

THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON

Washington, June 30. — Anything can happen before the present session of Congress adjourns, sometime before Labor Day, but it would take a seventh son of a seventh son to predict what particular Congressional wishes will come true. For there are many things which Congress, speaking broadly, would like to do, which it may find impossible because of political considerations and Administration pressure — which means about the same thing.

Congress has really become economy-minded. There is no doubt that, left to follow its inclinations it would make material reductions in Government expenditures, not only for the regular departments and bureaus but for emergency commissions and "administrations." A case in point is the matter of relief appropriations.

The predominant sentiment on Capitol Hill is that Uncle Sam has gone far enough in supporting his nephews and nieces, and that the time has come for the states to take over the job of finding out who is in need of relief, and paying a reasonable share of the cost.

Control of Relief Distribution

But against this idea pressure is put upon Congress from three directions, to continue the WPA system. It comes from the Administration itself, which wants to continue the handling of relief funds without restriction as to where they shall be spent. That is a natural result of the desire to influence Congressional votes.

The Congressman who cannot continue to get WPA projects allotted to his district is likely to lose a lot of votes when he comes up for re-election, and every one of them knows it. Therefore, much as they feel—and most of them sincerely do—that relief expenditures should be cut, a great many fear for their own political futures if they take too positive a stand for what they believe.

Then there is the pressure from the Governors of their home states and the mayors of their home cities, who form among them one of the most influential lobbies in Washington. Local governments do not want to take over the load and the responsibility, and they make no bones about telling their Congressmen so. The threat of local political opposition if they don't play ball is more potent, with many Representatives than even the fear of reprisals from the Executive.

WPA and Union Wages

The third pressure group active in opposition to reduction in relief expenditures is the WPA workers themselves. They have become so well organized, especially in the larger centers of population, that they have almost the status of a labor union.

They look upon their relief jobs under WPA as permanent positions in which they have a vested right. This has come about from the fact that Congress, in placing relief funds in the hands of the President in huge lump sums, to be used at his discretion, set no limit upon the amount which might be paid as relief wages to any individual.

The result is that the Relief Administration has ruled that men on relief work must receive union wages in cities and district in which the labor unions set the standards. Consequently, where the union scale for carpenters is \$8 a day, that is the pay of "relief" workers employed as carpenters on WPA projects; and the same rule goes for workers in other trades.

With the recipients of relief enjoying incomes comparable with those of skilled workers, it is not to be wondered at that they want to hold their WPA jobs, and Congressmen from many parts of the country are in receipt of intimations, amounting to threats, that if they make a move to cut the relief appropriations they will hear from the organized WPA workers at next year's elections in no uncertain terms.

Labor Situation Alarming

Some of these intimations carry the suggestion that an affiliation between the WPA workers and the C. I. O. is in process of formation. There is no confirmation of this obtainable, but the possibility is giving some members the jitters.

Congress just doesn't know what to do about the Labor situation, but there are plenty of signs that most of the members would like to amend the Wagner Labor Relations Act in some way to make it apply equally to employers and employees. As it now stands, it penalizes employers who do not conform to it, but puts no obligations upon organized workers.

The feeling is growing strong on Capitol Hill that the perman-

ent Labor situation, brought about by the activities of John Lewis and his C. I. O. is getting out of hand and that recent Labor activities are pointing toward the need of a strong new national labor policy which would make labor organizations equally responsible with individual or corporate employers for living up to contracts.

Again, that is something which Congress would like to do but does not yet see the way clear to do it.

One thing which Congress wants to do, but may not put over, is to do a job of "face-lifting" on the venerable old National Capitol building. The proposal to spend 4 million dollars to extend the East Front of the Capitol so as to bring the dome into the middle of the building, and to do the job in marble instead of its ancient sandstone, was quite well thought of until a committee of the most able and respected architects in America refused to endorse it, but on the contrary protested against the "desecration" of America's most widely known and venerated shrine, the Capitol and its dome, the very symbols of Liberty itself.

Congress, in its present mood, is giving serious thought to liberty, so the capitol remodeling scheme seems to have been laid to rest, along with the President's plan for remodeling the Supreme Court.

TIMELY FARM QUESTIONS ANSWERED AT STATE COLLEGE

Question: How can I cure colds in my young chicks?

