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News Review of Current Events the World Over

President Offers Higher Tax and Wealth Reduction Program—Social Security and Wagner-Connelly Labor Bills Passed.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD
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SPURRED on by the White House, the house, after a hot debate, passed the Wagner-Connelly labor disputes bill by acclamation, and President William Green of the American Federation of Labor hailed it as a "magna charta of labor." As is well known, the federation is the chief beneficiary of the measure, and Green and other labor union leaders had worked unceasingly for its passage.

Sen. Wagner Opponents of this bill, including constitutional authorities in both parties, have asserted repeatedly that it is unconstitutional, and it is most probable that it will be carried to the Supreme court for an early test.

As passed by the house, the Wagner-Connelly bill provides:

1. For the setting up of a permanent labor relations board of three members, appointed by the President, as an independent agency. The board, or its agencies or agents, is authorized to supervise elections, conduct hearings, and issue cease and desist orders for "unfair labor practices," which are enforceable by the courts.

2. That representatives selected by a majority of a unit of employees for the purpose of collective bargaining shall have the exclusive right to negotiate with the employer. The board may determine the appropriate unit for collective bargaining, whether by plant or craft, etc.

3. That it is an unfair labor practice for employers to restrain, coerce, or interfere with employees in their organization for collective bargaining.

4. That it is an unfair labor practice for employers to "dominate" or contribute financially to any labor organization.

5. That it is an unfair labor practice to encourage or discourage membership in any labor organization for the purpose of making closed shop agreements.

6. A fine of \$5,000 or a year in prison for anyone interfering with agents of the board, such as refusing to permit access to books and records.

EVEN Huey Long cheered when President Roosevelt's unexpected message on redistribution of wealth and increase of taxation for the rich was read to congress. The Chief Executive offered a program that he hopes will pay part of the vast expenses of the New Deal and at the same time break up some huge fortunes and check the growth of big corporations. He doesn't expect congress to do the entire job at this session, and the administration leaders at once set about stopping the radicals who wanted immediate enactment.

The President's taxation plan is frankly aimed against the wealthy, especially the men with million-dollar incomes. Of these there were 46 in 1933.

The following legislation he recommended for enactment during the present session in order to obtain ample revenue without hampering enterprise and to distribute tax burdens equitably:

1. High inheritance and gift taxes on "all very large amounts received by any one legatee or beneficiary." Segregation of this revenue for reduction of the national debt.

2. Tax levies to restrict "very great individual net incomes."

3. Substitution of a graduated corporation tax ranging from 10% to 16% per cent for the existing 13% per cent rate.

For consideration at the next session of congress the President proposed:

1. Elimination "of unnecessary holding companies in all lines of business," by discriminatory taxation.

2. Discouragement of "unwieldy and unnecessary corporate surpluses."

3. An amendment of the Constitution to abolish tax exempt securities by authorizing the federal government to tax subsequently issued state and local obligations and state and local governments to tax federal securities.

WITH only six senators voting in the negative, the senate passed the tremendously important social security bill that already had gone through the house. During the five days of debate a number of members, Democrats and Republicans alike, had argued earnestly that this measure never would stand up in the Supreme court, but when their names were

called nearly every one of them voted for it. The only consistent ones were Moore of New Jersey, Democrat, and Hastings of Delaware, Hale of Maine, Metcalf of Rhode Island, Austin of Vermont and Townsend of Delaware, Republicans. This social security measure will affect about 30,000,000 beneficiaries in the immediate future and by 1950, it is estimated, will cost the federal government more than \$3,000,000,000 a year.

These are its main features:

1. An appropriation of \$98,491,000 for the fiscal year 1936, including \$49,750,000 for grants in aid to states for old age assistance. In addition there are authorized annual appropriations for the old age reserve fund, graduated from \$255,000,000 in 1937 to \$2,180,000,000 in 1950.

2. Income tax on employees and excise tax on employers, for old age benefits, beginning in each case at 1 per cent of the pay roll in 1937 and reaching the maximum of 3 per cent in 1949. In addition there is a pay roll tax on employers for unemployment insurance, beginning at 1 per cent in 1936, increasing to 2 per cent in 1937, and to 3 per cent, the maximum, in 1938.

