

COMING CONGRESS MAY PASS OLD AGE PENSION MEASURE

At Least There is Fair Chance House Will, as all Members Face Polls In 1936.

RELY UPON SENATE TO KILL THE BILL

But Senate Has Way Sometimes of Calling House's Bluff; If it Did It in This Case and Roosevelt Returned Veto, Cards Would Be Gummed Sharply.

By CHARLES F. STEWART, Central Press Staff Writer. Washington, Dec. 19.—Some good judges of congressional trends are predicting that the House of Representatives will pass a Townsend old age pension bill this winter. It is a time-honored trick of the lower House to endorse plans that it doesn't believe in, depending on the Senate to kill them. Consequently the Townsend forecast shouldn't be taken too lightly. That a majority of the lawmakers doubt the practicability of the scheme seems a fair conclusion from the fact that they didn't vote it at their last session. They have been home since then, however, and reports from many of them realize the necessity of becoming converts in order to be re-elected. SENATE RESENTS TRICK. The Senate bitterly resents the House's habit of voting what it considers popular but injudicious, expecting the upper chamber to vote contrawise. But the representatives don't care a penny for the senators' indignation. Besides, members of the lower house really believe that, in an emergency a senator, on an average can better afford to take political chances.

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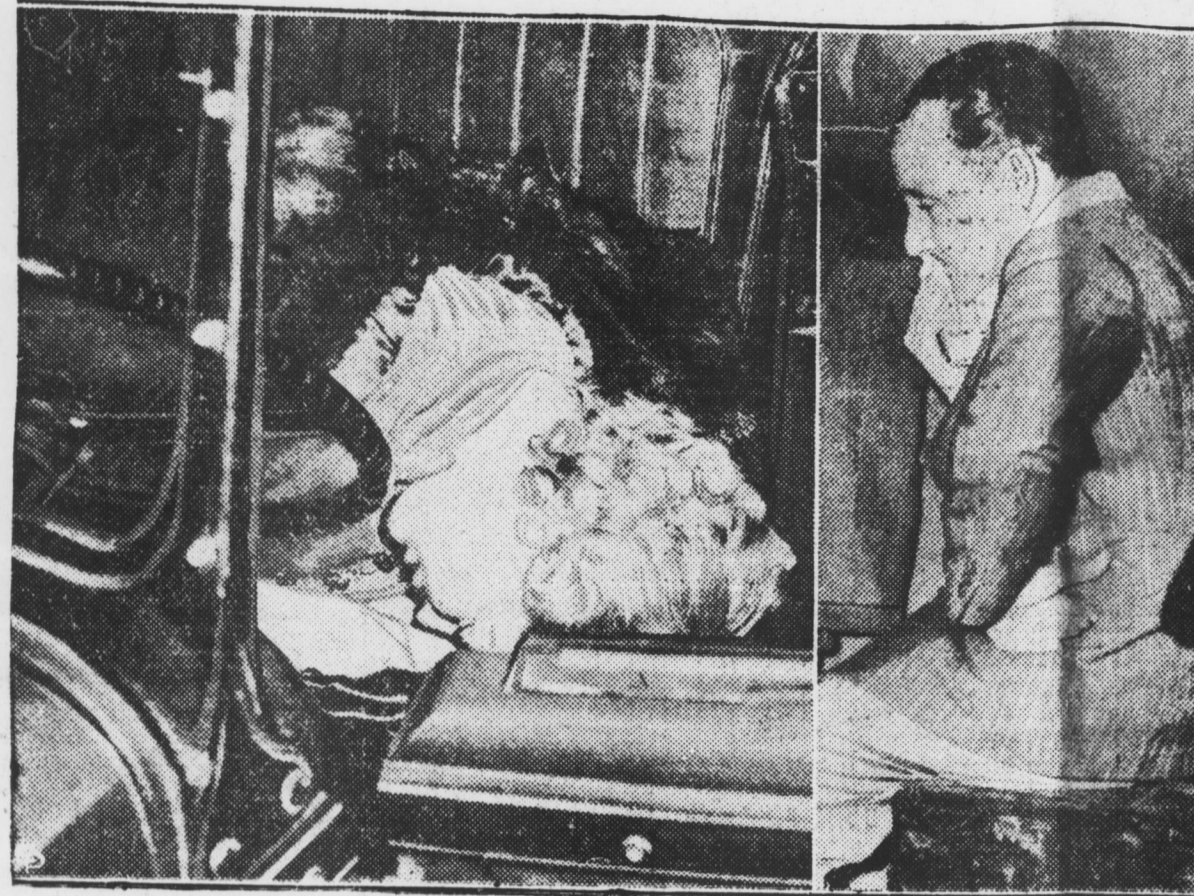
Senator Predicts Bill For Bonus In 1938 Will Get By

