

Roosevelt Security Plan Holds Capital Spotlight

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30—(Special)—Topping all other subjects now under discussion here, is the President's Economic Security proposal, which has taken precedence of the veterans' bonus and the 4 billion dollar work relief project. Those haven't been shelved; a bonus measure will be enacted which will meet the veterans' demands at least half-way. And the 4 billions for public works will be voted almost as a matter of routine, with probably fewer strings attached to it than had been anticipated. But the big thing of the moment, which may turn out to be the biggest thing in this Administration's career, when history comes to be written, is the gigantic plan for nation-wide old-age pensions under Federal supervision, unemployment insurance on a national scale, with a broad child-welfare and public health program tacked on for good measure.

Boiled down to essentials, the plan proposed by the President and embodied in the Wagner-Lewis bill, makes the following provisions:

1. Old Age security. A pension of \$30 a month for every person over the age of 65—that means \$60 for man and wife both over 65—to be paid half by the states and half by the Federal government, to persons now without adequate means of subsistence, or who may reach that age before the old age annuity funds provided for in the bill have built up enough to provide that income. An annual tax on payrolls to provide old-age retirement funds as well as to build up an unemployment insurance fund. Provisions whereby "self-employed" persons, such as farmers, professional men and others may make voluntary payments to the annuity fund, entitling them to receive a life pension when they reach 65 years.

2. Unemployment Insurance. A tax on all payrolls, to be paid by employers, half of it to be deducted from the pay of employees, to be used to compensate employees who are laid off or otherwise unable to work, and also to build up the old age pension fund.

3. Maternal Welfare and Child Health. Appropriation of \$4,000,000 a year to be used by the Federal Children's Bureau in cooperation with states, for mothers' pensions, welfare work generally in connection with rearing and physical care of children.

4. Public Health Service. Appropriation of \$10,000,000 a year to enable this Federal Bureau to cooperate with states in improving health conditions.

Bill Favored, But—

There is little likelihood that the bill will be finally enacted in its present form. There is wide-spread commendation of its purposes on both sides of both houses. Some sort of a measure, embodying those general ideas, seems certain to be enacted at this session.

Among objections raised to the bill as introduced, one is that it is too complicated; that it ought to be divided into four bills, covering the four subjects. The principal objection is that the \$30 a month old-age pension isn't high enough to satisfy the advocates of the Townsend plan. The President himself in his talk to newspaper men about it, suggested that the pension figure might be raised to \$40. The influence of the advocates of the Townsend project for \$200 a month pensions for everybody over 60 is amazing, especially in the lower House. And they want it now.

The Wagner-Lewis bill would defer annuities granted as a matter of right until 1942; pensions granted before then will be only to those who can prove that they are practically destitute, and until 1940

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the age limit for such pensions may be fixed at 70 years instead of 65.

The big fight of the Old Age feature of the measure will be, then, on three fronts—to reduce the age limit to sixty, to increase the monthly pension to much more than \$30, and to make it include both husband and wife, and to provide for payments to everybody of the required age without making it necessary for them to declare themselves paupers.

States Must Cooperate

One important feature of the bill is that it calls for cooperation by the states, specifying the kind of old-age pension systems which states must set up if their citizens are to benefit under the Economic Security Act, which is the official title of the measure.

Twenty-eight states now have old age pension laws, varying greatly in detail and amount of pensions paid. The average is \$18.34 a month, the highest, Iowa, \$30 a month. Nearly 115,000 old people received over 26 million dollars in 1933 under these state systems. Now states which want to participate must reform their old-age plans if they want Federal aid, and as nearly all legislatures meet this year, it is expected that most of them will come in speedily.

Second Attempt

This is not the first old-age pension plan under the present Administration. Last year, on August 1, the Railroad Retirement Act went into effect, providing compulsory retirement of all railroad workers at 65, or after 30 years service, with pensions, out of funds contributed by the roads and the workers, up to as high as \$120 a month. But the Supreme Court of the United States declared this Act unconstitutional on October 24.

