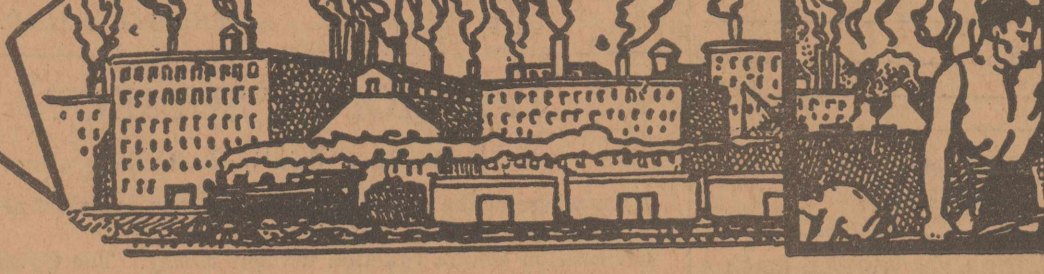


The Ferguson Forum

WE ARE AGIN HIGH RENTS

WE ARE
AGIN HIGH
INTEREST



WE ARE
AGIN HIGH
TAXES

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No. 37

Pegler Thinks Britain Let Mussolini Get By With Beautiful Bluff

Italian People Probably Won't Realize for Some Time What a Marvelous Favor the Pigs Did Them by Backing Down.

By WESTBROOK PEGLER
In Houston Press

There are quite a few foreigners in Italy who are going through the motions of kicking themselves in the trousers because they permitted themselves to believe that if Italy didn't get what she wanted in Ethiopia Mussolini would kick up a war with Britain, beginning with an attack on the British fleet with his airplanes and submarines. Got Away With It

Mussolini got away with it because the British backed down so there is no way of knowing whether he was willing to take a desperate chance or was only running a bluff. He has made some very desperate remarks in his orations since his heart was touched by the plight of the slaves in a land 3000 miles away, including one to the effect that it were fitter for Italians to live one day like lions than a hundred years like sheep.

And there is no doubt that he was up against it, because, having taken a long chance in Ethiopia, he couldn't hope to pull out his army; otherwise he'd have to call home the unemployed Italian soldiers and civilian laborers for whom freight tolls had been paid to fight a war of liberation and admit that he was licked. Italy would have been worse off than ever if he had done that, and a dictator has held his power by always going forward and never giving an inch.

Still, if he had tackled England the Italian task would have been just too big, and the Italian people probably won't realize for some time what a beautiful favor the English did them when they decided that the issue wasn't worth fighting for now.

Tried to Turn Square
England's cause is the old story of the racketeer who got his nerved to turn square but wasn't allowed to. Now the British are involved in the Ethiopian job just as deeply as their old partner, for they have undertaken to do by diplomacy precisely the same thing in principle that the Italians set out to do by force.

It's just as bad to steal one acre in Ethiopia by diplomatic action as to steal a whole country at the point of a bayonet, even though the bayonets may be carried by hired African troops and Italian liberators may generously remain in the rear, permitting them to reap the honors.

Now that the British have kindly offered Mussolini certain portions of Negus, the beautiful principle for which the League of Nations was willing to start a world war is repudiated. And Mussolini, having been offered so much, couldn't strain the principle any worse by demanding more.

Art of Ballyhoo
Certainly these days in Rome have been a wonderful demonstration of the art of ballyhoo and controlled public emotion, amounting at times to hysteria. The Italian papers got orders to give the English hell—a system which permits one nation to heap four insults upon the people of another without putting them down in diplomatic correspondence and without accepting any responsibility for them.

The wedding ring and old gold propaganda was beautifully handled and the firm hand of coercion remained invisible, though suspected throughout the collection. Of course, all wedding rings were turned in voluntarily—the most solemn sacrifice that an Italian woman can make for her country next to the gift of her son or husband—but those who remember the subtle insistence which characterized the Liberty loan campaigns in the United States will appreciate

CHALLENGES HIS FOES TO MEET ISSUES

By LYLE C. WILSON
In Houston Press

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—President Roosevelt's challenge to his foes to abandon "cowardly generalities" and meet squarely the issue of accepting New Deal standards or discarding them altogether pitched the country and particularly Washington into seething dispute today.

World reaction to his all but unprecedented speech before a joint session of House and Senate was immediate though somewhat nebulous and, politically, divided along partisan lines.

Two Major Attacks
Roughly his address divided into two explosive fragments. The first was a statement of international affairs that was interpreted in Europe as a veiled attack on Italy, Germany and Japan and heartened Great Britain, France, and other League of Nation countries in their efforts to maintain peace. The second was an attack on sections of big business that "steal the livery of great national constitutional ideals to serve discredited special interests" that roused speculation as to organizations and individuals he had in mind.

Observers believed, and immediate reaction proved, that Mr. Roosevelt opened the 1936 Presidential campaign in his annual report to Congress on "the state of the nation." His speech was a "fighting" one and it propounded issues many expected to be disputed almost unceasingly between now and election day.

Causes Speculation
Several paragraphs in his address invoked widespread speculation. One was: "I am confident that the Congress of the United States well understands the facts and is ready to wage unceasing warfare against those who seek a continuation of the spirit of fear. The carrying out of the laws of the land as enacted by the Congress requires protection until final adjudication by the highest tribunal of the land. The Congress has the right and can find the means to protect its own prerogatives."

This statement was given great significance in view of widespread court attacks on New Deal laws. Many saw a promise of anti-injunction legislation at this session of Congress. Collection of processing taxes under the AAA, the New Deal's farm relief program, have been crippled by injunctions. Only recently a federal judge enjoined the New Deal's labor relations act.

Another excerpt: "They seek—this minority in business and finance—to control and often do control and use for their own purposes legitimate and highly honored business associations; they engage in vast propaganda to spread fear and discord among the people—they would 'gang up' against the people's liberties."

The National Manufacturers Association sponsored recently an attack on the New Deal. The United States Chamber of Commerce has been critical as has the American Bankers Association.

Mr. Roosevelt dared his enemies to choose and state publicly their stand on the issue of maintaining the New Deal or abandoning it. He recommended to Congress "that we advance; that we do not retreat." The highlight of his statement on world affairs was a recommendation for further neutrality legislation.

He said that on the basis of "existing law" no new taxes were advisable or necessary at this session.

SHOE OFFERED BY ROOSEVELT FITS ITALIANS

ROME, Jan. 4.—Italy fitted snugly to its foot today the diplomatic shoe which President Roosevelt in his message to Congress offered expansionist nations.

The President's reference to those who revert to the law of the sword, or who believe they have a mission to subdue others, was taken here as referring directly to Italy. Those in political circles said they regretted the President had shown insufficient knowledge of Italy's case against Ethiopia and of the "true situation."

Neutrality Stand Favored.
Disclosure of the neutrality bill which the Administration is sponsoring to keep the United States aloof from war brought national relief.

Fear had increased that this bill might authorize a complete embargo on such essentials as oil. It was hinted mysteriously that the United States would be drawn into a European conflict if it pushed its neutrality acts to limits which would hurt Italy seriously without injuring Ethiopia.

The President's implied invitation to Italy to exercise patience and seek by peaceable negotiations an outlet for surplus population inspired no sympathy here.