Washington, Dec. 19.—(AP)—Senator Byrnes, Democrat, South Carolina, predicted today that the bill he and Senator Steiwer, Republican, Oregon, have introduced for cash payment of the bonus in 1938 would pass at the coming session of Congress, even if vetoed by President Roosevelt. His prediction was made shortly after Speaker Byrnes, of the House, told reporters he believed both House and Senate would dispose of the bonus issue by February 1. Byrnes made his statement at the White House after explaining the provisions of his bill to the President. He would not say whether he thought the measure might meet a presidential veto. Explaining his bill to newspaper men, the senator said it would provide a 97 percent cash payment immediately, but that veterans holding their bonus certificates for two more years would get the full face value. "I am satisfied that the bill I have described can secure a two-thirds vote in the Senate," Byrnes said. "We hope an agreement can be reached on committee that the finance committee will be requested to report a bill within two weeks after Congress meets." Byrnes said he had discussed the measure with many veterans, who were satisfied with it.

"Death Stirring" All About, Accused Slayer Is Quoted

Smithfield, Dec. 19 (AP)—Marvin Batten, charged with the killing last Friday of Mrs. Lydia Daughtry, told a friend that morning "death is stirring around me," and he didn't "like the idea of Mrs. Daughtry living while I am dead." It was testified in Johnston County Superior court today. Jasper Pittman, a filling station operator at Micro, told the story. A jury of 13 men was completed this morning. Batten, Pittman testified, came to his filling station at 5 o'clock last Friday morning. The man was quoted as saying "death is stirring" around him, and Pittman testified Batten said he felt like he was going "like Dewey Stancill did." Stancill was killed in a fight two weeks ago with his brother, Odell Stancill, after Odell had accused his brother of aiding his wife in running around with other men. Dalmon Edwards, a neighbor of Batten, testified that he had heard Batten tell Odell Stancill, who is free under bond pending trial on charges in connection with his brother's death, that Batten was expecting to be sent to the roads during the current term of court on charges of driving an automobile while under the influence of whisky.

How Thelma Todd Was Found In Death



How Thelma was found slumped at the wheel of her car in a garage near her apartment and cafe at Santa Monica, Cal., the body of Thelma Todd, vivacious film comedienne, is shown as it was found by authorities now investigating her death. Roland West, close friend of Miss Todd's and partner in the cafe that bore her name, is pictured grief-stricken near the death scene.

Speaker Byrnes Predicts Bonus Will Be Acted On Not Later Than Feb'y 1

Says It Is Very Clear Both Senate and House Will Pass It; Whether It Can Override Veto He Does Not Say; Thinks Session Should End by May 1

Washington, Dec. 19 (AP) Speaker Byrnes today said that he believed both Senate and House would dispose of the cash bonus issue by February 1. "I think it is very clear both houses will pass it," Byrnes told reporters upon returning to his desk after a trip to the Philippine Islands. He was unwilling, however, to designate the type of bonus legislation. Nor would Byrnes predict passage over a veto. He did say that should the inflation element be removed, the bonus legislation would stand a better chance of overriding a veto in both Senate and House. Byrnes said he personally believed it desirable to act on the bonus as

quickly as possible, one way or another, and then get busy on other things, and adjourn at an early date. He said he saw "no reason on earth" why Congress should be in session beyond May 1, but he remarked with a grin: "But, of course, nobody knows what is going to happen after Christmas." Efforts to bring veterans' organizations into agreement on a bonus bill have been started by Senator Steiwer, Republican, of Oregon. The Patman bill, vetoed by President Roosevelt last session, would have made the \$2,000,000,000 outlay through expansion of the currency. The American Legion plan favored orthodox financing methods.

FEWER DEATHS ON HIGHWAYS IS BEST CHRISTMAS NEWS

Record for November Shows 92 Deaths, as Against 131 During Month of October.

DRIVE UPON DRUNKS HAVING ITS EFFECT

Better Record for Safety Is Made With More Cars On Highways; Lowest Recent Death Total Was When State Was in Depths of the Depression.

