



Looking at WASHINGTON

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- HULL'S TREATY POLICY

By Hugo Sims The Courier Special Correspondent in Washington

In about two weeks the United States Supreme Court will assemble for its October term. Five cases involving four basic New Deal laws are awaiting the Court's decision, while numerous other contests are pending in lower courts where other legislation is being challenged. The Court will probably hear contests involving the right of the Tennessee Valley Authority to market electricity, the validity of the cotton processing tax and cotton control measures, and the right of the PWA to condemn land for slum clearance or to make loans and grants for power projects.

Litigation in the lower courts includes cases challenging the insurance of bank deposits, the authority of the Security and Exchange Commission, the Guffey Coal Act and just off-stage are threatened attacks on the Utility Holding Act, and future fighting over some of the measures already questioned. A newly formed committee of lawyers is studying recent legislation with a view to prepare opinions to be given publicity by the Liberty League.

Readers probably understand why these differences of opinion exist as to the powers of the Federal Government, which acquires its authority from the delegation by the States of some of their sovereign power. For that reason, legislation has to come within the "grant of authority" in order to be a constitutional exercise of authority by the Federal Government. Because the present administration has attempted to secure certain social benefits by regulating the economic system, by controlling production of crops, oil and coal, to establish a balanced economy and by regulating certain business enterprises it has passed laws which approach the limit of Federal power, even if they do not transcend the delegation of power given to the Federal Government by the States.

Plainly, the attitude of the President is that the Federal Government has, or to be efficient, must have the power necessary to deal with these modern issues. His strategy has been to enact legislation to remedy alleged conditions and to await decisions of the Supreme Court in order to ascertain what, if anything, must be done in the future to widen the power of the Federal Government which, he believes, is the only agency that can handle the situation. Certainly if the people of this country endorse the recent legislative program they will not shrink from amending the constitution to give the Federal Government adequate power to handle present conditions. On the other hand if the people do not endorse the laws that have been passed, they will not approve any effort to broaden the authority of the Federal Government.

It is somewhat novel to see what the Liberty League calls "eminent attorneys" volunteering to make studies of recent legislation, with the purpose of passing on their constitutionality as a service to the public, which will be given the news through the League, undoubtedly a propaganda agency for big business. Very probably the lawyers will be those receiving payment from some of the larger cor-

porations that have been fighting everything in the nature of reform, and, if this is true, the public should understand just what their opinion is worth.

President Roosevelt is probably on his trip to the Pacific Coast as this is read. He will stop at Boulder Dam and visit the California-Pacific Exposition at San Diego probably take a cruiser trip in the Pacific and come home via the canal. Later, he will pay a visit to Vice-President Garner in Texas, although this may come as a separate journey. Public attention will be keen to hear what he has to say and political leaders will watch anxiously to see if there are any definite signs to guide their future action.

Constitutional day was generally observed last week, with many speeches throughout the country lauding the ancient document of our liberties. Republicans were especially prominent in paying homage to the sanctity of the Constitution, figuring that, if amendment of its terms is to be a campaign issue next fall, this is a good time to build up respect and regard for it. Interest attached to a declaration by Secretary of Commerce Roper indicating that the organic charter is a "living mechanism" and taken by some as a token that amendments may be proposed by the administration although none were specifically suggested.

