

Washington Digest

National Topics Interpreted
by William Bruckart
National Press Building
Washington, D. C.

Washington.—Congress has been doing a deal of talking about helping business to get on its feet, but it has not yet accomplished much.

Much Talk, No Action

The house ways and means committee, it is true, is making some headway and a number of senators, including the powerful Senator Harrison of Mississippi, are asserting the necessity for a reversal of federal policy. But, again, there is much more talk than action, and in the meantime the country's business is sliding lower and lower.

The difficulty in the present situation and the thing that probably has been more responsible for the business slump than anything else is that business heretofore has been unable to tell what the federal government is going to do. It has become evident already that with a somewhat changed atmosphere in congress, there are many business men who are more hopeful than a month ago. Business men, big and little, are quick to note that there are senators and representatives who think the time has arrived for business to receive some consideration. And it ought to be added that unless business does get some consideration, this current depression is going to be as bad as the last one. The federal government must give attention to the agricultural problem and it must fit that job into some consideration of the other half of American life, namely, the commerce and industry outside of agricultural life.

It will be recalled that during the first two years of President Roosevelt's administration there was a flock of laws passed that were of great value to the country. Many of them were of a temporary character and were enacted on that basis. That would have been fine if the administration had stopped there. But it did not. The roaming herd of so-called thinkers who were scattered far and wide in federal jobs had to have their innings. At least they thought they had to have a turn at bat. All of their pet theories had to be tried out. The result: many laws that were purely experimental, dangerous, damaging and a burden to business.

With many millions of others, I expected at that time to see these queer looking laws shaken down, corrected, or repealed where it was found necessary. That has not happened. Again, the result: the country's business from the smallest general store at a cross roads or a garage or a gasoline station to the greatest corporation, like General Motors or Pennsylvania railroad, has had to suffer under the heavy heel of the national government. The reason that congress is showing signs of a movement that will revise the tax structure is because these smaller businesses out through the country have now got their fill of government red tape, complex reports, visits of investigators, new tax forms and levies, or what have you. Those people are making themselves heard here in Washington.

So if congress takes some action looking to a fair deal for business, just as it is quite determined to do something for agriculture, I entertain no doubt about the response it will get from the business interests. As far as business has made itself felt, it is apparently asking only to be treated equitably with labor. Every one knows that the last three or four sessions of congress have been frightened to death every time a labor leader showed up on Capitol hill. The reward given congress was the C. I. O. sit-down strikes, violence and a general mess. The condition has left a goodly number of senators and representatives a bad taste in their mouths.

There is plenty of dirty linen in the business closet. It has a hard wash day ahead to restore it to the respect of the bulk of the people. Business has been smug. It has thought too little, in many instances, of its obligations to the public at large. But surely there is a point beyond which federal punishment ought not go since there is a responsibility also in the other direction. Unless business gets a reasonable chance to stand on its own feet, how is it going to re-employ workers and reduce the relief rolls?

Every individual wants to earn some money. He wants a return for his labor. He dreams some day of a retirement, a lay off when he can watch the world go by. I can see no reason why the federal government should not encourage, rather than discourage, such a thing. It is the conviction of a very great many, an increasing number of people that the federal government is messing too much into business.

But aside from that phase, there are a number of things happening that are difficult to understand. At a time when business is sliding off like a snowball going down hill, the President steps out and orders an

investigation by the federal trade commission into "high prices." The inquiry, of course, is directed at monopoly. I have no doubt at all that there will be a blast from some government official pretty soon in which "big business" again will be told it is crushing the "little fellow" and that the public is suffering from the high prices maintained by a "trust." There may be even a fireside chat because a President's voice penetrates everywhere.

At a time, too, when the prices of bonds and shares of corporation stock are sinking like they have double pneumonia, out bursts Chairman Douglas of the securities and exchange commission with a small cargo of dynamite about crooked dealings underneath in the stock exchanges of the country. Fortunately for the hundreds of thousands of small investors, the stock exchange quotations did not fall much further as a result of Mr. Douglas' learned remarks. The prices already had fallen below the knees. But the Douglas statement certainly gave no confidence to those who were beginning to believe that congress would try to undo some of the wrongs previously done.

