

# The Week In Washington

A Resume of Governmental Happenings in the National Capital

Washington, May 4.—The hopes of many congressmen—that they might not have to vote on new taxes until after the November election—were blasted by the President's public demand for heavy new taxes "at the earliest moment possible." It is now felt by a number of congressmen that if the President's request isn't fulfilled they may create more ill-will among the people by postponing taxes than they would by passing them.

Congress is also worried about the action the President has asked on farm prices to prevent prices going higher than "parity"—the figure at which the farmer is more or less assured of compensation similar to that received by men in industry. At present farm prices can go to 10 per cent above parity, or even higher in some cases, without legal interference. The President specifically asked congress to remedy this situation by setting a new ceiling on farm prices at parity.

Although there is strong opposition to this ceiling in the farm areas, congressmen know that when the man on the street talks of a "higher cost of living" he thinks chiefly in terms of the cost of food. They realize that the public would not consider prices under control if food prices were permitted to rise.

The President pointed out to congress that, except for the problem of taxes and a ceiling on farm prices, all of his other proposals for preventing inflation could be handled under existing legislation. The part congress is to handle actually is a minor part of the great new economic plan being set up by the government for keeping prices in this country on a stable basis.

The seven points which the President said may well be called "our present national economic policy" and which he believes are all needed "to keep the cost of living from spiraling upward" are:

1. We must tax heavily, and in that process keep personal and corporate profits at a reasonable rate, the word "reasonable" being defined at a low level.
2. We must fix ceilings on the prices which consumers, retailers, wholesalers and manufacturers pay for the things they buy; and ceilings on rents for dwellings in all areas affected by war industries.
3. We must stabilize the remuneration received by individuals for their work.

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4. We must stabilize the prices received by growers for the products of their lands.

5. We must encourage all citizens to contribute to the cost of winning this war by purchasing war bonds with their earnings, instead of using those earnings to buy articles which are not essential.

6. We must ration all essential commodities of which there is a scarcity so that they may be distributed fairly among consumers and not merely in accordance with financial ability to pay higher prices for them.

7. We must discourage credit and installment buying, and encourage the paying of debts, mortgages and other obligations; for this promotes savings, retards excessive buying and adds to the amount available to the creditors for the purchase of war bonds.

Although all of these seven points have the same basic aim of preventing price inflation, it is obvious that they actually constitute the formula for an economic dictatorship which will completely replace, during the war, our American system of free enterprise.

The announcement of this broad economic policy is particularly startling when we realize that it isn't just a suggested policy, but is actually a formula which has been decided upon and is now being put into operation. Except for the two points on which legislation has been requested, all of the others already are being put into effect by government departments—mostly by Leon Henderson's powerful office of price administration and civilian supply.

Since the fall of 1939 the cost of living has risen about 15 per cent and the cost of the war, in terms of commodities, will be increased by many billions unless the upward trend of prices is curbed. The President pointed out that the people in this country "paid more than twice as much for the same things in 1920 as they did in 1914" and he believes the policy he has announced will prevent a repetition during this war.

Although certain congressmen with the interests of specific groups in mind, are objecting to some of the drastic proposals of the President, most of them are keenly aware of the fact that the new policies are in keeping with the wishes of the majority of the people. They also realize that the President carefully included curbs on all groups in his proposals—including limitations on profits of industry, limitations on high salaries, ceilings on wages to labor and curbs on farm incomes.

It is expected that all future legislation and rulings, which regard our nation's economics, will, for the duration of the war, be made in accordance with the President's seven-point program.

### COVE CREEK HONOR ROLL

The honor roll for the entire school year follows:

Eleventh grade: Ruth Ward, Chloe Vannoy, Lena Trivette, Bonita Rominger, Lola Miller, Dorothy Mast, Reba Bingham, J. V. Miller, Louis Wilson and Cap Ward.

