News Review of Current Events the World Over

New Tax Program Stirs Hot Debate—Black's Seizure of Telegrams—Norris Dam Is Completed—Italo-Ethiopian Peace Draws Nearer.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

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CONGRESSMAN SAM B. HILL of Washington and his subcommittee of the house ways and means committee took up the heavy task of determining how the new revenue of $1,137,000,000 called for by President Roosevelt should be raised. Treasury officials recommended that an average tax of 33⅓ per cent should be levied on undivided corporation profits and a tax of 90 per cent on all refunded or unpaid AAA processing taxes. In this the fiscal experts followed the suggestions of Mr. Roosevelt. They told the subcommittee that the proposed corporation surplus tax would yield the government $620,000,000 annually. The President has estimated that this amount will be needed to finance the new farm program and the soldier bonus.

Rep. S. B. Hill

The so-called "windfall" tax on processors who successfully challenged the AAA in the courts, it was believed, would yield another $200,000,000. This will be used to reimburse the treasury for losses suffered as a result of the Supreme court's invalidation of AAA. There remains an additional $317,000,000 which it is proposed to raise through excise taxes on a wide range of farm processors.

Chairman Hill said the experts and the members of the subcommittee were agreed that the tax on undivided surplus should not apply to banks and life insurance companies.

There was wide divergence of opinion concerning this tax among leaders in congress. Senator James Hamilton Lewis of Illinois, Democrat, for instance, declared himself against it as an unnecessary additional burden on business, and indicated he would support, instead, a plan to tax the income from federal securities now exempt. Senator Borah, Republican, said that in principle he endorsed the plan of taxing undistributed earnings, while Senator Hastings of Delaware, also Republican, denounced it as "confiscatory." Senator King of Utah, Democrat, and Representative Knutson of Minnesota, Republican, were moved by the program to demand immediate cutting down of federal expenditures, and in this Mr. Borah concurred. Speaker Joseph W. Byrns and Majority Leader W. B. Bankhead professed to see no difficulties in the way of the proposed measure.

One thing that boosted the chances of the President's tax program was a report from Secretary of Commerce Roper that corporation income in 1935 was 300 per cent higher than in 1932.

IN THE course of his probe into the affairs of enemies of the New Deal, Senator Black of Alabama, chairman of the lobby committee, assumed the right to seize and examine their private telegrams, and thus his investigation was carried into the courts. Silas Strawn, Chicago attorney learned the committee was about to subpoena his telegrams and he obtained a temporary injunction blocking such action. He has asked the District of Columbia Supreme court to make this injunction permanent.

The wholesale examination of telegrams was attacked by Representative Wadsworth of New York, and defended by Senator Black.

"It strikes me," Wadsworth said, "that we have reached a strange stage in the development of democracy when private correspondence can be seized without court procedure or search warrant."

Black said: "Repeatedly it has been held that the senate can call for what it pleases. There appears to have been a concerted effort by those who seek to influence legislation behind the scenes, through subterranean channels, to prevent us from getting evidence."

GOVERNOR LANDON'S boom for the Republican Presidential nomination is progressing in a way that must be pleasing to his supporters. Kansas Republicans in a state convention pledged him the state's 18 delegates to the Cleveland convention, declaring him to be "the best-fitted candidate." That Kansas should support its governor is natural and expected, but he also is garnering a good many delegates elsewhere, and indorsement in some states where the delegates are uninstructed.

Sentiment favorable to Landon appeared in New Jersey, and Hervey S. Moore of Trenton, a Republican leader, was contemplating starting an active campaign for him in that state.

ON THE third anniversary of his inauguration President Roosevelt pushed an electric key in the White House which set in motion machinery that closed the sluice gates of the Norris dam in the Tennessee Valley project. This signalized the completion of that part of the vast work on the Clinch river.

"I hope as many people as can will go to see the Norris dam in eastern Tennessee," the President said in a formal statement. "It exemplifies great engineering skill, high construction efficiency, and, above all, it is the key to the carefully worked out control of a great river and its water spread over parts of seven states.

"The Norris dam is a practical symbol of better life and greater opportunity for millions of citizens of our country. The nation has come to realize that national resources must not be wasted and the Norris dam is evidence that our program for conservation of these resources is going forward."