Speech Discussed
Some read in the President's statement about "reasonable and legitimate objectives" a recognition of the reasonableness and legitimacy of Italy's objectives. But they added that such recognition was empty unless accompanied by a concrete plan.

Italians recalled that Sir Samuel Hoare, as British foreign secretary, in a speech last summer recognized Italy's need for expansion. Yet, they commented, Great Britain revealed itself as the bitterest opponent of Italy's aspirations. Hence, they summed up, Italy had no alternative to acting quickly and helping herself.

As to the neutrality bill, it was even called favorable. Though officials would not comment for publication pending receipt of the text, they made no effort to hide their satisfaction. The bill was about all that optimists had hoped for.—Ex.

By the way, what has become of the president's fireside talks? Great stuff, they were. Imagine yourself with a bunch of children to feed, no job, cut off from relief because the local relief administrator does not like you, or perhaps you are the wrong politics, and listening to someone sitting in an easy chair telling you "There is nothing to worry about, the country is on the upgrade." That would make you feel good.—Dunn Co. Spotlight.

There is more need today for free and fearless publications than ever before in the history of the world. You have no doubt observed that the first move of any dictator, or any trust, is to muzzle the press. People can be held in subjection only when they are ignorant of the truth. Given the facts, they can be depended upon to judge wisely.—Gov. George H. Earle of Pennsylvania.

The farmers of North Dakota don't want to get paid for the things they raise, and if they don't get paid for the things they raise, then they'll raise hell, and probably get paid.—Harold Hopton.

The so-called depression is nothing but the sign of the end of this fantastic system whereby we tax ourselves to subsidize scarcity and limit our productive capacity to provide profits for producers while millions want the necessities of life.—Norman Thomas.

People can always find time for things they really wish to do.

THE NEW YEAR

With the coming of the New Year we have a feeling of new hope, new life, a fresh beginning. So let us make some New Year's resolutions and keep them.

Let us take an interest in our country, and all that is going on about us. Too many of us are prone to gripe about governmental extravagances and inefficiency but leave it with the griping and take no steps to do anything about it.

Let us interest ourselves in those who make the laws we must subscribe to. There is no more unpatrotic remark than the one we hear so often from business men, that they cannot take the time from their business to take an active interest in politics. While they attend to their business their government, the biggest business of all, is turned over to people in many instances who have never been able to earn a livelihood much less run the big business of government.

It is a poor policy to do charity with public office and by that I mean to elect a man to office because he needs the financial remuneration. A persons sole qualifications to hold a public office should not be his need and his families need of the salary of that office. Too many times in the past has a man been considered disqualified to hold a public office by virtue of his personal success in life while on the other hand a person is considered qualified to hold the office because he has not made a success of his business and needs the salary that that office brings. So in 1936 let us consider well the abilities of the candidate before we give him or her our support.

In 1936 let us take an interest in the criminal records and connections of our public servants. Let us make sure that they are free from racketeering contamination. Let the slogan be, Make America Safe for Americans, so that splendid citizens like Col. Lindbergh can live safely and happily at home.

This country was founded on solid frugal principles, so let us as individuals and as a nation return in 1936 to those principles. We have tried spending ourselves to prosperity and found it unsound so let us return to sound economy. Let us spend less than we make and thereby each provide his own social security.

In 1936 let us clean our country of all the Europeanisms that have so flagrantly invaded our land in 1935. If America is to be the melting pot then let us skim off the Red scum and send it back to Russia. Let us let our officials know that we want recognition of Russia withdrawn in order to stop their insidious propaganda in our land and the strikes of which they boast of having caused. Let them know in no uncertain terms that we do not propose to have our people enslaved by a Stalin. Let us trim and trim deep the pink fringe from our government and our institutions of learning.

Let us scratch the veneer of the Pinks and Reds among us and expose the yellow, and rededicate ourselves in 1936 to the principles which made us the greatest nation on earth.

OIDA FERGUSON NALLE.

Mr. Farley "Invites" New Dealers to Dinner

To James Aloysius Farley, postmaster general of the United States and chairman of the Democratic national committee, goes the distinction of drafting what is undoubtedly the most unique dinner party "invitation in history. It reads as follows:

"The Democratic National Committee invites you to be present at the Jackson Day Dinner to be held at the Mayflower Hotel in the City of Washington on Wednesday January the Eighth Nineteen hundred and thirty-six at seven-thirty o'clock.

"The favor of a reply is requested." Reply cards "Please reserve _____ covers for the Jackson Day Dinner. Name _____ Address _____ Fifty dollars per person." "Explanatory Note—Five dollars of this amount covers the cost of the dinner. The remaining forty-five dollars goes to the Democratic National Campaign Fund."

While it is doubtful that many of the 3,500,000 WPA workers earning from \$36 per month and up will be able to scrape together the necessary \$50 which would insure them a seat at this sumptuous feast, the New Dealers working in the various alphabet agencies at Washington are expected to make reservations or risk the displeasure of their chiefs as the innocent line.

"The favor of a reply is requested," indicates. For the loyal New Dealers who elect to take their wives, the cost will be a round \$100—\$10 for food and \$90 for Mr. Farley and his national Democratic committee. And \$90 multiplied by the number of federal workers who accept the Farley invitation represents a sum which will go far toward wiping out the \$300,000 party deficit.

The Jackson Day banquet idea is not being confined to Washington however. Similar feasts will be held simultaneously throughout the United States, with an estimated million or more Democrats in attendance.

PRISON BOARD VOTES TO DISCARD THE BAT

Lash to Be Abolished as Soon as Cells Can Be Built on Each Prison Farm, Body Deicides, Reversing Previous Action.

By HARRY MCCORMICK
In The Houston Press

The Texas Prison Board has voted to abolish "the bat", a heavy leather lash, as an instrument of punishment, as soon as dark cells can be constructed on each of the prison farms.

Many efforts have been made in the past to have the bat abolished. Many prisoners have said that they were injured permanently by blows from the heavy whip. The vote came late Monday in the board's meeting here.

Refused Earlier
Earlier on the day the board refused to abolish the bat upon a resolution offered by Dr. Sidney Lister of Houston. In the afternoon a new resolution was adopted.

The resolution is to abolish the bat as soon as dark cells can be constructed on each of the prison farms for punishing unruly prisoners.

Under the law prison farm managers may obtain whipping orders from the general manager and prisoners may be given a certain number of lashes up to 20 for misbehavior.

Up to Legislature
The next step is for the Legislature to provide funds to build dark cells.

In effect, the Legislature also must vote to abolish the bat. W. A. Boyett of Bryan was the only member of the board to vote against the proposal. Mr. Boyett said he does not believe it possible to handle prisoners without the bat. He asked to be recorded in the minutes of the meeting in that way.

There was much discussion preceding the vote on the bat. "I think you fellows are trying to put us on the spot with this resolution," said R. W. Miller of Huntsville. "The Texas Prison System is not ready for the abolition of the bat."

"Bat" Defended
"I will never vote to abolish the bat because I have seen the prison system when it did not use the bat and it was a complete failure," Mr. Boyett said. "In that time I remember that the Johnson grass was as high as your head on the farms, the weeds took the place of crops and the prisoners basked in the sunshine and refused to work."

