

SEEN and HEARD around the National Capital

By CARTER FIELD

Washington.—No final decision on Section 7A—the Wierton case—can be obtained for one year. That is the inside view at the Department of Justice. Lawyers there do not see any way of short-circuiting the Circuit Court of Appeals, and thus getting the case before the Supreme Court of the United States at once.

This means that NRA must be extended by congress without benefit of knowledge as to what the final ruling is to be. As a result the administration will press for extension for two years, as originally proposed, without any attempt to rewrite or clarify Section 7A. This had been agreed upon by virtually every element concerned before the decision in the Wierton case—at a time, as a matter of fact, when Washington thought the Wierton case would be won by the government.

It is all the more essential now, because nobody can tell in advance how to rewrite Section 7A so as to bring it within the high court's views as to constitutional limits. Prevailing opinion here is that when the case is finally decided by the Supreme court the decision will reverse the Wilmington court, and uphold the government. And that the decision will be by the same five to four majority that divided the court in upholding the government on the gold clause case.

But naturally opinion in Washington would be that, especially as it was felt so strongly that the case would be decided for the government in the lower court. That is the way Washington, dominated by so many New Deal lawyers and Department of Justice attorneys, functions as to its legal thought.

It is the reason Washington thought it was a ten to one bet that the high court would uphold the government on the gold case, although actually the decision was by the tight vote of five to four, so that any one justice on the majority side could have changed it.

Not Before Christmas

After the Supreme court decision of the Wierton case, which cannot well be expected before next Christmas, there will undoubtedly be a new attempt to rewrite Section 7A if the high court decision should be against the government.

But before that a lot of water will have run under the country's bridges. It may well be that the whole attitude of the administration will have changed.

Best opinion is that some form of NRA will remain with us always. It goes to the essentials of the New Deal philosophy. Many lines of business, for reasons as far apart as the poles, want some phase of it retained. In many instances the chief desire is to prevent competitors from "chiseling." But in others this is not the main motive at all. For example, in the coal industry the saving grace of the code, as far as members of the industry are concerned, is the price fixing provision, whereas in many lines price fixing is anathema. In the coal trade, however, it is generally admitted that the industry could never have been brought together on any code whatever had it not been for the price fixing element.

Then along comes the Guffey bill, which if enacted would remove this one string that is holding the industry together for the code. Business as a whole, if the National Association of Manufacturers can be accepted as speaking for it, is opposed to the Guffey bill, which would virtually make coal a public utility and impose drastic government regulation. The United Mine Workers are strongly for the bill.

The National Coal association, which might be expected to speak for the operators, has been absolutely silent, and is expected to remain so. But individuals in the organization in Washington have declared heatedly that the bill is an outrage.

Radicals, worried about the constitutionality of NRA in view of the Wierton decision, are strongly for the Guffey bill, and anything else like it for other industries. They are interested in the march toward stricter and stricter control of everything by the government.

Utilities Campaign

For the first time since the public utilities came under attack, they have begun utilizing in an organized way the power of their army of stockholders. And they had to choose a time when there was another issue, which was very much more appealing—publicity for income tax returns.

The effects on the mail are prodigious. They threaten to swell postal receipts so much that Postmaster General James A. Farley will not have to resort to fancy bookkeeping to prove that the department is no longer in the red.

Just as an illustration, Senator Marcus A. Coolidge of Massachusetts has been averaging 1,000 letters a day. Slightly more than 600 of these urge that the law providing for publicity for income tax returns be repealed, and more than 300 protest against the drastic legislation intended to eliminate holding companies.

In fact, the old-timers say you have to go back to the days of 1916 and 1917, when the United States was drifting into war, and there was an organized propaganda against it, to get anything like a comparable volume of mail.

Many senators profess that they pay no attention to letters, which are obviously inspired by some such propaganda. But when the letters come from voters in their states whose names are big enough to mean some-

thing to their secretaries, this aloof attitude becomes a mere pose. They are affected.

