

NRA IN FOR MUCH ROUGH TREATMENT

Minority Congressmen, Nothing at Stake, Will Criticize Spending.

By CHARLES P. STEWART
Central Press Staff Writer
Washington, Dec. 20.—There will be considerable adverse criticism of the size of NRA's staff at the coming session of Congress.

administration lawmakers who are in a minority. The pro-administration group cannot say much, because they need NRA jobs for their constituents. Nevertheless, the anti-administrationists, who get none of the patronage and consequently can afford to find fault with it, certainly will be unpleasantly vociferous.

They have a tolerably good case, too. NRA, which has been as impotent as any salted mackerel since the Federal Supreme Court ruled it unconstitutional, still has approximately 2,000 folk on its payroll. It recently cut to that figure, from 2,800.

When the Supreme Court outlawed it, announcement was made that the personnel would be skeletonized. Doubtless a few workers continue to be needed to wind up the organization's affairs, but a force of 2,000 constitutes a substantial skeleton.

LEADS EMPLOYEES
Something like 280 of the 2,000 have actual NRA duties to attend to. An overwhelming majority of the remainder simply draw their salaries. A majority—but not all.

NRA has been liberal in leasing members of its staff to other Federal agencies.

For example, the Social Security Board has no money of its own. It is manned by NRA appointees, assigned to it. They draw NRA pay, but serve SSB. The Federal Trade Commission also is considerably staffed by NRA. So are several others of Uncle Sam's multiplicity of independent offices, boards and commissions.

VETERANS OBJECT
There are objections to this arrangement.

A civil service veteran of many years' experience resents being required to work alongside a borrowed NRA youngster drawing two or three times the pay that the veteran is getting—for the youngster is paid on the NRA basis; the veteran is paid on the old-time non-emergency basis.

The veteran has one advantage. The veteran can be removed only for cause. The youngster can be dropped whenever his political pull fails him.

The youngsters, however, are organizing to put themselves on what is known as a "merit basis" likewise—without ever having proved their merit by competitive examination, as the veterans did.

Culture is the enjoying of things beautiful, rather than the knowledge of just what is supposed to be beautiful.

Michigan Result Has 'Em Guessing

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fort from Michigan. And the steady Democrats of this section do not find everything pleasing. It has been a poorly authenticated rumor many weeks that Townsend clubs will be organized in this State and a campaign conducted for his \$200 a month pension to the sexagenarians. The Tar Heel loves to think this State would be deaf to such dumbness as the Townsend plan suggests.

Then again, there is Dr. Ralph W. McDonald, not a Townsend man by commitment, but a fearful assailant of the sales tax, with a rampant proponent of better salaries for everybody, old age pensions, unemployment insurance and such other proposals as will hasten the millennium. Dr. McDonald unquestionably is reaching many North Carolina people. Nobody thinks he can deliver with or without the sales tax, with or without the soak-the-rich legislation chanted all over the country, but the mood of Michigan is a fairly well satisfied state, may be the mental state of many other commonwealths. Roosevelt Democrats and anti-Roosevelt of all parties may find the unexpected unity right here. Undoubtedly there is abroad in the air a spirit which, if directed by a real rouser of the populace, may prove tough for all party organizations. Anti-New Deal symptoms in New York, Maine and Pennsylvania are now found in another part of the country and for a very different reason.

Gilliam Is Talked As Kerr Opponent

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talk. Mr. Dickens has run once and got encouragement enough to make the second try. If the two get into the contest with Congressman Kerr, the second will be the battleground of the State in 1936.

The story of the urge behind Mr. Gilliam ramifies. It is the belief of his friends that Mr. Dickens could succeed him as solicitor. The judgeship of that district is now held by Judge M. V. Barnhill who lives in Rocky Mount, which is partly a Nash and partly an Edgecombe county city. Mr. Gilliam lives in Edgecombe. Should the congressional honor go to Edgecombe after a long residence in other counties, Halifax and Warren, the judicial district honors might spread a little, it is contended. Nash is not in the second congressional district, but Edgecombe is in the Wilson and Nash judicial bailiwick.

Mr. Gilliam, it is said, does not care greatly for the agitation in his behalf, but he is represented as quite willing to race Mr. Kerr if there is demand enough for him. He rates among the best equipped men of any age in North Carolina and his friends believe nobody could beat him in polling votes. By the first of the year it is expected that he will state his position and indicate whether he is willing to go through such a campaign.

BEST BLOCKERS ARE CHOSEN AT N. C. STATE

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College Station, Raleigh, Dec. 20.—Coaches and sports writers who saw North Carolina State's 1935 Wolfpack in action have selected Captain Barnes Worth, guard, and Venice Farrar, tackle, as the best blocking linemen, and Howard Bards, right halfback, as the blocking back.

This is the first year in which State's best blocking back and linemen have been selected, but it will become an annual practice with suitable awards presented those selected. This year, Bards received a suit of clothes. Worth and Farrar also received wearing apparel.

