

The Week in Washington

A RESUME OF GOVERNMENTAL HAPPENINGS IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

Washington, May 12—Before President Roosevelt left Washington for a vacation voyage on the new cruiser "Philadelphia" he took occasion to send a message to congress asking for half a million dollars to be used for investigating private monopolies. Concentration of economic power in the hands of a few persons or groups, he said, tended toward a condition which he compared to Fascism. That congress will vote the money is more than likely. That the investigation, to be made by the Federal Trade Commission, the Department of Justice and the Securities and Exchange Commission will produce any results that will be politically useful is doubted by many. And what congress is most concerned about, now as always, is political results.

Congressional leaders do not look for any important political results from the expression by 16 of the nation's financial and business leaders that they are ready to go along with government whenever government shows signs of being willing to play ball with them. The elder statesmen on the conservative side have never had any doubt that business men were eager to continue in business and financiers to finance business, once the hobbles imposed by onerous taxation were removed and business was not kept in a state of suspense and apprehension.

Ease Up On Business

President Roosevelt's expression of approval of the evidence of co-operative spirit on the part of big business is taken in some quarters as indicating a change of front by the administration in its attitude toward business. Whether that proves to be true or not, there is no question that the attitude of a majority in congress has become definitely realistic, and that no new legislation which is calculated to have a deterrent effect upon business expansion and re-employment has a ghost of a chance of enactment at this session.

The response of the nation to the new tax bill as finally agreed on by the conference committee of the two houses has been to encourage the conservative Democrats in their attitude of independence. The new tax law practically abolishes the tax on corporation reserves, and so greatly modifies the capital gains tax as to eliminate that barrier to the investment of new capital, for all practical purposes. There is, to be sure, some trace left in the new bill of the administration plan of taxing undistributed corporate earnings. That was retained in principle as a matter of "saving face" for the President. But in effect the tax plan agreed upon is another victory for the rebellious group in congress, who have been

heartened by success to take an even more defiant stand in opposition to another of the measures of the White House.

Wage-Hour Bill Stymied

That is the bill to regulate wages and hours of labor by federal statute. The executive pressure upon congress to enact such a law has been tremendous and persistent ever since the proposal was first broached. There have been a series of bitter fights in both houses, chiefly behind committee-room doors, over the plan sponsored in the house by Representative Mary Norton of New Jersey. The original measure has been revamped and modified in committee until it bears little resemblance to its original form. At last it took a form upon which the majority of the labor committee could agree, but it instantly ran into a snag in the shape of the all-powerful rules committee.

Without the consent of the rules committee, under parliamentary procedure, no bill can be placed on the calendar for consideration by the entire house. And the rules committee refused to grant a rule placing the bill on the calendar. Five southern Democrats, Cox of Georgia, Driver of Arkansas, Smith of Virginia, Clark of North Carolina and Dies of Texas, joined with three Republican members of the committee to refuse the rule. They were reflecting the general opposition in the south to any legislative attempt to put the wages of negroes on a level with those of white workers.

Unless Chairman Norton can get 218 members to sign a petition discharging the rules committee from consideration of her bill, it has no chance of passage at this session. And in view of the time it would take to make action under a petition effective, and the almost unanimous desire of congress to adjourn by June 1st at the latest, the outlook for a wages-and-hours law seems doubtful.

Garner Backing F. D. R.?

It is no secret on Capitol Hill that there is antagonism between the President and Vice-President. Both men are too good politicians to admit an open clash between them, but it is suspected by many insiders that Mr. Garner is the master-mind behind much of the political strategy which has resulted in the defeat of many of the President's measures.

The President still has many loyal supporters in both houses, of course. There are nearly 200 representatives and more than 40 senators who can be counted upon to stand by Mr. Roosevelt and the New Deal through thick and thin. Not the least important of these is Senator Sherman Minton of Indiana, who is understood to be very closely in the President's confidence, and is often regarded as the President's spokesman.

Senator Minton succeeded Senator Black, upon the latter's elevation to the supreme court, as chairman of the special committee to investigate lobbying. His attitude in that capacity has been one of bitter hostility toward anyone who criticized or tried to block the passage of any measure favored by the President.

At Wimbledon



LONDON... It was early in the morning, but this press photographer was on hand to catch a practice preview of "Poker Face" Helen Wills Moody, one-time tennis queen, brushing up on her game before entering the Wimbledon Cup matches at Wimbledon. It will be her first keen competition since 1925.

Vilas News

A very enjoyable program was given at the Willowdale Baptist church last Sunday night, prepared by Mr. A. J. Greene. Master Muri Bumgarner delivered the welcoming address. The songs were led by Mr. Nash Church, a visitor from Wilkes county. The principal speaker was Mr. A. J. Greene. Mr. Edgar Edmisten, Rev. Roby Painter, Miss Mattie Lou Harmon of Cove Creek; Mr. S. C. Eggers from Boone, and Mr. Nathan Greene of Meat Camp. These speakers talked on varied and interesting subjects.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Smith and son, Robert, of Boone, were luncheon guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Dugger Sunday.

Misses Ellen and Mae Monday Clifton of Newton and Mr. Stanley Harris of Amantia, were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Henson.

Mrs. Essie Hayes of Knoxville, Tenn., and daughter, Mrs. Luther Floyd, of Miami, Fla., visited with her sister, Mrs. Mae Smith, and aunt, Mrs. W. L. Henson, Sunday.

Mrs. Tommy Presnell, daughter-in-law of Mr. V. M. Presnell, is in the hospital pending an operation.