"Our trouble in abolishing the bat is because we have such widely separated units," Chairman Pad. dock said. "It is difficult to handle the men when they are so widely scattered and the bat was the only method of punishment that we had."

"It is most inhuman," Dr. Lister said. "When I first came into the Prison System they were whipping the men right and left and marking a good many of them. Then when I went down to Retrieve Farm and saw the men with scars and laceration on their back from the bat I was nauseated and I swore then that before I went off the board I would make a fight to abolish this thing of the dark ages."

Not Done Impersonally
"The trouble with whipping the prisoners is that as far as I know the farm officials have never been able to do it impersonally and before the procedure goes very far the man administering the whipping is angry and really lays it on the poor fellow on the business end of the bat."

W. R. Dulaney told of stopping a mutiny on a prison farm years ago, when more than a score of prisoners were whipped in one day. It finally broke the mutiny.

Mrs. C. A. Teagle of Houston took the position of Dr. Lister. "I have never seen a whipping," she said, "but I feel certain that if the people of Texas could witness one, just one, they would rise up and abolish it."

W. R. Dulaney told of stopping a mutiny on a prison farm years ago, when more than a score of prisoners were whipped in one day. It finally broke the mutiny.

1935 Proves Year Of Many Disasters And Violent Deaths

ROY SANDERFORD ANNOUNCES FOR GOVERNOR'S JOB

Sen. Roy Sanderford, Belton business man, Ferguson leader in the Senate through his four-year term, Saturday announced for governor.

He will advocate before the voters the three per cent sales tax sponsored by him in the legislature and favored by the Ferguson administration before it retired from office. He also announced a plan to encourage Texas industries by tax exemption.

Forces Unite
Sen. Sanderford's entrance into the race brought Gov. James V. Alfred his first substantial opposition for re-election to a second term. It also disclosed the tack to be taken by the Ferguson forces, which were regarded as certain to unite upon a candidate to carry forward its 22-year tradition of being represented in every state race.

C. C. McDonald ran for governor with the Ferguson support two years ago. Sanderford was his campaign manager. At an earlier time, the Ferguson organization supported Louis J. Wardlaw against Gov. Dan Moody. On one other occasion, it supported George B. Peddy for the United States Senate. In all other years, the Ferguson family has been represented since 1914 by James E. Ferguson in four and by Mrs. Miriam A. Ferguson in four biennial races.

Announces Platform
Sen. Sanderford outlined a platform including:

- Three per cent sales tax.
- Reduction of state expenses 25 per cent.
- Opposition to income tax.
- Graduated land tax for county purposes.
- Chain store tax, without exemptions.
- Exempt basic industries from taxation.
- Abolish poll tax.
- Local self-government.
- Right of labor to organize and bargain collectively.
- Liquor control laws and regulation.

In announcing his first statewide race, in which he will seek the highest state office, Sen. Sanderford said:

"I am a native of Bell County, Texas, and am in my 41st year. I have had fair educational advantages in the common schools, Wedemeyer's academy, from which I graduated in 1914, and was for two years a student in Baylor university of Waco. I taught a rural school for one year. In the fall of 1917, I voluntarily enlisted for flying duty in the United States Air Corps in which capacity I served for 21 months.

"Not a Lawyer"
"I am married and have three children all within the scholastic age. I have been a member of the Baptist church for over 20 years. I served for two terms as tax collector of Bell County and have been in the automobile and associate lines of business continuously since 1923. I am not a lawyer. I was elected to the state senate from the 21st district over two worthy opponents in the first primary in July, 1932.

"When I am elected I shall respect the constitutional rights of the people to have a governor who will stay on the job, cooperate with the legislature and will neither squander the people's time nor abuse the opportunity for service by continually engaging in social, political and pleasurable affairs. I will not use the powers of the office to place my relatives on government.

"I have never seen a whipping," she said, "but I feel certain that if the people of Texas could witness one, just one, they would rise up and abolish it."

(By HERBERT YAHRAS)
In Nacogdoches Sentinel

Nature and man-made machines combined to make 1935 a year of disasters and violent deaths. John Smith, wherever in America he lived, felt the fury of the elements—dust, blizzards, earthquakes, hurricanes, floods and pounding seas.

He saw air crashes claim Will Rogers, Wiley Post, Senator Bronson Cutting—and perhaps Sir Charles Kingsford-Smith—air crashes, claim Queen Astrid of the Belgians, Mrs. Harold L. Ickes, Prince Alexis Mdivani.

Through late winter and spring, dry winds swept topsail from millions of midwestern acres, carrying it some times thousands of miles.

Started Erosion Fight
As weeks went by without rain, the dirt laden winds blackened the atmosphere, poured dust into houses, paralyzed traffic, aggravated disease resulted in untold crop damage.

But midwestern Farmer John Smith, digging away the dirt that had drifted over his fences, almost to the eaves of his barn, was undismayed. He stayed where he was, planned to combat erosion, let a "great American desert" develop.

Later the earth again got John Smith's attention, this time by quaking. From Wisconsin and Illinois to the Atlantic, and from Canada to Maryland, the east was shaken—but ever so slightly—early November 1. At the same time, Helena, Montana, was passing through a much more severe shock. Another in a series of hundreds that began October 12, killed seven, and caused damage estimated at more than \$3,000,000.

Dixie Grounded
Thrilling and spectacular was the wrecking of the steamship Dixie off the Florida coast, September 2. For two days hurricane lashed waters prevented rescue work. The last of the 231 passengers was transferred September 5. No lives were lost.

As no other month, August drove 12 warships rescued all but two of the 83 aboard.

The same hurricane devastated part of the Florida Keys, killed more than 400.

Other hurricanes roared across the southern and eastern seas from August to October. Total storm deaths—more than 1,600; property damage—millions.

Mohawk Wrecked
Other ship rescues thrilled John Smith. September 30, the cruising Rotterdam, with 450 passengers went aground east of Kingston, Jamaica. Everybody rescued. On January 6, the steamship Havana crashed into a reef off the Bahamas. Everybody rescued; one died in lifeboat.

Eighteen days later came the years major disaster in American waters. At night, in icy waters off the New Jersey coast, the liner Mohawk and the freighter Tallman collided. The Mohawk sank as ships and coast boats rushed to rescue. "Nice work" thought John Smith, as first reports indicated everybody saved; final check—43 lost.

Again the navy lost an airship. This year it was the Macon, wrecked off the California coast, February 12. Warships rescued all but two of the 83 aboard.

As no other month, August drove home the message of sudden death. On the first day, Prince Alexis Mdivani, Barbara Hutton's ex-husband, speeding over Spanish roads, crashed, died. On the fifteenth, Will Rogers, actor humorist, and Wiley Post, famed pilot, on an aerial vacation tour across Alaska, crashed, died. On the twenty-ninth, Queen Astrid of the Belgians, motoring with the king in Switzerland, crashed, died. On the thirty-first, Mrs. Harold L. Ickes, wife of the secretary of the interior, motoring with friends

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THE FORUM IS NOT JUST ANOTHER NEWSPAPER—
IT IS DIFFERENT

Poverty must be wiped out. No nation can call itself either Christian or civilized that permits babes, little children and the aged to suffer for food, clothes and shelter.—
Labor's Voice.