It is no secret that one of the compelling motives for the pressure behind the bill—the heaviest pressure the President has yet seen fit to exert upon Congress—is the desire to take the wind out of the sails of Senator Huey Long and his redistribution of wealth program, as well as to head off the menace of the great mass of votes behind the Townsend Plan.

Mission School

To Be Held Next Week at Methodist Church

Next week at the Franklin Methodist church a school of missions will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights. "The Methodist Mission in Japan" is the subject to be studied.

The meetings will be held at the church each evening at 7:30 o'clock. There will be two speakers each evening with a brief devotional period between.

The schedule is as follows:

Tuesday night—"The Setting of the Mission," by Geo. J. Johnston. Devotions led by T. W. Porter. "The Story of the Mission," by Mrs. C. G. Moore.

Wednesday night—"Go ye and Preach the Gospel," by Miss Rachel Davis. Devotions—led by Mrs. Wylie Zachary. "The Mission of the School," by H. T. Sloan.

Thursday night—"Our Mission Personal," by Dr. W. E. Furr. Devotions—led by Miss Margaret Cozad. "Some General Phases and Attitudes"—by Mrs. B. W. Lefler.

Japan is particularly of interest at this time because she recently revoked the London Naval Treaty and there is grave danger of a growing bitter naval rivalry between the United States and Japan.

The text to be used in this school was written by Dr. S. H. Wainwright, who has been a missionary of the Methodist church in Japan since 1888.

Everyone is invited to attend.

Baptist Sunday Schools To Hold Convention

The Macon County Baptist Sunday School Convention will be held at the Franklin Baptist church Sunday afternoon, February 3, beginning at 2:30 o'clock. E. B. DeHart, president, urges all churches in the county to send large delegations.

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GRAZING RULES ARE OUTLINED

(Continued from Page One)

service, closed notices are issued and the area is protected. When the trees on an area are sufficiently advanced in growth, the grazing does no harm.

Would Be Surprised

Much of the area in the Nantahala forest is of no value for grazing, especially cattle. The hogs used to the mountains find food most anywhere, consisting largely of nuts, and will fatten during a summer's grazing period. Mr. Dady said, "while hogs on the range are hardly to be compared with the rotund Berkshire and Poland-China hogs of the Middle West corn country, those who have visions of a hog in the mountains with a back sharp enough to shave with would be surprised. Farmers have awakened to the better policy of purebreds and not much is heard now of the razor backed hog on the Nantahala National forest."

Mr. Dady gave some figures as to the number of stock grazed on the forest area. In 1933 there were 1,206 cattle, 29 horses or mules, 636 hogs, 54 sheep, 8 goats. In 1934 the count in September showed 1,629 cattle, 19 horses or mules, 553 hogs, 73 sheep and 18 goats. Five years ago the record in the supervisor's office show 203 cattle grazed during the season of 1929, 384 hogs, and 16 horses or mules. Ten years ago the totals were cattle 534, horses or mules 38, sheep 222, and hogs 117. At that time the area was 223,643 acres. Since the net area now is 352,310 acres it will be seen grazing has increased more rapidly proportionately than has the size of the forest.

Stiles

Harley Ramsey had the misfortune of getting his arm cut Thursday of the past week. It happened while he was working around his saw mill.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Morgan reported the Stork visited their home Thursday, the 24th, and left a girl baby.

Mrs. Ed Byrd is reported sick with the influenza. There seems to be quite a bit of sickness in this community at this time.

Rev. John Mason, of Wesser, N. C., was in this section on business one day this week.

Creed DeHart was the guest of Miss Eddis Anderson Sunday.

The series of prayer meetings is progressing nicely under the leadership of a very promising and devoted young man, Wint DeHart.

Sol Fullbright, at Cullowhee, N. C., was a week-end visitor at E. B. Byrd's home.

Lee Cook, of Tellico, was in this section Saturday on business.

Our road is coming along fine.

We are wishing the weather would stay fair until the job could be finished.

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