Masters Tom and Gerald Greene of Watauga Falls, and James Greene of Boone, spent the week-end with relatives in the community.

Miss Hattie Harmon of Avery county, is visiting friends in the community.

Rev. Roby Painter filled his regular appointment at Willowdale church Sunday.

Mrs. Anne Mae Sherwood gave a birthday party in honor of little Ruth Thomas last Thursday. Games were played and refreshments were served. A wonderful time was had by all. Those present were Rose Edna Billings, Barbara Sue Farthing, Betty Bingham, Mary Bingham, Ruth Greene, Elizabeth Childress, Lillian Edmisten, Gene Smith, Jessie Martin, Katherine Horton, Betty Mast, Betty Henson, Gertrude Henson, Betty Joe Miller and Harriet Collins.

Mr. Bogle Cole spent the week-end with relatives at Banner Elk.

The following people were Sunday guests at the home of Mr. Ed Shipley: Joe Shipley of Blacksburg, Va.; Mr. and Mrs. James Ginyard, Mr. and Mrs. Joe K. Mast of Valle Crucis.

Master Gene Reece spent the week-end with relatives at Elizabethton, Tenn.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Reece were luncheon guests at the home of relatives on Beaver Dam Sunday.

SAYS GRAZING SYSTEM WILL BUILD CIVILIZATION

A system of growing feed crops in winter and so utilizing forage crops as to furnish continuous grazing for livestock throughout the year will build a superior civilization in the south, believes Hugh MacRae of Wilmington, owner of Invershiel farm in Pender county.

Mr. MacRae invited a group of farmers and agricultural workers to inspect his system of continuous grazing as followed at Invershiel farm on May 3, and following a tour of the 50 fields now in grazing crops, the group heard a number of brief messages from among those present.

Invershiel farm consists of 600 acres of land of which 200 acres is now planted to forage crops in 50 different fields. The 165 cows on the place may be kept in any given area for grazing by one-wire, temporary electric fences operated with storage batteries. There are 82 cows now in milk on the place and all the milking is done by four men using the milking machine. Another four men operate the farm work.

Linwood James, farm manager, decides each morning where the cows will graze that day. No land is broken on the farm but a subsoil plow is used and the surface carefully disked. This keeps the organic matter and bacteria for legumes in the upper layers of the soil, Mr. MacRae says.

What's What About Social Security

Question: A grocery clerk who has worked in the same store for a long time, reached the age of 65 recently and filed claim for a lump-sum payment of old age insurance. A few days ago, the store closed its doors and the man was left without a job. Now he wants to know whether or not he may also file claim for unemployment compensation. Is it possible for a person to receive a lump-sum payment of old-age insurance and still be eligible for unemployment compensation?

Answer: It is entirely possible for a 65-year-old person to receive both old-age insurance and unemployment compensation, if he is entitled to both forms of insurance. The worker who reaches the age of 65 and who is entitled to old-age insurance should file a claim for benefits. He may accept payment of old-age insurance from the federal government and keep right on with his job as long as he has work. He is entitled to old-age insurance because he has been participating in the old-age insurance system.

Unemployment compensation is an entirely different type of insurance. Unemployment compensation is intended for persons, entitled to unemployment benefits who are temporarily without jobs. This state has its own unemployment insurance administration which is now paying benefits to unemployed men and women who have been holding jobs under the unemployment compensation law.

In the case of the 65-year-old employee, mentioned above, there is no reason why he should not apply for unemployment compensation benefits, even though he has received or soon will receive old-age insurance benefits.

Q: Where should the claimant go to file claim for lump-sum payment of old-age insurance?

A: To file for old-age insurance the claimant should call at the nearest social security board office, or simply write to that office, tell why he thinks he is entitled to payment, and ask for an application blank.

Assistance in filling out the forms will be given to claimants in any field office of the social security board. The Salisbury office is located at 302 postoffice building, Salisbury, N. C.

Q: Where should a person go to file his claim for unemployment compensation?

A: In Boone, a worker who has

Czech Fuchrer



Konrad Henlein, leader of Czechoslovakia's three and a half million Sudeten (South) Germans, has already demanded autonomy for his people within the Czech state, but as yet no moves for annexation to the Reich have been made openly. Fearing a second Austrian coup, Great Britain and France have signed the strongest military alliance since World War days directed against Hitler.

lost his job, and who is entitled to unemployment insurance should go to the office of the unemployment service at North Wilkesboro.

There he will fill out his application for unemployment compensation and will also register for another job. Someone in the office will tell him just how to proceed.

COMMENCEMENT TO BE MAY 30 AT LEES-McRAE

Banner Elk, May 10—Commencement activities at Lees-McRae College will begin May 28 with class night and will be concluded Monday afternoon, May 30, with the graduation of more than fifty seniors.

On Sunday, May 29, the baccalaureate sermon will be at 11 a. m., and senior vespers in the evening.

A varied program of social activities are scheduled for commencement time.

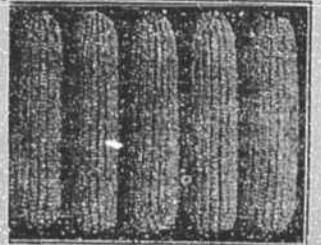
RAILROAD TO ABANDON LENOIR-EDGEMONT LINE

Washington, May 7.—The Interstate Commerce Commission authorized the Carolina and Northwestern Railway company, subsidiary of the Southern Railway company, today to abandon 23.5 miles of line between Lenoir and Edgemont, N. C. The railroad said the line had been operated at a loss for many years.

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