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### CONFUSION EXISTS

The situation in Washington is somewhat confused at this writing as Congress wrestles with the issues presented. Major issues confront the solons from day to day, the question of constitutionality looms and uncertainty exists as to just how far the President will insist upon immediate action. Throughout the country the same perplexed state of mind is reported, with the average voter hardly able to keep up with what occurs and utterly in the dark, at this time, as to the fruits of the legislation he is reading about.

The House independence, so widely heralded when it broke with the President over the holding company bill, is not to be relied upon as a permanent condition. The members, facing re-election next year, were in hand to hand grapple with plenty of pressure and they keenly realized what could happen to them. Outside of the influence exerted by the administration there was little vocal support from the home districts although there is little reason to doubt that many a congressman who favored the utility companies will hear a lot about it when he faces the voters.

### PRESSURE NOW AND LATER

The Senate, now regarded as the more liberal body, merely reflects, in our judgment, the lessened pressure of elections that are three and five years away for most of its members. Members of the upper house do not respond to mass pressure, however organized, as easily as the House members, facing the electorate sooner. Independence of thought and action are more apt to be seen in the Senate for this reason as well as because the rules of the upper house allow more liberty to the members.

### PRESIDENT OPTIMISTIC

Reports from the White House tell us that the President is in rare good humor, absolutely confident as to the political future and positively optimistic in regards to the outlook. His friends insist that Mr. Roosevelt's good feeling is not forced and that he apparently worries about nothing. They generally admit that the N.E.A. decision soured him but now, since he has mapped out his course, which many have been unable to fathom, he is cheerful and carefree.

### REPUBLICANS WORKING

Third party talk is continuing throughout the country but without very much real steam or the threat, at this time, of much force in the next election. Republicans, however, are encouraged and getting to work. They seem willing to go to the bat with Mr. Roosevelt upon the issues outlined, including the Constitution, and think they have a chance to win if they can get a good candidate. In their present thought Mr. Hoover is not desirable or wanted, although most observers realize that the Hoover forces are not out of commission and that events can easily cause his renomination.

### FARLEY MAKES SURVEY

Postmaster General Farley is now engaged in studying the political situation of the country, taking a part of a six weeks vacation for the purpose. The House vote on the holding company and the TVA bills may represent something of a reaction against the National administration, and Farley, as head of the Democratic Party, wants to find out whether talk of increased taxes has caused any unrest among the party's faithful.

Some observers say the alleged slump in the popularity of the administration began with the holding company fight and has been increased by the talk of tax increases, which are always unpopular. Moreover, some corporations have already advised stockholders to write to congressmen about the new tax program. Mr. Farley will spend most of his vacation in Hawaii traveling there by the northern route and coming home through the southern states. While he considers conditions somewhat unsettled pending far-reaching legislation he continues to maintain, publicly at least, his optimism over the outlook.

### WANTS LEGAL SHOWDOWN

The President's letter to Representative Sam B. Hill, of Washington, urging that the Guffey-Snyder coal control bill be rushed into law regardless of any doubts as to its constitutionality is generally taken to indicate a determination to settle the limits within which the national government must operate. Moreover, it means another "showdown" in

## AAA Supporters Win Major Test In Senate Vote

Senator Byrd, Of Va., Says Producers Have No Voice In Establishing Of Prices By Handlers

### IS FIRST REAL TEST

#### Smith, of S. C., Is Ardent Fighter For Retention Of Clause Governing Price-Fixing

Washington, July 16.—A slim margin of two votes today saved a major phase of the New Deal's farm program—price fixing—from destruction by the Senate. Amid charges that it was "unworkable" and threatened "more suffering" upon the farmer, the Senate voted 40 to 38 to retain a provision permitting Secretary Wallace, with approval of 50 per cent of the handlers of any commodity covered by the bill, to fix a minimum price at which it would be bought from the producer and resold by the first handler.

It was the first real test on the AAA amendments designed to clinch the challenged constitutionality of the farm law but hotly opposed by members on both sides of the chamber.

Joining in the majority to retain the price fixing provision were 31 Democrats, 7 Republicans, one Progressive and one Farmer-Labor. In the opposition were 27 Democrats and 11 Republicans.

Senator Tydings (D., Md.) and Byrd (D., Va.) led the fight against the provision, assisted by Senator Dickinson (R., Iowa), who spread his attack to the whole bill by citing the Boston circuit court decision against AAA processing taxes.

"The fundamental law is the same in this bill as in the AAA," Dickinson said, "and if it is held unconstitutional, so would be these amendments."

"I think it would be a good thing if it were sent back to committee for reconsideration," Chairman Smith (D., S. C.) of the agriculture committee fought back furiously at attacks on the bill. At one time he became so heated that when a colleague sought to interrupt, he refused to yield, saying "I'm in a weeping mood."

