former Book Club, the Literary Club will be more of a study group. Suggested fields of study are: The Elizabethan period, the nineteenth century poets, the Victorian period, and the modern novel.

Mrs. Harris said that, "Further suggestions will be welcomed at the meeting, Tuesday."

Police Horses To Be Sold

"Pete" and "Mack," who have given three of the best years of their life to the Greenbelt Police Department, are now being "sold down on the river" because they eat too much.

"Pete," eight years old, and "Mack," nine, are the two horses that assumed their police duties on Labor Day of 1938. At that time, they were used to patrol the lake area. Now, however, they are not needed, and the police department finds their upkeep too expensive.

They have been advertised for sale, and will go to the highest bidder.

Rabbitt To Attend Regional Conference

J. W. Rabbitt, Jr. Greenbelt Chief Accountant, will attend the regional conference of the Finance Offices, Inc., of the United States and Canada, which is to be held in New York City on October 3 and 4. Mr. Rabbitt serves on the committee for arrangements.

"One of the purposes of this conference," said Mr. Rabbitt, "is to discuss what Maryland has done in creating better relations between local, state and federal governments, especially as it affects the defense program. Also to be discussed, is the subject of what long term planning has been considered in connection with financing the defense program."

Other candidates and their votes were as follows: Sam J. Cregar with 258, Marjan P. Staniec who received 241 tallies, and Sherrod East with 231 votes.

The new council will hold its first meeting Monday, September 29 at which time it will select a new mayor to replace Arthur N. Gawthrop.

Out of 900 possible voters, 680 tramped to the polls to indicate their choice for the councilmen who are to guide Greenbelt through the pending period of expansion. This is reported to be the largest vote cast in a council election.

Fred Wilde served as director of the count and was assisted by John P. Murray, Leo Mullen, Fred De Jager, Mrs. Hartford Downs, Mrs. Dorothy Furlley, Mr. Joseph King, and Mr. Perryman.

Mrs. Reed Praises Home Care Here

Mrs. Catherine Reed, principal of Greenbelt Elementary School, paid gracious tribute to "the fine type of children and the excellent home care and background they reflect in Greenbelt" when she spoke to Parent-Teachers' Assembly September 22 in the Auditorium.

Mrs. Reed went on to say, "We, the teachers and parents, must rededicate ourselves to doing the best job possible and to help to alleviate the tensions and fears in these more trying times." She renewed the standing invitation for parents to visit the school in its everyday life and not wait for special occasions. She introduced the teaching, library, and recreation staff, and asked the new patrons of the PTA to rise and introduce themselves. Mrs. Reed was introduced by Mrs. Louise Welch of the program committee, who stated that the PTA goal for the year is "Expanding Educational Resources with its threefold premises:

1. The expansion of our library for additional source material.
2. Direction of more excursions as a means of gaining first-hand experiences.
3. More films and more appropriate films as visual aids.

Announcement was made of the Institute of the Maryland State Congress of P.T.A., opening October 8 in Mt. Rainier to which all are welcome.

Mrs. Lewis P. Ditman, president, called the meeting to order with a large attendance present.

After the business meeting, Miss Dorris Dungan and Ben Goldfadden took charge for recreational games.

325 Enjoy Barbecue At Legion Home

An Armistice Day dance is being planned by the local American Legion post for the night of November 11, in the Auditorium.

Details of the event will be announced as soon as plans are completed.

About 325 people were counted at the Legion home last Saturday night for the barbecue.

Bob Kincheloe Returns From Hospital Stay

Bob Kincheloe returned Wednesday from Garfield Hospital, where he underwent a major operation on September 10. He will be back in the pulpit October 12.

GREENBELT COOPERATOR

GREENBELT, MARYLAND
Telephone: GREENBELT 3131

Published by the Greenbelt Publishing Association

Editor ----- Francis Fosnight
Assistant Editor ----- Donald H. Cooper
News Editor ----- Helen Chasanow

Volume 6, Number 6

September 26, 1941

In the Interest of Justice

It is the duty of a community newspaper to collect and distribute the news as accurately as possible. It is the duty of the community paper to take editorial stands when it honestly believes (First), that the community welfare is at stake, (Second), that the community interest is involved and, (Third), that matters of interest should be brought before them. When a newspaper publishes something through error it is the duty of that paper to apologize first to its readers and second to any person or organization affected by such error.

The past record of the Cooperator shows that it has been more than willing to make amends for any injustice it may have done to any person or organization. The policy of the Cooperator remains unchanged.