3. Grants in aid to states on a matching basis for assistance to persons sixty-five or older, the government's contribution not to exceed \$15 per month.

4. Old age benefits after January 1, 1942, ranging from \$10 to \$85 per month, depending upon the total amount of wages earned after December 1, 1936, and before reaching sixty-five years of age.

5. A 90 per cent credit to employers for taxes paid into state unemployment insurance funds, the other 10 per cent to be apportioned among the states for administration of their unemployment insurance laws.

6. Grants in aid to states for aid to dependent children, the federal government putting up \$1 to the state's \$2. An appropriation of \$24,750,000 is authorized for the fiscal year 1936.

7. Grants in aid to states on an equal matching basis for maternal and child health services. An annual appropriation of \$3,500,000 is authorized.

8. Grants in aid to states on an equal matching basis for the care of crippled children. An annual appropriation of \$2,850,000 is authorized.

9. An annual appropriation of \$1,500,000 through the children's bureau for aiding state public welfare agencies in the care of homeless or neglected children.

10. An annual appropriation of \$1,938,000 to be apportioned among the states for vocational rehabilitation.

11. An annual appropriation of \$8,000,000 to be apportioned among the states for public health services.

12. Grants in aid to states on an equal matching basis for assistance to the blind. An annual appropriation of \$3,000,000 is authorized.

13. A social security board of three members in the Department of Labor, to be appointed by the President, each member receiving \$10,000 a year.

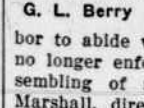
EWING Y. MITCHELL, whom President Roosevelt ousted from the position of assistant secretary of commerce because he could not work in harmony with Secretary Roper, retaliated with public charges that "special interests" dominate the Commerce department. He cited especially a government contract with the United States lines for the permanent lay-up of the steamship Leviathan, asserting that it was against the public interest and that "those interested in the company, including P. A. S. Franklin, John M. Franklin, Vincent Astor and Kermit Roosevelt" stood to benefit by it. He also severely criticized the bureau of air commerce and the steamship inspection service.

No one in the administration seemed disturbed by Mr. Mitchell's outbreak, but the senate committee on commerce at once summoned him to explain and expand his charges. Mr. Mitchell turned out to be an excitable gentleman, prone to jump to conclusions and to voice his opinions rather than facts. He talked a lot about inefficiency, "sinks of corruption," "favoritism and graft" and such things, but he didn't tell the committee much that it didn't already know. He asserted the United States lines, a subsidiary of the International Mercantile marine, had received a "gift" of \$1,721,000 through the retirement of the Leviathan.

SENATOR JAMES COUZENS of Michigan has given to the federal government \$550,000 to finance a 1,000-acre residence colony for part time industrial workers in the Detroit area. A tract has been purchased nine miles south and west of Pontiac. The project will be controlled by a non-profit corporation.

POOR old NRA, now just a thing of skin and bones, has a new set of managers. President Roosevelt issued an executive order extending the emaciated affair until April 1 next, in accordance with the resolution adopted by congress, and then announced that James L. O'Neill, vice president of the Guarantee Trust company of New York, would serve as administrator. Assisting the banker in the effort to persuade the public, business men and labor to abide voluntarily by the codes no longer enforceable, and in the assembling of statistics, are Leon C. Marshall, director of the division of review; Prentiss L. Coonley, director of the division of business co-operation, and George L. Berry, assistant to the administrator, representing labor. Mr. Berry, who has been serving as a code administrator, is president of the International Pressmen's union.

O'Neill, Marshall and Coonley were made directly responsible to the President. An advisory council of six members was named to help them. On this council are Charles Edison and Howell Cheney for industry; William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, and Philip Murray, vice president of the United Mine Workers, for labor, and Emily Newell Blair and Walton H. Hamilton for consumers.



G. L. Berry

President Roosevelt succeeded in averting the threatened strike of bituminous coal miners. Both the operators and the United Mine Workers agreed to a truce until June 30, before which time it is hoped a new wage scale can be formulated and accepted.

AFTER three bloody riots in Omaha's street car strike, in which one man was killed and nearly two hundred were injured, Gov. R. L. Cochran of Nebraska took charge of the situation. State troops were called out to preserve the public peace and the governor, meeting with representatives of the traction company, the central labor union and the strikers, ordered that the dispute be arbitrated immediately.