"Anyone studying this bill," he said, will see that the price fixing is predicated upon an agreement of the producers, not only of the handlers."

Byrd challenged him to show where the producers had any voice in the price fixing by handlers. Smith agreed it was not entirely as clear as he would like it and offered to accept an amendment making any price fixing provision subject to sanction of a majority of the growers.

"If you are in favor of price fixing as a general principle," Byrd insisted, "why not take every food product and fix the price, without limiting it to the few items in this bill?"

"Simply," Smith replied, "because a quarter grain of strychnine may be a tonic in no reason I should take a fist full."

It is an unanswerable commentary upon the members of this body that an attempt should be made to deny farmers the right to fix prices while every other industry assertedly enjoyed it.

Administration leaders sought in vain to curb debate on the bill by limiting speeches to 30 minutes, but Minority Leader McNary said there was a possibility of reaching an agreement on this issue tomorrow after "several important amendments" are acted upon.

### TO HOLD PIE SUPPER SAT. NIGHT AT WOLF BRANCH

A pie supper is to be held at Wolf Branch school house on Saturday night, July 27, at eight o'clock. The supper is to be held under the auspices of the Sunday school, which is being conducted there by Rev. O. W. Marshall.

The ladies of the community are invited to take pies to the supper.

### To Coach Czechs



PHILADELPHIA . . . Ted Meredith, formerly one of the world's greatest middle-distance runners, is now on the high seas enroute to Czechoslovakia where he will coach that nation's 1936 Olympic track team.

## Says Talk About Teachers' Pay Is Premature

LeRoy Martin Points Out That No Schedule Of Pay For Teachers Has Been Adopted

Raleigh, July 16.—Labeling most of the talk about teachers' salaries as premature, LeRoy Martin, secretary of the state school commission, today pointed out that neither the commission or the board of education has adopted a schedule of pay for teachers. The school secretary stated that it was his opinion that the commission will carry out the law as written which apparently makes mandatory writing a new schedule for teachers and principals. The commission might be able to improve the schedule adopted two years ago, Mr. Martin said, more satisfactorily if they are not ruled by a fixed percentage basis.

"As to the funds promised by the last General Assembly to pay teachers and principals, it does not appear that a sufficient amount is available to increase each teacher 20 per cent and in addition employ 200 more teachers, allow for a \$20 yearly increase for each teacher having less than the maximum experience credit, and allow more than 1,000 teachers a still further increase because of higher certification," Mr. Martin said that the chairman of the two appropriations committees had promised an amount coming within \$230,527, according to his figures, of being sufficient to meet the requirements for all this.

Regarding the report that the General Assembly was misinformed as to the amount needed to raise the teachers' salaries, the school man said he did not know. He stated, however, that at no time did it occur to him that the purpose was to increase every person a certain percentage.

## Airplane To Be At Little River Farm Sat., Sun.

On Saturday and Sunday, July 20 and 21, Tommy Gibbons and Lt. Dave Lybrook will be at Little River farm with their airplane for the purpose of carrying passengers, and will also give an exhibition of stunt flying and parachute jumping.

The plane used by Lt. Lybrook in filming the picture, "Hell's Angels," will be used for carrying passengers. The plane is of the same type and horsepower as the famous plane, "We," which Lindbergh used in his initial trip across the Atlantic.

Tommy Gibbons, who has been jumping since 1929, promises some thrills in parachute jumping. Many novel stunts, including that known as "ribbon cutting," in which the flier releases a roll of ribbon as he goes aloft and cuts it as he descends, will be given for the entertainment of the people.

Gibbons and Lybrook will arrive here Saturday morning from Winston-Salem, where the plane is now stored.

## Patman And Fish Clash Tuesday In House On Bonus

Controversy Starts Talkfest That Halts All Work In Progress In Lower House

Washington, July 16.—A bitter clash between Representative Patman, (D., Texas), and Fish, (R., N. Y.), over the veterans' bonus today started a talk-fest in the house which wound up with the day's accomplishments listed at zero.

Patman began with a speech denouncing Fish's plan for cashing the bonus out of the \$4,000,000 work fund. Fish retorted that Democratic leaders were blocking a vote on his bill and referred to "snooping" by Patman.

The Texan quickly objected. Ekwall, (R., Ore.), suggested that it might clarify the situation to change the word from "snooper" to "stool pigeon."

Both terms were held by Speaker Byrns to violate house rules and on a 246 to 75 vote they were expunged from the record.

Then began what Representative O'Connor, (D., N. Y.), branded as "open and publicly nothing but a filibuster conducted by Mr. Blanton and Mr. Taber, both so-called watchdogs of the treasury."

Taber (R., N. Y.) started it by forcing a roll-call on a motion to adjourn. He lost. From then on there were numerous roll-calls, each of which consumes about 30 minutes.

