

News Review of Current Events the World Over

Secretary Mills Offers Treasury's Tax Bill—Congress Slashes More Supply Measures—Developments in the Presidential Campaign.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

SECRETARY OGDEN L. MILLS and his associates in the Treasury department have laid before the senate finance committee their revised program for raising \$1,033,000,000 for the purpose of balancing the national budget. The bill they offer rejects those features of the measure passed by the house which makes extreme raises in normal income tax rates, surtax rates on corporation income taxes, and estate taxes, restoring these taxes to the level of the rates as they were in 1924.

Mr. Mills proposed a compromise on taxing stock sales. The house bill provides a tax of one-fourth of 1 per cent, but not less than four cents a share. The secretary would make it a straight four cents a share tax. Most of the excise taxes in the house bill he rejects, but proposed a tax of three-fourths of one cent a gallon on domestic gasoline, which is not taxed in the house bill.

Mr. Mills' program does not differ much from the last recommendations he submitted to the house ways and means committee. It is now too late, he says, to apply income taxes retroactively to 1931 incomes, but the loss occasioned thereby will be offset by tightening of the law through administrative changes.

The secretary now believes that it will be possible to reduce government expenditures \$200,000,000 instead of \$120,000,000.

Articles not taxed in the house bill on which Mr. Mills would impose taxes are tobacco, checks and drafts, and domestic gasoline.

ONE more attempt to get Thomas J. Mooney out of the California penitentiary has failed. Following the counsel of his legal advisers, Governor Ralph denied a pardon to the man who is serving a life term for participation in the 1916 Preparedness day bombing in San Francisco which resulted in ten deaths.

WHAT Representative La Guardia of New York called "an epidemic of economy" continued its course in congress, to the disgust of some individual members and of certain government officials. Drastic reductions in budget estimates were made and further slashes were in prospect. The house created precedent by accepting without conference the entire 10 per cent made by the senate in the appropriation bill for the interior department and as the budget bureau already had made heavy reductions from the department requests and the house had previously knocked off some millions, Secretary Wilbur spoke of "the odds and ends that are left." He called the \$4,000,000 reduction in funds for the Boulder canyon dam "hocus-pocus," and then took the diminished bill to President Hoover for a conference.

The senate instructed its appropriations committee to reduce the treasury-post office supply bill by 10 per cent, and also approved reduction of \$1,000,000 in the prohibition enforcement fund, the only important item which the house left at the budget estimate. Next came the slashing of the navy appropriation bill by the house.

The appropriation measure for congress itself was put aside for one week or more to give the special economy committee time to perfect an amendment carrying the entire re-trenchment program of pay reductions and abolition and consolidation of federal activities. The decision of the economy committee to put all the projected savings into one bill to be a rider to the legislative supply measure, as President Hoover wished, was reached over the protest of Chairman McDuffie of Alabama. McDuffie said his proposal to cut federal wages 11 per cent after exempting the first \$1,000, would go into the bill, and that advocates of the Hoover five-day work week and furlough without pay plan would have to offer it as a substitute. Mr. Hoover thinks his plan would save between \$225,000,000 and \$250,000,000 a year.

WHEN the Republican national convention meets in Chicago it will have for its temporary chairman and keynoter Senator L. J. Dickinson of Iowa, whom the arrangements committee selected for the post with the approval of President Hoover. "Hell-Raising Dick," as he is known in his home state, has been one of the strongest defenders of the Hoover administration and can be counted on to set forth vigorously the issues on which the Republican party will base its appeal for the favor of the electorate. He was in the lower house for six terms,



Sen. Dickinson

a prominent member of the farm bloc; he was elected to the senate to succeed Dan Steck, Democrat. Other appointments made for the convention were: Sergeant-at-arms, Everett Sanders of Indiana, former secretary to President Calvin Coolidge; secretary, Lafayette B. Gleason of New York; parliamentarian, James Francis Burke of Pennsylvania; assistant, Lehr Fess, Ohio, son of Senator Fess; chief doorkeeper; Col. Glenn Haynes of Iowa; assistant, J. N. Johnston, Kansas.

FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT is determined not to have a quarrel with Al Smith if he can help it, and in his campaign for delegates to the New York governor is becoming most conciliatory and cautious. Up in St. Paul, Minn., he replied in a way to Smith's attack in which that leader of Democracy more than intimated that Roosevelt was a demagogue trying to set class against class. This Franklin proclaimed, declaring pleasantly that he favored a national policy that "seeks to help all simultaneously"—an aim with which no one could quarrel but a pronouncement that is scarcely reason for Smith to abandon his announced intention to take off his coat and fight to the bitter end the nomination of the governor. On the whole, the present situation is such that Democratic leaders fear a repetition of the convention deadlock of 1924 and impairment of the party's chances for success at the polls in November.