Just about the same time and during frequent appeals from the senators and representatives that the tax laws had to be overhauled, the President sent a report to congress. It was a report by the New York Power authority, charging the power interests with some weird misdoings. I happen to know some of the folks on the staff of the power authority and I feel that they know just about as much about the power problem as I do—which is to say they are pretty dumb about the situation. Of course, those alleged economists have brilliant ideas about reforming America, and I am dumb about that, too.

Further: While this power authority report was being emblazoned upon the front pages of newspapers, President Roosevelt was holding long conferences with Wendell Wilkie and Fred Carlisle, who personify the "power trust," if there be a power trust. Mr. Roosevelt was talking with those men in an effort to get the large power interests to go ahead with construction and expansion programs to provide work for unemployed.

The political strategy of blaming everything on "big business" worked well for a time, just as the old demagoguery about "Wall Street" used to inflame thousands when a politician orated and slapped his legs with widely swinging arms. But the picture is different now. The attack on business has become a mill stone on business and it has crushed little as well as big—and since there are so many more smaller ones than there are trusts and monopolies, members of congress are hearing about it from men whom they went to school with at home.

But what is to be done? Let congress repeal about five hundred laws that force business to pay more for the privilege of doing business than it gets out of its whole volume; reduce or revise the direct taxes and bring the thousand and one items of tax out in the open so the people can see and know what they are paying; cut out forty or fifty of the silly experiments that were worked up by the coterie of individuals who are constantly feeding Mr. Roosevelt half-baked and cockeyed schemes for spending money and thereby reduce the federal expenses—these and many more of honest purpose can be done. If they are done, business again can employ workers and as it employs workers, they come off the relief rolls, and as they get wages, they buy. This means profits and profits mean tax receipts by the treasuries of state and nation.

To show how some of these taxes come about, I am told that Herman Oliphant, general counsel to the secretary of the treasury, promoted the ridiculous tax on undistributed profits of corporations. When it was pushed through congress Mr. Roosevelt said it would force corporations to declare dividends of all of their earnings and he was for it. It did just that. But when the corporations had distributed everything to their shareholders and their volume of business fell off, they had no money left to tide them over until business picked up again. Hence, some of them are on the verge of bankruptcy. I do not know where Mr. Oliphant got the idea, or how he sold it to Mr. Roosevelt. I do not know of any business connection that Mr. Oliphant ever had with any important corporation. It is important, however, to note that Mr. Oliphant has made no move whatsoever to defend this brain child that turned out to be such an unwanted baby. (And while writing about Mr. Oliphant, it may be noted that until Secretary Morgenthau came onto the scene, there was never any need for a general counsel to the secretary of the treasury.)

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Floyd Gibbons' ADVENTURERS' CLUB

HEADLINES FROM THE LIVES OF PEOPLE LIKE YOURSELF!



"Terror in the Air"

By FLOYD GIBBONS
Famous Headline Hunter

HELLO, EVERYBODY:
This is the story of a bunch of young lads who built a homemade flying machine and got Oliver A. Morard, Jr., of Oak Park into more doggone trouble than he'd ever seen in his whole previous life.

Back in 1930, a bunch of boys in high school at Lakewood, Ohio, got interested in gliders. Among them was Oliver Morard, whom the lads called Bud. That crowd not only got interested in gliders, but they designed and built one, and then learned to fly the doggone thing. They came to be known as the Lakewood Glider club.

"We flew the glider for almost a year," says Bud Morard, "without experiencing a single mishap. We thought we were so good that, when the 1931 National Air Races came to the Cleveland airport, we persuaded the management to let us come down and demonstrate our ability to the early patrons."