PAY YOUR POLL TAX

It is quite apparent that 1936 will be the most eventful political year in the history of this state and nation. There will be more scramble for public office and more dodging of public issues than ever before. The determination of these questions will involve the destiny and the happiness of the people. If the wrong kind of voters control the election, then it will surely follow that the downfall of any rule by the people will be the result.

We have a law in Texas that requires the voter to have a poll tax, unless he be over 60 years of age, before he can cast a vote in the election. This is a bad law and ought never to have been enacted, but it is the law and we must govern ourselves accordingly. If a voter fails to pay his poll tax on or before the first day of February, he thereby disqualifies himself and denies to himself the right of an enfranchised citizen. Under normal conditions there might be some excuse for a citizen to fail or refuse to get his poll tax and thereby become a voter, but the present time and 1936 conditions makes it imperative that every citizen qualify himself or herself to vote even if it involves a sacrifice to do so. A great many people will find it exceedingly difficult and high impossible to have \$1.75 handy with which to pay the poll tax. This burden becomes more difficult where there is a wife who can become a voter by the payment of the tax. The burden is thereby doubled.

Under the law, it is a criminal offense to loan or give anybody money with which to pay a poll tax. There are thousands of people that are well able to pay their poll tax and would be glad to loan the money to others to pay theirs if it were not a violation of the law. Of course, I do not want to advise anybody to violate the law, but this thought has occurred to me. In this time of extended unemployment, why can't those that are able establish at their convenience, what we will, for a want of a better name, sell Poll Tax Day and let everybody that is able to do so furnish one or two days labor for the needy voter and let him use the money to pay his or her poll tax. Most anybody could use one or two days labor or even a half days labor in performing some special service that would take only a half or a whole day to perform it. This procedure would not in any way violate the law and it would give thousands of people an opportunity to become a voter that otherwise would be denied a right to participate in the election. This plan will produce two benefits, one will be employment and the other will be the right to vote. I appeal to the people of Texas everywhere to begin now to prepare for this year's political contest. The privilege to vote is the only right whereby the citizens have some say in how the governmental affairs are conducted.

The election of corrupt and unworthy people to office is fast undermining the vital foundation of our country. The failure of the people to go to the polls and take part in the election is the primary and fundamental cause of the mismanagement of our governmental affairs.

Let the humblest voter not forget that by qualifying himself to vote in the election for the first and only time, he places himself on the equality of every other citizen. We should be proud of the fact that the vote of the humble laborer counts just as much as the vote of the biggest lawyer or doctor in the country.

Let everybody begin now to start this campaign for payment of poll taxes. Let us set up Poll Tax Day in Texas. Let every voter who can fix the time when he will urge somebody to pay his poll tax and moreover help somebody with a few hours employment so that the money honestly earned can be used to qualify every citizen to cast a free mans ballot.

If you have moved during the year in an incorporated city, don't forget to get your permit to vote in the new location. If you have become 60 years of age during the year 1935, don't forget to apply for your permanent exemption receipt, otherwise you will not be allowed to vote. Pay your poll tax.

SENATOR SANDERFORD A CANDIDATE

Elsewhere in these columns appears the announcement of Senator Roy E. Sanderford of Belton for Governor. He appears to have a clean cut platform and presents a clear grasp of the states financial situation. This announcement leaves the candidacy for Governor and the issues upon which same is to be fought out clearly defined. There likely will not be any other candidate announced and Governor Alfred and Senator Sanderford will take the issues to the people. The people should at once qualify themselves to vote and inform themselves as to how they should vote. As Governor Alfred is opposed to the things which the Forum has stood for, it naturally will take the side of Senator Sanderford in this campaign. It is in no sense a personal matter but is one of policy and statesmanship on which the Forum feels like it ought to take its stand on the side of Senator Sanderford. So following a familiar statement, the Forum says, "Here's at it, may the best man win."

GANGSTER RIDDEN

We are a gangster-ridden country. There is no doubt about this; we can pooh-pooh the idea or resent it all we please—we are gangster-controlled.

There are all types of gangsters. Some of them would become really excited should you call them gangsters; they do not consider themselves gangsters. Some of them occupy high places in churches; pass contribution plates; teach Sunday School classes; fill offices in Chamber of Commerce and other commercial organizations; some have titles of "Honorable"; yet, they are gangsters. Any man is a gangster who deliberately and willfully exploits the people.—Editorial in Morning World.

"When it shall be said in any country in the world, my poor are happy; my jails are empty of prisoners, my streets of beggars; the aged are not in want; the taxes are not oppressive; the national world is my friend, because I am the friend of its happiness; when these things can be said, then may that country boast of its constitution and its government."
—THOMAS PAINE.

THE MONEY SUBJECT

(By W. H. ("Coin") HARVEY)

A knowledge of the money subject is what is now most needed in the present disturbance in the world.

Civilization cannot function without money. The Government, business and society cannot function without it. If all the money in the United States were destroyed today and we entered into life tomorrow without money, a medium of exchange, there would be a total collapse. There would be no way to buy a newspaper, a magazine, to ride on a street car or railroad, to buy groceries, to pay men running the trains, or to meet pay-rolls in the offices and shops of all forms of industry. There would be bread riots in 48 hours in all the cities. Hence, we can understand the absolute necessity for money, a medium of exchange.

It has been wisely decided that money should be made by the Government; and the next step for the Government is to get it into circulation among all the people. When this is wisely done the Government, business, society and civilization automatically function.

We all agree that the first step, the making of money, should be done by the Government. The second step, getting the money into circulation among the people that it may perform its civilizing function, has been woefully misunderstood, seized upon by selfish interests and has endangered what would otherwise have been its automatic functioning.

Wisdom dictates that the Government should put it in circulation by paying it out for material needed and for services performed in conducting the business of the Government, and in building public improvements in all parts of the United States, thus getting it into circulation generally without any mortgages or bonds, tribute or interest to be paid for it. Hence, incurring no debts against the people. They having paid for it with material and services.

In order that too much did not get into circulation, thereby cheapening the exchange value of the money, the Government should be constantly redeeming it with services. What is meant by this redemption system is, that the Government by owning and operating the mail service, the railroads and other public utilities that are of general, common good purpose charging for its services, the money it has issued is coming back to the Government in payment for services. Thus we have redemption with services, a continuous and automatic redemption system.

By this method the money is going into circulation with value received given for it in property or services; and returns to the Government, value received, in services rendered by the Government; with, as we shall see later, a profit to the Government spent in public improvements—the total amount of money going out and in annually like blood circulating through the physical body.

Instead of following this wise policy, selfish interest has been permitted to seize control of this great civilizing necessity and has dictated the policy of the Government as to the method by which money, a medium of exchange, is put into circulation. Congress has passed laws providing for the Government, after making the money, to turn it over to the money lenders, the bankers, who are individual owners of banks and interested in making profits from money for themselves. The money is turned over to the bankers at the cost of printing it, estimated at one half of one per cent. They, the bankers, put the money into circulation by lending it to the people at an interest rate of 6 per cent per annum and up. And as the Government needs it, lending it back to the Government at about 4 per cent per annum, taking Government bonds or certificates as security.

