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THE SPENDING DRIVE

Advocates of a spending program, designed to offset business depressions, recently conferred with President Roosevelt and reported that he would apply a self-liquidating test to future construction projects. While the Chief Executive was not represented as urging any immediate program, his present thought is that spending projects should create "new wealth" and eventually return to the Treasury any money advanced by the Government. He specifically mentioned as meritorious projects, the building of toll bridges and highways, rural electrification and other potential revenue producers. Among those failing to meet his objective were school houses and other public buildings and battleships. Wars, in particular, he said, should not be constructed as reemployment objectives.

TOLL HIGHWAY SYSTEM

Among the most ambitious proposals in the category of "pump-priming" is that of Senator Bulkeley, of Ohio, who would construct an \$8,000,000,000 system of transcontinental toll highways, to be financed by bonds issued by a new Federal Highway Corporation. The Ohioan is drafting a bill now along this line, with the help of engineering and financial experts. While the details of the proposal are to be determined, Senator Bulkeley thinks the system could be constructed in three years. It would include at least three super-highways crossing the continent East and West and six North and South.

20,000 MILES OF ROADS

The Bulkeley plan would provide for the elimination of all grade crossings, a neutral strip to divide traffic so that vehicles on each pavement would move in only one direction. Freight and passenger vehicles would use separate pavements. The highways would be built on a 300-foot right-of-way at a cost of between \$300,000 and \$500,000 a mile, with a total of about 20,000 miles.

Highway officials who have discussed the proposal with Senator Bulkeley feel certain that a way could be found to finance the system, guaranteeing the Government against loss and assuring investors of a fair return and at the same time providing a "fill-in" program of road building during curtailment of regular highway appropriations and thus assist in solving the unemployment problem. Senator Bulkeley estimates that interest and amortization at two per cent, plus the cost of maintenance, policing and administration would cost about \$220,000,000 annually. If ten per cent of the motor vehicle traffic uses the highway system, he figures the return to the Corporation would be about \$245,000,000 a year.

Readers may be interested in the amount of tolls which would be charged users of such a system. Naturally, these have not been worked out in full but for estimation purposes, the toll used has been twenty-five and fifty cents on passenger and freight vehicles, respectively, plus one and a half mills a passenger mile on passenger vehicles and four mills a ton mile on freight vehicles. On this basis the toll for four passengers in an automobile would be forty cents each for a 225 mile journey and \$2.30 for a two-ton truck covering the same distance.

In his discussion with a group of congressmen, the President spoke favorably of the transcontinental highway project which could be worked upon during times of business depression and stopped during normal employment. Mr. Roosevelt described a Government constructed six-lane highway outside London. He told how the British Government condemned a right-of-way one-half mile wide, sold highway frontage for business purposes and small trade tracts behind at \$500 an acre and recovered two-thirds of its expenditure in seven years.

HULL DENIES PACT

Secretary Hull last week definitely, pointedly and categorically denied that the United States had or contemplates any "alliance, agreement or understanding . . . with Great Britain relating to war or the possibility of war." That there was "any understanding or agreement, express or implied" for the use of the navy of the United States "in conjunction with any other nation" and that there was any such understanding or agreement "that the United States navy 'should police or patrol or be transferred to any (turn to page five, please)

"Odd" McIntyre died suddenly Sunday in N. Y.

—where he had written for several years the popular newspaper column, "New York Day by Day." O. O.

McIntyre, familiarly known as "Odd," is said to have been the most widely read newspaperman in the world. He is said to have earned 35 cents every time he knocked out a word on his typewriter.

"Turn your face toward me so I can see you," he said to his wife in their Park avenue apartment. Then he died.

He had been in uncertain health for weeks and the last "New York Day by Day" that he wrote was done in bed. Heart disease was the cause of death.

