

# M'CARL TALKED AS DARK HORSE

## Comptroller Mentioned as GOP Presidential Possibility

(Special to The Press-Maconian)

Washington, April 8.—Whenever political wisecracks begin to talk about Presidential "dark horses" somebody is sure to bring up the name of John R. McCarl, Comptroller General of the United States. That suggestion is generally met by a practically unanimous chorus of: "He would make a good President, if he could be elected, and he would make a fine candidate, if he could be nominated. But has he a chance?"

What brings Mr. McCarl into the limelight just at this time is the fact that his 15-year term of office expires on the 30th day of June this year. This raises, among other questions, the question of whom President Roosevelt will appoint in his place; because the outgoing Comptroller General is not eligible for re-appointment.

If Congress were in session on June 30, the President would have to make a permanent appointment to be confirmed by the Senate. But Congress will not be in session, and that leaves the President free to make an interim appointment of anybody whom he chooses to name, regardless of Senatorial wishes. The interim appointee will hold office until the next Congress meets, when the next President, either Mr. Roosevelt or his successor, must submit the name of somebody to fill the job for another 15 years.

### Introducing John McCarl

There are wheel-horses in the present Democratic administration, as there were wheel-horses in previous Republican administrations who would prefer to see a man in the Comptroller-General job that would take a more lenient view in the spending of the taxpayers' money. But that is just what John McCarl has always refused to do. He hasn't played ball at all the way the politicians who were responsible for having him put in the office expected him to play.

The idea of having a Comptroller-General, to see that all money spent by the Federal Government was used in precisely the way Congress prescribed, that no discretion should be allowed to any Federal officer or bureau and that he should be responsible only to Congress, was originated by the Republican majority in Congress during 1919-20.

It came as a result of the more or less unregulated spending of the Wilson Administration in war time. President Wilson vetoed the first bill creating the office of Comptroller-General, because it prohibited the President from removing the incumbent from office and gave the executive no control or supervision of his activities. Senator Warren G. Harding was one of the leading advocates of the idea of an independent accounting officer.

Promptly after Mr. Harding became President, in 1921, the office was created by act of Congress and Mr. Harding picked John McCarl to fill it, because McCarl had always been a staunch Republican wheel-horse. He had been a lawyer in Nebraska, where he still maintains a voting residence at McCook; he had been Secretary of the Republican Congressional Executive Committee through one or two campaigns, and at the time of his appointment he was private secretary to Senator George W. Norris, of Nebraska.

### The McCarl Shock

McCarl took office July 1, 1921. He had not been in office more than a few minutes before his political friends found that the expense accounts of Republican office-holders were just as much objects of suspicion as if they had been presented by Democrats.

For 15 years every dollar spent by or in behalf of the Federal Government has had to be okayed by the Comptroller-General. He has nothing to do with preparing the budget, but after the items of the budget have been enacted into law, he has everything to do with seeing to it that no department, bureau or individual spends more than has been specifically authorized by law or spends money appropriated for one purpose for some

One From 5,000



CHICAGO . . . Tom Lee Brown (above), realtor, 38, and father of 3 children, was the man selected to go to New York and in a nation-wide radio speech outline his ideas on "How to solve the crime problem." His letter was judged best of 5,000.

In Dionne Derby



MILWAUKEE . . . Gordon Dionne, (above), who claims to be a cousin of Oliva Dionne, father of the quintuplets, is now the proud parent of twins, just born here. "Still three down," says Gordon.

other purpose. There is no appeal from his decisions.

It follows that nobody knows as much about the handling of the Government's cash as does John R. McCarl. He knows every trick ever invented to wangle money out of the Treasury without authority.

One reason why the public has not heard more of the Comptroller-General is that his conception of his duty has compelled him to lead almost a cloistered life, officially at least. He is the hardest man in Washington to interview. In his 15 years of service he has never once been quoted for publication to the extent of a single sentence. And not only newspaper men, but politicians of all grades and varieties, find it practically impossible to pry their way into his office.

### Guarded His Position

McCarl has always taken pains never to expose himself to any kind of political pressure or contacts which might, in the case of a weaker man, warp the fine line between what is right and what is politically permissible. He adheres rigidly to the letter of the law and insists that every other public servant do the same. If they don't like it, let them get the law changed.

Mr. McCarl is only 56 years old now. He may not be the Republican nominee; indeed, it is quite improbable that he will be, if for no other reason than that politicians of his own party have discovered that he will not play politics in public office.