SENATOR BORAH and Senator Van Nuys of Indiana, the latter a Democrat, introduced a bill directed against certain practices of the chain stores. The measure would make it unlawful for any person engaged in commerce to grant any discount, rebate, allowance or advertising service charge to a purchaser over that available to the purchasers' competitors. It also would prohibit sales "at prices lower than those exacted by said person elsewhere in the United States for the purpose of destroying competition or eliminating a competitor."

Co-operative associations would be exempted from provisions of the measure. Violators would be subject to a $5,000 fine and a one-year jail sentence.

The so-called Robinson-Patman anti-monopoly bill, also aimed at chain stores, will be passed by the senate before very long, according to a promise made by Senator Robinson to a mass meeting of 1,500 independent merchants who went to Washington to lobby for the measure. This bill legislates against special prices, rebates, advertising allowances and brokerage fees giving sales advantage to chain stores.

THROUGH its committee of thirteen the League of Nations appealed to Benito Mussolini and Emperor Haile Selassie to consent to immediate negotiations for an end to hostilities and a definite re-establishment of Italo-Ethiopian peace. Though consideration of the proposal by his cabinet council was delayed a few days, Mussolini, according to advices from Rome, was disposed to acquiesce provided territory in Ethiopia already occupied by Italy is considered hers and left out of the negotiations.

Giuseppe Motta

Haile Selassie accepted the proposal without reservation. In recent days his armies in the northern sector have been routed in big battles and have lost many thousands of men, and the Italians have penetrated far toward the interior of the country; and in the South the invaders were preparing for a rapid advance.

Back of the league's appeal was the standing threat of extension of sanctions to include an embargo on oil. This suddenly brought about a situation rather disconcerting for the league. Dr. Giuseppe Motta, Swiss foreign minister, gave a warning that if the oil embargo was applied his country might feel it necessary to leave the league in order to preserve its neutrality if the consequent threatened war in Europe resulted. Motta pointed out that if Italy quit the league and hosilities ensued, Switzerland, through her membership in the league, would appear in Italian eyes as a party to a hostile coalition, and would be subject to invasion, by Italy on one side and perhaps by Germany on the other.

BRITAIN'S government evidently believes another war is coming, and intends to be well prepared. It made public a gigantic program for increases in the army, navy and air forces and for swift mobilization of man power and industry. No official cost estimate was given out but authorities said the total over a three-year period would be not less than one and a half billion dollars. The program includes these features:

Army—Four new battalions of infantry are planned. All units are to be modernized, mechanized, and re-equipped. Especial attention will be paid coastal and anti-aircraft defenses.

Navy—Two new battleships next year and an increase in cruiser strength from 50 to 70, with five new ones to be laid down this year. Naval personnel also will be increased by 6,000, a new aircraft carrier will be constructed, and the air arm of the navy will be strengthened.

Air Force—About 250 new war planes will be added to the home defense squadrons, bringing the total to 1,750. Twelve new air squadrons for imperial defense—that is, air forces available for transfer to danger areas—will be added, and more pilots will be recruited.

Following this announcement the annual naval estimates were submitted to parliament. They call for $349,650,000, an increase of $49,400,000 over the previous year.

JAPAN was calming down after the amazing revolt and attempted coup d' etat of a thousand soldiers led by a group of young "fascist" officers who thought the Okada government was hampering the military progress of the nation. So far as can be judged at this distance, the net results of the uprising were: Admiral Viscount Makoto Saito, former premier and lord keeper of the privy seal; Korekiyo Takahashi, minister of finance, and Gen. Jotaro Watanabe, chief of military education, were assassinated by the rebels. Premier Okada escaped death, his brother-in-law being mistaken for him and slain. The mutineers, threatened by loyal troops and the fleet, obeyed an edict by Emperor Hirohito and surrendered. Of their 23 leaders, two committed suicide.

The immediate concern of Emperor Hirohito and his advisers was the selection of a man for premier who could form a new government that would satisfy the various parties. First Prince Fumimaro Konoye, young president of the house of peers, was asked to undertake this task, but he declined on the ground of poor health. Then the choice of the emperor fell upon Koki Hirota, a moderate who is well known in both the United States and Russia. Hirota at once began picking out his ministers, saying: "My cabinet will be composed of young, able statesmen."