WARNING that wet planks in both party platforms this year would cause the prohibitionists to get together and elect a dry President was issued from the woman's national committee for law enforcement.

Mrs. Leigh Colvin of New York made the statement before the women's convention, at the same time claiming definitely that President Hoover is a supporter of prohibition. She predicted his defeat, however, if the party adopts a wet plank.

Senate committees considered various proposals relating to prohibition and heard the views of many persons. Matthew Woll of the American Federation of Labor warned the lawmakers of a potential revolution by labor unless the beer industry is revived. Bishop Cannon appeared before the judiciary subcommittee to advocate making the man who buys liquor as guilty as one who sells it. The manufacturers' committee, by a vote of 4 to 7, turned down the Bingham beer bill for 4 per cent beer.

Senator Tydings introduced in the senate his emergency construction act as an amendment to the pending tax bill. It provides for the creation of a \$1,500,000,000 bond issue to be amortized at the rate of 10 per cent each year, and to be sold as a "popular loan" to be repaid entirely by a tax levied on 2.75 per cent beer taxes at the rate of 24 cents per gallon.

SECRETARY OF STATE STIMSON is now at Geneva and apparently already is up to the neck in matters relating to disarmament, reparations, security and the oriental situation. He is quartered in a fine villa and is doing a lot of entertaining, but also he is attending to business. As one real achievement, the disarmament conference approved the principle of reduction of armaments "to the lowest point consistent with national safety and the enforcement by common action of international obligations."

Approval of the principle was opposed only by Maxim Litvinov, head of the Russian delegation, who said the action was not related to any effort to secure genuine disarmament.

Following up the American and Italian proposals, Sir John Simon, British foreign minister, proposed a resolution endorsing the principle of "qualitative" disarmament—that is, the prohibition of certain classes and types of weapons. This was supported by Germany and Italy but opposed by France.

THE interstate commerce commission, in a report that marked the culmination of a nation-wide survey of the highway-rail transportation situation, recommended legislation regulating interstate bus and truck carriers.

"Unrestrained competition is an impossible solution of the present transportation problem and is incompatible with the aim of co-ordination under regulation," declared the commission.

Railroads, whether steam or electric, and water carriers, the commission asserted, should be specifically authorized to engage in the transportation of both persons and property by motor vehicles in interstate commerce over the public highways.

A much milder form of regulation for the interstate truck carriers, common or contract, was recommended.

CHAIRMAN NORBECK of the senate committee investigating short selling of stocks and President Whitney of the New York Stock exchange did not get along well together last week. Mr. Whitney gave a list of 24,000 shorts as of April 8, and the names, made public a few days, were found to include several prominent Americans and some foreigners. Among the former was Arthur Cutten, Norbeck said the inquiry would be greatly extended.

SENATOR WILLIAM J. HARRIS, senior senator from Georgia and ranking Democratic member of the appropriations committee, died in Washington following several weeks of illness during which he had two major operations and one blood transfusion. He was sixty-four years old and had been in the senate since March, 1919. He was re-elected in 1925, and again in 1931.

THE senate adopted and sent to the house a resolution calling upon the secretary of agriculture to investigate the cost of maintaining the system of futures trading in agricultural products and to ascertain what classes of citizens bear the cost. Wheat and cotton futures both are covered in the terms of the resolution, which was formed by the agriculture committee by combining measures sponsored by Sen. Capper, Republican, Kansas, and Sheppard, Democrat, Texas.

Profits and losses by various classes of traders in wheat and cotton futures since July, 1929, together with short sales volume and commission paid by traders, would be given.

MRS. LOWELL F. HOBART, retiring president general of the Daughters of the American Revolution, addressing the continental congress of the organization in Washington, asserted that alien internationalists, pacifists and criminals are undermining the security of American institutions. Backing up her plea for a united front against these influences, Mrs. Hobart sketched a sordid picture of conditions which she said existed in this depression period.

The congress was peaceful this year, the only ticket in the field being headed by Mrs. Russell William Magana of Holyoke, Mass.

GREAT BRITAIN'S budget, almost balanced, was introduced to the house of commons by Chancellor of the Exchequer Neville Chamberlain, and the British found there would be no relief for the income tax payers or the beer drinkers for another year. A deficit of about \$7,000,000, Mr. Chamberlain estimated, would be easily made up by a new customs tax to be announced and a tax of eight cents on foreign tea with a preference of four cents on empire grown tea. The income tax remains at about 25 per cent.

