

News Review of Current Events the World Over

House Democrats Defy President—Lobbying for and Against Utilities Bill to Be Investigated—Senator Glass Bests Eccles.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD
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REVOLT in congress against alleged dictatorial attempts of the administration reached a climax when the house, by the decisive vote of 258 to 148, rejected the "death sentence" in the utility holding companies bill as passed by the senate and demanded by the President. The record vote came on a motion to substitute the house bill placing utility holding companies under regulation of the securities and exchange commission for the senate bill which prescribed the dissolution of the holding companies of more than first degree beginning in 1940.

The adoption of this motion killed the "death sentence." After substituting the house bill for the senate bill, the perfected measure was passed by a vote of 322 to 81. Immediately after this action, the house voted unanimously for an investigation of alleged lobbying by both the supporters and the foes of the utility measure. During the debate on the bill it was frequently charged that the capitol was swarming with utility company lobbyists, and then came two serious accusations against the other side. Representative John H. Hoepfel of California, Democrat, asserted an unnamed administration lobbyist had offered to get California's relief allotment increased if Hoepfel would vote for the bill as the President wanted it. This didn't greatly impress the house, but later Representative Ralph O. Brewster of Maine, Republican, charged that Thomas G. Corcoran, a young brain trustee who is co-author of the administration bill, had threatened cessation of construction of the \$37,000,000 Passamaquoddy dam project in the congressman's district if Brewster should vote against the "death sentence."

Mr. Brewster said he did not believe the President was aware that such tactics were being used by his aids or would countenance them, and Rankin of Mississippi and Moran of Maine defended Mr. Roosevelt. But the President's contact man, Charles West, and Postmaster General Farley's lobbyist, Emil Hurja, had been so active among the house members that the resentment of the lawmakers was aroused and they gladly directed that the lobbying charges be investigated.

WHAT would be the final fate of the utility measure was doubtful. Senator Wheeler of Montana, after a call at the White House, said he was confident a satisfactory bill would come out of the conference, and if one did not, the measure would be allowed to die. In either case the war on the holding companies is likely to be made a major issue of the next Presidential campaign, and administration leaders are predicting that the Democratic congressmen who dared to vote against the "death sentence" will be defeated at the polls. These "doomed" men number 168, as against 131 Democrats who stood by the President.

Republican leaders were jubilant, professing to see in the episode the beginning of a real uprising against the President and his New Dealers; many neutral observers looked upon it as only a battle between the two lobbies in which the victory went to the utilities lobby.

IN THE battle between Senator Carter Glass and Marriner S. Eccles, governor of the federal reserve board, the former has, at this writing, scored the most points. The astute Virginian extracted from the Eccles-Curie banking bill most of the radical provisions that would have led to government or public ownership of the federal reserve system, and, indeed, practically rewrote the measure. Then his subcommittee handed it on to the senate banking and currency committee, which promptly gave the bill its approval, without a record vote, and after making only two minor changes.

Governor Eccles and Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau expected to be called before the committee and were prepared to tell why the bill would not suit the administration, but the committee didn't give them a chance.

As passed by the house, the banking bill would give autocratic powers over the banking system to a politically dominated federal reserve board; and the party in power would have the authority to force the twelve reserve banks to lend unlimited amounts to the national treasury. Under the bill as rewritten by Glass, reserve board members are to be appointed for 14-year terms and are to be discharged only for cause; chief officers of the reserve banks are to be chosen by their direc-

tors, subject to reserve board approval, for five-year periods, and the reserve banks need not buy additional government bonds unless they choose to do so.

INVESTIGATION of the administration of the Virgin Islands by a senate committee was certain to be lively. The very first witness heard, Charles H. Gibson, was threatened with jail by Secretary of the Interior Ickes for removing official documents from the files. Mr. Gibson, who was government attorney for the islands until Ickes ousted him, had testified rather vaguely against the regime of Gov. Paul M. Pearson.