Daily Dispatch Bureau, In The Sir Walter Hotel, By J. C. BASKERVILLE. Raleigh, Dec. 19.—Reduction of highway deaths in November, with the fastest, newest and greatest number of machines ever registered in the State, brought to North Carolina its best Christmas present, some of the State officials were observing today. October, 1935, was banner month of all time for slaughter. The 131 fatalities made a profound impression here. The new highway patrol had gone to work, a force doubled, and the first month produced the record-breaker. When the highway patrol gave out its figures yesterday and found that there were 92 deaths in November, which normally would have added to the October total, every man on this bill was happy. Governor Ehringhaus and Revenue Commissioner A. J. Maxwell joined in the general joy. Slaughter generally has followed prosperity. The department has lost some of its records, but November, 1928, showed 77 deaths. There is no 1929 statement available, but in November, 1930, there were 102 killings and in the same month the next year 74. The hard times took more machines off the roads in 1932 and 65 deaths were recorded. There was a vast upward swing in 1933 and November of that year brought back a new high—105. Times got better, automobiles speedier and more plentiful and a year ago these deaths rose to 115. With many more cars now, the last figures given out for December 16 were 511,894 for 1935 and 408,855 for 1934, there are 23 fewer deaths. It is therefore the most hopeful augury of the entire year. It may be just a freak condition, but in the highway department there is a belief

Japan's Stubborn Demand For Great Navy Emphasized

London, Dec. 19 (AP)—Japan's stubborn, unswerving determination to have a navy equal to any, regardless of world opposition, emerged clearer today as sea power delegates debated the merits of British compromise proposals. While American, French and Italian conferees, after a recess for study and consideration, voiced approval of the principle of the British proposal, that each nation set a limit on new construction, based on naval needs instead of rights, the Japanese made no secret of strong objections. The preamble of the tentative plan recognizes the right of each power to possess naval strength necessary to assure security, but specifies each base construction on the minimum adequate to obtain security.

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Kidnapers Return Milne Without Ransom Payment

Doylstown, Penn., Dec. 19 (AP)—Caleb Milne IV, held four days by kidnapers without the payment of cent of the \$50,000 ransom they demanded the Department of Justice announced today. The 24-year-old grandson of a wealthy retired textile manufacturer of Philadelphia, lured from his New York City apartment Saturday by a note that said his grandfather was

Peace Plan Motivated From Fear Of League's Collapse, Hoare Tells Commons Meet

Baldwin Accepts Blame For Franco-British Plan For Ending African War

Premier Tells House Of Commons Much Harm Has Been Done, Only Time Can Heal.

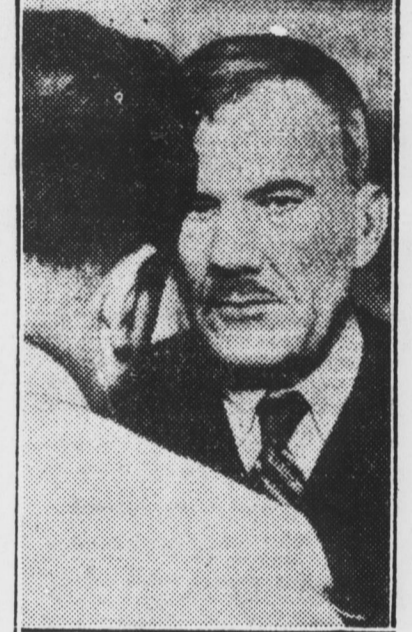
SAYS NO ONE LIKED PROPOSALS OFFERED

Sir Samuel Hoare, Retired Foreign Secretary, Says Situation is Now Even More Acute Than Before; Baldwin Stresses Need Of Anglo-French Unity.

London, Dec. 19 (AP)—Prime Minister Baldwin told the House of Commons today "the chief responsibility is mine" for the Franco-British peace plan for Italy and Ethiopia, and that the British government would make no attempt to resurrect it. His statement followed an address by Sir Samuel Hoare, who resigned as foreign secretary because of the public protest against the peace plan. In defense of Hoare, Baldwin said the peace plan represented the minimum to which it was possible to obtain the agreement of the French government, "and I attach vital importance to Anglo-French solidarity." The prime minister continued: "None of us liked the proposals. We thought they went too far. We would have liked to modify them. The chief responsibility is mine. I admit much harm has been done. It will take time to rectify it."

Sir Samuel told the crowded chamber that he did not entirely approve of the plan himself, but that it seemed the best aid to Franco-British relations. The resigned foreign secretary assured his audience that in any case Great Britain had not advocated the plan from fear of Italy, stating: "We had no fear as a nation whatever of any Italian threat. If the Italians attacked us, we would retaliate, and, judging from past history, we should retaliate with full success." Sir Samuel warned: "The situation has become more acute. I believe we now are entering a much more dangerous phase." He told his colleagues that the British alone were taking military precautions on behalf of the League of Nations, and that no other member had taken such steps. Delay in affecting peace in East Africa, he declared, might mean an irresistible drift to a European war.

