

Washington—From any point of view, the most important happening in Washington since the Roosevelt Administration took office, is the decision by the Supreme Court that the crop control-features of the Agricultural Administration Act both in the original law and the amendments passed last Summer, are unconstitutional.

The Federal Government, the high court held in its six-to-three decision, has no power to regulate agriculture. That is one of the rights never delegated to the Congress and therefore specifically reserved to the States by the 10th Amendment.

It was a far more sweeping decision than most Washington observers had expected. The Administration was prepared for a ruling that the processing taxes and their distribution in benefit payment to farmers for crop reduction were not Constitutional. Indeed, the main purpose of the AAA amendments of 1935 was to get around such a possible verdict by the Supreme Court.

SWEEPING DECISION

After declaring that the processing taxes and their distribution in benefit payments were beyond the power of Congress, because they were not applied to the "general welfare" but to a limited class, and that Congress had improperly delegated to the Executive the appropriation of public funds, the decision, read by Justice Roberts, went farther still. The heart of the matter he pointed out, lay in the purpose of the AAA, and that purpose, the regulation of agriculture, is clearly unconstitutional, because it is an attempt on the part of the Federal Government to exercise rights reserved to the States. Justices Brandeis, Cardozo and Stone dissented from the majority opinion.

The case before the Supreme Court was that of the Hoosac Mills, in protest against the processing tax on cotton. But so broad was the Court's decision that it is regarded here as applying to the Bankhead cotton control act, the potato control amendment as well as to the wheat, corn-hog, tobacco and other Federal efforts to control agricultural production. The decision prohibits any attempt to enforce any part of the AAA program.

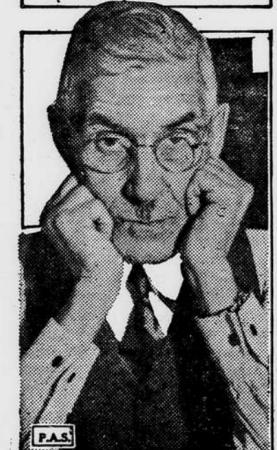
Processors need not pay any more processing taxes; the farmers cannot receive any more benefit payments. It is doubtful that those who have paid the processing taxes can recover them from the Government, or that the Government can collect back from farmers benefit payments already made.

BUDGET, WAR, PROBE

The Supreme Court decision threw into the shade the President's budget message, which was handed to Congress at the same hour that Justice Roberts began to read the Court's decree. Mr. Roosevelt's estimates were divided into two sections, "regular" expenses of Government and relief expenditures.

The President estimated the Federal income from all sources at \$5,654,000,000 for the next fiscal year, which amount he figured, would leave \$5,000,000 surplus. But he declined to put a figure on the (Continued on page 4)

Townsend Threat Alarms



WASHINGTON . . . Political leaders of both big parties gathered here agreed privately that the startling growth of the "Townsend \$200-per-month pension plan and the threat of Francis E. Townsend (above), to organize a Third Party next year, might be occasion for real alarm.

Textile Mills Will Observe Code

Motor Failure Is Blamed For Nation's Worst Air Tragedy

Goodwin, Ark.—Engine failure, due to clogged gas lines or some other vital trouble, is believed to have sent the American Airlines transcontinental luxury lines, the Southerner, into a plunge which carried 17 passengers to death in the Arkansas swamps Wednesday.

Department of Commerce officials, here in the aftermath of the worst tragedy in American commercial air history, heard two farmers who saw the brightly-lighted ship struggling for life over the cypress bogs declare the ship's engines were faltering.

The engines were sputtering and choking just before the ship went

House Passes Bloody Fight Bonus Bill By Big Majority

Vote On Passage Is Announced As 355 to 58

Washington—A crushing house majority passed and sent to the senate the bill authorizing immediate cash payment of the bonus to nearly 3,500,000 World War veterans.

Its immediate cost was estimated variously from \$1,000,000,000 to \$2,000,000,000.

The vote on passage was announced by Speaker Byrns as 355 to 58, more than the two-thirds required to pass legislation over a presidential veto. The ballot was taken before packed galleries.

Prompt consideration of the issue by the senate finance committee was promised by Chairman Harrison, Democrat, Mississippi.

Unless pressure for the house bill is too great the committee was considered likely to amend the measure or vote out a less liberal one of its own, realizing President Roosevelt is opposed to full payment at this time.

Democratic Leader Robinson has conferred with the President and was believed to have conveyed the executive's attitude to all bonus camps whose representatives have been conferring in secret for several days.

Robinson was hopeful a bill can be passed that will meet executive approval.

