

The National Outlook

Confusion On Taxes

By RALPH ROBEY

In the near future, perhaps in a matter of days, a decision will be made on (a) whether we are to have a tax bill out of this session of the Congress, and (b) if we are, what kind will it be.

Recently there have been scores of tax reduction proposals. Among them are:

1. Increase per capita exemptions from the present \$600 to \$700. This is the AFL-CIO proposal and it has strong support in other quarters. It would cost about \$3 billion and relieve between four and five million persons from all income-tax liability. Some 85 per cent of the tax savings involved would go to those with taxable incomes of less than \$10,000. It also has been proposed that the exemption be increased by \$200. That, of course, would be just about twice as expensive in terms of revenues and would erase twice as many persons from the tax-rolls.

2. Split the first bracket of taxable income, which is \$2,000, and reduce the rate on the first \$1,000 from the present 20 per cent to 10 per cent. This would not free anyone of tax liability but would cost about \$7 billion. Ninety per cent of this benefit would go to those with taxable incomes of less than \$10,000.

3. Reduce all income-tax rates by, say, 10 per cent. This would not free any present income-tax payers of tax liability. With a 10 per cent reduction the cost in revenues would be about \$3.7 billion. If the reduction was higher the loss of revenue would be increased proportionally.

4. Reduce the withholding rate by some designated percentage for a specified period. One suggestion is a fifty per cent reduction for six months. This would reduce revenues by about \$7.2 billion and practically all the saving would be in the lower income brackets.

5. Reduce personal income taxes by 20 per cent until the end of next March. The estimated cost of this proposal is \$7.5 billion. It was suggested by the Committee for Economic Development.

Each of these five proposals, and there have been many others, have two things in common: first they are designed to provide an increase of purchasing power; second, they are limited to reductions in personal income taxes.

Each of these proposals, in other words, is based upon the assumption that what we need is more buying by the public, not more investment.

Finally, each of these proposals is nothing but a tax reduction—the first three being presumably more or less permanent, the last two temporary.

All such proposals stand in sharp contrast with anything in the way of basic tax rate reform. The outstanding measure in this regard is the Sadlak-Herlong bill, recommending a five to nine year program which would provide a 25 per cent minimum reduction to every taxpayer, and reduce the maximum rate to 42 per cent for both individuals and corporations. The revenue loss would be about \$3 billion for the first full year of operation. Tax savings, how-

ever, would be about equally distributed between those with less than \$10,000 and those with more than \$10,000 of taxable income.

Up to now the Administration has expressed no preference for any one of these proposals. In fact there are strong differences of opinion within the Administration as to whether there should be any tax legislation. Vice President Nixon is in favor of such legislation; Secretary of the Treasury Anderson still insists upon waiting until more data on the business trend is available.

Which of these groups will win out in the end is an open question. It will depend partly, perhaps largely, upon what Members of Congress hear when they are home for the Easter holidays.

It is hoped the decision will be for tax rate reform. This would cost less in revenue losses than almost any of the other proposals. Further, since it would be presumably permanent, it would have a far greater psychological effect upon taxpayers, consumers and investors than could be obtained by any temporary abatement or reduction of taxes.

VFW Hot Line

Post 9280

By J. NASH

Quite a new bunch of faces are seen about the Post Home on meeting nights now. Some are new members recently recruited, but there are several stangers that are familiar about town but strange to the meetings. The last meeting or two has been gratifying attendance wise. Would like to see even more of our comrades out . . .

W. W. (Bill) Perry was the officer chosen by the commander-elect, Harold Langdale, to do the installation honors this past Thursday night. Bill has been commander of the post in past years and met the qualifications set forth by the National Headquarters of Veterans of Foreign Wars for installing officer.

Saturday night was a real banquet (ball) at the dance in the club. We had a fine crowd and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. In view of the fact that the dances are closed to couples only, everyone has a good time.



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and without the prospect of some one being obnoxious. If you have not been among the crowds to come out, get with a group and meet us out there. It's the only place where you can have your own crowd and listen to live swing music by Randy Lee and his swing combo.

