

IN WASHINGTON
WHAT IS TAKING PLACE BY

Robert R. Reynolds
UNITED STATES SENATOR

(Editor's note—Senator Reynolds' column for this week comes from Minneapolis, Minn., where the Senator stopped en route to the coast on a survey of Western farm problems and a study of economic conditions in the area recently visited by the President just before he called a special session of Congress. The Senator is combining the trip with a short vacation.)

Prior to calling a special session of Congress, the President covered a great part of the United States winding up with a transcontinental trip. His purpose was to gain first-hand data on the need for a special session. As it draws near, Senators and members of the House are in widely scattered sections for the studying of problems vitally affecting the respective states and the country as a whole.

Thus there is reason to believe that when important legislative proposals are thrown into debate, farm legislation being a case in point, those concerned with the needs of their constituents will have also a better understanding of the national problem. All who have participated in the drafting

of laws agree that this is highly beneficial.

Under our democracy—as it is often pointed out—members of Congress sometimes find themselves in a dual role. They must truly represent the viewpoint and needs of their home state. They must also consider the national good. Often the two conflict. For example, laws that might be extremely helpful to wheat growers might work some hardship on growers of cotton. So when legislators are familiar with the conditions confronting both, they are better prepared to help fashion a workable national program.

If I may inject a personal thought, let me say that when I recently addressed the farmers of North Carolina, I stressed particularly the need for a broad understanding of our agricultural problem. It can be gained in no better way than through first-hand information from those who day to day are concerned with various elements of that problem.

For this reason, members of Congress echo the appeal of the President that all who can should gain intimate knowledge of American problems and new conceptions of our institutions by travel and study. It was my pleasure to comment on this subject in a recent column.

At the moment, hearings on the agricultural problem are under way in scattered areas, including North Carolina. Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture are seeking the views of "dirt farmers" with regard to new farm legislation. These hearings, and others of a similar character on other problems, are designed to find out what our people need in the way of laws and to secure their suggestions. This information cannot be gained in Washington.

Here in the West, far removed from the seat of the national government—in a section of great agricultural and industrial wealth,

Wants NLRA Changed



When Senator Arthur Vandenberg, Michigan, proposed amending the National Labor Relations Act to make collective bargaining contracts "mutually dependable and binding," he drew bitter fire from Homer Martin, UAW president. The Senator is outspoken in his belief that labor must be protected from radicals within its ranks.

as well as vast reservoirs of scenic beauty—can be found much of the patience, understanding and tolerance so sorely needed today. Attitudes toward government are much the same as can be found in North Carolina. From a former colleague of mine in the Senate, now serving as governor of Minnesota, Elmer Benson, has come much helpful information on the proper solution of agricultural ills. The West stands or falls on agriculture.

The experience gained by individual Senators through first-hand information is translated into action. It is not unusual to find Senators holding "open forums"—in intimate fashion—as they discuss lessons learned from travel and study. From it all comes a better understanding of national problems and in turn better legislation.

Some time ago several of my colleagues, including a veteran of many, many years service in the Senate, were discussing the new responsibilities imposed upon Senators, in face of the fact that the constitutional duties have remained unchanged. One reason, of course, is the great expansion of Federal activities and the spread of these activities in the states. Another is the direct election of Senators which has served to bring them closer to their constituents than was the case in earlier days when members of the Senate were elected by Legislatures.

Considerable interest was shown in the discussion because of the popular conception of Senatorial duties as being almost entirely confined to law-making on the floor of the Senate. Nothing is at greater variance with the facts. It would be more nearly accurate to say that the time spent on the floor occupies a comparatively small part of a Senator's time. The more arduous duties, are in connection with committee meetings, handling mail, making departmental calls, receiving visitors and seeking employment for constituents. It is all these together that require the greatest amount of physical energy and time.

In addition, a Senator must adjust his schedule to have time to study departmental reports, legislative proposals and prepare a great variety of statements and speeches. And as people generally take a great interest in government, as has been the case in recent years, Senatorial duties are increased through more correspondence, without any lessening of other duties.

In writing on this subject, it is not my intention to do other than indirectly answer innumerable questions that have come to me from North Carolinians with reference to Senate duties.

