

Baily Discusses Crop Control New Legislation

Commodity Credit Corporation Has \$400,000,000 For Loan Purposes

By SENATOR J. W. BAILEY
I believe a candid statement to our farmers will be of value at this time.

Recently I pointed out that most of the crops were bringing parity prices, but that cotton was at about six cents below parity. Further I suggested to the farmers that they had now the right to apply for loans on their cotton to the Commodity Credit Corporation. The legislative authority is in existence and the Commodity Credit Corporation has about \$400,000,000 on hand.

The Housing Bill now before us carries \$750,000,000 to be spent in the larger cities to build

apartments for those who have been living in what is called the slums. The fund may provide apartment residences with lights, water, and other conveniences, for perhaps a hundred thousand people. This seems a large number, but after all it is relatively small.

If the Government can put up money to build homes for people, I should think it could put up money by way of loans on cotton. In the present instance, the Government is not only about to build homes, but also to pay a portion of the rent. If the Government can pay rent for people in New York and Chicago, it can pay rent for anybody else. I am not favorable to this sort of legislation for the reason that I know there is no end to it. If we do these things for one, we must do them for all and very clearly the Government doesn't have the money to do it for more than five or ten per cent of those who are justly entitled to its aid on this basis.

I believe the Government policy of lending funds on crops inevitably predicates control of crop production. This means a strict regimentation. Each farmer must be told that he shall not produce but so many bales, so many pounds, so many bushels, for if this should not be the rule, then the farmers would be induced by the Government policy to produce ever increasing crops with the consequence that the Government would pay out billions of dollars and have the crops on hand. The existence of crops on hand would tend to depress the price for the reason that it would be necessary sooner or later to sell them. Otherwise, the Government would go broke.

If we have crop control, there will be irresistible demand for better provisions for small farmers than were had under the A. A. When the Bankhead Act was here, I offered an amendment requiring that there should be no reduction in the crops of the cotton farmers who had produced in the base period an average of ten bales or less. The right of the little man to live is a profound right. The new Control System will provide for crop reduction on a graduated scale—the larger the farm, the greater the percentage of reduction. It is necessary so to provide in order that the little farmers shall have

a chance to support their wives and children. The same rule will apply to tobacco farmers. The small tobacco farmer must in all events be allowed to produce a sufficient poundage of tobacco to maintain his family. I think the Department of Agriculture is inclined to this same view now. So let us understand that control means reducing very greatly the allotments to the larger farmers so that living allotments may be given to the smaller farmers. There will also be more strict provisions in behalf of tenants and croppers.

The President is saying that he is unwilling to support the lending of money on cotton unless we put up a control program. I know the difficulties of control. I have preferred at all times a voluntary system to the compulsory system. The argument against the voluntary system is that it may not work. The argument for the compulsory system is that the power of the Government can make it work. But can the Federal Government make control work satisfactorily? It has been tried and proved a failure in Brazil, in Cuba, in Greece, in the Congo. It does not succeed with export crops.

I wish the farmers to consider those matters. I have always desired to do the best thing for them. Let them look at this situation candidly just as it is and express their judgment one to another. I shall be very glad to give their views and I shall give great weight to their wishes.

Let me say another word about cotton. While we have been reducing our crop by two million bales, foreign countries have increased their output of cotton about seven million bales. This illustrates the weakness of efforts to control world crops. The reduction program in our country did not decrease the world output, but caused the world output to be rapidly increased. The world crop last year was five million bales more than it was when the United States began its crop reduction program. And the price is down notwithstanding increased domestic consumption and rather small crop.

Cotton is a world crop. We cannot control the crop. When we put up the price here, we can sell eight million bales to American textile interests, but that leaves us six million bales for foreign consumption and this six million bales is in direct and unavoidable competition with the cotton of Russia, China, India, Egypt, Brazil, Mexico and forty other countries. I have always thought in view of this simple fact, that we must sell at least six million bales of cotton abroad in order to provide for the output of our Southern cotton farmers. The only way to maintain anything like a parity price is the export bounty. It was known a few years ago as the export debenture. I believe inevitably we are going to come to the export bounty plan in which the farmer will be paid as a bounty for that portion of his crop which is sold abroad the difference between the American parity price and the world price. I introduced a bill to bring this about fully two years ago. I ask the farmers to consider this also. This plan would not bring about the great degree of control that the present plan contemplates. It would still allow for an annual production of fourteen or fifteen million bales of cotton.