Congress has passed another law in this connection by which the banks are authorized to lend their credit as a substitute for money for as much as ten times the quantity of money they have stored in their vaults. (Editor's Note: Be it remembered that this money stored in their vaults belongs, for the most part, to their customers; but the banks, not the owners of the money, are permitted to collect and keep the interest derived from ten times the amount of their customers' deposits.) The money held by the banks to be regarded as an asset, warranting them in lending their credit (beg pardon, their customers' credit.—Editor) all drawing interest the same as if it were money for as much as ten times the amount of money stored in their vaults.

This law classifies the banks fixing the quantity they can lend which amount ranges from 7 1/2 to 13 times the amount of money they have stored. And, on time deposits, 33 times the amount of money on hand. So, that the average credit, a substitute for money, they can lend is as much or more, than ten times the amount of actual money they can show they have in their possession.

Thus, by this wicked law, the banks, the money lenders, are encouraged and do hoard the money to the extent of 95 per cent of the money in existence, and to lend credit established by their customers, all a substitute for money, and collect interest thereon.

So, this life-saving necessity to make civilization function is placing bonds, mortgages and other forms of indebtedness on the people. It must be understood that neither the Government nor business can function without money; business stops without it; the people must have it; and, as this substitute for money is the only thing they can get, they are compelled to borrow it, and pay interest therefor.

In this way we have a nation of people bonded and mortgaged, resulting in foreclosures, bankruptcies, tenantry, people losing their homes, their business, resulting in loss of hope, in crimes, suicides and a general threatened collapse of civilization.

HE DIDN'T SAY TURKEY

(Contributed)

We are all familiar with the story so often heard concerning the white man and the Indian who had returned from a hunt with a turkey and a buzzard. In dividing their "kill" the white man suggested to the Indian: "Now you take the buzzard, and I'll take the turkey; or I'll take the turkey and you take the buzzard." The Indian, in his comment on the white man's liberality observed that, "He didn't say turkey to the Indian."

And we are reminded: In the President's speech recently delivered before the Congress and broadcasted over the world he challenged his critics to either accept the plans in operation by the present administration or else return to the fatal follies of the Hoover regime. As a matter of fact a good many of his critics are not clamoring for a return to the fatal conditions engendered by and climaxed in the past and present administrations. Some of them argue that it would be too much along the line of "jumping out of a frying pan into the fire."

There are certain outstanding issues before the people at the moment which both administrations have opposed, and, so far, have succeeded in defeating. Among these are, first, the bonus which was not so much as mentioned by the President in his recent speech. It may be that the very effective plan of defeating a measure by ignoring it is again in the offing.

Then there is still lurking in the background, but with a most formidable front, the coupon clippers who continue to demand effectively that there be no change from the past method of permitting a few privileged so-called financiers to monopolize the currency system which permits them to lay and collect tribute against every industry in the land. As a matter of fact, the two issues mentioned are as *Simese Twins*; because it is the latter issue,

the privilege to collect tribute on deferred payment of the bonus, that is, to date, causing its defeat. If or when the proponents of the bonus measure accept the bonding route, which bonding route will allow no serious interference with the coupon clippers, they will probably be able to pass the bill and thus wipe it off the slate.

To pass the bonus bill as its authors have insisted would be to ignore the Shylocks who have annually collected their "pound of flesh", a tribute against industry—and this would seriously handicap either or both the administrations.

INEXPLAINABLE

(Editorial in Houston Press)

It's not the \$45 out of the \$50 that has put the \$50 per plate Jackson Day Dinner in the category of political mistakes. It's the \$5.

The other \$45 goes to the campaign fund. Anyone who reads knows that by now. But what about the sum that's left? Five dollars for a dinner! And for Democrats.

To the average voter, to the ordinary rank and file of us, who feel more than fortunate about a 35-cent shopper's luncheon, or in times of great unbending a dollar table d'hote at Kelley's, \$5 for a dinner is indeed a Lucullan feast, as the press agent for the G. O. P., under the inspiration of his Blut Points and his shadow alleges.

And to those less flush who still turn away, blessing their daily bread, from a 10-cent bowl of chili with beans—or a 15-cent barbeque in Nick's Diner down next to the alley next to the laundry, or to one who has regaled himself beside the grocery stove on a nickel's worth of crackers and cheese, the \$5 figure for a single meal is all the more out of proportion.

No, the Democratic National Committee's management can explain \$45 of the \$50, but they never can live down \$5 for just one dinner.

WILL HISTORY REPEAT ITSELF?

(Editorial in Houston Press)

Recently in this space we quoted from warnings of three Supreme Court justices against the federal judiciary's encroachment on the rights of Congress and of State legislatures.

There is nothing new about the lamentations of these modern Jeremiah jurists—Brandeis, Stone and Cardozo. Down through American history have come warnings just as ominous, and not always from the lips of dissenting justices. Sometimes these denunciations of judicial usurpation have issued from victorious political leaders, and have contributed to the shaping of history.

As old as the republic are the struggles for power between the federal judiciary and Congress, and between the federal judiciary and state legislatures. Every time a citizen or a corporation surrenders to a federal court, invoking state sovereignty or national sovereignty—as suits his purpose—to escape a federal law or a state law, it is but another skirmish in those unceasing conflicts.

Thomas Jefferson, founder of the states' rights Republican party, once warned that "the germ of dissolution of our Federal Government is in the judiciary—an irresponsible body working like gravity, by day and by night, gaining a little today and gaining a little tomorrow, and advancing its noiseless step like a thief over the field of jurisdiction until all shall be usurped."

James Madison, "Father of the Constitution," said in his declining years that the process of making the judiciary paramount over legislation was never intended and can never be proper."

The doughty Andrew Jackson, under whose leadership the Jeffersonian party was reborn as the Democratic party, defied a Supreme Court ruling against the state of Georgia. "John Marshall (then chief justice) has made his decision," Jackson snapped, "now let him enforce it."

Abraham Lincoln carried the new Republican party to its first national victory in a campaign in which defiance of the Supreme Court's Dred Scott decision was his chief issue. "If the policy of the Government on vital questions affecting the whole people is to be irrevocably fixed by the Supreme Court the instant they are made," said Lincoln in his first inaugural address, "the people will have ceased to be their own rulers." He ignored the court while waging a Civil War to settle the question which the court's decision had brought to a head.

Ulysses S. Grant, whose party leadership sealed Republican dominance for many years, packed the Supreme Court with new members to get it to reverse its greenback decision against his money policy.

Theodore Roosevelt, whose "square deal" revitalized the Republican party early in the century, undertook to clip the powers of federal judges after their decisions had frustrated some of his anti-trust reforms. He urged a referendum of the people on laws which the courts held unconstitutional. "The highest right of a free people is the right to make their own laws . . ." he said. "I hold that the people should say finally whether these decisions are or are not to stand as the laws of the land."

Franklin D. Roosevelt, whose New Deal reforms today are under attack in the courts, has not yet spoken out as harshly against judicial frustration as did Jefferson, Madison, Jackson, Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt, and as have recently the three minority attempted to force judicial acquiescence by packing the tribunal.

But if the courts throw many more of his reforms into the waste basket, there may come a time when Franklin Roosevelt, to save his program, will have to take a stand similar to those taken by so many of his illustrious predecessors.

THE BATTLE OVER THE BONUS

By S. O. SANDERSON

When Congress convenes in January, the big battle over the soldiers' bonus will be on.

