

ECONOMY PREDICTIONS

Congress last week seemed to be economy-minded and there were predictions that appropriation bills will be held in line with budget recommendations. Hearings on major appropriation measures to be reported in January, have been underway and confidential information from the Budget Bureau is in the hands of the House Appropriations Committee which, so far indicates an intention of holding appropriations within bounds. Back of the sentiment is a conviction that a balanced budget will help business and restore confidence.

At this outlook, it seems that the only increases will go to the Army and the Navy in order to carry out their defense programs. While accurate information is not obtainable, the present indications are that there will be a slash of \$500,000,000 off the relief appropriation, which will leave \$1,000,000,000, a cut of \$75,000,000 from the CCC, leaving about \$275,000,000, and a reduction of about \$100,000,000 in Federal Road aid. Other cuts will be comparatively small but because of the fact that there are a great many, the net saving will likely pass the \$100,000,000 mark.

BRAZILIAN FRIENDSHIP

Sumner Welles, under-Secretary of State, recently took occasion to assure Brazil of our continued sympathy and friendship, unimpaired by recent political events in the South American Republic. Mr. Welles pointed out that with the bare announcement of what had taken place, the editors and statesmen in this country jumped to the conclusion that vital changes had been made in the affairs of South America, linking Brazil with dictator developments in other parts of the world.

He was inclined to regard the Brazilian coup in line with the history of such happenings in South America, rather than with European fascism. Moreover, he served a need for commentators "competent and authorized to interpret and pass judgment" upon what happens in the countries of this hemisphere. He regretted that the recent crisis in Brazil failed to elicit in this country a tolerance and friendly sympathy toward the effort of the Brazilian people to solve their own problem in their own way.

At the same time, the State Department's Latin-American expert called attention to "propaganda of a type alien to our Western civilization," which has spread on our continent during the past years and indirectly warned foreign nations that the United States would not tolerate a violation of the Monroe Doctrine. Without referring by name to the enunciation of President Monroe in 1823, Mr. Welles declared that "any attempt on the part of non-American powers to exert through force their political or material influence on the American Continent would be immediately a matter of the gravest concern, not only to the United States but to every other American Republic as well, and appropriate action would undoubtedly at once be determined upon as a result of common consultation between them."

PEACE THROUGH COMMERCE

Through reciprocal trade treaties and insistence upon the most favored nation clause this nation hopes to avoid foreign entanglements of a political nature. The forth-coming trade treaty negotiations with Great Britain are important because the United States and Great Britain, the world's most powerful commercial nations, account between them for one-quarter of the world's international trade.

HULL LOOKING AHEAD

Secretary Hull, persistent and courageous advocate of the most-favored nation plan, utterly rejects the selfish philosophy of bilateral trade treaties. These aim only to benefit the commerce between the two nations affected at the expense of other nations.

BRITISH FACT VITAL

The successful conclusion of the trade treaty with the United States and Great Britain will be followed by similar agreements with Canada, Australia and the other units of the British Empire. Under the most-favored nation clause these benefits will be spread far and wide. Frankly, Mr. Hull thinks that the lowering of the trade barriers the world over and particularly with democratic nations, may result in a program of negotiation with the whole world for a general lower-

Lines Drawn For Contest Over Wages And Hours

House Votes 282 To 123 To Discharge Rules Group; Wages-Hours Debated On Floor Six Hours

Washington, Dec. 14. — The move to recommit the wages and hours bill and thereby indefinitely postpone its enactment gained momentum yesterday as the House of Representatives began considering the legislation which is more controversial than any legislative proposal since the Supreme Court bill.

By a vote of 282 to 123, the House yesterday afternoon voted to discharge its rules committee and brought the wages and hours measure to the floor for six hours of general debate.

The vote to discharge the committee is no indication of how the House stands on the wages and hours proposal. Many of those who voted against allowing the rules committee to continue to bottle up the bill are opposed to its passage. They felt the House should have the opportunity to debate the legislation.

The fact the House labor committee has directed its chairman to offer 129 amendments to the bill it reported out at last session is being used as argument in support of a motion to recommit.

The North Carolina delegation divided its vote on the motion to discharge the rules committee. Representatives Hancock Barden, Cooley, Umstead, and Bulwinkle supported the motion while it was opposed by Representatives Doughton, Lambeth, Clark and Kerr. Representative Weaver, who is in Asheville because of the illness of Mrs. Weaver, and Representative Warren, who was called home by the death of his mother-in-law, did not vote.