And in these two instances—repeal of the publicity provision of the income tax and the holding company legislation—naturally a considerable percentage of the letters and telegrams come from influential people, of whom a smaller percentage are apt to be on friendly terms, sometimes political supporters, of the senators receiving the mail.

Fight Over "Pink Slip"

As a result of the present deluge, it is actually a probability and not just a mere possibility, that the "pink slip" provision will be repealed. Not without a fight. Senator Robert M. La Follette and Senator George W. Norris, both of whom at different times forced through income tax return publicity provisions, will both fight repeal. They will be joined by many others. But expectancy now is that the provision will be repealed just the same. The house of representatives never was very strong for it. In each case where it was enacted, the resulting provision was a compromise forced by the house. Both Norris and La Follette wanted, and still want, the income tax returns to be made a matter of public record. They resent the "pink slip" idea, which merely makes public a small part of the entire return, but also encourages newspaper publication of the reported incomes.

Best information is that President Roosevelt has no objection to repeal. The treasury does not like the provision. It forces a tremendous amount of additional work, and so far as the treasury is concerned, does very little good. The big push for the present law resulted from the disclosure that Morgan, Mitchell and others had not paid any income tax in certain years. This was made possible by the law permitting losses to be deducted from income. That law has since changed. Net losses in excess of \$2,000 a year cannot be deducted any longer.

So the treasury holds that the publicity would not accomplish the cure for the disease which caused its passage, the patient having already been cured. All of which will provide plenty of excuse for senators anxious to please a good many of their influential constituents. Not to mention many very influential newspapers, which have recently denounced the pink slip provision as a guide to kidnapers, etc.

His Position Stronger

President Roosevelt is not weaker in strategic position than he was before his two senate rebuffs. He is immeasurably stronger. Stronger because he has progressed definitely toward the position outlined in these dispatches right after last November's election—the happy and typically Rooseveltian position of being in between two extremes.

Let us dismiss the World court. It meant nothing but local sentiment in the states which elected the dissenting senators. The lineup on the St. Lawrence seaway treaty will also mean nothing. The motives will be almost entirely geographical. For example, even if Huey Long loved and adored Franklin Roosevelt, he would still have to vote against that treaty, because almost to a man the people of New Orleans think the treaty would hurt their city by diverting business it now handles to the new route.

But consider a much more important question—the prevailing wage fight in the work relief bill.

Immediately after the last election it was apparent that hope for any successful opposition to the President in the 1936 campaign, as far as the Republican party was concerned, was very low. Indeed, it also appeared that the menace of a new radical movement was so far nebulous.

Hence the chief problem of President Roosevelt, with most fear as to 1936 opposition from purely political angles eliminated, became to prevent an economic situation developing which would endanger him. In short, if in some way business could be made better, so that the hope of prosperity's coming back under his guidance should be strong by 1936, there would be almost no threatening opposition to him in that year at all.