There will not be much opposition to the payment of the bonus, but the big battle will be over the manner HOW IT SHALL BE PAID.

The bankers have loaned the veterans \$1,700,000,000 on their adjusted compensation certificates. Upon these loans they have been collecting \$68,000,000 a year in interest, or nearly \$190,000,000 every day.

The bankers thrive on tribute, and \$5,667,000.00 per month is not to be sneezed at.

Under the Patman bonus bill passed during the last session of Congress, and vetoed by President Roosevelt, the government would have issued treasury notes (money) and paid the veterans in full. The veterans in turn, would have paid the \$1,700,000,000 they owe the bankers, and would have had something left to live on.

BUT THE BANKERS DO NOT WANT THE MONEY—THEY WANT THE INTEREST—SIXTY-EIGHT MILLION DOLLARS A YEAR.

Hence the bankers do not want the Patman bonus bill to become a law.

If the bonus is not paid, the bankers will continue to collect five million dollars a month in interest from the veterans for the next ten years.

The bankers, however, will not object to the payment of the bonus if the government will issue bonds instead of currency. Because that will give them an opportunity not only to exchange their \$1,700,000,000 in veterans loans for long term tax-exempt bonds, but also to collect interest on an additional billion dollars or so that is necessary to pay the bonus in full.

It is a battle between the American people and the all-powerful money trust. Which side will win? It is up to you.

Write your congressman and senators, and demand the passage of the Patman bonus bill which provides for payment by the ISSUANCE OF CURRENCY INSTEAD OF INTEREST BEARING TAX-EXEMPT BONDS.—The Leader.

Under the obligation of that solemn oath which I am about to take, I shall continue to exert all my faculties to maintain the just powers of the Constitution . . . inculcating by my official acts the necessity of exercising by the general government only those powers that are clearly delegated to it; and to encourage simplicity and economy in expenditures by the government.—President Andrew Jackson, in his second inaugural address, March 4, 1833.

TOO MANY WORKERS OR TOO LOW WAGES?

The Administration is caught in a dilemma from which it does not know how to untangle itself.

Business figures cause a glow of satisfaction to emanate from New Dealers' features. Employment figures create several new and deeper wrinkles on their collective brow.

Statistics on industrial production for November seem to show as if the "Roosevelt Revolution" has turned the corner and we are now emerging into a period of reconstruction. The numbers of out-of-work belie that conclusion, and unalterably signify that we are still fighting the depression and are deep in the trenches doing it.

On the one hand the Federal Reserve Board index of industrial production for November indicates that we are just 2 points shy of reaching that "normal" economic level of the 1923-25 average. By the time the December figures are compiled business recovery is expected to show an added spurt strong enough to shove the figures above 100 of the 1923-25 level.

On the other hand, the employment figures of the Labor Department, while showing that around 1,000,000 workers have been put back to work, the total army of unemployed has remained unchanged since 1932. What to do?

This country cannot for long enjoy an "upper" prosperity while the mass remains in the main untouched. Either the 11,000,000 or a major portion of them must find jobs or the present business spurt will not be long lasting. Of course, there are some economists, like John T. Flynn, who insist that the whole present business boom is dependant upon the four billion dollars the government is spending through its various agencies.

Regardless of this view, why are 11,000,000 or more workers without jobs when we have reached a point in economic "recovery" which takes us up to the respectable 1923-25 average?

Are there too many workers, anyway? If it were a matter of scarcity of natural wealth or a limited productive capacity, this would be the answer. People are without employment, however not because our raw materials are exhausted or because our productive plant is too small to utilize all available man-power. It is rather a question of too low wages—not enough consuming power to use up what our natural resources and our machine equipment can throw on the market.

The answer is that wages are tiring too low; too few individuals are the beneficiaries of our present business upturn.

This is the riddle which the Roosevelt Administration must solve. It has tried to play along with the employers in an attempt to find a solution for it but the employers just turned "thumbs down" on the idea. The employers aren't interested in the unemployed, in the stability of society, in the future of their country. They are only interested in profits and in the present.

The task for the Roosevelt Administration is to press as vigorously as it can for some planned consumption—a thirty-hour work week, a decent minimum wage, much more adequate social insurances than it has thus far sponsored. Herein lies its salvation.—The Brewery Worker.

DR. COX SCORES COTTON RESTRICTION PROGRAM

(Editorial in Austin-American)

Dr. A. B. Cox, director of the University of Texas bureau of business research, appeared before the American Statistical Association convention in New York and scorched the New Deal administration for its cotton restriction program. Bluntly he said the program had cost millions of dollars in wages, put millions of people on relief and has been another failure as a scheme for raising cotton prices. First and last and all the time, Dr. Cox has been a consistent and at times very vitriolic critic of the government plan. Speaking of the alleged loss on account of the AAA and other Wallace plans, the Texas economist said: "It has meant the loss of about \$83,000,000 to cotton picking, \$64,000,000 to cotton ginning, \$47,000,000 in transportation and about \$58,000,000 in compressing, warehousing, merchandising and other marketing costs made up mostly of labor. The 13,400,000 bales of cotton the government kept out of production would have resulted in the production of about 5,400,000 tons of cotton seed which would have had a manufacturing value of about \$29,000,000. These do not include preparation of land, planting, cultivation and hoeing, very important items in employment, yet the figures I have given total \$281,000,000." All in all, according to the worthy doctor, "the cotton restriction program fails to recognize the inter-dependent relation between various branches of the cotton industry and as a result hundreds of thousands of persons in the south have been forced on relief rolls."

There had been a large carry over crop of cotton for years. It followed in the wake of the World War. Today the government is practically the owner of thousands of bales. As for the AAA program, it was voted by the farmers themselves. It is a story almost as old as the American republic. First slave labor produced cheap cotton for the nations of the earth. Then came the emancipation of the slave. Then came the reconstruction of the south. Then came cheap cotton throughout the years for the textile industries of the north and east—cheap cotton produced by the white women and little children and in later years by the Mexican and negro population of the south. It is a vast problem but the landowners and cultivators of the South did not make the problem. They are not responsible for it. They bought the goods of the makers of things in the industrial areas and they paid high tariffs all the time. Then they sold their products at cheap prices in the markets of the world. Where do we go from here?—The Austin-American.

SHAW ON RECOVERY

George Bernard Shaw was asked recently: "How do you view the economic future of England? Will things get steadily worse, or will the Old Country muddle through, as usual?"

He answered: "It is rather late in the day to talk about England or any other nation muddling through. If the Big Ship goes down England will go down with it. And, don't forget, Big Ships have always gone down before. Mesopotamia was once more highly civilized than either Old or New England, but it went under."

"Every serious student of the subject knows that the stability of a civilization depends finally on the wisdom with which it distributes its wealth, and allots its burdens of labor."

"We do not distribute our wealth at all: we throw it into the streets to be scrambled for by the strongest and greediest who will stoop to such scrambling—after handing the lion's share to the professional robbers, politely called owners."

"Our remedies for the consequences for our own folly are tariffs, inflation, wars, vivisections, vengeance and black magic. As to reform, we don't have sense enough to reform our own spelling. Talk about something else."