If the farmers like this plan, they should make it known. I do not think the plan so far operated has been intelligent or of any value as to cotton. The small advance in the price of cotton is due to the devaluation of the dollar. Our cotton policy has reduced the American crop, taken away from us our world market, and brought about an increase of seven million bales in the foreign crop. And the purchasing value of the price is about the same. If we go further with it, we will come to the time when the only market for Southern cotton will be in the United States and this market consumes only eight million bales a year. This means the end of cotton production in North Carolina. The only way to preserve the market for fourteen or fifteen million bales of cotton is the export debenture plan, or in simple language, the plan of paying a bounty on exports.

The same thing applies to tobacco. Sixty per cent of the tobacco produced by North Carolina farmers is sold abroad. The other nations will learn how to produce tobacco. They are buying our seed and even sending for our farmers. It may require some years, but I am of the belief that they will learn how to produce tobacco like the tobacco we produce. We may proceed for a little while on other plans, but in the long run we must come to the export debenture or bounty plan in order to maintain a world market for North Carolina tobacco. This will pred-

icate a degree of control, but the

This Week In Washington

Washington, Aug. 21. (Auto-caster)—The nomination of Senator Hugo Lafayette Black of Alabama to the Supreme Court bench to succeed the retired Justice Van Devanter is looked upon here as the President's reply to the critics of the New Deal in his own party. For Senator Black is in his own person the very embodiment of the principles and policies initiated by Mr. Roosevelt which have come to be known collectively by the term "New Deal"; and the Democratic revolt in Congress has been against the political philosophy which the New Deal symbolizes more than against the President personally.

Senator Black has not been a mere follower of the Administration. He is a sincere believer not only in the objectives of the New Deal but in its methods. He is co-author of the Black-Connelly bill for Federal regulation of hours and wages of labor. He was the original proponent of the 30-hour work week. He has been the ardent, aggressive advocate of many measures which are considered radical, and the supporter, from conviction, of most of the New Deal legislation which the Supreme Court, of which he now becomes a member, has held to be beyond the Constitutional authority of Congress to enact.

It was "smart" politics on the President's part to name a Senator for the Supreme Court vacancy, for the tradition of "Senatorial courtesy" insured his confirmation, even though for once the Senate did not act immediately, but listened to protests by its own members against the elevation of one of their own number to the Supreme Court.

The Senate did, in a sense, invite the President to pick a Senator for the Court vacancy, when it "nominated" Senator Robinson immediately after Justice Van Devanter's retirement. Senator Robinson died, but the implication was clear that a Senator would be accepted by the Senate when another man of the type which the President desired to have in the Supreme Court would not be. Hence the nomination of Senator Black.

Party Split Broadens
The criticism of this appointment by Democratic Senators gave further proof that the split between the President and a considerable segment of his own party is wide and deep, as the members of Congress start home to have it out with their constituents. The passage of time and the things they hear from the folks back home may change the attitude of some of those who are at present hopping mad. Those who are most seriously concerned are the "old-line Democrats" from the South.

They are concerned about numerous tendencies which they believe will handicap the progress of the South and infringe upon the rights of the Southern States to look after problems which they regard as peculiarly their own. They are afraid of Federal regulation of hours and wages, believing that it will put the South at a disadvantage in its efforts to build up new industries.

They, or many of them, were enraged by the renewal, in the last days of the session, to put over the anti-lynching bill. They have been behind the Administration, up to this year, by reason of their ingrained tradition of party loyalty, and they still retain that loyalty to the Democratic party, but protest that it is the New Deal which is disloyal, not themselves.

Republicans Planning for 1940
A bitter fight for control of the party at the 1940 Presidential convention is shaping up. Here the South is handicapped by the abolition, at the 1936

convention, of the two-thirds rule. It takes only a majority vote now to nominate a Presidential candidate. Under the two-thirds rule the Solid South held the balance of power in Democratic national conventions.