The man selected as VFW man of the week for week ending April 5th, is Jim Basnight of Edenton. Jim has been in business for the past 19 years and is presently owner-operator of Basnight Grocery on East Queen Street. Jim took time out from business to serve 17 months overseas with the ninth Armored Infantry Division during World War II. Jim is a charter member of the Edenton VFW Post and was Post commander during the time the present post home was constructed. He has been twice Post commander and once district commander and has held an office in the Edenton Post every year since its charter. He has lived in Edenton since an early age, having been born in Tyrrell County. He is married to the former Maxine Ashley of Chowan County. The Basnights have a daughter, Delores, who is soon to be seventeen. Congratulations on being selected VFW Man of the Week, Jim Basnight!

The "VFW radio-dance party" is a success and is enjoyed every Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock by all age groups. As you know, everyone is welcome and can enjoy the dance floor facilities from two through six each Saturday afternoon. When the radio portion goes off the air, the juke box is turned on free of charge. Teens come on out for a dancing time. Soft drinks and candies only are sold during this period. . . Randy Lee and the combo furnish the radio portion of the show music wise.

Weekly Devotions Column

By JAMES MacKENZIE

August 5, 1957, the World Council of Churches meeting at Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, concluded its statement on atomic testings with an appeal to Christians throughout the world to "urge their governments to forego tests for a trial period, in the hope that other

(governments) will do the same . . ." This incredibly naive resolution was passed on the recommendation of the Commission on International Affairs which has on it two communists, Josef Hromadka of Czechoslovakia, and Jajos Veto of Hungary. The American "National Council of Churches" is a member of the World Council.

The following day the communist Daily Worker of New York City spread the report across its front page, under a banner headline. This past week the Soviet Union has decided to "forego tests for a trial period," in specific accord with the appeal of the World Council of Churches. Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko's statement of policy follows in a striking manner the arguments and positions set forth by the World Council of Churches. The World Council speaks of "stubborn moral and political factors involved;" atheist Gromyko says, "It is a problem of great political and moral international importance." The World Council calls cessation of testings a "first step," and so does Gromyko.

The World Council argued "Hazards to health from nuclear experiments;" Gromyko insisted, "These tests are harmful in themselves in view of their harmful effect on human health." The World Council said that mounting stock piles of atomic weapons "heighten the danger that atomic weapons will at some point actually be used;" Gromyko emphasized the "danger looming over mankind, the danger of a rocket, nuclear war."

I have seen no reaction to the Russian suspension of nuclear tests by the Americans in the World Council, but I suspect they are overjoyed in the delusion that the communists have decided to follow World Council of Churches political policy. Poor, simple, naive, gullible, trusting souls, they little realize it is the other way around. The truth is that communists have infiltrated the World Council of Churches (communists like Hromadka, Veto, Bishop Albert Berezky, Bishop Jan Chabada, Bishop Janos Peter, and I could go on for pages), and have influenced it to follow the communist party line in a surprising number of incidents. The devil has not joined the church, the church has joined the devil. The Americans in the World Council of Churches have

unwittingly assisted atheist Russia in its greatest propaganda victory of the cold war.

They should read the article in the current Readers' Digest that documents Russia's record of breaking promises and treaties. Better, they should read their Bible and discover what it has to say about the sinful nature of man. Perhaps then they would not be so quick to cooperate with atheists whose motto is, "The end justifies the means."

The material in this column is taken from a statement by Dr. Carl McIntire of Collingswood, New Jersey, a leading American church leader, an anti-communist. Some of the material is taken verbatim from his statement.

Doubtful

Joe—Oh, I guess your rich aunt will remember you. You made a big hit with her by going into mourning when her cat died.

Jim—True, but listen; now the other relatives accuse me of poisoning the cat to get the opportunity.

New Weed Control Method Described

There's something new in the way of controlling weeds and conserving moisture. However, it incorporates an old principle—mulching.

Albert Banadyga, horticulture specialist for the N. C. Agricultural Extension Service, says that many materials, including saw dust, straw, grass clippings and shredded newspapers, have been used with varying degrees of success. A new material—which seems to be quite effective—is polyethylene film.

This black plastic, first tried at the Kentucky State Experiment Station, was tested on vegetable plots grown last year at the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Beltsville, Md., Research Center. It controlled virtually all weeds except nutgrass, which has sharp pointed leave sables to pierce the film.