McIntyre counted his friends by the thousands and they included many newspapermen who valued his friendship while unappreciative of the things he wrote. His audience was anywhere in the United States except New York although his column appeared daily in the New York Journal-American. He may have had as many as 7,000,000 readers on the 580 newspapers that subscribed to "New York Day by Day."

His full name was Oscar Odd McIntyre and he was born in Plattsburgh, Mo. When he was a child his family moved to Gallipolis, O. There he met the girl who was to become his wife and also got a job as reporter at \$5 a week. He moved around a bit on small newspapers and one day he sent ten collect telegrams to ten newspaper editors asking for a job. The Dayton, Ohio, Herald hired him for \$12 a week. Then he moved to the Cincinnati Post and a short time later he and Ray Long struck out for New York. Long became editor of Cosmopolitan Magazine. McIntyre became press agent for the Majestic Hotel.

It was then that the idea of "New York Day by Day" came to him. He wrote it and his wife mimeographed it, offering it to out-of-town newspapers for \$5 a week. There were no takers at first, but McIntyre plugged along and soon was making \$600 a year from the column. Then \$200 a week. Part of the time he was Flo Ziegfeld's press agent, but soon he was able to give up all publicity connections and devote all his time to his column.

Only his wife, the former Maybelle Hope Small, was at his bedside when he died. He had refused a doctor, saying he would soon be up and "feeling chirky."

The couple would have celebrated their 80th wedding anniversary, also his 54th birthday, on Friday.

Funeral services will be held at Gallipolis, O., probably today (Thursday).

McIntyre, the lantern-jawed cosmopolitan—the "small town boy," as he frequently described himself, who rose to fame and riches as the epitome of the nation's idea of a "typical New Yorker"—will return at last in death to the never-forgotten Ohio river town of his boyhood.

Often, in nostalgic paragraphs in his column, he said he was going to leave the metropolitan scene forever and return to Gallipolis, to the fine home called "Gatewood" where he courted young Maybelle, and which he bought for her on their silver wedding anniversary.

Sparta H. S. was closed Tues. afternoon

—until Monday, February 21, in order to avert the possibility of a serious epidemic of scarlet fever.

Because of the fact that several new cases of the disease have developed recently, the school authorities deemed it wise to close school for this period of time.

The Young Women's circle will meet

—tonight (Thursday), at seven o'clock, in the home of Miss Marie Perry.

Mrs. P. H. Thompkins, Jr., will be associate hostess with Miss Perry, and Mrs. James Toms will have charge of the program.

Senator Bailey introduced a joint resolution

—Tuesday in the United States senate in Washington, D. C., for a "non-partisan administration" of relief funds by a new federal board of five members. According to the resolution offered by the North Carolina senator, the board would take over all relief activities except those of the civilian conservation corps and the public works administration. It would elect its own administrator, who would be paid \$12,000 a year.

The preamble to Bailey's resolution declared there is a "grave danger" that relief funds may be used for political purposes. The senator would make it a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of \$500 or a year's imprisonment, or both, to solicit the votes of persons receiving relief or to use any relief office for political purposes.

The resolution also called for an investigation, state by state, of past relief expenditures.

Care of "normally unemployable" persons would be left to the states and their subdivisions. Relief projects would be designed to avoid competition with private enterprise. Wages and hours would be fixed with a view to ending federal relief as rapidly as possible.

The resolution declared unemployment is primarily the concern of state and local governments. It would fix funds, available to the new board up to January 15, 1939, at not more than one-third of the expense of administering the WPA for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1938.

Request that Congress appropriate \$250,000,000 immediately to meet increasing demands for relief came today from the House appropriations committee.

The committee said there had been a "drastic" decrease in private employment since September. There is no indication, it added, of a business improvement sufficient to "justify a lesser amount."

President Roosevelt proposed the appropriation last week, saying in a letter to Speaker Bankhead that available funds were insufficient.