In the event that a Republican President should be elected next Fall, Washington feels pretty certain that John McCarl will be high in the councils of the new Administration; perhaps Secretary of the Treasury or the Director of the Budget.

# GAINESVILLE'S DEATH TOLL 185

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the disaster were brought back to Franklin by members of the American Legion relief party and others who visited Gainesville. One group of young men who volunteered their services told of carrying a stretcher upon which rested the body of a girl taken from the Cooper Manufacturing company's

plant. The body was burned beyond recognition. An old woman followed them as they carried their gruesome load. A wrist watch, its strap burned, dropped from an arm of the corpse. The old woman identified it as that of a daughter.

Thus, it was only by such mementos that many bodies could be identified. But even Wednesday it was reported that more than 40 bodies still rested in morgues, unidentified, unclaimed, while scores of people searched frantically, fearfully for loved ones from whom they had been separated.

From all over Georgia relief was rushed to Gainesville Monday and Tuesday, but the city was reported Wednesday still to be in dire need of clothing and other supplies.

National guardsmen patrolled the streets to prevent looting, while 2,000 relief workers struggled to clean the streets of debris and restore some semblance of order.

News of the tragedy brought grave concern to many Franklin residents who had friends and relatives in Gainesville. Mrs. T. J. Johnston, whose mother, Mrs. J. A. Deal, and two sisters, Mrs. Toomer and Mrs. Johnston, live in Gainesville, left for the stricken community with two of her sons, George and Tom Johnston. However, they found that none of their relatives were on the casualty list, although they lived near the section of the town which bore the brunt of the damage.

## Riverside

Misses Montee Justice, of Dillard, Ga., and Virginia Gray, of Hickory Knoll, spent Thursday night with Miss Hazel Brown.

We are glad to report that Miss Leola McCoy, who has been on the sick list, is able to be out again.

Mr. and Mrs. Thad Garland, of Toccoa, Ga., were visiting Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Ledbetter, Friday evening.

Mr. Eugene McCoy was visiting Mr. and Mrs. James Cabe Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. R. B. Curtis, who has been on the sick list, is able to be out again.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Ledbetter,

## In Budget Wardrobe



CHICAGO . . . Here is another change for that budget wardrobe, a tailored white non-crushable linen crash suit, with which is worn a marine blue scarf and white accessories. It's quite inexpensive. This model is shown in the Cotton Carnival at the Merchandise Mart here.

Jr., of Greenville, S. C., were visiting in this community during the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Ledford, of Walhalla, S. C., were visiting Mrs. Ledford's parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Cabe, during the week-end.

The public is cordially invited to attend B. Y. P. U. each Sunday night at Coweta Baptist church at 7:30 o'clock.

## Patton Valley

A miscellaneous shower was given Friday night at the home of Mrs. Bertha Ledford in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Ledford. Games were played and music enjoyed during the evening. Delicious punch and cakes were served and everybody enjoyed the evening. About 40 were present.

The E. R. E. class is a live

wire in this community is interested.

Mrs. Leona Duncan, Alice Childers were Clayton, Ga., Tuesday.

The Patton school 3 with a picnic. The sorry it is out, (oh, year they will probably Franklin, if reports are There will be an hunt at Patton's church Sunday.

Friday night, March was given at the Emory by the adult community. Our supper John Trotter, was guest; also her husband were played, songs were we all had an enjoyable Mrs. Leona P. Duncan in this valley and we a trip to Asheville soon our class will continue have lots of fun along work.

## Classified Advertisements

WANTED—Country canned fruit juices.

FOR SALE—At a residence on West Six-room house with conveniences. In first class GEO. T. AZ—2tp—A9

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COME IN or see for membership in the Burial Ass'n. The cost We will be glad to furnish of this plan of funeral insurance.

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# POLLY'S



Just unpacked 200 new Easter Dress Coats and Suits in all sizes, colors, and materials. You'll find the dress you're looking for in this lovely collection. The styles are adorable. Some dresses have jackets, some capes and some have the shirred lovely sleeves in white, navy, pasted flowered prints and crepes. There's every style you could desire and prices to suit everyone **\$1.49 to \$10** from .....

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Let us fit your feet with the new spring footwear and you'll walk in comfort as well as style—all the newest fashions in white, blue, brown and black, in ties, pumps, buckles and straps from **98c to \$3**

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We are Prepared to Serve Your Needs—at Lowest Prices for Highest Quality

"Sells for Less" **POLLY'S** "Sells for Less"