National Capital

Washington.—Ne one knows where the figure of \$340,000,000—first mentioned in connection with the President's tax proposal as the amount certain Schedules would raise-came from But it is no secret that while no clever work had been done in figuring the returns, for they were obviously wrong the figure did mean something.

What the agure mount truster estimate of a certain brain truster. What the figure meant was th now very much in the saddle of what the treasury needed each year in addition to present revenues.

in addition to present revenues.

The reason the figures were so far wrong, in fixing the amount which these mysterious levies would raise (for no one has ever admitted parenthood for the figures either) was that the administration, after working out the schedules, did not ask the treasury to put its experts on them. The reason for this was not an oversight, but the fact that Treasury Secretary Morgenthau had just expressed himself in such vigorous terms signist the tax proposals being made at that time that the brain trusters who had won the the brain trusters who had won the ent's approval hesitated to

But let no one be deceived about he significance of the figures, despite the discrepancy that the rates entioned do not produce the \$340,-

The rates were not imagined by enterprising newspaper reporters. Nor was the \$340,000,000. Both were eived inside the administration and formally given out.

The only advantage of the denials is that the administration is now free to produce an entirely different set of rates, and an entirely different total, and insist that these new figures represent carefully worked out studies of the problem. While the Republicans can never prove that the first figures were offi-

Want More Taxes

All of which is only important politically. Actually what is important is that certain trusted and at the moment successful advisers to the President believe the treasury should have \$340,000,000 a year more in taxes than are now coming Also-this opinion was held prior to the avalanche of decisions against AAA processing taxes.

If you will examine the highest scale of taxes on which Morgenthan reported to the house ways and means committee, and then boost whole level about one-fourth. the taxes would represent the treasury judgment on what is needed to make up for (1) the pres ent deficiency in revenue as seen by certain very potent—in influence with the President-brain trusters and (2) the loss of processing tax

This is not a prediction that any such rates will be enacted. The President has no idea of going any thing like that far. He never did. His original idea was to increase taxes only on very large incomes and impose levies on very large inheritances and gifts. Also to ing scale aimed at bigness.

It is perfectly true that the sliding scale corporation tax is frankly regarded by insiders as just as opening wedge.

New Day in Politics

Maybe Business will come to a realization that there is a new day in. American -politics as well as New Deal in Washington in time to save itself, but it is about an even

It appeared some months back that the public utilities, long politically the most stupid aggregation of successful men in other fields in America, had learned at least the elemental rules of the new game But even this demonstration does not seem to have had much effect on other business men.

The immediate case in point is the administration drive against bigness, exemplified in the sliding scale tax on corporation income. If one except perhaps the immediate taxpayers would be interested. But its avowed object is a "better so cial order."

Which means that the sliding scale idea is just the opening wedge —that the present proposed top rate —if the administration has its way -is only the beginning-that the eventual object is to make little

ones out of big ones.

And "big ones" does not just ean a few enormous corporations ich as United States Steel, Gen-Motors, American Telephone It includes virtually every corration big enough to have its stock listed on the New York Stock

hat matter.

The highest proposed rate, 171/2 per cent, applies on all corporate income in excess of \$20,000,000. But the next lowest rate, 17 per cent, includes all corporations with incomes in excess of \$1,000,000. Actually, for all the talk of taxes be reduced on "amall" corporaduced on "amall" corporaey. It repriumph for r left wing

Using Wrong Tactics

Whereupon Business, following to tractice of long ago, attempts to mit it through the United States named of Commerce and the Named Association of Manufacture, notiner of which can scare a tive from a doubtful dis ct, or worry a New York senator.

Just why Business in general does it take a leaf from the amazing occas which attended the letter ng campaign of public utility holders is hard to figure. Not because this letter writing cam-paign really did the utilities much good. The final bill is tough enough on the holding companies almost to suit Roosevelt.

The significant fact is that this letter writing campaign resulted in a 110 majority in the house of representatives for precisely what the letter writers demanded. The fact that the letter writers did not demand enough really to save their bacon is not of consequence, in this connection. They got what they asked for-from the house.

Why Ickes Worries

"We have only two unemployed persons, and they have been unemployed for 30 years."

That crushing answer, made by the little town of Colebrook, way up in northwestern Connecticut. near the Massachusetts line, is one of the reasons why Harold L. Ickes' gray hair is getting thinner. Why the public works part of his activties seem to be bogging down. Why some administration officials are wondering if it would not have been better-providing, of course, the White House had thought of it first -to let Carter Glass of Virginia, Alva Adams of Colorado and other senators have their way about substituting two billions of doles for

four billions of works relief. But that is not the only problem which is worrying Secretary of the Interior Ickes-and the White House—and which is illustrated by

Colebrook. When the word first got round that Colebrook could have a big grant of federal money for a fine new road there was much excitenent round and about the village, The progressive element was all for it. It would mean the spending of money-and prosperity.