Tenth grade: Blain Aldridge, H. W. Mast, Laine Reece, Ernest Rowe, Dorothy Porch, Mary Hazel Farthing, Emogene Wilson and Sophronia Banner.

Ninth grade: Truman Billings, Billy Harmon, Wilbur Brewer, Frank Mast, Otto Thomas, Roberta Burkett, Melba Cornett, Jean Shull and Ruby Ward.

Eighth grade: Rosedna Billings, Clara Mae Shepherd, E. B. Fox, Bill Leake, Jack Luttrell, Leo Mast, Vance Ward and Zane Ward.

Seventh grade: Clifford Edmisten, Willis Farthing, Eugene Fox, Lee Greene, Raymond Harmon, Fuller Horton, W. T. Payne, Jr., Len Stokes, Margery Bradley, Nannie Helen Greene, Lena Mae Isaacs, Ester McGuire, Betty Joe Miller and Shirley Max Swift.

Sixth grade: Benjy Farthing, Sarah Johnson, Faith Thompson, Bill Profitit, Dixie Rae Farthing, Jimmy Mast, Fred Winebarger and Ray Ward.

Fifth grade: Max Adams Fox, Carson Perry, Dale Ward, Peggy Bingham, Bobbie Helen Greer, Zola Johnson, Peggy Mast, Anor Minton, Pauline Norris and Violet Tester.

Fourth grade: Tommy Greene, David Horton, Clint Tester, Barbara Bingham, Mary Ellen Adams, Jean Herman.

Third grade: Ann Henson, Marjorie Mast, Betty Jo Mast, Benny Mast.

Second grade: Tom Greer, Gerald Greene, Emogene Harmon and Evelyn Greer.

First grade: Betty Lee Anderson, Roberta Combs, Mary Lee Edmisten, Patsy Ann Swift, Mary Sue Welsh, Benny Fox and Johnny Horton.

### RED SOLDIERS TAKE OATHS TO FINISH HITLER THIS YEAR

Moscow, May 4.—Red army forces all along the 2,000-mile front took oaths today to carry out Stalin's order to make 1942 the year of final defeat for the Germans amid indications that the Russians were planning their own spring offensive.

"Special conditions of spring in which floods checked the advance of the Red army undoubtedly will change soon," the official Communist newspaper Pravda said, "even more active military operations will begin."

Calling German threats of a spring offensive "a jester's tale," the newspaper asserted: "The Red army will carry on the offensive in the spring."

Premier Stalin's May day order was read at meetings of troops, after which the men pledged themselves to fulfill its terms.

### MRS. ELIZABETH GREER

Mrs. Elizabeth Greer was born April 2, 1855, and died April 29, 1942, her age being 87 years and 27 days. At the age of 16 she accepted Christ as her Savior, united with Zionville Baptist church. In 1885 she, with 12 other members, got their letters and organized Union Baptist church at Mabel. She was the last charter member to pass away.

Mrs. Greer was twice married, the first time to J. J. Oliver, and to this union four children were born, two of whom died in early life. John Oliver and Mrs. Elmira Greer survive, also one sister, Mrs. Nancy Stanbury. Mrs. Greer was married the second time to Henry Greer. They had one child which died in infancy.

Mrs. Greer was one of the best known women in Watauga county. She was known for her firmness, kindness, loyalty and consideration for her church, Sunday school, and her many friends. She was known to have been one of the best attendants at her church and Sunday school of any member of her church, and failing health only forced her retirement. "Aunt Elizabeth" as she was familiarly known, possessed a great personality, was industrious, honest, and lived a noble life that is hard to surpass.

Funeral services were held at Union church, with Rev. R. C. Eggers in charge and burial was in the church cemetery.

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Nor have these loyal workers at home neglected the duty of every American. They have already bought \$415,000 of war bonds, maturity value, and are subscribing over \$117,000 every month for additional bonds—concrete evidence that these thousands of men and women are in every way "behind the men behind the guns."

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