Just before final passage the house defeated 319 to 89 a motion by Representative Treadway, Republican, Massachusetts, to return the bill to committee under instructions to require payment with unexpected relief funds.

On the floor members were so unconcerned about the outcome of the balloting that the chattered noise or read newspapers. Speaker Byrns had to crack down with his gavel repeatedly so those who had not yet voted could hear the clerk call their names.

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Sick Mobster



CHICAGO . . . Tommy Touhy (above), last of the mobster "Tonby Gang" is now in the hands of the G-Men, who have trailed him since 1933. He was captured in bed, a tuberculosis invalid.

Two Kidnapers Get Life Terms

First To Get Maximum Penalty Under N. C. Law

Winston-Salem—The first to receive maximum penalty under North Carolina's 1933 kidnaping law, William Barham and Fred Stevens, sentenced to life imprisonment for the abduction of W. W. Pollock, Winston-Salem draftsman, were taken to state prison at Raleigh.

A jury in Forsyth county superior court found Barham and Stevens guilty after deliberating less than half an hour.

The state relied solely upon the testimony of Pollock to obtain conviction in the case. Pollock testified Barham and Stevens accosted him as he entered his automobile on a street here the night of October 18, 1935, ordered him to the back seat of his car and took him to Rowan county.

Pollock told the jury the men questioned him as to whether he could raise ransom of \$4,000 to \$5,000. Informed he could not raise that amount of money, the two took from him a wallet containing \$38, some small change, two pencils and a watch and after tying his hands and feet to a tree drove away in his car, he said.

Barham and Stevens were arrested later at Raleigh, where they were sentenced to serve 15 years each for robbery of stores in that city.

Isenhour Renamed Head Of Realtors

H. E. Isenhour, local realtor, was re-elected president of the Salisbury Real Estate board at the annual meeting. Other officers re-elected included R. E. Ramsey, vice president; F. S. Cline, secretary-treasurer; J. P. Mattox and Ross M. Sigmon, directors.

Rentals advanced about 15 per cent during the past year, it was reported, as well as less than 1 per cent of the local residential property being vacant.

David Ovens To Speak Here Jan. 30

David Ovens of Charlotte, prominent business man, will make the principal address here at the annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce January 30.

The Rotary, Kiwanis, Civitan and Lions clubs will meet with the Chamber of Commerce and other citizens, and an interesting occasion is anticipated.

URGES COURSE IN MARXISM
Athens, Ga.—Speaking at the University of Georgia despite a protest of two American Legion leaders, George Soule, and editor of the New Republic, said college students should have a course in Marxism "to be really prepared."

Democrats To Meet In Philadelphia

Quaker City Wins 'Poker Game' With Combined Offer Nearly \$300,000

After spirited and almost unprecedented "poker game", with table stakes so high as to all but wipe out the party's deficit, the Democratic national committee picked Philadelphia for its 1936 national convention.

The Pennsylvania city, never before the scene of a Democratic convention won out over San Francisco and Chicago when its representatives finally waved a certified check for \$200,000. Then, to meet higher bids Philadelphia concessions estimated to raise the total to between \$250,000 and \$300,000 were offered.

Party Chairman James A. Farley announced the national convocation, intended to renominate President Roosevelt, would start June 23. The Republican party will meet in Cleveland beginning June 9.

Before the bidding started, Farley in opening the national committee's meeting, predicted a "campaign of defamation" financed by the "largest slush fund on record."

Spanish War Vets Install Officers

Officers of the James L. Watson camp No. 20 of the United Spanish War Veterans were installed Friday night at the regular meeting here. J. M. Mabry of Charlotte, representative of the Department of North Carolina, installed the following:

Commander, Albert S. Arndt; senior vice commander, Henry W. Miller; junior vice commander, Ben F. Lee; service officer and chaplain, William White; adjutant and quartermaster, H. M. Armistead. G. Brooks Turner is the retiring commander.

Better Homes Be Sought For Low Wage Earners

Washington—An early conference to determine means of aiding the small-income group in the problem of constructing new homes is planned by President Roosevelt.

He estimated at his press conference that at least 90 per cent of the people who need better housing are within the group earning \$2,500 a year or less and unable to pay for houses costing upwards of \$5,000.

Mrs. Margaret Parker Of Landis Dies At 62

Miss Margaret Parker, 62, of Landis, died in a Salisbury hospital January 10. Funeral services were held at the Landis Methodist church Sunday at 2 p. m. Burial was in the Greenlawn cemetery at China Grove.