Mme. Perkins Quizzed



WASHINGTON, D. C. . . Summoned by Senate Commerce Committee to discuss her handling of maritime labor disputes, Secretary of Labor Frances L. Perkins confers with Senator Royal S. Copeland (D., N. Y.), over her handling of secret documents taken from files of Harry Bridges, militant West Coast Union Chief, which are alleged to prove that Bridges is an active Communist under an alias and that as an Austrian non-citizen he is a deportable alien.

The addition of a 12th year in N. C. schools

—was advocated by Governor Clyde Roark Hoey Tuesday night in an address delivered in Durham under the sponsorship of the Central Junior high school Parent-Teacher association.

The governor also called for adult education courses and a program of vocational training, declaring that the rich resources of North Carolina needed only the application of intelligence to make this one of the greatest states of the nation.

The governor said he was aware that "North Carolina is not a rich state . . . and therefore we must proceed as the ability of our people can justify it." He said, however, that nothing is more worthy of taxation than education because it lies at the basis of progress.

Governor Hoey, who spoke Sunday in Chicago, said that during his trip through the North he was impressed by the effort that is being made to grapple with current problems.

He said that modern education should meet practical as well as cultural needs, and he called for a program of adult education in order "to stamp out illiteracy in this state."

Galax Bowlers were victorious Tuesday night

—in a match with the Sparta men's team, in Galax. The Galax team won by a margin of 359. The total score for Galax was 3,375, and that for Sparta 3,016.

Individual scores were as follows: Sparta—George Reeves, 532; John Tom Upchurch, 654; Glenn Shepherd, 713; Charlie Tompkins, 555, and Dick Gentry, 562.

Galax—Edd Reavis, 741; Al Reavis, 604; B. C. Lineberry, 800; A. H. Peddy, 588, and Dr. V. O. Choate, 642.

Elzie Osborne was returned to his parents

—Mr. and Mrs. Lester Osborne, Piney Creek, last week by Sheriff Walter M. Irwin, after apparently "vanishing into thin air" several months ago. Sheriff Irwin learned of the young boy's whereabouts from an Elkin man.

In a conversation with the Alleghany county sheriff, the man disclosed the information that a boy answering the description of the Osborne lad was working on his father's farm near Elkin.

Sheriff Irwin, who has followed up every clue that has been found since the boy's disappearance last fall, immediately went to this place, found the boy, and brought him back to his parents. He declares, however, that he will not remain at home.

Benefit claims for unemployed persons will be received

—in the Alleghany county court house by representatives of the North Carolina Unemployment Compensation commission each Thursday from ten to five o'clock. Checks will be delivered to all those eligible as soon as possible, although the exact date is not yet known.

Only men who have worked from January, 1937, through September 30, 1937, for covered employers will receive checks. This does not apply to WPA or CCC workers, or to those who have worked for or received relief from the government.

Two solons would have the U. S. sponsor

—a conference on limiting navies. Increasing congressional concern over world armaments resulted in such proposals Sunday by Representative Maverick (D.-Tex.), and Senator King (D.-Utah).

Others in congress have advanced similar proposals informally, among them Representative Fish (D.-N. Y.), ranking minority member of the house foreign affairs committee.

Maverick took the view that Japan's refusal to divulge its intentions with respect to the size of future warships did not necessarily preclude a naval agreement among the world powers. The United States has designs ready for building superdreadnaughts if the future brings no change in Japan's attitude.

Commenting on the Japanese offer to abolish "capital ships," Maverick inquired, "Who then wants them? England? Let's have a naval conference, however irritated nations may be. It may save a war."

Despite denials by Secretary Hull and Admiral William D. Leahy, chief of naval operations, that the United States has any understanding, real or implied, with any other power, some congressmen continued to question whether the administration's naval expansion program was for some use other than defense.

Senator Borah (R.-Idaho), said yesterday he would support the administration program for increased naval armaments if he became convinced that it "would be for the use of the United States alone."

The Idahoan joined in senate conjecture last week whether the United States had a secret military understanding with Great Britain.

