Business Opens Money Drawers

Wage Boosts and Extra Dividends Herald Opening of Era of Prosperity

By EARL GODWIN

WASHINGTON.—Well, there was no more indication of this financial cloudburst than there was of the 29,000,000 Roosevelt popular vote. We all of us had an idea that big business would loosen up and spend its cash just as soon as it saw it was useless to try to put on a poor face and blame the New Deal for alleged hard times. In fact I gave you a hint of that in this column a few weeks ago—but did anybody dream that the leaders would open their cash drawers and scatter millions of extra dividends and increased wages as they have done?

This year will be the best dividend year the country has experienced since 1929, the boom year of the Hoover administration. Dividends this year will be approximately three billion dollars.

Wages have started upward in the steel and in many other industries and in certain specific corporations which refused any longer to keep down workmen's pay on the ground that "they didn't know what the government was going to do."

One of the most tremendous handouts is that of General Motors, whose head-man, Alfred Sloane, Jr., during the campaign, told his stockholders that Roosevelt "retarded recovery." Before the votes were all counted, Chairman Sloane announced an extra dividend to his stockholders and raised wages, declaring that the ten previous months were the best ever. Among those receiving this largess was one of the Dupont companies,—it got about $15,000,000 extra.

Probably the administration felt that this burst of news on industrial prosperity and cash distribution merited something agricultural. The Department of Agriculture has announced, therefore, that farm families will have more cash to spend on living costs next year. The smart boys in that department figure the American farmers' gross cash income from 1936 operations will be seven billion eight hundred fifty thousand dollars ($7,850,000,000). It would be interesting for farmers to check up and see what happens. The aforesaid smart economists say they believe farmers will have more cash for household operation, education, medical care, and clothes. Oddly enough, the upward trend in farm income which started in 1933, continued through this year in spite of the drouth. These things all go a long way to dispel the old Mark Hanna idea that prosperity and the Republican party go hand in hand.

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WHO OWN THE CARS?

Secretary of Commerce Roper tells me that the foundation of the automobile business in these United States are the folks with less than $2,000 a year. Would you have thought it? This country makes most of the world's motor cars; we have several times as many cars as all the rest of the world together and last year the whole world turned out 5,100,000 cars and we kept more than four-fifths of them. Three times as many automobiles here are owned by families under a thousand dollars a year income as those whose incomes goes over $3,000. We think of the big money folks having all the cars, but actually only ten per cent of America's motors are owned by families with more than $3,000 a year. These are facts from Secretary Roper's commerce department; and they are accurate. And that shows who pays the gasoline taxes, doesn't it? American car owners pay eight hundred million dollars a year in gas taxes; the biggest flood of sales taxes in the world. Actually, worked out to the limit every second of the day and night federal and state treasuries are getting $25.37 from gas taxes; a never ending stream of money from the lower income brackets. Out of every $3.50 paid to the average gas station a dollar is for taxes.

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CUT OUT THE POMP

The city of Washington is in a state of excitement over President Roosevelt's apparent intention to do away with the pomp and pageantry of the inaugural ceremony and reduce the matter to Jeffersonian simplicity. There has been built up in this city an idea that a President cannot be inaugurated without an all-day parade and tremendous social events at night. The merchants reap a harvest; so also the hotels, especially those along the line of march. Faithful adherents of the President like to take part in the event and marching clubs are organized, coming here by expensive special trains from every state. The army contributes a regiment or two, the West Point and Annapolis cadets come along at great expense to the taxpayers and all in all inauguration bills mount to stupendous figures.

It was not always thus. Jefferson mounted a horse which loped up Pennsylvania avenue to the east front of the Capitol, where Jefferson tied it to a post, went in, took the oath of office from the Chief Justice and rode back again, which is about the simplest oath-taking by any President except the kerosene lamp oath by Coolidge—administered by his father when they heard of the death of Harding.