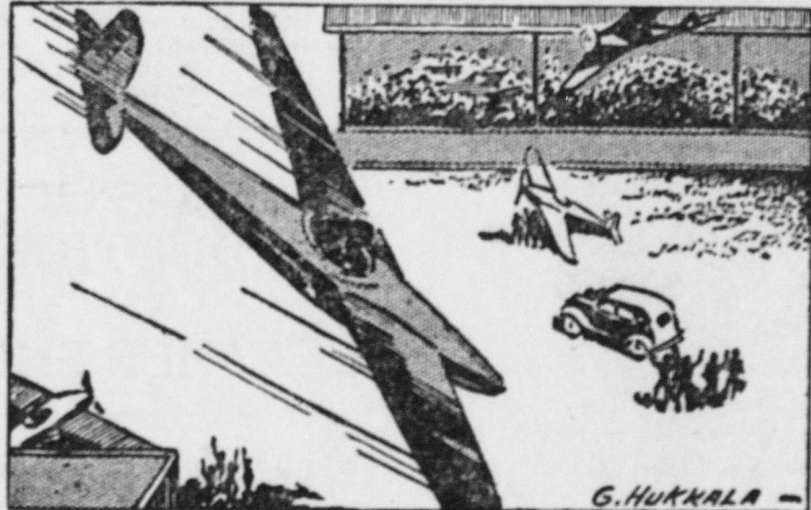
Well, sir, the air races came along and the Lakewood Glider club got ready for the exhibition. The morning of September 1 was the time picked. It was a clear day, but the air was heavy and a gusty twenty-mile-an-hour wind was blowing. Several speed planes were circling the pylons, tuning up for the big races.

Bud Won the Chance to Fly First.

The grandstand, even at that early hour, was rapidly filling with spectators. The glider exhibit was about ready, and the boys matched coins to see who would fly the machine first. And Bud Morard won the toss.

Well, you know how those gliders operate. You hook one to a car with a long cable and the car hauls it up into the air just as if it were a kite. After it is in the air, the air currents and the operator's skill do the rest. Some of those lads can make a glider stay in the air for hours on end without any motor or anything else but wind currents to propel the ship.

They hooked the glider to the tow car. Bud got in, and they were off. The car started and the glider rose gently. It was up to an alti-



Bud Was Nearing the Ground Rapidly.

tude of 200 feet, and the car was still towing it, when suddenly a plane came cutting in between the pylons, directly in Bud's path of flight.

The pilot saw Bud's glider just in time and swerved in front of him, but the wash from his propeller and the rough air stirred up by the swerving plane, caused the glider to yaw from right to left. That yawing could be corrected by using the rudder, and Bud did just that. But something was wrong with the rudder mechanism—Bud found out later that it was a faulty hinge—and instead of turning, the rudder jammed the elevators.

Meanwhile, Bud was enjoying the ride, blissfully unaware that his steering gear was practically useless.

Thought Warning Shouts Were Cheers.

"There was a big pylon on my left," he says, "and on my right, the grandstand, now almost filled with people. Down below me I saw the fellows in the tow car, waving and yelling frantically. And thinking that they were just cheering me on, I waved back.

"I couldn't hear what they were shouting, but everything seemed to be all right. But suddenly the ship began to vibrate and went into a sharp dive. I knew something was wrong then—knew that I had to do something within the next few seconds.

"Immediately I detached the tow cable and pulled the joy stick back to correct the dive. A quick workout with the controls told me that the ailerons were the only things that were functioning."

Bud was nearing the ground rapidly, and there didn't seem to be much he could do about it. He had no parachute. Gliders seldom go high enough to make their use practical.

"I had to stick with the ship," he says, "and at the same time I knew I wouldn't have to stick with it very long. I was about fifty feet from the ground now, and diving fast at a sixty-degree angle.

"I knew I couldn't avoid crashing. My one idea now was to make that crash as gentle as possible. I moved the stick back into the pit of my stomach—a position that would make the left wing hit first and absorb some of the shock. I would hold that position until the last second. Then I'd push the stick forward to prevent its going on when I hit. The ground was only a few feet away now. I pushed the stick forward, covered my face with my left arm, relaxed and hoped for the best."