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GREAT BRITAIN'S realistic government finds the best path toward general peace in Europe is conciliation of Germany, so it has yielded to Hitler's naval demands and concluded a bilateral pact with the reich, disregarding entirely the desires and fears of France. The agreement acknowledges Germany's right to build a fleet up to 35 per cent of the tonnage of the British empire, and, what is more important, permits Germany 45 per cent, and in certain circumstances, parity with the empire in submarine tonnage. Submarines were forbidden to Germany by the treaty of Versailles.

SECRETARY OF WAR DERN exonerated Maj. Gen. Benjamin D. Foulois of blame for the army air-mail fiasco and merely directed that he be reprimanded for making "inexact, unfair and misleading" statements to the house military affairs committee. This didn't suit certain members of the committee who insist the general should be removed from his command of the army air corps. Representatives William H. Rogers of New Hampshire and Lister Hill of Alabama said they would carry the matter to the floor of the house and there review the evidence the committee took.

In holding that Foulois should receive more drastic punishment than a reprimand, Representative Rogers made public a letter from Secretary Dern to the committee. The letter followed an official War department statement clearing Foulois, whose friends insisted he was being made a scapegoat for the administration air-mail blunder.

PRESIDENT CARDENAS of Mexico appeared to have come victorious out of a crisis that was precipitated by Plutarco Elias Calles, who was opposing Cardenas' economic policies. The young president forced his entire cabinet to resign and formed another that would support him wholeheartedly.

The Mexican City Catholics, who are pretty much suppressed, took advantage of the presence in the capital of thousands of Rotarians attending the international convention, and held a monster parade with speeches calling for religious liberty.

Where the President Does His Dirt Farming



PRESIDENT Roosevelt is in a way a real dirt farmer. He spent his childhood, as did his father and his grandfather, on the 1,000 acre farm at Hyde Park, N. Y., and still maintains it, obtaining therefrom all the green stuff and dairy products that his family uses and selling the considerable surplus. This recently taken photograph shows a part of the truck farm. The superintendent of the Hyde Park farm is William Plog, who has been in the employ of the Roosevelts for many years.

Bedtime Story for Children

By THORNTON W. BURGESS

BUSTER BEAR IS HUNGRY

BUSTER BEAR was hungry. There wasn't any doubt about that. Danny Meadow Mouse, watching from his hiding place under a little pile of brown leaves in the Green Forest, didn't have to be told that. He had only to watch Buster raking over the leaves on the ground, sniffing among them as he did so, to know that Buster was hungry. What he was hunting for Danny didn't know, but he did know that if a hungry Bear should find a fat Meadow Mouse, well, in about two winks that Bear would be a little less hungry. Knowing that didn't make Danny feel any more comfortable. No, sirc, it didn't.

"Oh, dear! Oh, dear me! Whatever did I leave the Green Meadows for?" Danny asked himself over and over as one little chill chased another little chill all over him. "If I ever get back there I'll never, never, go so far away from home again. I never will, I never will," he repeated over and over to himself.

All the time he sat perfectly still. He wouldn't have breathed if he could have helped it, but of course he had to do that. And all the time he kept his bright little eyes fixed on the great black form of Buster Bear as Buster wandered this way and that way in the moonlight sifting down through the tree tops. Perhaps he would have felt a wee bit easier had he known what it was Buster was looking for among the brown leaves. Buster was hunting for beechnuts, of which he is very fond.

But Danny didn't know this. You see, Danny knew very little about Buster Bear. "He's looking for Mice. That's what he's looking for. He must have found out from Billy Mink or some one that I am over here, and he's looking for me," thought Danny, and the little chills chased each other all over him—faster than ever. You see, he was so frightened that he didn't stop to really think.

Sometimes Buster would go off to one side until Danny couldn't see him among the trees, and he would begin to hope. But if he couldn't see Buster he could hear Buster's great claws raking and raking over the leaves, and it seemed to him the most awful sound he ever had heard. Then Buster would

come back in his direction and the little chills would make Danny shake so that his teeth chattered. Danny Meadow Mouse was frightened. Yes, indeed, Danny Meadow Mouse was very much frightened.