Landon Says He Will Not Be In 1940 Contest

Washington, Dec. 11.—With a statement which knowing observers quickly interpreted as challenging Herbert Hoover to do the same thing, Alf M. Landon, of Kansas, emphatically removed himself yesterday from the 1940 presidential contest.

For months, Landon and Hoover have been engaged in polite but none-the-less strenuous sparring about Republican policy, while some other Republicans have clamored for a reexamination of party philosophy and new blood in the leadership.

It was inevitable that Washington should bear these facts in mind in reading Landon's statement, particularly an assertion that:

"A man who is in the position of being suspected of being either active, or receptive candidate cannot render the service either to his party or to his country or to his country that I conceive to be my patriotic duty and responsibility in the critical situation confronting us."

Landon's renunciation of 1940 White House ambitions was made known at a jovial reunion with Washington correspondents assigned to his campaign for the presidency last year. Each had been personally invited by letter several days in advance.

Sparta H. S. Is Closed On Account Of Heavy Sleet

Sparta high school was closed Tuesday on account of the sleet-covered roads, officials deciding that the risk involved in transporting the children to and from school was too great to justify continuing school, there being danger also that someone might be injured while on the school grounds.

Traffic in the county was practically paralyzed Monday and part of Tuesday, on account of the sleet on the highways. A number of minor accidents occurred.

1936-37 Corn King



William H. Curry, Tipton, Indiana, 1936 Corn King, wins the much-coveted title again this year with his prize-winning specimen ears of "Curry's Yellow Dent." He is the first winner to repeat in history of the present competition.

Japan Strongly Apologizes For Gunboat Sinking

Tokyo, Dec. 15.—Even before she formally received President Roosevelt's demands, Japan today offered apologies and compensation for her attack on the United States gunboat Panay and three steamers, and safeguards for foreigners.

In addition to the round of official apologies, Japanese citizens halted Americans in the streets of Tokyo or called at American business offices to express their personal sorrow over Sunday's warplane bombing of the vessels near Nanking.

Foreign Minister Koki Hirota sent a note to United States Ambassador Joseph C. Grew in which Japan:

1. Presented her "sincere apologies" for the attack.
2. Promised to make "indemnifications for all losses and deal appropriately with those responsible for the incident";
3. Announced "strict orders" had been issued "to the authorities on the spot with a view to preventing recurrence of a similar incident."

Foreign Minister Hirota presented a similar note to Sir Robert Craigie, British ambassador to Japan, concerning the Sunday bombing of the British gunboats Bee and Ladybird.

It promised Japan would pay Great Britain "any necessary" indemnity.

The imperial headquarters, highest Japanese military and naval organ, issued a lengthy statement on Sunday's incident in which it charged three gunboats among the vessels attack on the Yangtze fired on the Japanese warplanes when the Panay was sunk.

It declared the Japanese fliers stated that the steamers "carried no flags" but that "many soldiers, apparently Chinese, were sighted aboard them."

The note met the major demands of President Roosevelt even as Ambassador Grew arranged to see Foreign Minister Hirota to present a note from the United States over the bombing incident.

Emperor Hirohito already had received the essence of the American executive's point of view as given in a memorandum in Washington Monday, a high government official said.

Hoey Appoints Stacy To Take Wayne's Place

Raleigh, Dec. 14.—Governor Clyde Roark Hoey today appointed Senator J. Benton Stacy, of Ruffin, to succeed Capus M. Wayne as director of the division of purchase and contract. He will receive a salary of \$6,600 a year.

Waynick, who also was receiving \$6,600, has resigned effective tomorrow to accept an executive editorial position with The High Point Enterprise. Before becoming purchase and contract director, Wayne was chairman of the Highway and Public Works Commission.

American Gunboat Sunk In River By Japanese Bombs

Shanghai, December 14. — The United States gunboat Panay was sunk Monday in the Yangtze river 25 miles above Nanking by Japanese bombs, and 18 Americans were unaccounted for. There were 54 known survivors, some of them wounded.

The gunboat's normal complement was 55 officers and men. It carried at least nine American refugees, including four embassy officials.