On the basis of the above, we do not feel, at the present moment, that we owe an apology to anyone for last week's editorial on the polio situation. In the first place, the editorial was not an attack on any individual, but rather on an unusual situation. Second, the meeting of the Town Council Saturday called for the avowed purpose of investigating the Health Department, evolved into a trial of the Cooperator, wherein the dying council acted as judge, jury, prosecuting attorney, and defense attorney for the Cooperator. Third, the evidence leading up to the conclusions drawn in the letter mailed to everyone Monday was never made public, and to this date the Cooperator does not have a copy of said evidence or testimony.

Fourth, we hold that this meeting and attendant results did more damage to the Health Department than it did good, because of these facts concerning the matter:

1. The meeting was called in such a hurry that Councilman Walther was unable to attend until after all testimony was given, due to his having insufficient notice arranged to be absent from his job.

2. The Cooperator wasn't represented by any staff member. The Council claims that an effort was made to notify one person who was not available, but, at the same time, all members but one of the Board of Directors and other key staff members were in Greenbelt, and available.

3. The families of the victims of polio were not present to testify.

4. The other persons mentioned in our editorial were not present.

5. The Town Manager left the meeting before the resolution was drawn up and adopted, although, from the tone of the letter, you were led to believe that he concurred with the decision of the Council.

Fifth, we feel that the whole matter was handled in a high-handed manner, which more than justifies the charges of "white-wash", etc., that are now being circulated in Greenbelt.

We feel that in all fairness to Dr. Silagy, the Health Department, the dignity of an elected council, and The Cooperator, the new council should call all concerned to their first meeting, Monday night, and give a full and complete hearing to the whole matter. Failure to do so will only result in continued bitterness, and will add to the existing controversies now spreading in town.

We may be wrong. No one is infallible; but we intend to take no further action until the public gets its right to hear all the facts, not to just read our side here imprinted, or the council's opinion in a letter. We refuse to take the word of a council that uses its official position to condemn and endanger the rights of a free press without thorough investigation.

Mr. Councilman: We have herewith presented to you what we feel is your first and most important duty in the interests of public welfare. The decision is up to you. As much as we hate to toss the acts of a dead council into your lap, we feel that this will not be the only "hangover" you will be faced with in the near future.

Due to the Cooperator-Council controversy, no letters to the editor on the subject in question will be printed this week.

We Go Cooperative

We are proud and not a little bit awed to be able to make the announcement that we have now officially joined the ranks of that fast-growing but struggling Cooperative Movement. When the articles of incorporation for our proposed change were handed to the officials for approval we did so with some anxiety because we understood that this was the first producers' cooperative to be requested. The officials investigated our claims and found that we are really and truly a cooperative and handed us our charter certifying the same.

Somehow this great change in our being has infused us with higher ideals and a firmer determination to give you the best newspaper we know how, to aid and assist that cooperative movement of which we are now an accepted member, to boost our town with the welfare of our citizens foremost in mind; and to give you, the residents, a paper that will print truths that others will not so that you can have your free say any time you wish.

More than ever your Cooperator becomes a community paper. You and your neighbor can easily become members of the new corporation and lend your aid and ideas to the paper. Inasmuch as we are now an official cooperative, we can never become a closed corporation, because cooperatives are the very essence of Democracy, and Democracy does not exclude anyone.

We feel gratified that after Health Association troubles and personnel are forgotten, after councils are elected and have faded into that oblivion that so soon engulfs such momentary glory, that Greenbelters will still have a cooperative newspaper standing as a protection to their rights and an aid to their privileges.

Overcrowding at School

With the first grade enrollment nearly double that of last year there is serious over-crowding in Greenbelt's Elementary School. There were 87 children in the first grade when school opened this month—43 more than last year. This has necessitated staggered hours for the first grade during the month of September. Parents who have been critical of this arrangement will be glad to know that regular classes will be resumed October 1. Mrs. Reed has indicated that the staggering of the hours was the only way in which the school routine could be established by means of smaller groups.

In addition to the 387 who entered the school this year there are about 20 reported still out on vacation or from illness, and an additional 84 children enrolled in the kindergarten. Rooms built for 30 to 36 pupils now hold as many as 49. The result can be dangerous from the health and safety standpoint as well as discouraging from the standpoint of effective education.

We have been told that no more teachers are available under the present budget of the County School Board. At the same time we know all too well that a good teacher's best efforts are wasted when spread thin on too large a class of pupils.