Meanwhile, Senator Johnson (R.-Calif.), predicted "developments" soon might disclose that there had been some conversations between American and British officials over possible joint use of the navies of the two countries in case a crisis develops.

He said he believed Secretary of State Hull acted "in good faith" when he denied any understandings existed, but hinted that he believed other officials might have entered into such conversation without the secretary's knowledge.

On the other hand, Senator Norris (Ind.-Neb.), scoffed at reports of a secret agreement.

"I don't think there's a thing to it," he said.

Sylvia Sidney, film star,

—was annoyed Sunday in Hollywood when there came to her from New York a report that she was going to marry Luther Adler, stage star, now appearing in "Golden Boy" on Broadway.

"There is nothing to it," said Miss Sidney in a slightly irritated tone of voice.

In New York, Adler denied he was engaged or that he intended to marry, and that caused Miss Sidney to observe:

"If he said so, you certainly don't expect me to say the story is true, do you?"

The Methodist W. M. S. will hold a meeting

—tomorrow (Friday) afternoon, at three o'clock, in the home of Mrs. R. H. Hackler. This will be the regular monthly meeting of the organization.

Governor Hoey spoke Sunday night in Chicago

—at a meeting of the Sunday Evening club. In his speech he said faith in God and "faith in a great people

will continue to be the essence of our marching orders." The chief executive of North Carolina said he believed patriotism and Christianity would unite to solve the dispute between capital and labor and other "problems of our complex civilization."

The "dominant passion" of the American people today, he said, as in the days of the Pilgrim fathers, "is love of liberty and freedom, with an even higher appraisal of religious freedom."

Should an attempt be made to deprive the American people of the right to follow their religious convictions, an almost unanimous revolt would follow, the North Carolina executive asserted.

"I am not unmindful of the greed and graft, turmoil and strife, discontent and hatred, violence and disorder, injustice and oppression, poverty and suffering, vice and crime, prevalent in this nation," Governor Hoey said. "Yet a conservative survey of the progress we have made and the advances of our civilization justifies the confidence that the heart of America is sound."

The governor compared the careers of Abraham Lincoln and Robert E. Lee, asserting both were outstanding citizens whose lives "have been beacon lights leading us onward and upward."

"The rugged Lincoln of the North, whose honesty, patriotism and consecration to his country's good, has so enriched the annals of the nation and inspired countless millions to struggle for the heights, was matched by the peerless Lee of the South, whose glorious heroism in war and unselfish dedication in peace, lifted his people to an elevation where they could see the everlasting things that matter to an individual or a nation," he said.

"Both combined to give America examples of citizenship, supreme illustrations of the attributes and virtues of the perfect citizen working and serving in a democracy."

"The whole history of America should inspire us with hope. There is full warrant for optimism. Every age has had its pessimistic outlook, but any intelligent appraisal of the assets and liabilities of this day should impress us with the progress made and the success achieved in material and humanitarian endeavors, and give us fresh courage for the future."

The object of the NYA program in Alleghany

—has been defined as aiming to fit boys and girls for future life, and to enable them to earn a living. The

age limit for NYA workers is 18 to 25 years.

The NYA program is a program of education rather than of relief; the wage is a minor consideration and the training the major one. So, no one need feel embarrassed to work on the NYA projects, any more than he would if he were enrolled in any other kind of training course, it is said.

In Ashe and Alleghany counties there are handicraft or home projects where the girls are taught to sew, make rugs, and are taught various other handicrafts which are used in the home. In both counties, a number of girls have been placed in offices and are receiving good training under trained supervisors. There is a carpenter project in Ashe county for the boys, where they are trained to make furniture for the schools, seat cabinets, bookshelves, tables, etc. These boys are taught by competent foremen who have had years of experience as carpenters.

Mrs. Margaret C. Ray, supervisor of the NYA projects in Ashe and Alleghany, is anxious to start a project of the same kind in Alleghany county, if there are (turn to page 8, please)