Unfortunately, few Senators have been able to devote the necessary time to drafting of a detail report on the activities of their offices. If they could do so, it would provide information that would be, to say the least, most surprising to those unfamiliar with Senatorial duties and certainly most contrary to popular conception of those duties.

Some years ago, Senator James W. Wadsworth, Jr., of New York, now a member of the House of Representatives, kept a record for a period of one month. Although the period covered was at a time of normal Federal activities, in the hey day of national prosperity, and therefore can not be compared with present-day activities in Washington, the facts disclosed are illuminating.

For example, in the monthly period for which the record was kept, the following was shown: Attendance at fifteen committee meetings for a total of twenty-seven and a half hours. Twenty-two departmental calls, an average of nearly one each day. A total of 1041 visitors were received in the Senator's office, an average of about thirty-five daily. There were 2301 telephone calls, 174 incoming telegrams and 67 telegrams outgoing.

responsiveness were equally as interesting. In the month that Senator Wadsworth kept his record, there were 5571 incoming letters and 3,423 dispatched. This means an average of 206 letters received daily and 127 sent out. To this must be added the fact that 328 documents were received for study and 910 were sent out.

In quoting the data gathered by former Senator Wadsworth, the purpose is to give a glimpse of the manifold duties imposed on a Senator's office. It effectively answers the many questions that have come to me with reference to Senatorial duties.

There can be no doubt that if records were kept over a period of one month in almost any Senate office today, the volume of work would be far in excess of that shown in the office of Senator Wadsworth some years ago. However, in the absence of a fresher information, that available is of interest.

There has been a particularly heavy increase in visitors to Senate offices during recent years. This has been partly due to better transportation facilities at lower cost, making it easier for people to come to Washington, and partly due to expanded Federal activities making it necessary for more people to visit their national capital.

CHEVROLET CO. TO STAGE FREE SHOW

As a part of its celebration in introducing the new Chevrolet for 1938, the F-W Chevrolet Co. here will present an entertaining show in its building Wednesday evening, October 27, at 7:30 p.m., featuring "Mystini," world famous magician. The program is absolutely free to the public and every one is invited.

One of Mystini's best tricks is that of coming out of a steel vault. He is to be handcuffed, placed in a mail bag, the bag locked securely, and put in a vault which will be securely fastened. From that vault he is to emerge unaided. Further, the magician declares that he will liberate himself from a straight jacket, handcuffed, with 20 feet of locked chain wrapped around him. He will escape though wrapped in this fashion and suspended by his heels, he says.

Another of the magician's tricks is that of placing a nine inch doll in a miniature house and producing a woman 5 feet and 8 inches tall at the discharge of a gun.

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REV. W. E. LINNEY DIES AT WILKESBORO

Many friends in Yadkin county were saddened last week with the news of the death of Rev. W. E. Linney, 54, at his home in Wilkesboro.

Rev. Mr. Linney was a member of the Linney family, long prominent in public affairs of Western North Carolina. He was pastor of

the Yadkinville Baptist church for a number of years and also other churches in Yadkin county. He had served as pastor in churches in Wilkes, Iredell, Alexander, Ashe and Watauga counties also.

He is survived by his widow and 12 children.

Breathes there a man whose soul never beats to have a fifty-yard line seat.

Old Dobbin had his faults, but nobody could steal his spare tire while parked for an hour or two on a dark street.

NYAL 2-For-1 Sale All This Week Turner Drug Co.

Study And Reading Lamp \$3.95
95¢ CASH \$1 MONTH

(Right) Floor Lamp \$7.85
3 levels of illumination — parchment shade. 85¢ CASH—\$1 MONTH

Pin-it-Up Lamp \$2.35
35¢ CASH 50¢ MONTHLY

GOOD LIGHT
Helpful to Your Health As The Right Food

Our eyes need a balanced diet of light to keep in good condition, just as our bodies require a balanced diet of food. Many of the common ailments—headache, indigestion, nervousness—result in part from eyestrain. So watch your lighting and be sure that it is adequate for all close seeing tasks.

I. E. S. BETTER SIGHT LAMPS GIVE YOUR EYES A BALANCED DIET.

These lamps are built to comply with all sight-saving specifications developed by the Illuminating Engineering Society. They give you light as soft and pleasant as the light under a shady tree. No glare. No strain. They give the kind of lighting you need to make seeing safe when you read, work or study.



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