Hirota's selection was taken to mean that the emperor has determined to proceed with the modernization of the country, and to exercise his power to rule instead of permitting himself to be the exalted agent of military overlords.

MAJ. GEN. WILLIAM WEIGEL, retired, one of the army's most reliable commanders, died in the army hospital on Governors island at the age of seventy-two. He served 44 years, through Indian campaigns, in the Spanish-American war and in the Philippines, and went to France in the World war as a captain. He was rapidly promoted through grades, to brigadier general on August 15, 1917, and to major general on August 8, 1918, when he was given command of the Eighty-eighth division, a new national army unit which he trained and took overseas. Previously he had commanded the Fifty-sixth brigade, Twenty-eighth division, a Pennsylvania outfit, at Chauteau-Thierry.

MORE than 150,000 workers in 11,000 buildings in New York city were called out on strike by James J. Bambrick, president of the Building Service Employees' International union, and the sky-scrapers from the Battery to Washington Heights were badly crippled. Elevator men stopped their cars, furnace men banked their fires and scrubwomen threw down their mops, and all marched out of the buildings and formed picket lines. There was some scattered fighting between the pickets and men hastily hired to take their places.

Since the strike affected not only office buildings but innumerable apartment buildings also, the occupants of the latter were deprived of heat and telephone connections, and in many cases sick persons were marooned without food supplies. This lead Mayor La Guardia to call the city health officials into conference, and to declare a civic emergency and order Health Commissioner Rice to see that fires were stoked and that trips necessary to health of the tenants and care of the sick were made in all residence buildings of more than six floors.

IMMEDIATELY after President Roosevelt signed the new soil conservation-farm relief act passed to take the place of the invalidated AAA, Administrator Chester C. Davis began planning ways to spend the $500,000,000 authorized. Under his orders more than five thousand employees of the AAA who had been waiting since January 6 for something to do got busy placing the new program into effect.

C. C. Davis

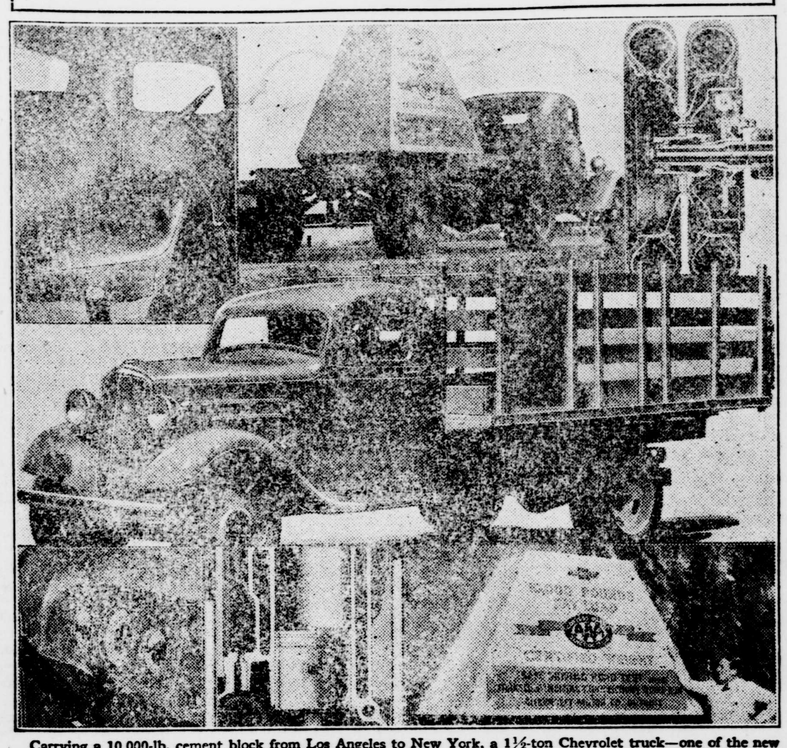
The goal of the new law, Mr. Roosevelt said in announcing his signature, is parity, not of farm prices, but of farm income. He said the New Deal has "not abandoned and will not abandon" the principle of equality for agriculture.