But opposition was not slow in showing its head. The handful of merchants might want more custon ers, but the summer residents did not want a lot of workmen messing the place up. Again the merchants might like the idea of a fine new through road, that would cause many auto tourists to stop off, make purchases, at least buy meals But the folks who have been the mainstay of the community for a generation, living up there on mone made elsewhere, did not want th tourists trouping through, did not want the flavor of the old commu-nity "spoiled," in abort, wanted to keep just as they were.

But the Progressives did not give up. They kept on fighting. Then suddenly it was discovered that the money so kindly tendered by Mr. Ickes would involve using a new highway commission. This would necessitate cutting a corner off the beautiful and historic old church which is the center of the whole Colebrook legend.

Didn't Like It

Even the progressive element didn't like that. But they did not give up. And they might have won their fight at that, and Mr. Ickes might have purred over another "soundly placed" public works project. But there was more trouble to come, the sort of trouble that is always magnified in exactly inverse ratio to the size of a communitythe agonizing yelps of taxpayers afraid of higher assessments!

For it was suddenly realized by these gentlemen-and ladles, for there are a lot of widows owning property around Colebrook, that Uncle Sam was only giving 45 per cent of the money. Fifty-five per cent would have to be raised by the local taxpayers. In short that there would have to be a bond issue, and they would have to pay the interest and sinking fund for this issue for the next 15 or 20 years. For the rest of their lives, as most of them saw it.

All for what? To have a new road through their township, which would bring in tourists which only the mer chants wanted, that would bring a flock of "allens" in to work on the road, and destroy the simple pastoral touch of which the comnunity boasts, and finally would chop off a corner of their historic

chop off a corner of their historic church. And only two unemployed persons in the township, neither of whom, opponents confidently asserted, could be induced to so much as look at a pick or shovel in connection with the new work.

So the town unddenly discovered that Connecticut had a long and prideful history of independence, that it was not becoming for Colebrook, proud of its own and Nutmeg traditions, to accept that ity from the federal government.

And the proposal was turned down.

"Mossbacks," said the progressives.

rlots," said the summer p

When It's Hot on New York's East Side



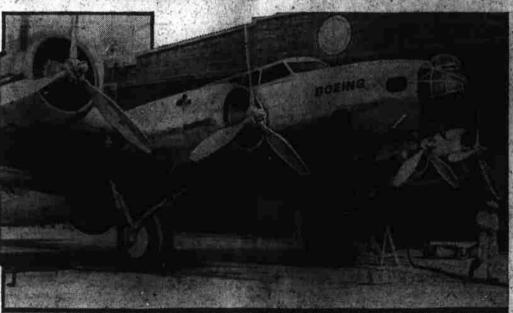
parties come and go but the hippo's takes the CAKE



sented him with a tiny cake with one candle. This photograph was taken just before the gift disap-peared in Pete's capacious maw.

Another birthday was celebrated recently when a baby was born to a hippo in Chicago.

Huge Boeing Bomber Built for Army Air Corps



After a year of secret operating this greatest bombing plane in the world, the Boeing 200, was completed for the army air corps at Seattle and appeared for test flights. It has four 700-horsepower motors, a wing spread of more than 100 feet and is 70 feet long. Its weight is about 15 tons and its expected speed 250

NO MORE

will U. S. be caught unprepared for ravages of

DUST

Three-fourths of all the farm land used for clean-tilled crops in the United States is subject to erosion and damage from dust storms, according to the Department of Agriculture. The loss is estimated at \$400,000,000 a year. Erosion destroyed 3,000,000,000 tons of soilenough to fill a freight train that would encircle the world 37 times at the equator-every year.

During the next ten years the forest service will plant 3,500,000,-000 trees in hundreds of narrow strips, each a hundred feet wide and a mile apart, in an effort to stop wind erosion.

Educational programs and other alds are being given to farmers throughout the country to aid them in combating the great, thirsty, yellow plague of dust.

In the area where the TVA operates work is being pushed rapidly forward, as shown below, to plant Virginia seedlings which when grown, will give battle to the dust Senator Shipstead Shows Them How



Senator Henrik Shipstead of Minnesota, champion of recreation for the young, stepping up to scratch to show the youngaters of Washington how to pitch horassboes. The sanator "went to bat" for the boys after police had barred them from pitching in an alley in Washington.

Washington is looking after youth in a big way these day: President Rooseveit, with his National Youth administration, is particularly anxious to find jobs for unemployed youth, and to enable depression-struck youth to complete its education. Fifty million dollars will be spent for the purpose.



"There's a Couple of Boys Fighting in My Asparagus Bed."

Good Citizen

By James J. Montague

JUDSON was over here the other day and heard me grousing about our local government. Took at that street," I was saying; "torn up for the seventh time this summer to put some new kind of pipes or conduits down.