Did a Good Job of Crashing.

And for a young fellow who had only a few seconds to do his thinking in, Bud certainly did a good job of it. He was all set for the crash now, and he didn't have to wait more than a fraction of a second before it came.

"The thud of the impact lasted only a moment," he says, "My knees seemed to be where my arms should be, and my head and body didn't have the least idea where they were.

"What happened next came too fast for me to record, but I found myself fully ten feet in the air again, clear of the ship and coming down fast. I pulled in my neck, put out my arms, and did a tumble followed by some clumsy sprawling, landing twenty feet from the glider, which was now a heap of junk.

"I got up and tried to walk toward the ship, but at the first step I took I fell over on my side with a numb feeling in my left leg."

And when they got Bud off the field and into a hospital, they put him right under ether. He had a bad compound fracture of the left leg and it looked as if they might have to take his left foot off. But witnesses state that Bud was more worried about busting up the club's glider than he was about losing a foot, and I'm glad to announce that when Bud came out of the ether, his foot was still with him.

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Lemons Source of Electricity

Experiments have demonstrated that a lemon is a source of electricity. "Spades" of copper and aluminum were inserted in a lemon and attached to instruments, and the fruit yielded a current of about one-half volt, and .0002 ampere. The strength of the current varied in other lemons. A curator of electricity and communications at the Franklin Institute of Philadelphia, estimated, taking into consideration the internal resistance of the lemons and other factors, it would require 800 lemons to light a two and one-half volt flashlight bulb—Popular Mechanics.

\$2.50 Gold Coins in 1796

The coinage of quarter-eagles, or \$2.50 gold pieces, commenced at the Philadelphia mint in 1796 and was continued until 1929 except for a few years, says Popular Mechanics. Other mints, except Carson City, also have produced them at various times. The designs have been of three basic varieties, at first Liberty facing the right, then in 1808 Liberty facing the left, and finally in 1908 an Indian facing the left. Many minor changes of design were made. One of the rarest is that minted in 1834 which shows the motto "E pluribus unum" over the eagle.

Sew-Your-Own Joins Santa



DID you know, Milady, that Santa Claus and Sew-Your-Own have joined forces to make this the brightest, charmingest Christmas you've ever known? Yes, it's a fact! And you've tried so hard to be good (and never a little naughty) are going to be rewarded to the full. Gifts by Sew-Your-Own from Santa Claus to you. Here's what you may expect (but remember, "Do not open until Christmas").

Festive Fashion.

You're in line for personalized gifts this year, lucky lady, and what could be closer to your heart's desire than a velvet housecoat—nothing indeed (Sew-Your-Own knows every girl's weakness). So keep your fingers crossed and say a little prayer that December 25th will find you merry, cozy and beautiful in this festive young fashion.

Darling and Practical.

For Miss Keep-the-Home-Beautiful we've specially designed a pair of really different aprons. One is the kind to wear when actually doing kitchen chores, the other is a dressy model—so pretty you will make a darling hostess. Sew-Your-Own sends these out in one package but Santa may split them up, so don't feel slighted. Miss K-T-H-B, if your stocking gives forth only one—either the tea time model or the all-around-the-clock style.

For the Very Young.

If you're a very young lady you may find Gift No. 1393 or Gift Set No. 1423 packed neatly in your stocking one fine morning soon. The former, a dress plus dainty shorts, will be a peachy combination to wear to parties when you want to be "dressed up swell." The Temple Trio, a hat, scarf and muff set, was designed to put a little "Hollywood" in your Christmas. It's as bright and cheerful as you could wish for. Hope you're the winner, little lady!

The Patterns.

Pattern 1210 is designed for sizes 14 to 20 (32 to 42 bust). Size 16 (full length) requires 5½ yards of 39 inch material; in medium length 5¼ yards.

Pattern 1422 is designed for sizes Small (34-36), Medium (38-

40), and Large (42-44). Plain apron requires 1½ yards of 35 inch material for medium size. The dressy style requires 1½ yards of 39 inch material for medium size, plus 4 yards of machine ruffling for trimming, as pictured.