Answer: Colds usually are caused by overcrowding, chilling, overheating, an unbalanced diet, or a drafty house and the first step should be to find the cause and correct it. The worst cases should be destroyed and Epsom Salts given to the remaining birds at the rate of one-half pound to each two and one-half gallons of drinking water. This should be kept before the birds for one day and a suitable germicide kept in the drinking water while there is evidence of the trouble. Usually an outbreak of colds runs its course and if good management and sanitation is practiced only a few birds are lost.

Question: In topping tobacco, how many leaves should be left on the stalk?

This depends to a great extent upon soil conditions and the amount of fertilizer used. On the average soils of the State, tobacco will mature when fifteen to eighteen leaves are left on the stalk. On poorer soils the plant should be topped lower and on the richer soils it should be top-showed higher. Be sure and begin topping just as soon as the seed parts of the plant begin to show. The tobacco will run up enough to top every three days and should be topped as uniformly as possible so that the plants will mature more evenly.

Question: Should silage be used for feeding dairy animals in the summer?

Silage has its place in summer feeding only as a supplement to short pasture. Where the silage crops yield well they furnish a cheaper and more convenient supplement to the short pasture than do soiling crops. Where it is available, it is also well to feed a reasonable amount in the morning for the first several days after cows are turned on pasture. This is advisable even with an abundance of grazing as it prevents the animals from gorging on the tender, watery grass which tends to scour them.

Question: What spray or dust should I use to protect my late canteloupes from worms?

Answer: The most common and destructive worms that attack canteloupes are the pickle worm and the melon worms. These pests can be controlled by frequent applications of a .75 per cent rotenone dust containing 25 per cent of sulphur. The rate of application should be from 15 to 20 pounds per acre depending upon the size of the plants. Treatments should begin when the worms first appear and continue at seven day intervals as long as the worms are present. For best control, the stems, foliage, and leaves should be completely covered with the dust.

Question: Is it necessary to feed both mash and grain to poultry during the developing period?

Answer: This is a most important period in the life of the birds and it is necessary that they have a balanced ration at all times so as to develop a large frame and the body reserve so essential to heavy egg production. The devel-

oping mash may be kept before the birds at all times with grain feeding in the morning and evening or both mash and grain may be left before the birds all the time. Either way will work out very satisfactory. In all cases the poultryman should keep a careful check on body weight and vitality and, if the birds do not make a normal gain, the feeding program should be checked immediately.

Question: When should alfalfa be cut for hay?

Answer: For best results the cutting should be made when from one-tenth to one-fourth of the flowers are in bloom or when new growth is well started from the crown. Cutting too early weakens the vitality of the plants, lowers the yield, and shortens the

life of the field. Late cuttings lower the feeding value as the stems become woody and the leaves shed from the plants. Too frequent cuttings weaken the root system, cause poor stands, and reduce future yields. Four cuttings a year is the maximum that should be made under most conditions.

Question: How can I remove objectionable flavors from milk?

Answer: There is no way to remove these flavors, but proper feeding and management will prevent them. Do not feed any highly flavored feeds such as turnips or rye before milking. These feeds, together with roughage should be fed after and not before or while milking. If the milk has an onion flavor the cows should be taken off pasture and

given dry feed at least six hours before milking. If this is done and proper precautions taken in handling the milk and cream the objectionable flavors will be eliminated.

Question: What is the best way to cure alfalfa hay?

Answer: The purpose of curing is to preserve the green color and prevent the leaves from shattering. The alfalfa should be cut before the dew is off and raked into windrows before the top leaves are crisp. Turn the windrows from six to twenty-four hours after raking. To prevent shattering the hay should be handled as little as possible. When weather conditions are unfavorable the hay may be put in small cocks to dry, but should be stored in barn as soon as it is dry.

Question: What can I substitute for green feed in my poultry ration?

Answer: If your ranges will not give the necessary feed add five percent of alfalfa leaf meal to the mash. Be sure that the mash contains cod liver oil of a guaranteed potency and also that it contains yellow corn meal. If there are any indications of rickets, or if there is a dry condition of the eyes, feed one percent fresh cod liver oil on the grain.

Hard Boiled

"I'd like a couple of hard-boiled eggs to take out," said the young fellow to the girl at the lunch counter.

"All right," replied the waitress with a smile, "but you'll have to wait. Mamie and I don't get off until 10."

Polite

A New York traffic-expert says that the London drivers and chauffeurs enliven many occasions by their wit and sarcasm. One London driver drew up when he saw a pedestrian directly in his way, leaned over and very politely inquired:

"I say, sir, may I ask what are your plans?"

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