Overcrowding is not a new development in Greenbelt, for our school was already crowded last year. And in the months ahead, with the expectancy of a doubled population, we see an impossible education situation here unless immediate steps are taken to secure relief. If we fail then our beautiful school building will be a mockery of poor planning, and the excellent teaching techniques so carefully fostered by Mrs. Reed will be damaged beyond repair. Education comes first, and we need a new school building and extra teachers now.

To the Editor---

Hospital Help

To the Editor:

Ladies of Greenbelt, are you proud of our municipal hospital? Do you enjoy social gatherings? If the answer is "yes", there's a position waiting for you in the ranks of the Greenbelt Hospital Auxiliary.

At present one of the smallest organizations in town, it is one of the most active. The post-Lenten dance given by the Auxiliary has for three years been the social highlight of a Greenbelt spring. Proceeds from other affairs have enabled the Auxiliary this year to purchase for the hospital a daily newspaper, radios for the patients, and pictures for the children's room. Ladies meeting at various private homes have produced dressings by the yard.

To continue its usefulness the Auxiliary needs more help. Can you get in touch with Lorraine Ostler at 18-E Parkway?

—Anne Hull

One Year Ago

(From the Cooperator of September 26, 1940)

Town Council bought floodlights for baseball diamonds.....Sulo Laakso and Mrs. Laakso were honored by farewell party.....The Citizens Association dance a success with honors going to the Richard Greens for waltzing.....Miss Helen Boren was added to the regular staff of the hospital.....The Berenbergs returned from an archeological vacation in St. Mary's City, Maryland, bringing back many relics of early colonial life.

Woman's Club Features "Current Topics"

Mrs. Georgette Ross Howard, of Washington, D. C., will be the guest speaker at the meeting of the Woman's Club to be held in the home of Mrs. James A. McCarl, October 2, 1941. She will speak on "Current Topics," a subject which is expected to be of outstanding interest and importance to all.

The program will include a reception for the new members of the club. Assisting Mrs. McCarl as hostesses will be Mrs. S. H. Downs and Mrs. Ralph Cross.

New Babies

A baby girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Edward Canard, of Bethesda, Maryland, on September 20.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Jones of Hyattsville, Maryland, became the proud parents of a baby girl on September 20.

Mr. and Mrs. Lex B. Golden of Berwyn, Maryland, had a baby girl on September 21.

On September 14, a baby boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. Walter Dickhaut, of 23-K Ridge Road.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Harper, 20-C Parkway, had a baby girl on September 13.

All were born at the Greenbelt Hospital.

Shaving Can Be Easy for Men

Men with tough whiskers would have less trouble shaving if they would spend a little more time getting ready, advises Consumers Union in its September issue. Beards are naturally tough and oily. It takes a good shaving cream to cut the oil, then at least two minutes for hot water to soak through and do a thorough job of softening the beard. If you will take enough time over this process, you'll gain speed and comfort in the actual shaving job.

In general, lathering creams are better than brushless creams because they have a soap base which removes the oil around the hair. Brushless creams are oil-in-water emulsions which don't mix readily with the facial oil and don't help you do a quick job of beard-softening.

Consumers Union tested 96 brands of shaving preparations, including lathering creams, brushless creams and shaving soap. Products were tested for impurities, consistency, suitability of container and net weight of dry soap after moisture had been removed. In general, CU found cakes of shaving soap offered most for the money. Best Buys in this type were Williams Mug Soap, Colgate Cup Soap, and Palmolive Shaving Soap, each 5 cents.

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OUR NEIGHBORS

By SALLY MEREDITH

Hello, Greenbelt:

A lot of people have complained, directly or indirectly, that their names are never mentioned in this column, even though they do things that other Greenbelters would be interested in. The more items of interest I have for this column, the happier I am, because people are naturally interested in what their neighbors are doing. If you, or anyone you know of, has done anything interesting, give me a ring, and let me know! My number is 2541.

The Mark Greenwalds certainly did pick a swell spot to vacation during the hot weather we've had! They're in Nova Scotia for two weeks.—Mrs. "Mel" Compton, with her son, Arnold, is in Plymouth, N. H., and will return the first part of October.—The Phil Wexlers will spend another week in New York, where they have been since last Saturday.

Visiting Abe and Helen Chasnow this week were Abe's sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. J. Goldfarb, of Philadelphia. They left Tuesday.—Mrs. Nathan H. Schein, 56-E Crescent Road, was visited for a few days by her brother, Sam Chetoff, of New York.