In the Middle

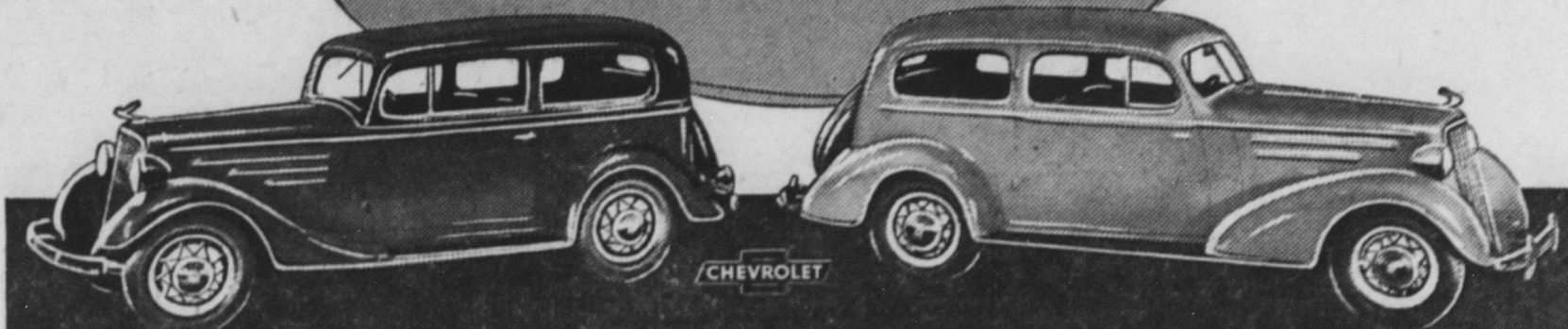
He had attained his old favorite position—in the middle; with extremes on either side—each of which would far rather have Roosevelt continue in the saddle than to have the other extreme victorious. Just as in the pre-convention maneuvering in 1932 Roosevelt wound up with the supposedly dry South enthusiastically for him. It had turned to him despite his wetness because it feared Al Smith might be named otherwise.

The fact that Roosevelt, after the 1934 endorsement, stood squarely in between the radicals and the extreme conservatives was obvious, but had not been demonstrated forcibly to the country. Many shrewd business leaders realized it. And at the same time gave up hope. In the face of those election returns, of getting back to the old order by 1936. So they were ready to support the President, mildly.

Then came the work relief bill, and the prevailing wage issue. And to the amazement of conservative business men, hoping Roosevelt could beat the radicals, the most talked about candidate for the Republicans in 1936, Senator Vandenberg of Michigan—one of the few Republicans to weather the 1934 landslide—voted with the radicals. Sold a lot of other Republicans generally regarded as conservative. And now friends of the President are busy building backfires, apparently to turn a few votes in the senate so as to prevent this long step towards Socialism.

Copyright—WNU Service.

Companions
in outstanding Quality,
Performance and Economy



THE NEW STANDARD CHEVROLET
World's lowest-priced six

THE NEW MASTER DE LUXE CHEVROLET
Aristocrat of low-priced cars

DEALER ADVERTISEMENT

THE New Standard Chevrolet unites quality with economy to a degree never before approached in Chevrolet history. You will know this when you view its trim beauty . . . experience its brisk power and getaway—and find out how much money it will save you in operating costs as well as in purchase price. See and drive this fine car at your earliest convenience.

\$465

AND UP. List price of New Standard Roadster at Flint, Mich., \$465. With bumpers, spare tire and tire lock, the list price is \$20.00 additional. Prices subject to change without notice.

\$560

AND UP. List price of Master De Luxe Coupe at Flint, Mich., \$560. With bumpers, spare tire and tire lock, the list price is \$25.00 additional. Prices subject to change without notice. Knee-Action optional at \$20.00 extra.

**CHEVROLET
FOR 1935**

CHEVROLET MOTOR CO., DETROIT, MICHIGAN. Compare Chevrolet's low delivered prices and easy G.M.A.C. terms. A General Motors Value CHOOSE CHEVROLET FOR QUALITY AT LOW COST

MILLER MOTOR COMPANY
CENTRE HALL, PA.