Gibson testified that Governor Pearson had exceeded his authority under the law, was unpopular with a large section of the population of the islands, and was not frank in his administration. To support his testimony Gibson introduced several letters which were the documents to which Ickes alluded.

GEN. HUGH JOHNSON assumed his new office of federal works relief administrator for New York city. "Robbie," his ever present secretary, fended off the reporters for a day, but let them in then, and to them the general wailed:

"I hate this thing! It isn't helping anybody, anywhere. When the source of money is cut off we'll be right back where we started. It's disheartening to sit here, knowing that when the funds are gone, the jobs will be gone."

ATTORNEY GENERAL CUMMINGS announced that on July 29 a school would be opened by his department in Washington for the purpose of training state, county and city police in law enforcement theory and practice. A twelve weeks' course will be given to selected officers, the instruction being free.

REPUBLICAN senators were advised that former President Herbert Hoover will not be a candidate for the Republican nomination in the Presidential race of 1936. They were advised that Mr. Hoover would make the formal announcement some time this summer. He is staying out, it was said, because he intends to remain in private life and has planned his future career along that line. For his active criticisms of administration policies the reason was given that, although he does not "choose to run," he thought the party needed some sort of direction; now that his candidacy is shelved, it is expected that his political utterances will be clothed in less authority.

The informers, however, assured the senators that Mr. Hoover would get behind the party's candidate and enter the campaign for him, and that he thinks, with unification growing, the Republican prospects are looking brighter day by day.

WORLD war veterans from both the Allied and the Central powers met officially in Paris and debated ways in which future wars may be averted. They denounced as enemies of their own countries those who would seek to foment a new war, and passed a resolution declaring: "The respect for treaties being the basis of international relations, this confidence can be durable only when international accords and the resulting obligations are mutually and sincerely respected."

The meeting was held under the auspices of Fidac. The American delegates included S. P. Bailey, Winona, Minn.; Julian W. Thomas, Salt Lake City; Bernhard Ragner, McKeesport, Pa., and Harold L. Smith, Coatesville, Pa.

BURR T. ANSELL, a young attorney whose father, Gen. S. T. Ansell, is suing Senator Huey Long for libel, was enraged when Long intruded on his party at a Washington hotel and took a swing at the Kingfish. One of the senator's companions seized Ansell's arm and the young man says Long then ran away.

DAVID LLOYD GEORGE, whose New Deal program was not well received by the British government, has resumed active participation in politics, "reluctantly," but with expressed determination to "go on with it." The little Welsh veteran statesman addressed the national convention of the peace and reconstruction movement, and asserted the menace to peace and the economic confusion throughout the world are growing worse.

JAPAN'S beautiful inland sea was the scene of a terrible disaster that cost 104 lives. The steamer Midori Maru, crowded with holiday passengers, collided with a freighter in the foggy night and sank almost immediately. Rescue boats picked up 91 of the 106 passengers and 56 of the crew. All the victims were Japanese.

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE WALLACE proclaimed the establishment of an AAA adjustment program for the 1935 rye crop which will include benefit payments of amounts not yet disclosed. Representatives from 16 rye growing states met in Washington to discuss the program and outline plans for its operation. Farmers from the principal wheat producing states met with AAA officials and gave their approval to a tentative flexible plan for the payment of benefits to wheat growers.

CAPT. ANTHONY EDEN, England's journeyman trouble shooter, electrified the British Isles by announcing that Great Britain had offered to give Haile Selassie, emperor of Abyssinia, a generous strip of British Somaliland to replace territory acquired by Italy, if the Italian government would promise not to wage war against the domain of Africa's "Conquering Lion of Judah."

Nothing doing, said Premier Mussolini, who has turned a deaf ear to all Britain's proposals of an Italo-Ethiopian compromise. He was reported as intending to go right ahead with his plan of a four-years' war to effect the complete pacification of the African empire. He insists that there must be more room in Africa for overpopulated Italy to expand.