"Look at these kids playing tag among the tomato plants I have just set out. Look at the paint on the house, put on there only last week.

set out. Look at the paint on the house, put on there only last week. It's all amudged up with soot from the neighbor's chimney. He burns soft soal, although there's a city ordinance against it. What's the use of paying taxes that keep going up the neighbor's chimney. He burns soft soal, although there's a city ordinance against it. What's the use of paying taxes that keep going up every year when you don't get any kind of government? I can't sleep at night because of fighting cats and barking dogs. I put the ash cans on the back stoop, and the man who comes to take them away apparently runs them through a rolling mill when they're emptied out, and brings them back flat as pancakes. The other day an electric wire blew down on my front yard fence and set it on fire. It's a wonder it didn't kill somebody."

"The trouble with you," said Judson, "is that you're not a good cities."

"Why do you flatten those cans

"What do you mean I'm not a good citizen? Don't I pay taxes, md exorbitant taxes at that?"

and exorbitant taxes at that?"

"Of course you pay taxes, but so does everybody. But you're too lasy to insist on getting some return from them. You just sit around and grouse instead of doing your duty by complaining. Why don't you step out and set an example for other people by keeping your officials on the job?

"Call them up and kick the next time anything goes wrong. If they don't pay attention to you go down and see them, and assert your rights as a taxpayer. Those fellows have got to be elected, and if they find out you're in carness and can't be turned aside by promises, they'll behave themselves. But if you lie down and let them walk over you without letting out a squeal, you'll get a bum deal and you'll deserve

Having delivered this homily, Judand departed, and jeft me alone with my thoughts. I rose next morning a determined man. Judson was right. I would no longer be supine and belpless. I would show those fellows whom my vote helped cleet that they would have to de-tiver something or hear from me. I would organize my neighbors, and the force of our combined opinion would make itself felt.

The next morning I heard a disturbance in my back yard, and looking out of the window observed two of the neighbor's small boys gaged in a fight in the middle of my asparagus bed. I was about to yell at them to get out of there, when I remembered my new deter-These boys were trespassing on my property. It was the duty of the

police to protect me from them. I telephoned headquarters, giving my name and address. "Well, buddy," inquired a voice at the other end of the line, "what

at the other end of the line, "what can we do for you?"

"There's a couple of hoys fighting in my asparagus bed."

"Fighting, hey? The little devils! Well, boys will be boya."

"I want you to send somebody up here and put them out."

"Why don't you put them out yourself? Are ye skeered of thim?"

"But it's your business to do it. not miss. That's what wow!" and to the control of not mine. That's what you're paid

What's the names of the boys?" "Cassidy."
"Carsidy. hey? What did you say
the address was?"
I fold him.

I told him.
"Well, you're out of luck. Them boys is the kids of the chief's cousin Owyn. And I'd advise you to go down an' watch the fight tostid of takin' up the time of men that's got their duty to perform."

I hung up. Determined to see the chief later on, I went downstairs to breakfast. I had hardly opened the paper when I heard the sound of pick ares and shovels in my front yard, and going out discovered several men angused in cutting down

I demanded what they were do

They replied truthfully enough, that they were cutting down a tree. I asked them why,
They shrugged their shoulders.
That was what they were sent there

That was what they were sent there to do, they said.

I found out that the public works department had sent them and again went to the telephone.

I was referred from one department to another, then to a third, and finally was told that the tree had been condemped as rotten, and an order had been issued for its removal.

removal.

"Why do you flatten those cans out?' I demanded.

He looked at me with a pleasant smile. "They don't take up so much from on the truck," he said, "an' I got a lot of them to bring back every day."

"Supposing I report you to your

"Supposing I report you to your bost?"
"Go ahead."
I did go shead, but the boss, an-other commissioner, informed me other commissioner, informed me
"for my private ear," that the garbage men were the leaders for the
party over in the Italian district.
"You and I both belong to the
party," he said. "We can't kick
an a row over a few busted cans up a row over a few busted cans and take a chance on losing the next election, can we?"

"I can," I told him.

"Well, I can't. However you can talk it over with the mayor if you want to!"

want tol"

or. He was shocked, he said. He never dreamed that such a stat of affairs had been going on, or he have stopped it at once. Depan on him, there would be no far the sample of the sample ther ground for complaint.

I left the telephone in calm state of mind. After all, Judson was right, it had been worth while to make a row. If I got high enough up in the scale I wo But after three weeks, when

there was no alleviation of my troubles, I once more called up the "How about my complaints?"

"What complaints? Who are you?" I gave my name.

"Oh, yes, I remember now. But listen. The boys have decided to

put me up for mayor again, and the situation's kind of delicate. Can't you wait till everything's fixed up?"

fixed up?"
"No," I said,
"Well, don't, then. And it go
don't like the way we do thing
here you'd better move out of it
town. How do you suppose my can
missioners are going to got the
Work done if you call them up eveten or fifteen minutes and take the
away from their work with you
tales of woe? I can give you to
names of a lot of towns you can
move to if you don't like it here.
I started to answer, but he ha
hung up.

Just wait till I see that for Judson again,

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Italy's War Gift Islands
Italy obtained the Islands
goata, south of the city of
Jugoslavia, and the Talu
Cherao, Lussin and other
smaller islands in the G
Quaraero, south of the
Fitime, which belongs to Its