At last, Buster Bear, having raked over all the leaves all about, looked straight at the little pile under which Danny was hiding and Danny felt sure that Buster was looking right at him. Then Buster began to walk straight toward that little pile of leaves and Danny Meadow Mouse.

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"I still contend that the queerest thing a magician ever pulled out of a hat," says pertinent Polly, "is his head."

QUESTION BOX

By ED WYNN . . . The Perfect Fool

Dear Mr. Wynn:
My father gave me a new gun for my birthday. I want to use it right away as my vacation starts next week. I am thinking of going to the woods in Pennsylvania. Is the hunting good there?

Sincerely,
IKE N. SHOOT.

Answer: It sure is. In fact, it is better than the finding, but not as good as the voting.

Dear Mr. Wynn:
I am the father of a girl nineteen years of age, I do not permit her to stay out at night, but allow her to have her boy friends at home. There is one boy who comes to see her every night. For two months my gas bills have been very large, but this month the bill is very small. The same boy comes to see my daughter, so how do you account for the difference in bills?

Sincerely,
SIM PILLTON.

Answer: There're engaged now.

Dear Mr. Wynn:
I am a boy eighteen years of age and my ambition is to be a detective. I am supposed to be rather homely, and my father says in order for me to be a detective I will have to have my face lifted and use all kinds of beauty cream— Can you tell me what

The Kitchen Table

By ANNE CAMPBELL

SHE sits with heavy heart, and watchful eyes— An angel banished from her Paradise. The sale proceeds . . . Her treasures one by one. Are purchased for a song by kindly neighbors. She sees the couch go, where her oldest son Lay till released from earth's purposeful labors. There is a chair, a chest of drawers. . . . Unable To buy, she longs most for the kitchen table.

For it was at the kitchen table she was blessed most by her home's tranquillity; Here she has bent, and rolled the flaky crust For pies, and stirred up cakes and cookies . . . Here Many a hasty luncheon has been thrust Down eager throats . . . Speech, intimate and dear, Took place around this table made of pine, So homely was its use—but half divine!

For finer treasure cannot stir her thought As this does . . . All the furniture she bought Long, long ago is carried from the door. She does not grieve for it. . . . Her dreams remain Around a kitchen table, where once more The children gather, doing sums again . . . And she, engrossed in happy memory, Smiles at her husband o'er a cup of tea. © Western Newspaper Union.

Bridesmaid in Hood

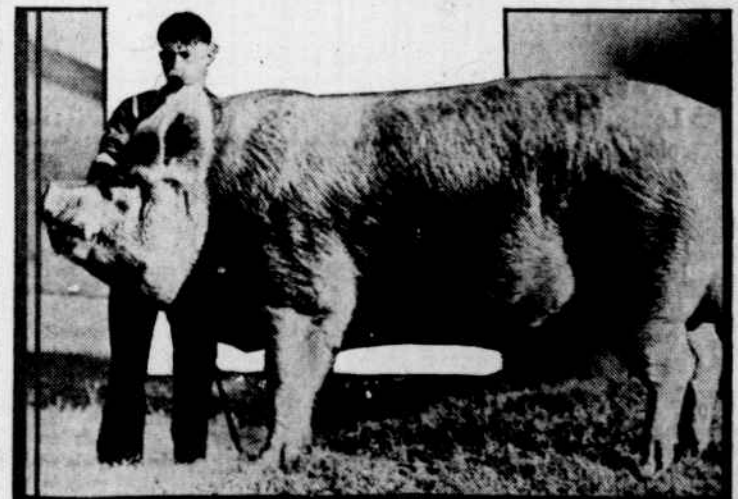


Maggy Rouff puts a pointed hood on the cape of this bridesmaid's dress of white mousseline de sole printed with a floral pattern of pink and green. She places self flowers under the chin and on the back of the skirt. The dress has a ruffle edged decollete.

a cupful of freshly shredded coconut. Chill before serving with a thin custard, using the yolks of the eggs and one cupful of milk and sugar to sweeten.

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He Has Made a Real Pig of Himself



SPALDING BRADBURY, largest pig in the recent Royal Agricultural show at Sydney, Australia, evidently has spent his life in effort to increase his size. He is seven feet long, a veritable porcine Carnera.

DADA KNOWS—



"Pop, what is a reign?"
"Scenic railway."
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