Mussolini has threatened to "remember" the nations which have offered to furnish Abyssinia with arms, and they have withdrawn or modified their offers. The African emperor pleaded:

"If we are in the right and if civilized nations are unable to prevent this war, at least do not deny us the means of defending ourselves."

The British parliament was no better pleased with Eden's "offer" of land than was Italy, and the colonial secretary, son of former Prime Minister MacDonald, had a hard time explaining it.

Then Italy heard that the British government was considering a proposal to invite other nations to join in an economic blockade of Italy to check her aggression on Ethiopia. Rome was astonished by this report but didn't seem in the least alarmed. Neither were the Italians frightened when they learned officially that Ethiopia had asked the United States to study means of persuading Italy to respect the Kellogg pact outlawing war. The emperor himself made the appeal to W. Perry George, charge d'affaires at Addis Ababa.

ANDRE CITROEN, famous for 47 years as "the Henry Ford of France" because he built most of that country's low cost motor cars, is dead. And probably he was happy to pass on, for his vast enterprises had collapsed and his once huge fortune was gone.

THE federal government began a new fiscal year with intentions of spending more money than in any previous year of peace. Mr. Roosevelt announced that he would spend \$5,520,000,000, of which \$4,582,000,000 will go for "recovery and relief." He expects the treasury to collect \$3,901,000,000. No, it doesn't add up. The deficit for the new fiscal year will be \$4,528,000,000, it is estimated.

The fiscal year just passed came to an end with the public debt at a new peace-time peak of \$28,965,000,000, still some shy of the \$31,000,000,000 the President estimated a year ago. To finance the new budget, he had counted in part upon the \$500,000,000 extension of "nuisance" taxes just passed by congress, but not upon the tax-rich program which the New Dealers hope to jockey through some time in August. Estimates have it that this will net another \$340,000,000. The expenditure for the past year is only \$7,258,000,000 instead of \$8,571,000,000 forecast at the start of the year. The deficit was \$3,472,347,000 instead of the proposed \$4,869,000,000. If the expenditures outlined in the 1936 budget reach the estimated total, the public debt on July 1 next year would stand at \$34,239,000,000.

During the next year the President expects to spend \$4,880,000,000 for relief and for the employment of 3,500,000 idle workers. A general upswing in business would improve the revenue expected by the treasury. The President counted on \$3,711,000,000 coming in during the 1935 fiscal year. Receipts proved to be \$3,785,000,000.

THE week's peak in crime was reached when Detroit police found Howard Carter Dickinson, prominent New York attorney and nephew of Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes, lying dead in a ditch beside a lonely Rouge park road with a bullet through his head and another through his chest. Dickinson, a law associate of Charles Evans Hughes, Jr., had been in Detroit on business of the \$40,000,000 estate of the late William H. Yawkey. Apparently, he had driven to Rouge park while on a drinking party after business hours. His companions on the ride, who were William Schweitzer, Detroit underworld character, and three burlesque-show girls, all of whom he had picked up at his hotel in the motor city, fled the scene and were traced to Fort Wayne, Ind., where they were arrested.

After several days of grilling by police, the four confessed they had plotted the murder to rob Dickinson. Schweitzer admitted firing the shots. Their loot was \$134.

DETERMINED that what goes up must stay up, Fred and Al Kay, endurance fliers, broke the world's time record for keeping a plane aloft, landing after 653 1/2 hours in the air at Meridian, Miss. They passed the unofficial endurance record of 647 hours, 28 minutes and 30 seconds set in 1930 by Dale Jackson and Forest O'Brien at St. Louis.

Claim English Clock Is Perfect Timepiece

A clock which will be more accurate than the earth itself, which will become the world's standard time, which will be so perfect that nothing else but a similar clock can check it, has been for some time under observation at the national physical laboratory at Teddington, England.