Two sisters and six brothers Mrs. W. L. Davidson of Landis. Mrs. Pink Ervin of near Concord. Henry Parker of Charlotte; Chall, Bill and Charles Parker of Mooresville, Julius Parker of Yadkinville, and Percy Parker of near Landis.

Plumbing Concern Moving This Week

C. J. W. Fisher, plumber, who has been located at 113 East Innes Street, for the past several years is this week moving to 107 West Fisher Street, where he states he is better prepared than ever to serve his customers. He will also carry an up-to-date line of plumbing and heating fixtures.

INCOME TAX LAW VIOLATED
Olympia, Wash.—The 1935 Oregon personal net income tax law was declared unconstitutional by the State Supreme court. The invalidation means the loss of more than \$1,500,000 annually in revenue during 1936, the State tax commission said.

Race Is On For Postmaster's Place; 6 Enter

Peacock's Term Expires Next Month; Candidates Are Active

P. N. Peacock, postmaster, whose term expires February 24 of this year announces that he is not a candidate for another term.

Those who have applied for the position are said to be the following: Mrs. Maggie E. Galvin, Henry L. Mangum, James H. McKenzie, W. F. Rattz, H. A. Rouzer and S. A. Russell all well-known Salisbury citizens of high standing in the community.

It is reported that the present assistant postmaster, W. L. Ross may also seek the position depending upon the action congress takes on a bill now pending which will extend the civil service to include first, second and third class postmasters.

Under the bill, the postmaster will be appointed by the postmaster general without term, and by promotion or transfer from the postal ranks, unless the postmaster general certifies to the civil service commission that no one in the office is capable of holding the job. Unless this bill is passed, Mr. Ross will take part in an active fight for the job.

If the bill is not passed, the postmaster will be chosen by the usual procedure. Those who have applied will be examined by the Civil Service Commission and the three ranking highest will be the eligibles. From these three, Congressman R. L. Doughton and the local Democratic executive committee will choose the man to govern the Salisbury office. Date for filing applications expired January 14.

Screen Actress Killed In Crash

Santa Monica, Calif.—Margaret Ehrlich, 18, motion picture actress known on the screen as Margot Early, was killed Sunday in a motor car crash as she was returning from a party at the home of Marion Davies, actress.

Mary Grace, also 18, an actress under contract to Warner Brothers studio, who was driving the car, suffered a possible skull fracture and internal injuries. She was still unconscious late yesterday.

The car in which the girls were riding struck an abutment on Roosevelt highway. Witnesses told the police an approaching car apparently forced them from the road.

Miss Ehrlich a graduate of Santa Monica high school, appeared in "Operator 13", and "Naughty Marietta." She recently was placed under contract by Metro-Goldwyn-Myer Studios.

Richest Woman, Bride



NEW YORK . . . Mrs. Marjorie Post Close Hutton (above), heiress to a health food fortune and one of the nation's richest women, is now on honeymoon with her third husband, Joseph B. Davies, Washington attorney.

Majority of Industry to Volarily Observe Provisions

40 HOUR WORK WEEK

Southern cotton-textile manufacturers had in their offices Tuesday copies of the pledge they are being asked to sign in the Cotton-Textile Institute's program for continuation of the major principles of the former NRA code.

The pledge, when signed, is the manufacturer's promise that he will:

1. Observe a work week of not more than 40 hours in any one calendar week for employes engaged in operating textile machinery inside the mill or engaged within the mill in handling material in process.
2. Pay a minimum rate on wages for such employes of 30 cents an hour in the southern branch and 32 1-2 cents an hour in the northern branch, with the exception of learners and workers partly incapacitated by reason of age or disability.
3. Will not employ minors under 16 years of age.
4. Will not operate productive machinery, defined as spinning spindles and looms, more than 80 hours in any one calendar week, such limitation to apply to each individual spindle and loom.

Leaders in the industry explained that the Institute is just completing distribution of the pledges and that it will be some time before announcement of the percentage of the industry signed up can be made. They were definite in their belief, however, that the big majority of the industry will co-operate in this effort.

Representatives of the greater portion of the carded and combed yarn groups of the industry went on record in a meeting in Charlotte Monday as in favor of the plan, and leaders declared that they have no (Continued on page eight)

Sees Delay In Restoring Roads To Good Condition

Raleigh — Vance Baise, State highway engineer, expressed the opinion it would be spring before surface-treated highways of the State can be restored to first-class shape.

"We plan to patch the roads where ever possible but it will be necessary to completely rebuild most of the highways," said Baise.

The recent severe freezes, snow, sleet and rain did more than \$1,000,000 worth of damage to the highway system Baise has estimated.