A meeting was held at the home of Mrs. "Rae" Peterson, 14-B Crescent, last Thursday, by the Better Brush Company. One of the dozen or so guests won a gravy ladle as a door prize.—As a sort of farewell gesture, the old Council had a party at Mayor Gawthrop's house on Sunday evening. Present were: Mr. and Mrs. Sherrod East, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Walther, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ricker, and, of course, Mr. and Mrs. Gawthrop. The Taylors were unable to attend. Entertainment was provided by Mr. Ricker, who, it seems, is a parlor magician.—Mrs. Pauline Trattler was pleasantly surprised on her little boy's first birthday, Sunday the 14th, when several Greenbelters dropped in to give their greetings in person. Included were: Dr. and Mrs. Silagy, Miss Elsie Yurelich, Mrs. Helen (Boren) Long, Mrs. Dorothea Henes, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Schwartz, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Stein, 11-P Ridge, who is leaving soon for Massachusetts, was given by Mrs. Raymond A. Hennessey, 11-N Ridge, and Mrs. Carl J. Jernberg, 11-M Ridge, at the home of Mrs. Hennessey on Tuesday night.—Did you ever hear of a bridal party being given by a group of men? Well, it CAN happen here! Lyman Woodman works in the same office that Miss Georgia Johnson does, an office composed of twelve men and one other girl. When Miss Johnson announced her engagement, the gents got together, bought wedding presents, and threw a party in the form of a spaghetti dinner, at Mr. Woodman's home in Greenbelt last Saturday night. Four women—including Miss Johnson and Betsy Woodman—were present. We hear that a good time was had by all.

Francis, Kathryn, and little Sally Fosnight have just returned from their three weeks trip to the midwest. Most of the time was spent in Ohio, but one week they were in Michigan and dashed over the border into Canada for a brief visit. According to Frank, the trip was thoroughly enjoyed, but they are glad to be back, as we are glad to have them back.—The Martin Guinivans, of 4-F Crescent, returned from a three-weeks' vacation to Massachusetts on Monday.

The American Red Cross, whose annual membership drive is now in progress, can certainly use every contribution that we can give. What with their work in the army camps here in the United States, their relief to war-torn Europe and Asia, and their regular domestic duties, they need the support of each and every one of us.

This isn't exactly a scoop, but there may be someone left in Greenbelt who doesn't know about it yet. Miss Iva Lee Orndorff became Mrs. Raymond L. Trumble on September 8. The bride is known to everyone who has shopped at the variety store, and, of course, we've all ordered cokes from Ray.

Better Buyers

The next meeting of the Better Buyers Club will be held Thursday, October 2, at the home of Mrs. Anne Miller, 17-A Ridge Road.

Adult Education Teachers

Teachers have been selected now for all adult education classes except the fine arts course. Their names appear in the schedule below:

Child study, Mrs. Charlotte Wagner, Wednesday, Room 123, Elementary School
Pre-adolescent, Mrs. Pile, Wednesday, Room 225, Elementary School
Industrial arts, Earl G. Becker, Monday and Wednesday, shop room, High School
Typing and shorthand, G. A. Sieverts, Monday and Wednesday, typing room, High School
Spanish, Larich Evaneglist, Wednesday, Room 222, Elementary School
Cooking and sewing, Claudine Morgan, Monday and Wednesday, economics room, Elementary School
First aid, Miss Gibson, Thursday, room 123, Elementary School
Fine arts, Wednesday, room 223, Elementary School.

Community Church News

Last Sunday, September 21, Rev. Paul Bechtold, of Philadelphia, conducted the services. September 28, services will be conducted by Rev. Loren Birch, of New Haven, N.Y. Both ministers are being considered for the vacancy that will be made when Mr. Kinceloe leaves in November.

The Women's Guild of the Community Church now has table

cloths available to rent to clubs and groups who may have need for them in serving banquets or dinners. Mrs. S. L. Houlton, Greenbelt 5691, will be glad to furnish any additional information.

Greenbelters Mr. and Mrs. Freeman Morgan, Jr., and Everett Harris also shot in this match as members of the Beltsville Aggies club.

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ECONOMY GRANULATED SOAP.....	2 Pkgs.	.33c
PURE GELATIN.....	4 oz. Pkg.	.22c
FAMILY FLOUR.....	5 lb. Bag	.21c
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CONDENSED SOUPS.....	Except Three 3 for	25c

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