Davis planned, as the first move, a series of four conferences with agricultural leaders in Memphis, Chicago, New York and Salt Lake City to formulate plans to take 30,000,000 acres out of commercial production this year and place them in legumes and other soil conserving crops.

The new law provides benefit payments to farmers who co-operate in federal suggestions for conservation of soil fertility in 1936 and 1937. It provides, also, for federal subsidies to states setting up permanent state programs in 1938 and thereafter.

"REMEMBER the Alamo," the battle cry of Texas, was heard all over the state as its centennial celebration opened at the village of Washington-on-the-Brazos, where the declaration of independence from Mexico was signed. The old "charter of empire" was taken there from its place in the state capitol rotunda in Austin, and Gov. James V. Allred of Texas and Gov. Philip LaFollette of Wisconsin went along to take part in the ceremonies. The party then went to Huntsville, where Gen. Sam Houston gathered an army of Texans to fight the Mexicans, and there Gov. Hill McAlister of Tennessee made the address. San Antonio and other cities followed on the program, and the celebrations will continue for months, reaching a climax in the opening on June 6 of the centennial exposition at Dallas.

New Chevrolet Truck on Economy-Safety Run



Carrying a 10,000-lb. cement block from Los Angeles to New York, a 1½-ton Chevrolet truck—one of the new 1936 models just introduced—demonstrated that safe driving means economy. Speed limits were observed in every community, with 35 m.p.h. the maximum on the open road. The 3511.4 miles were completed on two quarts of oil and 308.6 gallons of gasoline, at a cost of 01.6 cents per mile, or one-third of a cent per ton mile. The entire run was completed without any mechanical failure, repairs, or even a scratched fender. The illustrations show the test truck and features of the new 1936 models. Coupe type cabs with solid steel roof, full-floating rear axle, and full-length water jackets, are some of the improvements. In the lower right, Harry Hartz, who drove the cross-continent test, is seen beside the 10,000-lb. block. The test was officially observed by the American Automobile Association.

Cooch's Bridge

Pencader Grange held their usual meeting on Monday night in the form of Music Night, Overseer Brooks in charge, broadcasting over Station P. G. No. 60. Opening song, Old Folks at Home; reading, Stephen Foster's Life, Mrs. C. C. Brooks; song, My Old Kentucky Home; instrumental, Roll Along Prairie Moon; Linwood Conner, mandolin Melvin Brooks, piano, Charlotte Laws, violin; reading composition, Music in the Grange, Miss Leola Brown; instrumental solo, Visions of Dreamland, Dorothy Correll; contest, Ann Dinah's Quilting Party, won by Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Brooks; judges, Miss Lillian DeVine, Bro. Delaware Laws, Worthy Master H. W. Price; instrumental duet, Rock-a-bye Moon, Misses Dorothy Correll and Charlotte Laws; song, Old Black Joe; closing song, God Be With You Until We Meet Again, Mrs. W. C. Brooks, Mr. Linwood Conner, were named Delegates to Pomona. Ten members from Pencader attended Pomona at Centreville on Thursday. Six candidates' names were given as prospective members. Pencader Grange held an extra meeting on Tuesday evening in the form of a Pig Party. Next Monday night they expected to be entertained by Harmony Grange.

Revival services are being held in Glasgow M. E. Church for three nights this week in charge of Rev. Robert Hodgson, Pastor.

The last Adult Class was held in Welsh Tract School on Wednesday evening. Many beautiful hooked rugs will be displayed at the music festival.

John Baylor, Solicitor

Order Nisi

IN RE:—

Richard Walker Alvey, an Incompetent

In the Circuit Court for Cecil County.

In Equity, No. 4580

ORDERED, This 29th day of February 1936 that the report of Henry L. Constable, Auditor, mentioned in these proceedings, be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 27th day of March next, provided a copy of this order be inserted in some newspaper printed and published in Cecil County once in each of two successive weeks before the 13th day of March next.

WALTER E. BUCK, Clerk

True Copy—Test:

WALTER E. BUCK, Clerk

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