I have an idea that Roosevelt plans something just as simple as Jefferson's. It would be just like Roosevelt to go back to first principles and reduce the inaugural ceremony merely to a ride to the Capitol, to take the oath and inform the people of his program in a second inaugural address as epochal as the famous Lincoln second inaugural.

Yet millions of New Dealers want to be here to celebrate. It may be that there will be a civic celebration to give these enthusiasts their chance to take part in an event they brought about with all their hearts.

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COOL TO AAA

There seems to be marked coolness on the part of the administration toward the outlawed AAA; yet representatives of several hundred thousand farmers demand a re-enactment of the production-control features of the Agricultural Adjustment Act which went out the window when the Supreme Court cracked down. I haven't a very clear idea just yet as to what the administration wants, except that it promises strong federal control of crops with the object of removing that always-troublesome surplus which keeps down prices. The administration hasn't yet recovered from the Supreme Court shock and just doesn't want to go marching up the court house door only to get its face pushed in all over again by the same set of judges. This crop insurance idea, while not quite as productive of checks, seems to be good enough for the administration at the present time—and yet, I wouldn't risk too large a wager on it.

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G. O. P. NOT DEAD

I am not one of those who believes the Republican party is dead. No organization with 17,000,000 voters is dead. It is no deader than the Democratic party of the old days which was a minority affair continuously from the Civil war days to the time of Cleveland, and after that to Wilson (who was a minority President himself first term); and after that to Roosevelt.

But now the Democratic party is a tremendous majority; not only in the electoral college, but in the senate and house and in a smaller way among the governors. There will be seventy-five Democrats and seventeen Republicans in the senate. Nothing quite like it since the Grant administration when the majority was the other way: 69 Republicans and 11 Democrats. The next house has 334 Democrats and 89 Republicans, who have only two more than is necessary to force a roll call vote.

In this tremendous majority, which I believe will be almost entirely a pro-Roosevelt Democratic body, the President will be able to enact his perfected reform measures in the first two years of his second term.

Then what? Anything can happen. In a sense, the G. O. P. is better off than the Democratic party, because right now there really isn't any Democratic party. It is Roosevelt's Party,—Progressives, generals, youngsters, political adventurers, Crusaders, Good Neighbor Leaguers, and what not. They voted almost solidly in that 29,000,000 landslide for Roosevelt—not for the party. And there is no one right now who can carry on the Roosevelt idealism but Roosevelt. So, unless the Roosevelt party forces Roosevelt to do what even George Washington refused to do—accept a third term—there is going to be an interesting set of maneuvers by the second string Democrats to capture the next nomination.

Meantime, the Republicans have good leadership which they failed to utilize this time. They let political tricksters fool them into thinking they could grab on bandwagon and build him up by advertising. The Republicans have Senator McNary of Oregon; they have Vandenburg of Michigan. Both of these men lived through the Democratic landslide and anyone who can do that strikes me as being politically good.

I have heard that Henry Wallace, secretary of agriculture, is the administration's favorite. I do not know whether it is true or not—but if Henry Wallace is going to be put forward as a crown prince he will have his hands full, because if the next four years develops the same kind of political events that other second terms have developed, you will see the crown prince slaughtered by a field of ambitious contestants. Labor leaders are in for ambitious doings; you will see John Lewis, the shaggy haired leader of the Mine Workers pulling strings for bigger things than mere labor leadership. You will see, too, the LaFollette boys in Wisconsin strive for a place in national leadership; and there are leaders of a score of other elements in the Roosevelt army all of which will come rushing forward about two and a half years from now. Roosevelt will attend to his job as President; and I think it will be difficult to detect him doing a thing that will look like a political move. I imagine though, that his close associates will see to it that leadership does not go to any conservative Democrat—like Byrd of Virginia.