In addition, stated Banadyga, the crops mulched with polyethylene during the dry 1957 season grew faster and larger and yielded more than similar plants grown without mulch.

Banadyga reminded the home gardener that the soil should be fertilized and thoroughly worked



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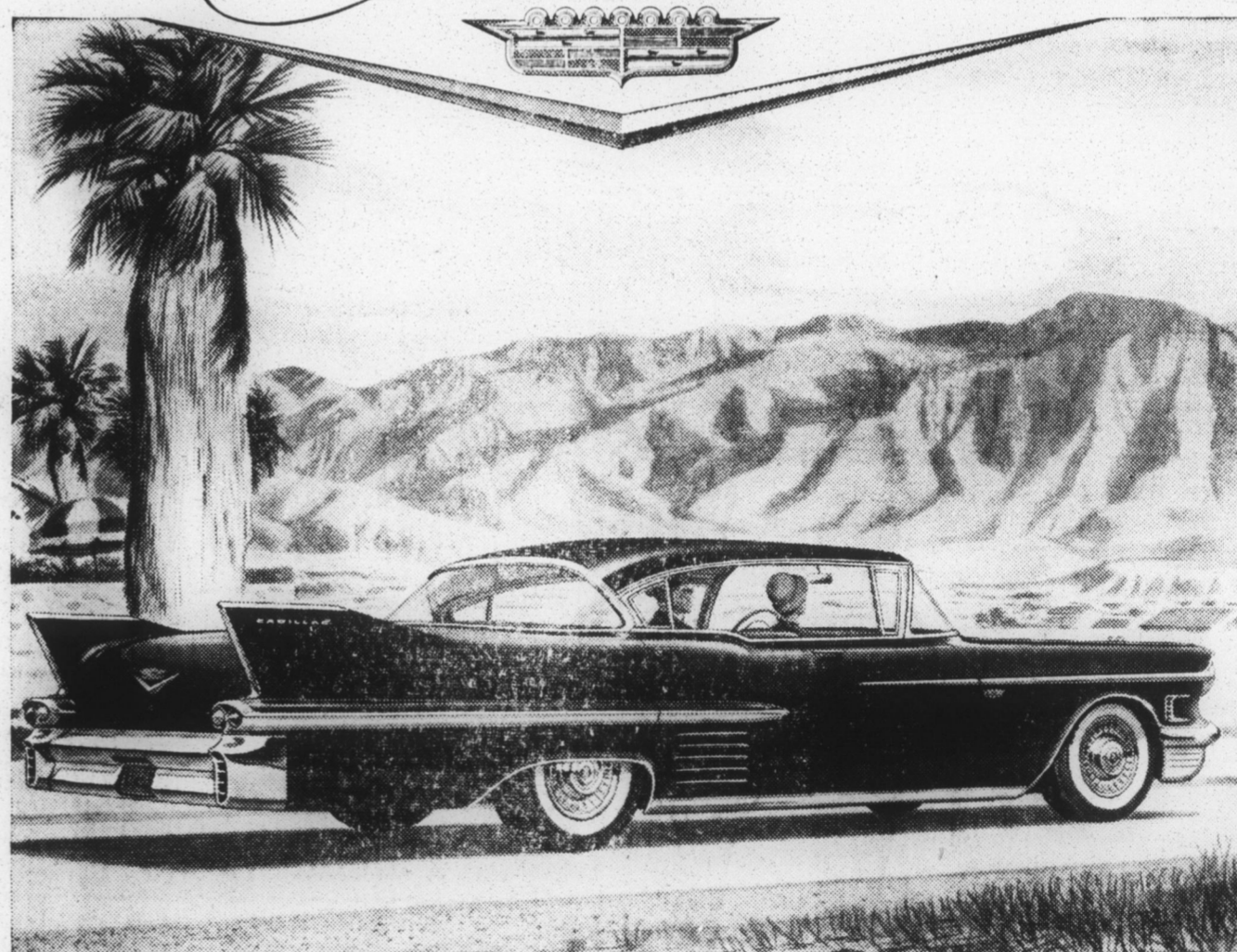
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