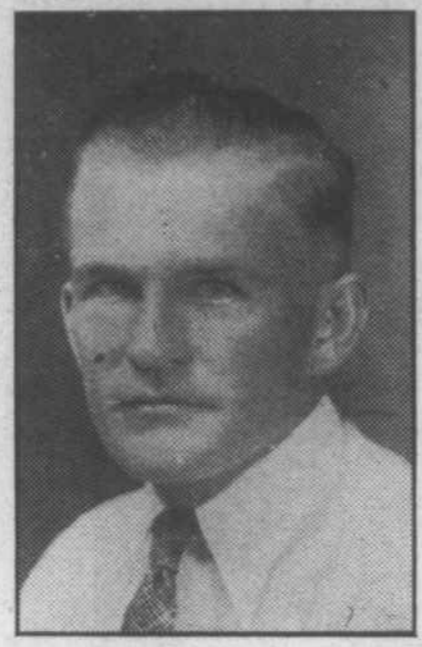
The death of Senator Long is generally regarded as a blow to those who expected a strong third party movement and by most observers as a "break" for the President. That the Louisiana legislator possessed an abundance of brains has been amply testified to and his fertile strategy was expected to be a source of constant annoyance to the administration, even if not a real menace. No other leader is available just now for the leftist wing and that fringe seems to be somewhat silenced although anything can happen in the next twelve months.

In fact, most Republican leaders are now convinced that the fight will be straightout, with the two old parties presenting a clear-cut cleavage between conservative support of the Constitution and the proposed reassignment of social and economic forces. Talk of revolt in the South by "Constitutional" Democrats will continue to be heard and there will be leaders, but when the voting comes the chances are rather slim. Unless the administration makes a sharp turn to the right, in placating conservative opposition, the line-up will stand.

The two-thirds rule of the Democratic party, which requires a successful candidate to get two-thirds of the delegates under his flag, is in for a fight next year. In previous conventions, the move to abolish the rule, which prevented the nomination of Champ Clark in 1912, has been confused with the probable effect such a change would have on particular candidates. Whether it will be abandoned or not remains to be seen, but certainly a strong pressure from the administration might bring it about.

The war chest of the Republican party has a balance of about \$25,000 not much in comparison with former funds, but still considerably ahead of the Democratic deficit, which was \$417,868 on August 31st. Most of this is laid to the campaign of Al Smith in 1928 and the slowness with which some of the creditors are being paid indicates that the Democrats will be on a cash basis for next year's activities. The Republicans seem to be receiving some contributions due to the legislation considered hostile to private industry, although there is

SINGLAIR AGENT



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complaint that contributions are not coming to either party treasurer like the "old days."

The Ickes-Hopkins show-down at Hyde Park seems to be something of a victory for the latter although it is quite probable that Secretary Ickes will play a bigger part in the fund distribution than most people imagine.

The "arithmetic of the situation" makes plain the fact that only by a large number of low-cost jobs, providing much employment can the present unemployment be relieved. However, there is some complaint throughout the country over what is considered loafing by workers on certain projects. This is to be expected in a program involving so many people but it will have to be watched or the judgment of the nation will be that the money is being expended as a dole, pure and simple.

Along this line it may be said that there is quite a body of opinion that there will be much unemployment for a number of years and that it will probably be necessary for the government to expend a considerable sum each year on public works in order to take care of those who will be otherwise unable to make a living. The argument is that industrial efficiency makes possible increased production with decreased labor and that even if the country gets back to normal in production there will be many unemployed. Possibly continuation of projects already underway will take up the slack if industry manages to get most of the idle in harness.

Unless all signs fall Secretary of State Cordell Hull will be getting some bouquets soon on his reciprocal trade treaties, which are beginning to attract favorable comment. Within fifteen months of the passage of the necessary legislation six pacts have been made and the Cuban agreements are in process and negotiations continue with other nations, including Canada. Concerning our Cuban trade Ambassador Caffery, at Havana, says American sales to Cuba have increased sixty per cent. All of the treaties are based on adherence to the most-favored nation treatment and will eventually exert pressure for a lowering of tariffs, trade barriers and embargoes generally.