Republicans are laying their plans for 1940, also. Talk of a Coalition or Constitutional party, to unite the conservative elements of both parties, is widely heard, but with little evidence so far that it has the support of practical politicians of either party to any extent.

The Republican national organization is still pretty well disorganized. The talk of a Winter convention to consider a program and definite Republican policies is still mostly talk. Mr. Hoover, Mr. Landon and Senator Vandenberg are supposed to have had some communications on the subject, and somewhere among those three the future leadership of the party lies. The belief that Senator Vandenberg, on his record in the Senate, is the most available man in sight now for the Republican Presidential nomination is widely held here.

Billion From Beer Tax
Uncle Sam is paying the expenses of the Senators and Representatives back to their home towns, at the rate of 20 cents a mile. It cost this year \$109,000, and will cost as much to get them back here in January. Most of the members got checks for the round trip at the beginning of the session. The largest check was for \$2,054.80 for Samuel Wilder King, Territorial Delegate from Hawaii, who lives more than 5,000 miles from Washington.

The Treasury is happy over the cash returns from the beer tax. Since the sale of beer was legalized on April 7, 1933, the American people have drunk 200 million barrels of it, or almost a barrel a year per family, and have paid a Federal tax of \$5 a barrel, which summed up early this month to a round billion dollars, which is more than the most ardent advocates of repeal predicted. The "hard liquor" and wine taxes have not yielded so much.

Congress in its closing hours gave a new stimulus to the German Zeppelin company by passing a law authorizing the sale of helium gas in non-military quantities to foreign concerns. The advocates of heavier-than-air aircraft are hopeful of getting an appropriation next session for another experimental ship of the Zeppelin type for our Navy.

Pine Beetles Ravage Many Valuable Trees
Southern pine beetles have been ravaging valuable pine trees over North Carolina this summer, according to Rufus H. Page, Jr., assistant extension forester at State College.

Beetles are most often found where pine debris has been left on the ground to give them a breeding place, he stated. To breed in sufficient numbers to successfully attack and enter healthy trees, the beetles must first enter diseased or damaged trees or freshly cut pine stumps or pine debris.

Delaying pine cutting until the middle of September will check beetle attacks, Page continued. But if pines are being cut before that time, a number of precautions can be exercised to protect the living trees.

Remove all the trunk and limbs of felled pines that are more than two inches in diameter. Lop smaller limbs and brush and scatter well so they will be exposed to wind and sunshine.

Peel all high, freshly cut pine stumps to ground level and burn or otherwise remove bark from the stand.

Clean away pines that display a yellowish-green foliage and a round whose base is found reddish sawdust-like material. "G-shaped" galleries in the inner bark are a sure sign of pine beetles.

Remove from the stand all trees that are badly diseased, damaged, or otherwise weakened. Many infestations start from a single weakened tree.

Cooperation among land-owners is necessary, as little good can be accomplished by cleaning one area if timber in adjacent areas serves as a source of infestation, Page warned.

Lespedeza on the farm of W. T. Davis in Swain county was 12 inches tall when recently measured on a field where triple superphosphate had been applied at the rate of 150 pounds per acre. On a check plot the lespedeza was only 5 inches high.

Pioneer Resident Returns
After 42 years away from North Wilkesboro, the town of which he was a pioneer, Bob Cashion returned last Monday for a few hours.

Mr. Cashion, first cousin to A. A. Cashion's father, came to North Wilkesboro when the town was in its infancy and lived for several years, then, in 1895, moved from here to Tyler, Texas, where he began to raise roses for a livelihood. Today he and his three sons have several hundred acres of roses of all kinds.

He says his roses come in years. It was a real joy and pleasure to Mr. Cashion to return to North Wilkesboro for a few hours to renew acquaintances of the years past. As he went about shaking hands with his few friends who are still living here, friends whom he knew when North Wilkesboro was, as he said "a baby," he was overjoyed to note the growth and improvements that have been made as "the baby" has grown, through the years, since his departure.

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