

COURT TO RULE ON MANY ISSUES

Numerous New Deal Acts Are Now Before High Tribunal

(Special to The Press-Maconian)
 WASHINGTON, Oct. 21.—While Washington's attention is not in the least diverted from the presidential campaign, consideration is being given to what is going to happen after election, no matter who may be elected. For, on the question of who will be the next President of the United States, the best-informed political prophets here are frankly throwing up their hands. So many factors which have not been present in previous presidential campaigns enter into the picture this year nobody feels quite sure that the usual signs which have heretofore been relied upon will prove reliable in 1936.

But whether Mr. Roosevelt or Mr. Landon is elected, the mill of the Supreme Court will grind on as if there had been no political campaign. It is not expected that any important decisions will be handed down until after election, but from then on there will be a succession of decisions on ten, at least, of the acts of the 73rd and 74th Congresses whose constitutionality has been challenged.

The principal laws under attack are the Wagner Labor Relations Act, the Frazier-Lemke Farm Mortgage Moratorium measure, the 1933 "Truth in Securities" act, the Public Utility Holding Company act and the right of PWA to make loans for publicly owned hydroelectric plants.

The Challenged Laws

The Wagner Labor Relations Act, which established the National Labor Relations Board and guaranteed the right of collective bargaining to all employees, has been challenged by the Associated Press and by the Bradley Lumber Company of Arkansas. The lower courts have upheld the constitutionality of the act. Now the Supreme Court is to pass upon their rulings.

Several power companies have questioned the constitutionality of government loans for publicly owned electric light and power systems. Their complaint is that this puts the government into unfair competition with private business. The action of the Supreme Court on this and the Public Utility Holding Company act is expected to bring to a head the conflict between the Federal Government and public utilities.

A step toward bringing about better relations between the Government and privately owned power companies was taken the other day by President Roosevelt, who called in representatives of important power companies for a private conference at the White House.

While no public information was given out as to what was discussed, it is understood here that the effort was to find a reasonable rule to govern the distribution of power produced at government dams in the Tennessee Valley and elsewhere.

The right of the government to distribute this power has been challenged, though its right to generate electric energy as an incident to the construction of dams for flood and navigation control, has been upheld by the Supreme Court.

Farm and Security Acts

The Frazier-Lemke Act which granted a three-year moratorium against foreclosure of farm mortgages has been challenged by the Phoenix Joint Stock Land Bank of Kansas City, which has carried the request to the Supreme Court after adverse ruling by the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals. The Supreme Court decided last year that an earlier Frazier-Lemke Act of similar intent was unconstitutional. The present act was passed in an effort to accomplish the same result by constitutional means.

No formal action to challenge the constitutionality of the Social Security Act has yet reached the Supreme Court, although that is a very important act of the 74th Congress of which a constitutional test is expected sooner or later.

In the meantime, the Social Security Board is preparing to carry out the provisions of the Act,

especially that part of it dealing with old age insurance, which does not take effect until January 1, 1937.

The gigantic task upon which a huge staff of clerks has been at work for nearly a year is that of checking and recording the names, ages, and employment records of some 26,000,000 workers in industry and business.

Immediately after election every postmaster is to be furnished with the Social Security Board's list for his community and will be called upon to check upon the present whereabouts of every person whose name appears on the list.

Starting January 1st

Beginning January 1, every employer will be required to pay to the government a tax of one per cent of his total payroll, except for such parts of it as run above \$3,000 a year for any particular employee. Beginning at the same date, every worker earning up to \$3,000 a year will be required to pay an income tax of one per cent of his total salary or wages. This income tax must be deducted from the pay check or wage envelope by the employer and turned over to the government.

Out of the proceeds of this payroll tax the act provides for retirement pensions beginning at the age of 65. The expected attacks upon its constitutionality are based upon the fact that the tax is not a general tax but applies only to workers in business and industry and is not required from workers in agricultural, shipping, domestic service, members of charitable, scientific and other non-profit organizations, or persons who are self-employed, such as professional men.

Another ground is that the proceeds of this tax are not distributed for general welfare, but only for the specific benefit of the particular classes who are taxed, so that there is no provision in the law for old age insurance benefits for a very large part of the population of the United States.

Wooded Hillsides Not Suitable For Pasture

"A cow can lose a pound of weight looking for a half pound of feed in a woodland pasture where the country is hilly or mountainous."

That statement may not be the whole truth, said project manager E. C. Jernigan of the Arcadia erosion area in Davidson county, but it certainly drives home the fact that hilly woodland pastures supply very poor grazing for livestock.

Many of the forested areas include the steeper slopes and soils that are very susceptible to erosion, the chief reason for retiring the land for cultivation, said Jernigan. The grazing of such areas destroys the ground cover as well as the young trees.