Hugh Johnson To Tour Oct. 17

Bethany Beach, Del. Sept. 22—General Hugh S. Johnson, announced Saturday he would start on a nationwide "constructive criticism" of the Roosevelt administration. The picturesque cavalry officer, former head of the NRA, will resign as Works Progress Administrator for New York October 15, he said, to take the stump. He explained: "I'm not in politics and I'm not go-

ing into politics. I am merely going to explain the social and economic purpose of the administration. "While I am in full sympathy with the Roosevelt objectives, I expect to discuss the situation very frankly and freely. Where there are mistakes, I expect to call attention to them." Commenting on published reports that he would expose "lousy aspects" of the administration in which he

played such a large part, the General said: "Such a statement is absolutely unwarranted and inconsistent. It is thoroughly untrue, and I think it's a heil of a note." Business in Person County ought to be better this year than last and there is evidence that our farmers have some money to spend.

CRAB BITE FATAL
Long Branch, N. J. — Slightly injured by a crab Eugene West, 66, ignored the wound caused by the claw. He developed blood poisoning and died.
The Courier ought to be in every home in this area and we hope to add new names to our subscription list every week this fall.

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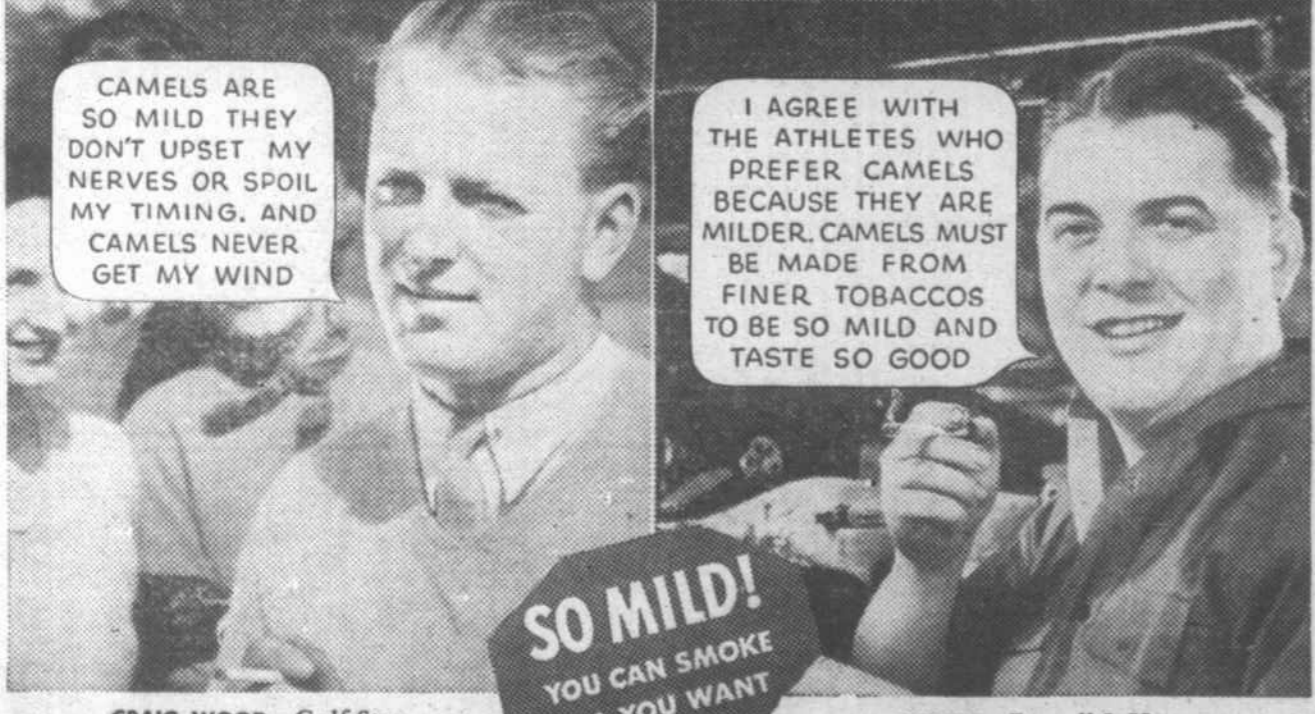
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