Astronomers have long sought a timekeeper independent of both the earth's motion and of gravity, and this seems the fulfillment of their dream, for it need only be kept at

exactly the same temperature to keep perfect time.

In appearance the clock is like a coffin, but inside this wooden box is a metal rod, mounted on insulating material and surrounded by a vacuum, that vibrates in its own natural period which nothing except a change of temperature can effect. To prevent any passage of heat across the vacuum, water is kept flowing outside it at an even temperature.

Second signals can be taken from this super-accurate clock, so that when transmitted to a special chronograph time-observations can be made to within one five-thousandth of a second.

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YOU ALWAYS GET BETTER QUALITY AT NO HIGHER PRICE WHEN YOU BUY A FIRESTONE TIRE WITH FIRESTONE NAME AND GUARANTEE

TIRES may look alike on the outside, but on the inside where blowouts start, they are different. Firestone Tires are made blowout-proof by Gum-Dipping, a patented extra process which soaks every cotton cord and insulates every strand with pure liquid rubber. In fact, every 100 pounds of cotton cords absorb eight additional pounds of liquid rubber. This special process prevents internal friction and heat, the main cause of blowouts. No other make of tire is Gum-Dipped, yet you pay no more for Firestone blowout-proof protection than you are asked to pay for tires built without this patented safety construction feature.

The make of tires you buy for your car becomes a matter of vital importance when you realize that there were 882,000 automobile accidents in 1934 injuring 954,000 people and killing 36,000 and that 43,000 of these accidents were caused by blowouts, punctures and skidding.

Firestone High Speed Gum-Dipped Tires hold all world records on road and track for safety, speed, mileage and endurance. These records emphasize the undisputed evidence that Firestone Tires are not only blowout-proof but give greatest protection against skidding.

1 University tests show Firestone High Speed Tires stop cars 15 to 25% quicker.

2 Gum-Dipped cords give greater blowout protection. Gum-Dipping is not used in other tires.

3 Wider, flatter tread gives more than 50% longer non-skid wear.

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THERE ARE THREE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS THAT WILL SOLVE YOUR PROBLEM OF WHAT TIRES TO BUY

1 "Will the tread give me the greatest traction and protection against skidding?" Recent tests by a leading University show that Firestone High Speed Non-Skid Tires stop a car 15% quicker than any other of the leading makes. For eight consecutive years Firestone Tires have been on the winning car in the dangerous Pike's Peak Race where a skid means death. This is undisputed evidence that Firestone gives car owners greatest protection against skidding.

2 "Are they blowout-proof?" Firestone Gum-Dipped Tires have the most amazing records for being blowout-proof of any tires ever built. In the gruelling 500-Mile Race at Indianapolis, May 30th, every one of the 33 cars was equipped with Firestone Gum-Dipped Tires. Kelly Pettilo won the race and broke the record over this 26-year-old rough brick track without tire trouble—in fact, not one of the 33 drivers had tire trouble of any kind. Ab Jenkins drove his 5,000 pound car on Firestone Gum-Dipped Tires over the hot salt beds of Utah, 3,000 miles in 23 1/2 hours, at an average speed of 127.2 miles per hour, with temperatures as high as 120°, without tire trouble of any kind. These are most amazing proofs of blowout protection ever known.

3 "Without sacrificing these two important safety features will they give me longer mileage, thus making them the most economical tires I can buy?" Firestone High Speed Tires not only give you more than 50% longer wear, but also lower cost per mile. This is made possible by the tough, wear-resisting tread built with higher shoulders and a wider, flatter contour. This thick, rugged, scientifically designed tread is held securely to the Gum-Dipped cord body by Firestone's patented construction of two extra layers of cords under the tread. This is a special construction feature not used in any other tire. Unequaled mileage records by thousands of car owners add undisputed evidence of the longer wear and greater economy of Firestone High Speed Tires.

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