Of especial interest to America was the fact that the budget makes no provision for \$171,500,000 which will be due the United States in the next twelve months on the war debt account. Neither does it list in the items of expected revenue the equivalent amount which will be due Britain from German reparations and from the European allies on their war debts to Britain.

Chamberlain said he felt it would be wiser to leave all these war debt and reparations accounts out of consideration until after the Lausanne reparations conference. After a decision is reached at Lausanne and after it is known whether the Hoover moratorium will be extended, there will be a supplementary British budget to meet the conditions then existing, he said.

News of this course by the British government started a discussion in congress of the possibility of repudiation by Europe of the war debts owed the United States. Senator Reed of Pennsylvania said he was confident England would pay us when the time comes, and others deprecated the idea of cancellation. Senator Borah took the opportunity to reply to Al Smith's recent suggestion that the war debts be forgotten for 25 years and then curtailed to the extent of 25 per cent of the value of American goods purchased by the debtors in that time.

Mr. Borah said this would be in effect complete cancellation and was a scheme for the benefit of private creditors of Europe at the expense of American tax payers. Senator Lewis of Illinois also attacked the Smith idea, and both he and Borah tied the question up with the disarmament problem.

AJAPANESE foreign office spokesman has warned Russia of the danger of war if there is any recurrence of alleged Soviet-inspired outrages against Japan in Manchuria. He referred specifically to the wrecking of a troop train near Harbin recently, in which 14 Japanese soldiers were killed, responsibility for which Japan flatly charged to Russia.

The spokesman pointed out that it must be remembered that while Japan is not sending new troops to the Siberian border, the Russians are continuing to concentrate their forces.

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Find Reasons for Cotton Seed Rot

Valuable Discoveries Made by Federal Service Investigators

Ten years of observation of cotton root rot at the United States cotton breeding field station in Greenville, Texas, have resulted in much useful information for the fight against this stubborn plant disease, says Circular 173-C, "Cycles of Growth in Cotton Root Rot at Greenville, Texas."

One of the most significant observations has been that the breaking up of cotton root rot, which occurs periodically, is not the result of the soil, season, or crop, but apparently of some inherent character of the fungus itself. This discovery is important because it indicates that this breaking-up period offers a favorable opportunity for using soil disinfectants or planting nonsusceptible crops for several seasons, thus reducing the chance of infection, says the circular.

Cotton root rot is widespread in Texas and occurs from there to the Pacific coast and also in Old Mexico. The root rot spots go through a period of sustained growth and then in a single season break up, except for a few points which form the beginnings of new infections. Cotton root rot, it is estimated, reduces the annual cotton yield of the nation by 250,000 to 300,000 bales and does damage to other crops amounting to about \$30,000,000 a year.

Copies of Circular 173-C may be obtained free from the office of information, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington.

New Ration for Calf Secures Excellent Results

Excellent results have been secured at Cornell university from a new feeding mixture. Only 325 pounds of whole milk were used during the first 17 weeks. The mixture fed included 320 pounds of ground yellow corn, 320 pounds of rolled oats, 320 pounds of winter wheat bran, 100 pounds of linseed meal, and 880 pounds of dry skim milk. The calves were fed this starter for the first 16 weeks. They were then changed to a cheaper ration including 300 pounds each of yellow cornmeal, ground oats, and wheat bran, and 100 pounds of linseed oil meal. The calf starter ration was limited to 5 pounds daily and the later ration to 4 pounds. Hay was fed liberally.

Iodine for Ewes

Where weak or flabby lambs are common, or where trouble is experienced from goiter in lambs, iodine may be administered to the ewes in the form of iodized salt. At one experiment station iodized salt is prepared for the ewes by drying the moisture out of 50 pounds of common salt and sprinkling it with two ounces of potassium iodide dissolved in water.

Three or four weeks before lambing, the ewes should receive about one-half pound of meal daily, the amount being increased somewhat after lambing. The amount of meal fed will depend largely on the condition of the ewe. If she is nursing twins, she should receive a liberal supply of meal so as to insure a good flow of milk. A very satisfactory meal ration consists of three parts bran, two parts crushed oats and one part oil meal.

Oats Treatment

Use formaldehyde, 1 pint to 5 gallons of water. Put 40 or 50 bushels of oats in a pile on a clean tight floor or a wagon box. While one man shovels the oats from one pile to another, a second man or boy slowly sprinkles the formaldehyde solution over the second pile. If a sprinkling is given to each 2 or 3 shovelfuls, the 5 gallons can be rather evenly mixed through the pile.

After the oats have been sprinkled cover the pile with a canvas for about 5 hours. Then the oats will be ready for sowing or they can be stored in clean bags until needed. There will be no danger of sprouting from the use of this amount of water.—Indiana Farmer's Guide.