THE SPEED MENACE

The speed menace, like many other modern ills, is getting no better very fast. This is because the public is thinking about its effects instead of its cause.

THE CREATORS OF MONEY

It is conceded by nearly every man that the world is ruled by merciless and wicked money manipulators. Miss Gertrude Coogan of Chicago has written a book called "Money Creators".

But she fails to see that Government distribution is the logical sequence of Government coinage, if the people are to be benefited.

In reality, we have had these two conditions simultaneously in all the past of our Republic, and this has been our real undoing.

Her inconsistency here leads one to suspect that she is the paid tool of corporate powers to prevent the substitution of Government ownership for private ownership in the handling of money.

What do speculating, interest-taking banks care about who prints their money just so they can be the sole distributors of that money? Miss Coogan's past environments must have completely engulfed her in the muck and mire of opposition to all Government ownership.

ECONOMIC JUSTICE

(By A. P. PEIRCE)

EASY MONEY

An Allegory. Once upon a time, perhaps not more than five thousand years ago, upon the banks of a beautiful little stream, lived a very peculiar people.

The members of this community were Mr. Farmer, Mr. Baker, Mr. Miller, Mr. Butcher, Mr. Tanner, Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Spinner, Mr. Weaver, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Sawyer, Mr. Carpenter, Mr. Smith, Mr. Wheelwright, Mr. Digger, Mr. Goldsmith, Mr. Merchant, and Mr. Doolittle.

Everyone had to work very hard because of the many kinds of work each had to do and because of the crudeness of their tools.

In these far away times the women worked longer hours than the men did as upon them fell the grinding, the cooking, the twisting, the weaving, the tanning and the sewing.

At this point Mr. Goldsmith proposed that all leave their work for a time and go up into the hills where some small yellow nuggets could be washed out of the sand.

Through the underground, American workers now get the truth from Italy and Germany. Truth penetrates. All who care about international affairs in this hemisphere will hope for peace and fairness in Mexico.

VALUABLE COTTONSEED OIL

It is no secret to Texans that cottonseed is one of the State's valuable assets; in fact, cottonseed is Texas' second most valuable cash crop.

Very soon Mr. Sipner had made him a wheel with which to twist the cotton and wool and wished to do all the spinning; Mr. Weaver had contrived a loom and wished to make all the cloth.

Mr. Taylor was making much of the clothing. Mr. Wheelwright had invented the ox-cart and the ox-yoke and Mr. Smith was doing all the iron work.

Mr. Butcher bought some beef cattle of Mr. Farmer, and as he could not get the money to complete the transaction he gave Mr. Farmer a paper to show the exact amount he had promised to pay when the money could get round to him.

The gracious and orderly behavior of the people is in such sharp contrast to the occasional recurrence of Italian names in the criminal records of the United States that the difference in character is a puzzle until the Italians explain that in the years gone by for a long time they had regarded the United States as a sort of Botany Bay.

(Continued next week)

DON'T NEGLECT YOUR POLL TAX

On date December 12, Forum carried on front page an article in which it urged the people to pay their poll tax. Because of the importance of this matter the article is being repeated on the Editorial page of this issue.

The present year will go down in history as an outstanding one in the importance of the issues that will be involved. This is true in both state and national questions.

THE CHERRY TREE

Stupidity keeps bobbing up. Even the holiday season doesn't stop it. Take Mexico. Or Italy. But, for the moment, Mexico.

Naturally, the moment a censorship is imposed, just that moment the world is warned not to believe the news passed by the censor.

Censors don't usually merely take out things; they also put in things. Likewise they leave emasculated portions that have lost their first meaning.

Whatever may be the truth about a good many things, there can be no doubt that the Mexican president has agreed to the program of some of his ministers for arming communist groups.

That is something that is of paramount interest to the United States as a whole. We have the spectacle of a wholly intolerant regime using public funds for the purpose of creating an armed communism on our Southern border.

It's a muddle and one in which the strutting Cardenas will do well to watch his step.

Many in the United States make the mistake of measuring things Mexican by United States standards. That is one reason there has been so much past misunderstanding of Mexican men and policies.

Today we have a picture of turmoil which has grown out of things that are purely Mexican.

It isn't by any means a clear picture. But the American people will draw certain conclusions. They have drawn conclusions as to Fascism in Italy and Nazism in Germany and one of the definite results is that both Italy and Germany have found fewer American dollars flowing to their merchants and fewer of the American people coming to spend vacations and money.

It might be too much to suggest to President Cardenas that he observe these facts, because at the moment he seems too busy in the effort to save his job, which is a pretty good job.

Through the underground, American workers now get the truth from Italy and Germany. Truth penetrates. All who care about international affairs in this hemisphere will hope for peace and fairness in Mexico.

Organized Labor. Eighth. I subscribe wholly to the principles of local self-government with the enforcement of all laws administered honestly by local authorities and with the backing and cooperation of the state government.

AN EXPLANATION

Because many inquiries have been received concerning the Forum's holiday of two weeks we take this means of advising our friends that henceforth we will go to press regularly every Thursday, as formerly.

Pegler

(Continued From Page 1) cite the force by neighborhood opinion on any woman who didn't much care to give up her ring or the priest who would have preferred to keep his gold chain.

The gracious and orderly behavior of the people is in such sharp contrast to the occasional recurrence of Italian names in the criminal records of the United States that the difference in character is a puzzle until the Italians explain that in the years gone by for a long time they had regarded the United States as a sort of Botany Bay.

But, then, having explained how warm-hearted they are, the Italians go on to insist that they are also, in their new character under the Duce, a warlike people, with great national ambitions, who will fight anyone who tries to interfere.

(Continued From Page 1) sion. This passage was interpreted as a warning to Congress that any spending projects beyond Administration plans would require an additional levy.

World Peace in Danger. Mr. Roosevelt reported. 1. World peace is jeopardized abroad. 2. Land and air disarmament has failed.

Autoocracy Denounced. Mr. Roosevelt denounced autoocracy abroad and the desire for its power at home. He said under the sway of foreign autoocrats the international situation has become possessed of many of the elements that lead to the tragedy of war.

Washington's smartest society of diplomacy, officialdom and permanent residents watched the President under the glare-lights; heard his resonant voice open the 1936 contest for occupancy of the White House for the ensuing four years.

The political storm broke as the crowds dispersed. Division of opinion was largely partisan. Republicans snapped their verdict that Mr. Roosevelt played "cheap politics" in seeking an evening radio audience.

Mr. Paddock voted for Richards. TOO LATE. She wanted to be in the beauty chorus, so she wrote an application, enclosed her photograph, and was asked to come for an interview.

NO CAUSE TO WORRY. Worrying over whether Joe Louis can take it would seem to be in line with asking whether the 10-ton truck was damaged much in the crash.

Heaven never helps the man who will not act.—Sophocles.

quert, he is violating the law which prohibits federal employees from making political contributions. But there will be no grand jury investigation, no indictments and no repeated court trials.

1935 Proves—

(Continued From Page 1) near Santa Fe, New Mexico, crashed, died.

Senator Bronson Cutting's death brought into the spotlight the crash of a transport plane in Missouri, May 6, fatal to five.

As the weeks slipped by, each adding to the total of highway accident, John Smith slowly became aware of a widespread safety campaign. Something, everyone agreed had to be done—and chief emphasis was directed at John Smith, driver.