Rightly or not, what business leaders think about prospects is one of the big things leading to depression or prosperity.

Tar Heels Close Year Of Successful Sports

Chapel Hill, Dec. 20.—North Carolina University's athletic teams have just completed the most successful 1935 record in the Southern Conference.

Four Conference team crowns and four individual titles not to mention a number of records, are among the laurels.

The basketball team opened successful firing by annexing the Conference court title. The quint won 23 out of 25 games. Captain Snooks Aitken, Captain-Elect Jim McCachren and Ivan Glace made All-Southern and Melvin Nelson made second All-Southern.

Captain Giddins won the Conference middleweight championship in boxing. The indoor track squad won the Southern Conference title for the second straight year. Harry Williamson set new records in the half mile and

mile. Co-captain Charlie Hubbard set a new broad jump record.

The tennis team went undefeated in the Southern Conference and annexed both singles and doubles titles. Captain Walter Levitan won the singles title and then teamed with Co-captain-elect Eddie De Gray to win the Conference doubles crown.

Captain Erwin Laxton won the individual title in the Southern Conference golf tournament.

Outdoor track found another Southern Conference crown among the laurels of the Tar Heels. Frank Abernethy set a new record in the high hurdles.

This fall the football team won 8 was in the Conference. Don Jackson, games while losing only one, which Dick Buck, Jim Hutchins and John Trimpie made All-Conference selections.

Treaty With Canada Is Most Significant Move

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carded as unimportant because it constituted, say, only ten percent of our total business in 1929. I liken foreign trade, however, to an equipt in a business. When ten percent of the earning power of a company is destroyed, it may turn black ink into red on that concern's books and destroy the equity. That is what has happened to United States business when our foreign trade hit the toboggan slide in 1929.

Tariff Backlashes
Losing our foreign business was relatively unimportant in itself. When it went, however, it ruined business all down the line. For instance, it was one of the major reasons why the price of cotton (50 percent of which crop was exported in 1929) dropped from eighteen cents to six cents; and why the price of wheat (20 percent of which was exported in 1929) declined from \$1.50 to \$0.50. The crash in these prices cut into the purchasing power of planters and farmers.

They could buy no farm tools and no new automobiles. This in turn threw people out of work in factories. These jobless workers could buy less food and less clothing, thus depressing wheat and cotton prices even more.

Two hundred years ago, when our economic system was relatively simple, it was easy for the Colonial planter to see that if the British merchant could not buy his tobacco, then the planter would have no money to buy linens, China, silver, and other finery from London. With today's complicated system however, it is almost impossible to make the Kansas wheat farmer, the Georgia cotton planter, the New England textile worker, and the Detroit motor mechanic realize that the Washington tariff policy is more important to his standard of living than the AAA or the 30-hour week. Today every country is faced with the gigantic task of making their peoples appreciate the tremendous significance of tariffs, depreciated currencies, and other artificial trade barriers.

Administration's Policy
One of the planks in the platform of the present administration was to readjust tariffs. President Roosevelt's attitude at the time of the World Economic Conference in June, 1933, suggested that he had forgotten this promise. A few months later, however, he asked and was given power to make certain tariff changes. Secretary Hull worked for months negotiating agreements with Cuba, Sweden, Brazil, Belgium, and several other nations. These pacts, however, are of only minor importance compared with the recent Canadian treaty. Both Secretary Hull and President Roosevelt deserve great credit for their courage in consummating this agreement.

In making this statement I am not endorsing every item and every schedule in the agreement. I am simply upholding the principle—that of reciprocity—on which it was based. I firmly believe that in this particular treaty our government has embarked, at last, on a safe and sane program of tariff readjustment and trade "restoration." In just respect the Canadian treaty may mark the turning point in an era of nationalism which recently reached absurd proportions. Hence any move which may restore world commerce by removing artificial trade barriers deserves the acclaim of the entire world.

Significant Step
This agreement has come at a significant time. Elsewhere the world seems to be embroiled in martial and economic strife. Holland and France are still suffering from acute deflation. While it is impossible to say exactly when these countries will be forced off gold, they cannot resist pressure indefinitely. I feel that when the "gold bloc" breaks the way may be paved toward stabilization of currencies. This would be a big step toward revival in world trade. The treaty between Canada and the United States as an example, real progress toward the ending of selfish nationalism could be made.

Even though the Babsonchart has this week advanced to only 10 percent below normal, true prosperity can never return without the unfettering of world commerce. Most students of history even advocate "free trade." They know that our standard of living could never have reached its present high level if the products peculiar to one nation had not been exchanged for those peculiar to another. The immediate adoption of "free trade" would, of course, bring on a period of violent economic readjustments and could not now be considered. It is, however, a goal toward which the consumers, manufacturers, and farmers of all nations must work. The proper attack undoubtedly lies along the lines laid down in the new Canadian trade agreement!

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