When the litter on the forest floor is destroyed, he continued, the productive capacity of the soil

decreases. Severely gullied areas are often found in over-grazed woodlands.

Continued grazing of woodlands prevents the establishment of young trees on the area, and when the older trees have been harvested there is nothing to replace them.

In developing a complete land-use program, the soil conservation service and the extension service cooperating, are encouraging the farmers to establish permanent pastures which will adequately supply the needs of livestock, and to discontinue the ruinous practice of turning livestock into woodlands.

If the farmer expects to grow timber for his own needs, or as a source of income, said Jernigan, he must make up his mind not to try to produce both timber and livestock on the same area.

Recreation Program

By T. J. O'NEIL
 Supervisor of Recreation

According to an article in the Ladies Home Journal for November, the American Youth Congress in Cleveland last summer solemnly resolved:

"Our generation is rightfully entitled to a useful, creative and happy life . . ."

The editorial continues: "When these children were five, they should have been taught that no one is entitled to be useful. One is useful when one is of use. No one can entitle a young woman to be creative. The only way one can be creative is to create. And who can entitle one to a happy life, if the individual cannot find happiness?"

It seems to the writer that

through a recreation program properly conducted, the youth of our country will be enabled to find the useful, creative and happy life. Certainly crafts, hobbies, etc. lead to useful occupations in later life and may serve as a guide to greater opportunities in the way of a gainful occupation. Likewise recreational activities lead to creative ability. Many discoveries of use to the world have been made through recreational activities, such as photograph, radio, nature study, etc. Is not happiness found in the common things around us: nature, music, song, good books? Certainly recreation acquaints one with these founts of happiness. Recreation also gives an appreciation of love

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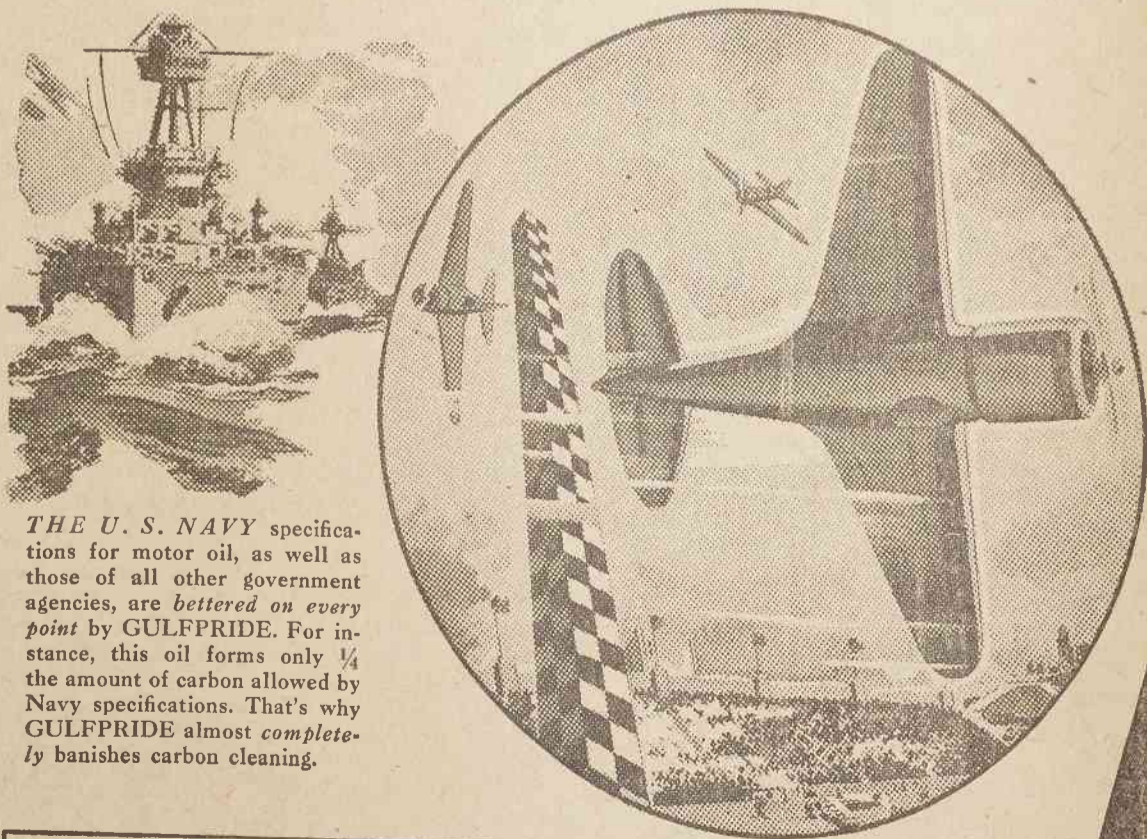
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