Pattern 1393 is designed for sizes 6, 8, 10, 12, 14 years. Size 8 requires 2½ yards of 39 inch material.

Pattern Set 1423 is designed for sizes Small (18 in. head size), Medium (20 in. head size), and Large (21½ in. head size). The ensemble, medium size, requires 1½ yards of 54 inch material.

Send your order to The Sewing Circle Pattern Dept., 247 W. Forty-Third Street, New York, N. Y. Price of patterns, 15 cents (in coins) each.

New Pattern Book.

Send 15 cents for the Barbara Bell Fall and Winter Pattern Book. Make yourself attractive, practical and becoming clothes, selecting designs from the Barbara Bell well-planned, easy-to-make patterns.

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A Three Days' Cough Is Your Danger Signal

No matter how many medicines you have tried for your cough, chest cold, or bronchial irritation, you can get relief now with Creomulsion. Serious trouble may be brewing and you cannot afford to take a chance with any remedy less potent than Creomulsion, which goes right to the seat of the trouble and aids nature to soothe and heal the inflamed mucous membranes and to loosen and expel the germ-laden phlegm. Even if other remedies have failed, don't be discouraged, try Creomulsion. Your druggist is authorized to refund your money if you are not thoroughly satisfied with the benefits obtained from the very first bottle. Creomulsion is one word—two, and it has no hyphen in it. Ask for it plainly, see that the name on the bottle is Creomulsion, and you'll get the genuine product and the relief you want. (Adv.)

GET RID OF BIG UGLY PORES

PLENTY OF DATES NOW... DENTON'S FACIAL MAGNESIA MADE HER SKIN FRESH, YOUNG, BEAUTIFUL

Romance hasn't a chance when big ugly pores spoil skin-texture. Men love the soft smoothness of a fresh young complexion. Denton's Facial Magnesia does miracles for unsightly skin. Ugly pores disappear, skin becomes firm and smooth.

Watch your complexion take on new beauty. Even the first few treatments with Denton's Facial Magnesia make a remarkable difference. With the Denton Magic Mirror you can actually see the texture of your skin become smoother day by day. Imperfections are washed clean. Wrinkles gradually disappear. Before you know it Denton's has brought you entirely new skin loveliness.

EXTRAORDINARY OFFER

—Saves You Money
You can try Denton's Facial Magnesia on the most liberal offer we have ever made—good for a few weeks only. We will send you a full 12 oz. bottle (retail price \$1) plus a regular sized box of famous Milses Wales (known throughout the country as the original Milk of Magnesia tablets), plus the Denton Magic Mirror (show you what your skin specialist sees)... all for only \$1! Don't miss out on this remarkable offer. Write today.

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SELECT PRODUCTS, Inc.
4822 - 23rd St.,
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Enclosed find \$1 (cash or stamps) for which send me your special introductory combination.

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STREET ADDRESS.....
CITY.....STATE.....

HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONS



Hot Luncheon Sandwiches.—Spread bread lightly with butter, add a slice of cheese, a slice of tomato and one or two half slices of bacon. Place on a pan in a hot oven, three to four inches beneath the broiler heat and cook until the bacon is done to taste and the cheese melted.

Removing Tar Stains.—Tar stains can be removed from carpets by spreading a thick paste of turpentine and fullers' earth over the affected spot. Leave on for several hours, then brush off.

Pudding From Stale Bread.—Rub the stale bread into crumbs and then soak a breakfast cupful of them in half a pint of milk. Mix in one ounce of sugar, one ounce of cocoa powder, a beaten egg and a few drops of vanilla. Bake in a buttered dish until set.

Preserving Patent Leather.—The life of patent leather may be prolonged by rubbing it occasionally with glycerine applied with a clean cloth.

Knitting Hint.—What a nuisance it is when knitting a sleeve to have to go back to the beginning and count decreases. Try putting a snap fastener through every decrease row you knit, then decreases can be seen at a glance.