Several Standard Oil company ships were also sunk at the same time.

According to British naval reports Hashimoto said he had orders to "fire on every ship on the river" but added that the firing on British ships "was a mistake."

His statement was made in reply to a British protest against shelling of the British gunboat Ladybird at Wuhu. A British seaman was killed and two other Britons wounded there.

The American gunboat Oahu and the British gunboat Bee steamed under forced draft for the scene of the tragedy.

The 450-ton gunboat, especially made for Chinese river service, had stood by to save Americans during Japan's siege of Nanking.

Anchored in the Yangtze, the Panay was a haven for embassy officials and other refugees until Japanese shells crashing dangerously near caused her to seek safety up the river.

It's 'Bama vs. Bears



Joe Kilgore, University of Alabama team captain, who will lead the Crimson Tide against the Golden Bears of California U. in the New Year's Day Rose Bowl football classic at Pasadena. This will make Alabama's fifth visit to the Bowl, won this time after a spectacular season which left the Southerners untied, undefeated.

Senate Defeats Limitation Of Farm Bill Cost

Washington, Dec. 14.—A successful fight was led in the Senate today by administration leaders against a proposal by Senator Vandenberg (R.), of Michigan, to limit the farm bill's cost to

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Keep America Out of War

In today's edition of The TIMES is published a "ballot" which the readers of this newspaper are asked to sign as a personal appeal addressed to Congress—a plea to keep America out of war. With the publication of this ballot, The TIMES is cooperating with the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States in a national campaign to obtain the signatures of 25 million voters to be presented to Congress as tangible evidence of an overwhelming public demand for peace.

The appeal reads as follows: "I hereby call upon Congress, and the President of the United States, to adopt and apply policies designed to keep America out of war and supported by a national defense program adequate to preserve and protect our country and its people."

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States has requested 11,000 newspapers and magazines throughout the country to publish this ballot as a means of reaching individual citizens who may be denied the opportunity of signing petitions being circulated by local units of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S. in 3,600 communities.

Confident that members of Congress will be guided by the sentiments of the people on the subject of war, Commander-in-Chief Scott P. Squires, of Oklahoma City, is directing the efforts of his organization in a campaign to secure the signatures of at least a majority of the legal voters in each Congressional District. These names, obtained through newspaper ballots and by petitions, will be classified by states at national headquarters of the V. F. W. in Kansas City, Missouri. At the close of the campaign, early in 1938, the petitions and ballots will be shipped to Washington, D. C., and presented to members of Congress in a peace demonstration on the steps of the Capitol.

The "Peace-for-America" program being promoted by the V. F. W. primarily seeks to impress Congress with actual proof of an organized demand that America must keep out of war. Simultaneously, the overseas veterans who compose the membership of the V. F. W., favor a strong national defense, one that will enable the United States to protect its peaceful relations with all other powers.

Believing the readers of The TIMES are heartily in accord with any movement designed to avert war, this ballot will be published at intervals during the next few weeks, whenever space is available, in order to give a large number of persons in Alleghany county an opportunity to register their personal pleas for peace.

Bill Payne, North Carolina's Public Enemy No. 1, Escapes From Officers In Gun Fight

National G. O. P. Committee Holds Meet In St. Louis

St. Louis, Dec. 14.—Informed sources disclosed tonight the group being selected by the Republican executive committee to draft a new declaration of party principles probably would have 200 members instead of the 100 originally outlined.

Of these 200 it was understood 135 would be men and 65 women and these groups would be represented: agriculturists, manufacturers, commercial enterprise, labor, professional persons, social workers, educators and financial interests. Sixty of the total would be under 40 years of age.

There were indication from behind the locked doors of the committee sessions that a major difficulty still was that of choosing persons favorable both to the Herbert Hoover and Alf M. Landon factions.

A preliminary canvass of 1,052 names submitted for membership on the steering committee ended early this afternoon. During the late afternoon and tonight the list underwent a more detailed scrutiny.

The task of choosing a chairman from among the 35 prominent Republicans understood to have been proposed probably will not be undertaken before tomorrow.

The executive committee adopted a "blanket embargo on those holding public office today," an authoritative source explaining the rule was intended "to take the committee out of the immediate political arena." However, he said the rule already had been "cracked" several times.

