

WHAT IS TAKING PLACE BY
 Phil H. Ripley
 UNITED STATES SENATOR

There are many reasons for the belief that the Congressional "log jam" which has held up important legislation, is about to be broken. Hearings on the President's court plan have been completed. The Chief Executive's budget message has clarified the situation with reference to Federal expenditures. It is clear that enlarged relief expenditures and new projects cannot be undertaken without new taxes. And there seems to be no sentimentality.

As a result, leaders are endeavoring to cut appropriations and to hold relief expenditures down to the billion and a half recommended by the President. If possible that amount will even be reduced. Should these moves be successful, excise taxes scheduled to expire in June and July will be re-enacted, perhaps for another year, and that be the extent of tax legislation during the first session of the present Congress.

However, should pressure from various Congressional blocs result in new and larger expenditures than are provided in the budget, it may mean tax revision before Congress adjourns. And tax revision during the summer months in Washington is a slow and difficult undertaking. Every one hopes that it can be avoided.

In the final analysis, the course of the Congress will be governed largely by the desires of the people. If they want new expenditures, they must be prepared to foot the bills. If they want reduced expenditures, they should make their wishes known. These statements cannot be repeated too often.

They are of utmost importance to our people. Nevertheless, we have timely warning that the day is fast approaching when our system of producing revenue must be overhauled. Loopholes must be closed and inequities removed. Our taxes must be broadened. Expediency in levying taxes must give way to equity. We should consider the effect of certain forms of taxes on business and, in turn on labor and on the farmer. Much of the present conditions, and those who have gone through, may be attributed to the way in which we have pyramided taxes, Federal, state and local, without regard for their effect.

Therefore, we may anticipate, that tax revision in 1939—if necessary does not force it earlier.

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... if they continue to work under the provisions of the Unemployment Compensation Act...

For example, late in 1938, a subcommittee of the House Ways and Means Committee studying Federal and state taxing and expenditures therein, made a preliminary report. Let me quote from the statement made by the able chief of staff of the Joint Congressional on Internal Revenue.

"At the completion of some of the months of study of our taxation system as a whole, it is our opinion that very substantial improvements can be made therein through cooperation between the Federal Government and the state. The tax burden is great and the public is fully conscious of this burden in these times of stress. A more equitable distribution of the burden and its ultimate reduction through a judicious curtailment in expenditures would doubtless not only be welcomed by the public but also have a most beneficial effect on business."

We ask ourselves the following questions: Which taxes are most adaptable for those of the Federal Government, and which are most adaptable for the use of the state governments?

What taxes may be properly imposed, if any, by both state and Federal Governments without serious objection from the standpoint of equity?

We must give our citizens a fair and just system of taxation, free from loopholes and inequities and must also give our people a full measure now sought by the President.

N. C. Unemployed Compensation Com

Raleigh, April - Social Security account numbers of employees in North Carolina who have reached or passed the 65 year age limit will be issued by the postoffices in the state for the North Carolina Unemployment Compensation Commission, Frank Banc, director of the Social Security Board, has advised E. W. Price, director of the Unemployment Compensation Division of the State commission.

The message advising that this method can be used for identifying employees who had not previously been issued Social Security account numbers because of their age read as follows:

"Postoffices are being instructed to issue Social Security account numbers to employees aged sixty-five or over on and after April 27. Application entirely voluntary from the Federal viewpoint. You may, if necessary, and not earlier than Tuesday, April 27, issue State publicity, together with appropriate rule or regulation making application necessary under State, but not Federal law."

Acting on the message, the North Carolina commission, in meeting Monday, adopted a rule requiring that employers of the State apply to their local postoffices and secure these special Social Security account numbers for all their employees who have reached or passed the 65 age limit and who do not have such numbers.

As this is stated, it is entirely a State number and the postoffice department is cooperating in order that numbers may be assigned to workers 65 years of age and over for purposes of identification only for the State Unemployment Compensation records. Workers above that age limit do not participate in the old-age benefits of the Social Security program.


J. M. Yelton has purchased 10 Jersey cows, plans to dig a trench this summer and has planted four acres of alfalfa.

Partners in the Goodwater section of the Granville County have about 5,000 bushels of cured No. 1 Nancy Hill sweet potatoes that will be marketed in cooperative car lot shipments this spring.

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