What Taber, Blanton, (D., Tex.), and others were fighting was an omnibus bill grouping in one measure scores of private relief bills which previously had been blocked individually on the floor. It was a new wrinkle in this type of legislation.

The fight was successful, at least temporarily. The house adjourned without voting on the omnibus measure. It will not be in order again for many legislative days.

## Minister Chides Roosevelt About His Sunday Trips

Chicago, July 16.—Dr. I. M. Hargett, a Kansas City pastor, in a sermon Sunday night at the 67th annual Methodist camp meeting in Des Plaines, Ill., chided President Roosevelt for his fishing and sailing trips on Sunday.

"I wish," said the clergyman, "that President Roosevelt would not make such a pleasure day of Sunday and, instead of political powwows, fishing trips and sail boat rides, attend church every Sunday and set a good example for the nation's youth."

"President Roosevelt attends church less than any other of our recent presidents. He will be sorry that he brought back liquor. Conditions are far worse now than in the old saloon days."

Hargett is pastor of the Lincoln Methodist Episcopal church of Kansas City.

## Defendants At Trial Deny They Tortured Convicts

Charlotte, July 16.—Two of the three defendants at the chain-gang torture trial here took the stand today and made sweeping denials to all of the charges of the state. Both made sharp attacks upon the state's system of solitary confinement.

Those testifying were Captain Henry C. Little, veteran chain-gang camp superintendent, and R. C. Rape, former prison guard. Both were dismissed from service after the legislative investigation last winter.

The third defendant, Dr. C. S. McLaughlin, is expected to take the stand tomorrow morning.

The defendants are now being tried for assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill and for neglect of duty. The charges of maiming and torturing prisoners were dismissed yesterday by Judge Wilson Warlick when the state rested its case.

## Majority Votes Down Drive For Adjournment

Representative Deen, Of Georgia, Asks For Immediate Cessation Of Work For This Session

Washington, July 16.—The big drive in the House to force a hurried adjournment of congress fizzled today—smothered 261 to 86 by the same Democratic majority that yesterday cheered the proposal.

Peculiarly, the attempt was initiated by a Democrat—Representative Deen, of Georgia. But when the roll was called, only 15 members of his party voted with him and 70 Republicans. On the other hand were eight Progressives and Farmer-Laborites, 12 Republicans and 241 Democrats.

Within a few hours after the house action, Chairman Harrison, of the senate finance committee, reasserted that congress would stay in session to pass President Roosevelt's tax program and that there was no thought of returning for a special session this fall.

His announcement was made after a series of conferences with administration leaders.

Deen started the adjournment attempt yesterday by remarking that 26 members were ill, that congress had worked "long and faithfully" and that some of the share-the-wealth, soak-the-rich and save-the-poor legislation ought to be left over. He got ringing applause, particularly from the Democrats.

Today, Representative Woodrum, Democrat, Virginia, opened the discussion, insisting that it "would be a major political blunder" for his Democratic colleagues to let congress adjourn without enacting, among other things, a tax bill.

"Our leader, the president," Woodrum said amid a dead silence, "has said we must raise additional revenue. I don't say we should do it through any particular means, but I do say in all fairness that we owe it to the country and to business to remove any doubts, before we adjourn, as to what we intend to do."

He added that although it was hot now it would be "hotter" if congress went home without acting on that measure.

Only scattered applause greeted his appeal. But a few seconds later Deen offered his resolution calling for an adjournment sine die on July 23. Representative O'Connor, Democrat, New York, moved that resolution be tabled and his motion carried, 259 to 86.

## Goldman Favors "Public Defender" In Criminal Trials

Los Angeles, July 16.—Startled members of the American Bar Association last night heard gray-haired Mayer C. Goldman, New York attorney and crusader for the "public defender system" of criminal trials, propose "complete outlawing of the criminal attorney as the surest way to end crime."

Waving his glistening pince-nez before a gallery of America's foremost legal talent, the slender, dapper little lawyer, who for 20 years has battled for state-paid defenders, tossed his thunderbolt into the annual session of the association.

"The surest way to promote crime," he told the assembled lawyers, "is to permit the hiring of private lawyers to defend an accused man. The time has come to put a stop to crooked lawyers who defend crooked gangsters and crooked financiers."

## SOVIET AVIATORS PLAN FLIGHT ACROSS POLE

Moscow, July 16.—Three Soviet aviators will take off on an attempt to fly across the North Pole to San Francisco.

The flight will be led by Pilot George Levanevsky, "hero of the Soviet Union." He was one of the pilots who rescued stranded members of the crew of the Soviet ice-breaker Cheliuskin last year.

The route to San Francisco will be by way of the North Pole, Wilkes Island, Port Simon and Vancouver.

