

Excess Profits Tax Gets Support Of One Group

While big business generally is behind the move to abolish the present excess profits tax, contrary to the expressed desire of President Eisenhower, members of the American Retail Federation, made up of 58 state and national retail associations, have notified the President that they are in favor of an extension of the tax, in view of the President's program of "a balanced budget in 1955."

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Congress Plans To Quit July 31

BY STANLEY JAMES
Washington Correspondent
Washington. — Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio, big boss of Senate Republicans, believes Congress can go home by its "target date" of July 31st if members buckle down to work.
The Majority Leader still cracks the whip from the driver's seat of the Republican buggy, although his illness has forced him to hand over the reins to young Senator William Knowland of California. So, if Taft says "adjournment July 31st," it goes.
He said this—along with several other things—at a private luncheon for a group of newspaper reporters in the Senate the other day. The reporters, including some who have been critical of Taft's opinions, agreed they had to admire his courageous fight against ill health.

Internal Russia Still A Mystery To U. S. Official

Representatives Of Three Governments Meet In Bermuda July 8

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The development picture inside Russia is still a mystery to U. S. government officials. For some time it has been speculated that Premier Georgi Malenkov is up to his neck in the battle for personal power inside the Kremlin—with at least two deputies (Beria and Molotov) and may be others. But no fireworks have erupted as yet. Meanwhile strange sounds continue to come out of Moscow. The latest eye-opener was an announcement that foreigners would once again be allowed some freedom of travel in Russia. While it may be nothing but peace propaganda, there are some who think the relaxations inside the Soviet Union, since Stalin's death, are hopeful signs.
But it is hard to see where Malenkov is headed. He is not publicized to the extent Stalin was. In fact, since the first weeks of his reign, he has actually been heard from little. Is he the man behind the apparent relaxing of the cold war, or is it someone else behind the scenes? The answer isn't clear.
But Malenkov's past may give a hint of things to come. The puggy Georgian is a stay-at-home Russian. Unlike Molotov, and some of the other leaders, he has never set eyes upon the outside world, is also suspicious, and thoroughly anti-Western. He might not be as inclined toward internationalist ventures as some, per-

haps wants time to improve conditions inside Russia before embarking on foreign schemes. At least that is one theory.
Those who believe in it say Malenkov wants to improve economic conditions in Russia as a first step. He wants more abundant food supplies, clothing, housing, and further industrialization before pushing the West into a war. He may also need time to attempt to win absolute power— if associates have not already won the upper hand from him.
Whatever the reason or reasons, and whoever pulls the wires inside the Kremlin walls, the picture developing is confusing in Washington and U. S. officials don't know what to expect next.
The current belief in many capital quarters is that Russia wants a Big Four meeting. Yet U. S. officials have consistently denied that the July 8th Big Four gathering in Bermuda was a forerunner of such a meet. The British, and Winston Churchill are in favor of a get-together with the Russians on the ground that the new regime may have a different attitude than did that of Uncle Joe Stalin.
Despite U. S. insistence that no

Big Four meeting is planned or programmed, one could easily result from the Bermuda meeting. President Eisenhower is not likely to flatly refuse such a parley if both his British and French allies press vigorously for it. Churchill takes the position that nothing can be lost in such a meeting, and the French have shown a desire to get together with the Communists in Indo-China. Whether they can accomplish such an aim is problematical, but apparently they are eager to try.
Of course, if anything like a world agreement on the status quo could be achieved by a Big Four meeting, it would be a great victory for free nations the world over. Washington, however, is very skeptical of any such agreement with international Communism—even though the thought of it is very appealing.
General Mark Clark's recent statement explaining why U. N. (non-South Korean) troops were not sent to prisoner-of-war compounds in south Korea before President Lyngman ordered a mass break-out of over 27,000 former Communists was an accurate summary of the circumstances involved. Clark pointed

out that Rhee had personally guaranteed him that he would take no such sudden action.
Clark also called attention to the fact that Rhee had reaffirmed his allegiance to the U. N. Command in South Korea only recently. But he admitted there had been warnings that Rhee might do just what he did. Clark says to have sent U. S. troops to prisoner-of-war compounds manned by South Korean guards after Rhee's promise would have stirred up trouble and bitter animosity and he is probably correct.
In view of Rhee's double-cross however, it is not likely that the U. N. Command will be caught with its guard down, holding only a broken promise, in the future. U. S. airborne troops began moving into Korea from Japan a few days after the Rhee double-cross, but presumably to be available for prisoner compound duty if needed.

Alcoholics Hear Unusual Voices

Three Boston doctors recently reported, at the annual meeting of the American Neurological Association, that alcoholics who have sobered up often "hear things."
Although these alcoholics see things when they are intoxicated, they seem to hear strange noises after sobering up.
The surprising part of the report, by Drs. Maurice Victor, Justin M. Hope and Raymond A. Adams, of the Massachusetts General Hospital, was that the doctors reported cases of auditory hallucinations fairly common. In fact, most of the alcoholics studied were reported to have experienced such hallucinations.
The doctors' study revealed that various noises were heard, such as music, voices, and barking.

There were cases of violent reactions in the alcoholics and there were several attempts at suicide because of these hallucinations. The experience of "hearing things" is thus a more common effect of alcoholics than has been realized.
Estimated milk production in North Carolina during May totaled 159,000,000 pounds, a record for the month.

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Taft has a painful hip ailment called a "lesion." This could be anemia, as some reports have it, or a bone condition, or something worse. At any rate, the Senator's face looks pale, thin and drawn, and he is not allowed to travel—except for hospital treatments.
Taft said these orders prevent him from going to Ireland to see his son, William Howard Taft III who is the U. S. Ambassador there.
Reporters asked if the administration would get the six-months extension of the excess profits tax, requested by President Eisenhower.
Taft replied that a lot depends upon Rep. Daniel Reed, of New York, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, who has refused to allow a vote on the bill.
"Could Mr. Reed be called 'Muley'?" asked one reporter, recalling that this was the nickname of his predecessor as chairman, Rep. Robert L. Doughton of North Carolina, who was as stubborn as Reed and older.
"There is something about being chairman of the Ways and Means Committee at seventy-five that makes a man 'muley,'" Taft cracked back, with his old-time sardonic smile.
Then someone asked what Taft thought of the many harmony luncheons and breakfasts "fke", is having at the White House. The Senator, whose long-flaming presidential ambitions were washed out by the General in the Republican convention last year, replied that he couldn't see much use in them.
"Usually, it's a pretty heterogeneous group," he said. "You can't accomplish much that way."

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