One office-holder for whom there was support for committee membership was Gov. George D. Aiken, of Vermont, who has demanded that the party's national committee "purge itself of reactionary elements."

John D. M. Hamilton, chairman of the national committee, who lashed back at Aiken yesterday with a sharply-worded statement, received a telegram of support from former Gov. Myers Y. Cooper, of Ohio.

Taylor Sought On Charge Of Shooting Myers

Alleghany county officers are seeking John Taylor, 30-year old farmer, on a charge of shooting Johnny Myers at Laurel Springs Saturday night.

Bryan Upchurch, of Alleghany, is being held on a charge of aiding and abetting Taylor when he is alleged to have shot Myers at the Myers filling station.

Officers said witnesses told them Taylor shot into the filling station and when Myers attempted to defend himself with a hose nozzle, Taylor shot again, the bullet striking Myers' rib and ranging through his side.

Myers was taken to the North Wilkesboro hospital, where the bullet was removed. Reports are that his condition is improving.

ALLEGHANIANS URGED TO BUY 'TB' CHRISTMAS SEALS

The people of Alleghany county are urged to buy Christmas Tuberculosis seals from the local seal committee, headed by Rev. R. L. Berry, or through the local school teachers, as seventy-five per cent of the amount raised by the sale of these seals will be kept in the county to aid in the fight against tuberculosis.

HAS VERY OLD VIOLIN

A violin said to be 100 years old is in the possession of Mrs. Letha Crouse, Cherry Lane. Mrs. Crouse, it is understood, has been offered \$50 for the instrument.

Companion Wounded In Encounter Mon. Night Near Wilmington; Search Begun By Patrolmen

Wilmington, Dec. 14.—In a running gun battle with officers last night, a man identified as Jack Borden alias Wash Turner, escaped North Carolina convict, was wounded, but a companion, who was identified by a highway patrolman as Bill Payne, long-sought fugitive, escaped.

Borden, whose scalp was punctured and his skull fractured by a bullet during a high-speed automobile chase with officers, said from a hospital bed that he was alone.

State Patrolman Hugh Sloan said Payne jumped from the wrecked automobile when it struck a barbecue stand and fled into the wood. The officer said he was within 15 feet of the fleeing man when he turned and cried:

"Don't shoot any more; I surrender."

Sloan, standing on the edge of a small stream, said he slipped and fell into the branch and that when he recovered himself the man identified as Payne was racing off into the wood.

Assistant Police Chief Charles H. Casteen said Payne later hailed a motorist and rode into Wilmington, but transferred shortly after arriving here and went in a taxi to "The Pines," a tourist cabin establishment eight miles west of here in Brunswick county.

A score of officers hastened to the camp and broke down the door of a cabin to find only a wet towel smeared with blood. Jesse Lee Hayes, 14, told officers the man gave him 25 cents to obtain gauze bandaging and adhesive tape for him. The lad said the man, bleeding from lacerations about the neck, left the camp about 10 minutes before officers arrived.

The lad shown a picture of Payne, said he was positive the man who gave him the quarter was Payne.

At the hospital, Borden said he was known also as John Byrd and that he had come here today from Durham. He said he was driving about 90 miles an hour when the bullet struck him in the head.

Wilmington police said they found two sawed-off shotguns, one pistol and one 30-calibre rifle in the wrecked automobile.

Icy Roads Make Travel Perilous; Conditions Better

Winston-Salem, Dec. 15.—After having been paralyzed for 24 hours because of ice-covered highways, motor travel was resumed in Northwestern North Carolina last night and King Winter released his grip on this section of the state.

Reports reaching here said accidents were numerous in this section. No fatalities were reported.

Highway forces scattered sand on the arterial highways leading out of Winston-Salem during the morning. This relieved the situation somewhat.

From Mount Airy came reports of traffic snarls at the foot of the Blue Ridge mountains on the Hillsville highway. About 40 large transport trucks were stalled there. They were unable to climb the mountain highway. One-half inch of ice covered most of the highways out of Mount Airy. Six or more crashes occurred on the Dobson-Mount Airy road.

Elkin reported motor vehicles traffic tied up until noon as the worst sleet of the winter struck there. Few motorists braved the ice-covered pavements with their cars.

Five Negroes were burned to death near Burlington when a car and heavy truck collided on the ice-coated pavement.

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