This Is Rather an Expensive Log Cabin

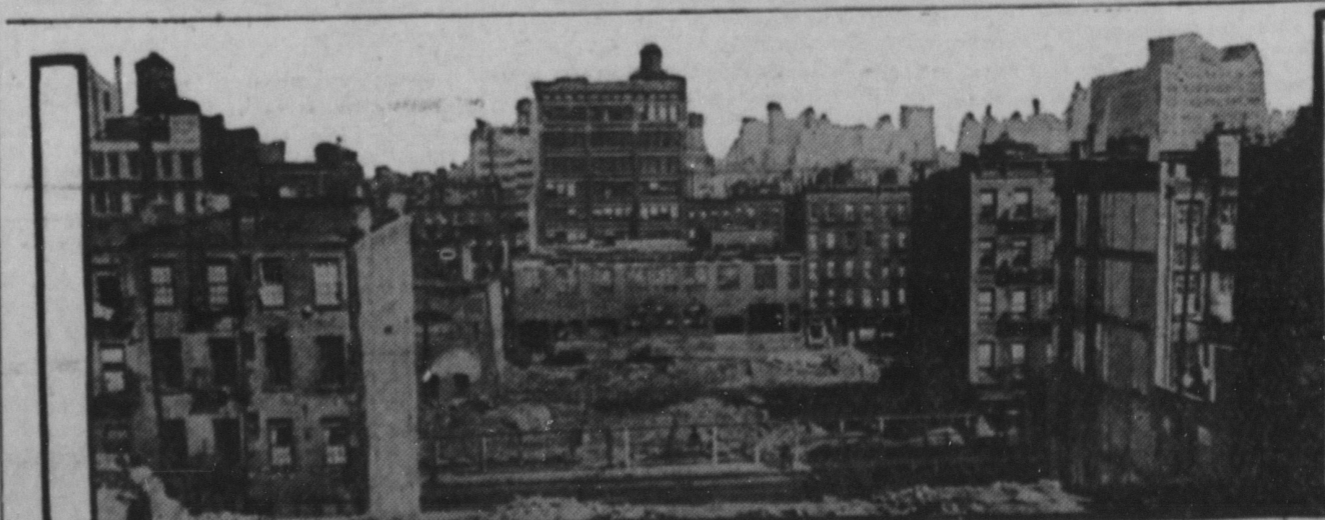


Constructed of old telephone poles, their rotted ends sawed off, this recreation cabin at a transient relief camp near Savage, Minn., cost the state emergency relief \$10,900 to build, not including lights, plumbing or interior furnishings, according to testimony presented the Minnesota legislature's investigating committee.

Scenes and Persons in the Current News



1—Street scene in Athens as rebellion breaks out in Greece. 2—Judge John P. Nields, who ruled Section 7-A of the NRA unconstitutional. 3—Babe Ruth changes leagues and bosses as he signs a contract with the Boston Braves. The Babe is shown with Judge Emil Fuchs of Boston and Jacob Ruppert of the New York Yankees.



Demolition of ninety-one old houses in the Hell's Kitchen district, to make way for the Manhattan approach to the Midtown tunnel has been started. The work involves the razing of structures from Thirty-fourth street to Forty-second street, between Ninth and Tenth avenues.

HE AWAITS NEW HANDS



Science's hand of help and hope has been extended to Herbie Miller, five, whose own hands were amputated after being run over by a trolley car. He is shown in his cot in Newington Home for Crippled Children at Hartford, Conn., in a gleeful mood, as he contemplates the day when he will have two artificial hands reacting to voluntary muscle control. The "miracle" will be wrought by Dr. Henry J. Kessler of Newark, N. J. The noted orthopedist made a muscle loop in the boy's left arm which was amputated just above the wrist. Under it was passed a skin tunnel which gives the boy control of the artificial hand that is now being manufactured in Germany.

TO CONSOLE HAUPTMANN



Dr. D. G. Werner, pastor of the Advent Lutheran church of 156th street, the Bronx, New York, pictured for the first time after he had been selected as the religious adviser to Bruno Richard Hauptmann, the convicted murderer of the Lindbergh baby. Doctor Werner will console Hauptmann during the latter's stay in New Jersey state prison at Trenton.

Hotel des Invalides

The Hotel des Invalides was founded by Louis XIV in 1671-74 as a home for disabled soldiers, the first of its kind, and at one time housed as many as 5,000 and even 7,000 pensioners. At the outbreak of the Great war there were only about twenty inmates, but since then their number has increased enormously. Built from the designs of Liberal Bruant, whose work was continued by Mansart, the Invalides was restored under Napoleon I and Napoleon III and covers an area of about thirty-one acres.