Calles Causes Fear



General Plutarco Calles glares at camera in Mexico City as he returns from self-imposed exile in U. S. to reenter Mexican politics, which he formerly dominated. Fears are expressed his return means new political turmoil. (Central Press)

SAYS STAR SEEN LATE IN EVENING

Estranged Wife Of Miss Todd's Partner Adds to Mystery of Case

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 19 (AP)—The eerie mystery of Thelma Todd driving with a "foreign looking man" in Hollywood hours after she was supposed to have died, claimed attention of a grand jury today. This angle of the strange case was given to police by Mrs. Carmen West, estranged wife of the screen star's business partner and owner of the garage where she was found dead Monday. "I saw Thelma Todd with a man of dark complexion whom I did not recognize, about 11 p. m., Sunday," Mrs. West related. This was about 16 or 17 hours after the actress was supposed to have died in her garage near Santa Monica. Mrs. West said she was positive of her identification. District Attorney Fitts, declaring the chief question is "when did Thelma Todd die?" said he would question Mrs. West today concerning her story. Fitts announced "there are circumstances that do not satisfy us. We intend to clear them up. County Chemist R. J. Abernathy began a complete chemical analysis of the actress' vital organs, presumably to determine whether she was possibly drugged before the fumes of the carbon monoxide caused her death. The analysis will require several days."

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Partly cloudy in extreme west portion tonight; Friday partly cloudy and colder.

4 shopping days until Christmas. Illustration of a woman shopping at a store.

PROPOSAL DID NOT COME FROM FEARS OF STEPS BY ITALY

Foreign Secretary Who Resigned Last Night Makes Explanation in Long Speech.

BALDWIN RECEIVED QUIETLY BY HOUSE

Applause Customary For Appearance of Heads of Governments is Withheld; Public Opinion in France Nervous Over Events; League Studies Peace Moves.

London, Dec. 19 (AP)—Sir Samuel Hoare, who resigned last night as foreign secretary, told the House of Commons today that fear of a break-up in the League of Nations, rather than fear of any Italian threat, motivated the British government's recent foreign policy. Prime Minister Baldwin had come before them without any of the applause which usually greets the appearance of the head of the governments. The resigned foreign secretary, who spoke as a private member of the House, told his colleagues that the war raised very difficult questions between Great Britain and France. "It must be obvious to every member," he said, "that the great body of public opinion in France is intensely nervous concerning a breach with Italy and nervous concerning anything likely to weaken the French defense. In view of these facts, I did everything in my power to make a settlement possible. The proposals which were merged from the discussions in Paris were not French or British, in the sense that we like them. Neither Laval nor I liked many features of them."

LEAGUE ENTRUSTS PLANS IN HANDS OF COMMITTEE

Geneva, Dec. 19 (AP)—The League

DOCTOR MUST SERVE PENITENTIARY TERM

Whitley of Mecklenburg Convicted of Receiving Goods Stolen from Cannon Mills

Daily Dispatch Bureau, In The Sir Walter Hotel, By J. C. BASKERVILLE. Raleigh, Dec. 19.—Dr. Whitley, of Mecklenburg county, has lost his fight for freedom and must serve his three to five years' sentence for receiving stolen goods, knowing them to have been stolen. Parole Commissioner Edwin M. Gill, after hearing newly discovered evidence in the case, was so strong enough to outweigh the presumption of guilt after the jury had found the physician guilty. The doctor will come to Raleigh about the first of the year to begin sentence. Judge Hoyle Slink vehemently opposed the exercise of clemency and declared that he would be against any modification of the judgment which he imposed. Many citizens of his community joined in the effort to get pardon. The physician was convicted in Cabarrus of receiving goods which had been stolen from the Cannon Mills at Kanapolis.

CONSTITUTIONALITY OF TVA IS ARGUED

Alabama Power Stockholders Battle in Supreme Court; Vermont Joins in Attack

Washington, Dec. 19.—(AP)—Validity of the Tennessee Valley Authority act was challenged today before the Supreme Court by Forney Johnston, Birmingham attorney, on the ground that it put the Federal government into the power business, in violation of the Constitution. He was the first speaker for a group of 14 minority stockholders of the Alabama Power Company, who are seeking to prevent the Tennessee Valley Authority from proceeding with its project to establish a "yard stick" to measure the proper cost of electricity. The stockholders won in the Federal district court for northern Alabama, but lost in the circuit court of appeals at New Orleans. The latter court held the TVA act constitutional. Vermont attacked the Federal power program as an invasion of state's rights.