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Shakespeare Was Versed in Music, Plays Reveal

Lovers of music usually are amazed by the number of references to music and the thorough knowledge of music displayed in Shakespeare's plays, observes a writer in the Indianapolis News. "Twelfth Night" is considered as opening with one of the finest eulogies on music. "The Taming of the Shrew" opens with a music-teaching scene. Musical instruments he mentions include viols, violones (double basses), trumpets, fifes, recorders (flutes with mouthpieces), bagpipes, cornets, serpents, virginals, lutes, organs and oboes. "Hamlet" contains a description of how to play the recorder. Closely aligned to the musical instruments are the dances referred to. He mentions such early classic dances as the bergomesque, theromanesca or galliard, the pavane, courante and gigue, as well as the English country dances known as the morris dance, hornpipe, brawl and hay.

"The Carman's Whistle," an old English ballad, is referred to in "King Henry VIII"; "Oh, Willow, Willow," another ballad, is introduced in "Othello," and "Greensleeves," a famous ballad, is twice mentioned in "Falstaff." "It was a Lover and His Lass," lyric written by Shakespeare in "As You Like It," was set to music by eighteen composers an early one of whom was Thomas Morley.

Shakespeare's lyrics, "Who Is Sylvia?" and "Hark! Hark! the Lark!" inspired two of Schubert's finest songs.

Eighteen settings have been made of the former.

"The Tempest" has been the inspiration for fourteen settings as an opera; the "Merry Wives of Windsor" has had eight settings.

"Measure for measure" was used as a basis for an opera by Richard Wagner in his youth. Incidental music to "Midsummer Night's Dream" by Felix Mendelsohn contains the latter's famous "Wedding March."

Other plays by Shakespeare which have been the inspiration for either operatic or symphonic settings include "Comedy of Errors," "The Taming of the Shrew," "Winter's Tale," "King Richard III," "King Henry IV," "King Henry VIII," "Macbeth," "Othello," "Hamlet," "Romeo and Juliet," and "King Lear."

Dairy Cow as Producer

It's a fact that a cow in a given length of time produces about six times as much protein food material as a fattening steer. A 1,200-pound steer in a year produces 548 pounds of dry matter for human food and he is then out of the picture. A dairy cow turning out 18,000 pounds of milk produces 2,200 pounds dry matter for human food; in addition gives birth to a calf and starts out doing the same trick all over again. To produce this amount of milk our dairy cow had to consume upwards of eight or nine tons of feed in the form of grain, high protein concentrates, hay, silage, and pasture. Here is a factory taking in raw material annually that amounts to ten or eleven times her own weight. Then she turns out a product of a highly intricate formula that weighs again six or eight times her own weight.—Breeder's Gazette.

POULTRY

CULLING LEADS TO PROFIT FROM EGGS

Reducing Size of Flock to Fit House Important.

By H. H. Alp, Extension Poultryman, University of Illinois.—WNU Service.

With feed prices soaring, farmers who are counting on eggs as a source of cash revenue will need to watch closely those practices which tend to lower production costs.

Feed is usually considered to be 60 per cent of the total cost of producing eggs. However, it will be folly for most flock owners to attempt to concoct cheap rations by using unsatisfactory substitutes for some of the standard grain ingredients.

It will pay in most cases to stick with the regular proved rations and to look elsewhere for ways of lowering the cost of production.

Culling the flock to eliminate all birds except those in top physical condition is one method of lowering production costs. Culling not only helps to eliminate wasteful feeding, but also tends to lessen chances of future mortality.

Reducing the size of the flock to fit the house so that each bird has four square feet of floor space is also important. Special attention to an adequate supply of water, especially during cold weather, will also go a long way toward lowering production costs.

Cleanliness of the water is as vital as the abundant supply. Keeping the water clean, not by pills but by clean dishes and stands, is one of the chief methods of obtaining efficient egg production. Furthermore, the value of good care and cleanliness around the poultry house can not be overestimated.

Concrete Floor Is Best for the Poultry House

Concrete makes the most satisfactory type of poultry house floor, advises the Missouri experiment station. It is easily cleaned, ratproof, and provides a dry, durable floor. Where the sand and gravel are obtainable, a thin section concrete floor can be installed for two cents per square foot.