Clover Resists Disease

Through years of selection the Tennessee agricultural experiment station has developed a red clover that is highly resistant to southern anthracnose or scorch, a common disease of the plant which leaves the field looking as if swept by fire.

The United States Department of Agriculture warns that although the clover grown in the Tennessee regions where scorch is prevalent is apparently the most resistant, not all clover grown there has this quality. Farmers cannot get this valuable strain simply by ordering Tennessee seed, but should specify Tennessee scorch-resistant seed.

Spraying Potatoes

Sprayed potatoes yielded 120 bushels more per acre than spuds not sprayed, in Ohio tests. The yields were 172 and 202 bushels per acre on the two adjoining fields. It took 12 sprays to make the difference.

Increased yield isn't the only consideration. If blight is present, and weather is unfavorable, spraying is necessary to get any kind of a yield.

Spraying pays in a good year, and is absolutely essential in a bad year.—Farm Journal.

Active Fight Waged on Bots and Worms

Illinois Farmers Organize to Conduct "Drive."

More than half of the 2,000 farmers in Woodford county are having their horses and mules treated for internal parasites, such as bots and worms, in the state-wide campaign which the College of Agriculture, University of Illinois, and co-operating agencies are conducting to restore horse power, according to a report by Farm Adviser H. A. deWerff. There are about 9,500 horses and 625 mules on farms of the county.

Local veterinarians who are co-operating with the college and Farm Adviser deWerff are conducting an organized cleanup in practically every township of the county. Liquid carbon disulfide is being used in the treatment, this material having proved most effective in preliminary tests made by the college.

Cleanup campaigns are being conducted in 48 other counties beside Woodford. "It is the best move that farmers can make to rejuvenate their horse power and thereby lower production costs," said Dr. Robert Graham, chief of the college animal pathology and hygiene division. "Few horses are entirely free from parasites of one kind or another. Although the injury often is unnoticed, the loss in feed bills and work may be more costly over a period of years than an attack of some contagious disease."

Terraces Stop Erosion of Much Valuable Land

Five and a half million acres of Illinois land are subject to heavy erosion and much plant food and surface soil is being destroyed each year that could be prevented by terracing, according to E. G. Johnson, University of Illinois.

The mangum terrace is a series of low ridges built crosswise of the slope and catch the run-off water and carry it away on a slight grade to an outlet at the side of the field instead of allowing it to gully the land.

Complete plans for constructing these terraces can be had from your county agent or from the University of Illinois by asking for bulletin number 20, "Saving Soils by Means of the Mangum Terrace."

Ration for Lambs

Corn and wheat have about the same feeding value in a ration for lambs. Alfalfa hay as a feed to lambs produced gains at about 10 per cent less per 100 pounds than sudan hay.

Bearing out the results obtained from similar trials last year, lambs fed alfalfa hay made faster and cheaper gains than those fed whole alfalfa. There was no appreciable difference in the results obtained from feeding sudan hay ground and whole. These are the results of Oklahoma lamb-feeding trials.—Successful Farming.

Potatoes in the Ration

Potatoes may furnish half of the dry matter in the ration for cattle and sheep, and one-fourth for horses. Dairy cows should not receive more than about 35 pounds per day, as larger amounts may impair the quality of butter produced. For fattening sheep, from two to three pounds daily may be fed with the grain. For cattle and sheep feeding, the potatoes should be chopped and mixed with the grain.

For cattle and sheep, potatoes should be fed raw and may be fed raw to hogs particularly brood sows, if time and labor cannot be spared for cooking.

Record Potato Yield

By growing 420 bushels of Certified Rural Russet potatoes on 1.2 acres last summer, Joy Bishop, senior vocational agriculture student in Arlington high school produced one of the state's record yields among Smith-Hughes students. In making this high yield he used 20 tons of manure on clover and alfalfa sod, planted certified seed the 20th of May, applied 1,000 pounds of 0-8-6 fertilizer, cultivated seven times during the summer, and sprayed eight times. Total cost of the crop was \$147 and the net profit was figured at \$78.—Ohio Farmer.

Agricultural Squibs

More than 33,000,000 head of sheep and lambs were marketed in 1931, or 3,515,000 head more than in 1930.

Farm boys and girls of Garrard county, Ky., have sold calves for a total of \$88,000 and won cash prizes of \$7,252 in nine years.

The best brood sows are medium to large individuals and display an active disposition. Short and fat or extremely lanky sows are undesirable.

Winter is the most desirable time for pruning the grape vineyard because there is less conflict with other work.

Heavy feeding and no exercise on Sundays or rainy days are bad for horses. Be sure to reduce