### Washington Bride



WASHINGTON . . . Miss Grace Roper, daughter of the Secretary of Commerce, is now the bride of Dr. Frank Bohn of New York, the wedding here being a social event of the month.

## H. B. Caldwell Speaks Here On Work Of Grange

No Organization Is Formed In Sparta Yet. Further Sentiment Sought By Next Meet Tues. Night

H. B. Caldwell, Lecturer of the North Carolina State grange, spoke Tuesday night in the courthouse in Sparta on the work the grange has done and what the Grange means to the farmers of North Carolina. Mr. Caldwell explained that the Grange assisted in getting the government to adopt the AAA program; that it was instrumental in reducing the rate of interest on farm mortgages from 5 percent to 3½ percent, and that the Grange saves its members 40 percent on fire insurance and 40 percent on auto-mobile insurance.

Those hearing Mr. Caldwell's speech did not organize a chapter of the Grange but assumed the responsibility of learning the sentiment of the local farmers concerning such an organization here. Mr. Caldwell will be here next Tuesday for the purpose of learning the wishes of the people concerning this and all who are interested in obtaining a chapter here are expected and urged to be present.

Rev. C. W. Ervin presents the following information and opinion concerning the Grange:

"The Grange is an organization of the farmers and for the farmers." "The Farmers Grange has 900,000 members in the United States and is organized in fifty-six North Carolina counties. "This organization works for the interest of the farmer in our state capitals and in Washington. If other workers organize,

(continued on back page)

## Woodrum Would Dispose Of Tax Issue At Once

Washington, July 16.—Representative Woodrum (D., Va.), told members of the House today that they "may think it's hot in Washington now," but if they didn't settle the tax issue "it is going to be much hotter when we go home and come back here next year."

Immediately after Woodrum's speech the House voted down a resolution to adjourn within the next week.

"I am as anxious as any one to go home," said the Virginian, "but I appeal to my colleagues on both sides of the aisle that the business men of the country have a right to know what they will have to face in the way of taxes."

Since President Roosevelt first served notice on Congress that he expected his share the wealth tax program passed at this session, Woodrum has taken the stand that the federal government should begin paying the price of recovery legislation.

The Roanoke representative said it would be a "major strategic blunder" to leave this Congress without settling the question of the tax bill."

## Processing Levy Is Held Invalid By Federal Court

Govt. Has Collected About \$900,000,000 In Taxes Thus Far. Appeal Is Planned

### WAS AAA "BACKBONE"

#### Ruling Based On Case Brought By Hoosac Mills. Cummings Says Case Would Control Others

Boston, July 16.—The processing tax and floor taxes of the agricultural adjustment act, under which the federal government had collected approximately \$900,000,000 and expected to collect an additional \$700,000,000 were declared unconstitutional today by the United States circuit court.

The court's ruling was based upon a test case brought by the Hoosac Mills corporation, which sought to escape payment of \$81,694.

The processing tax and the floor tax, the latter a levy upon finished goods on hand when the tax became effective, were considered the backbone of the AAA.

With funds thus derived, the secretary of agriculture compensated farmers and growers for curtailing crops and live stock production.

The circuit court found, in brief, that Congress had no authorities to regulate products which were in the control of the state; that the tax was an improper delegation of power and that if the charge was a tax, it was a direct tax, not apportioned, and if an excise tax, it was not uniform.

The circuit courts ruling was closely followed by announcement at Washington that the government take prompt repeal to the supreme court.

Attorney-General Cummings said the Hoosac case probably would control more than 200 other suits on file in various federal courts attacking the taxes and seeking refunds and injunctions against payments.

The federal government was moving to balk recovery on money already paid in the outlawed taxes.

Amendments to the AAA pending at the national capital would throw pending suits out of court and prevent filing of new suits. The government cannot be sued without consent of Congress.

Approval of the circuit court's opinion was found in the New England textile industry. The National Association of Cotton Manufacturers issued a statement in which Dexter Stevens, chairman of the northern cotton mills policy committee, said he hoped the court's decision would "go a long way toward halting the wave of liquidation among New England cotton mills, to which the processing tax was a big contributing factor."

"Millions of dollars," he said, "have been drained from New England cotton mills to finance this vast program and the stemming of this flow of money will have a beneficial effect."

## ALMANAC

"The questions of a child make us quickly learn how little we know."

JULY

- 16—Historic mission at San Diego, Calif., founded 1769.
- 17—Isaac Watts, famous for his many hymns, born 1689.
- 18—President Lincoln calls for 500,000 volunteers, 1864.
- 19—Start of Franco's losing war with Germany, 1870.
- 20—First "sleeping-car" put in service, 1908.
- 21—Confederate troops win battle of Bull Run, 1861.
- 22—W. Post airplane "round" would in seven days, 1935.