The success of such a floor is dependent upon having a dirt or rock fill eight to ten inches above the ground level. This fill must be tamped well to prevent it from settling. If a dirt fill is used, it is desirable to place a layer of cheap tar paper on top of the fill to prevent any capillary water seeping through the concrete.

The use of good quality concrete is important in making the floor. In order to have a water-tight floor, it is necessary to limit the water to five or five and one-half gallons to each sack of cement. Creek gravel can be used if there is enough sand in the mixture to make the concrete smooth. A mixture of one part of cement to four and one-half or five parts of gravel, or a mixture of one part of cement, two parts of sand and three parts of gravel can be used. After the concrete has been poured, it should be smoothed as much as possible in order to facilitate cleaning.

Color of Combs

The combs of a vigorous flock of chickens will be bright red, the chickens will be active and constantly searching for feed. When chickens have ruffled plumage, a dumpy appearance, a lagging step and a dark red or pale comb, trouble has crossed the horizon line. Many poultrymen consider an off-color of the comb and wattles the best index to a sick fowl, for the comb is made up of a network of blood vessels.

Simple Dignity

Do what thou hast in hand with perfect and simple dignity and feeling of affection, and freedom and justice; and so give thyself relief from all other thoughts.

Bats Classed as Mammals

Bats are classed as mammals, not birds, and are among the most interesting of creatures. When captured, they protest with a shrill, squeaky voice.

Spaniards Named California

The Spaniards named California after an imaginary island in a sixteenth century romance and considered to be an earthly paradise.

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Thanksgiving—An *American* Day

By RAYMOND PITCAIRN
National Chairman Sentinels of the Republic

Thanksgiving is recognized as one of the most characteristic and appropriate of all our American National Holidays.

Why?

Probably because the American people, through the period of their nation's existence, have had more to be thankful for than the people of any other land.

Not in the material sense alone! The pioneers who celebrated our first Thanksgiving Day expressed gratitude not only for bountiful harvests, but also for the freedom with which Divine Providence had rewarded their courage and labors.

That spirit endures. Every Presidential proclamation of a Day of National Thanksgiving has sounded the same note of reverence.

Thus, through the years, Thanksgiving Day has become not only a national expression of gratitude, but a re-dedication to the spirit which lived in its strong and valiant founders.

The seeds of freedom sown by them have borne a harvest more bountiful than their own crops. Our reasons for national gratitude have grown—not diminished.

They gave thanks for fruitful harvests; we for a bountiful supply not only of the necessities of life, but of comforts far beyond their modest aspirations.

They gave thanks for liberty to worship as they chose. We give thanks not only for freedom of religion, but for freedom of speech and of action and of opportunity as well.

Many nations cannot do this today. The iron hand of Dictatorship or the red blight of Communism, the terrors of war, from without or within—all have robbed them of the security and the liberties which our fathers established as an American birthright.

Our duty is not limited to appreciation, however grateful, of these blessings. It involves their preservation as well.

Poultry Hints

Poultry ailments are prevented much easier than cured.

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One-half the annual production of eggs is produced during the four months of March, April, May and June.

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The chief cause of leg weakness in young birds is said to be overfeeding.

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In color the Rhode Island Red is a rich, dark red, approaching a mahogany.

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One hundred hens not laying will eat approximately 19 pounds of feed a day, 100 hens laying 50 per cent will eat around 24 pounds and 100 hens laying 70 per cent will eat about 26 pounds a day.

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Size of the egg depends on hen's breeding; size runs in the blood.

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The Hebrews and ancient Irish used the hen's eggs as their unit of measure of capacity.

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Chicken incubators of Soviet Russia are expected to produce 18,600,000 chicks this year.

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Segregate the sick birds and use a mild disinfectant in the drinking water to prevent spread of disease.

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Motto of French Republic

Liberty, equality, fraternity has been the motto of the French republic from the first revolution, July 14-15, 1789. It was later accepted as a declaration of political principles.

Like the Drum Major

"Some men," said Uncle Eben, "gits so far ahead of deir times dat dey's sumpin' like de drum major who traveled so fast dat he didn't look like he belonged to de parade."