Prison Board—

(Continued From Page 1) in horror and make the Prison Board abolish the bat."

The board voted also to memorialize the late Dave Nelson, who died soon after he became prison manager, by placing a marble slab and planting an oak tree on the San Antonio highway near Central State Farm.

No Action on Segregation. On the desk of the Prison Board chairman lies a plan for segregation in the prison system, which was one of Mr. Nelson's projects for improvement of conditions for convicts.

Segregation Plan Offered. Prison Manager Ellingson's plan of segregation was the first tangible effort at a segregation program the board has had. Members of the board were given copies of the plan of distribution after the board meeting, when it was found that time did not permit consideration of the plans.

THE OLD, OLD STORY. Wife—I wish you'd give up smoking, dearest. Husband—But all great men smoked.

Wife—Well, just promise me that you won't smoke till you're great. I'll be quite satisfied.

AUTO DEATHS SET NEW RECORD

CHICAGO, Jan. 8.—Motor vehicle deaths reached an all-time high of 36,400 during 1935, the National Safety Council reported today. The total represented an increase of 300 in the United States over 1934.

The auto death rate for the nation is 28.5 per 100,000 persons, the council estimated. Milwaukee was the safest large city in the country, with a death ratio of 11.5 persons per 100,000.

Eastern states reduced their death rate 3 per cent, which was offset by an equal increase in the South, and in the Middle West the death rate increased by half of one per cent.

The safety council's report drew some consolation for the advancing death rate from a comparison with motor car registrations and the increase in population.

"From 1933 to 1934 motor vehicle deaths increased 15 per cent, whereas population advanced only 1 per cent, car registrations 4 per cent, and gasoline consumption 7 per cent," the report said.

"The 1935 record is relatively favorable, considering that there was an increase of only 1 per cent in fatalities, just equivalent to the advance in population, while car registration increased 4 per cent and gasoline consumption 6 per cent."—Ex.

SWELL IDEA

More and more as time goes on are we disposed to applaud the originator of the plan that put the Atlantic between America and Europe.

JUST TWO KINDS

Taking the sex by and large, it comes in two types—the womanly woman and the one who looks well in shorts.

Post Office Nomenclature. Here is a list of towns with odd names, which, with the state included, make interesting combinations: Ash, Kan.; Carpet, Tex.; Mount, Wash.; Ogoe, Ga.; Odear, Me.; Skeleton, Ky.; Shoo, Fla.; Kay, O.; Houdy, Miss.; Fiven, Tenn.

THE OLD, OLD STORY. Wife—I wish you'd give up smoking, dearest. Husband—But all great men smoked. Wife—Well, just promise me that you won't smoke till you're great. I'll be quite satisfied.

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Relief Expenditures

The 5 years preceding the inauguration of Mr. Roosevelt bank depositors in this Nation lost more than 8 billion dollars on bank failures. This is 50 per cent more than Mr. Hopkins has spent furnishing relief to the people. The relief rolls in many counties in this district are practically exhausted and many non-relief workers are being assigned to jobs on WPA projects.

Meeting of Congress

For more than 150 years and until 1 year ago Congress met the first Monday in December of each year. The so-called Lame Duck Amendment to the Constitution having been adopted, Congress now meets January 3, each year. Under the old arrangement, 1 session of Congress automatically terminated on March 4 of an odd year, but now each session of Congress may continue a whole year.

The bills before the coming session will occupy exactly the same position on the calendar and before the committees that they occupied at the end of the last session.

Potato Growers

Any potato grower whose average annual sales of potatoes during the years 1932-1935 were 50 bushels or less will receive a tax free allotment of potatoes equal to such annual sales. The grower must file an application under which he will establish his past sales.

Forgotten Bank Accounts

The banks of the Nation hold \$300,000,000, which is unclaimed by depositors. It is in the form of dormant accounts and belongs to more than 5,000,000 depositors, some of whom evidently are dead, others have forgotten about their accounts.

Farm Debts Lowered

Farm Debt Adjustment Committees are doing a great work in cases of bringing farm debtors and their creditors together. This service is for the creditors as well as the debtors, and no expenses will be charged either. The object is to scale down debts of farmers in excess of the value of his property. Anyone interested should write for the mode of procedure, which is issued in booklet form by the Farm Debt Adjustment Unit, care of Resettlement Administration, Dallas, Texas, and may be obtained upon request.

Bankers

Let us see what the Government has done for the banks of the Nation. They were all closed March 6, 1933. They owed the people \$40,000,000,000 (billions) and had \$700,000,000 in their vaults to pay them with, or \$1.75 to every \$100 owed. The Government opened the banks by pledging the credit of the Nation and allowing them to get money printed on their own notes. The deposits have been guaranteed, the Government paying \$300,000,000 of the initial premium, and the banks \$39,000,000 of the premium. The Government purchased 3/4 the stock in practically all the banks, which stock is exempt from taxation, thereby enabling these banks to get a 50 per cent tax reduction during the depression. A law has been passed relieving the banks of the obligation to pay interest on demand deposits, thereby saving them more than \$250,000,000 annually. They also save a large sum annually by a reduction of interest on savings or time deposit accounts. In addition they hold sufficient Government bonds to collect 3-4 of a billion dollars a year in interest. It seems they have fared well during the depression and under this Administration. Yet many prominent bankers say that they should strike and not buy Government bonds. Personally I wish they would strike. Then the Government could issue its own credit and not pay the banks this big bonus annually.

Service Charges

Service charges have been put on by many banks. Considering the fact that the Government grants a valuable franchise to a banking institution and protects it against competition and permits the bank to use the Government's credit free and to lend \$10 to every \$1 that the bank has in its possession, and, if necessary, print the extra \$9 for the bank, it seems that some service should be rendered to the people free of charge. Such obligation was recognized by the banks of the Country for over a hundred years, but now many of them insist on receiving charges in addition to large bounties and valuable franchises from the Government. If the banks of the Nation will get back into the banking business, they can make plenty money without these charges.

Individual Bankers

Bankers are very necessary insti-

tutions. A city or community prosper or is retarded according to its banking facilities. Individual bankers are usually our leading local citizens. These facts, however, do not justify a bad policy or a wrong practice. It is not individual bankers, it is the system that needs correction.

BONUS BATTLE STARTS AGAIN

By THOMAS L. STOKES
In Houston Press

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—Another big soldier bonus battle, which many harassed politicians hope will be the last, begins today at the Capitol when the convening Congress finds in its hoppers a bill from which the greenback fangs have been extracted.

The measure, backed by the three organizations of veterans, would authorize an appropriation from the treasury to meet the \$2,241,000,000 obligation. It suggests no method for raising the money; this detail is left to the treasury.

The plan is to rush the bill through within a few days by jamming it through the house ways and means committee and obtaining house passage before Jan. 13, when the Patman greenback bill comes up automatically for a vote. Quick action is hoped for also by the senate.

Up to Congress Again

Thus the veterans tossed the problem again to Congress—and to President Roosevelt.

Those who profess to know Mr. Roosevelt's mind say he probably will meet the issue tonight, in his appearance before a joint session, by insisting that if Congress vote any such increase in the 30 billion dollar debt it impose taxes to meet interest and sinking fund charges.

He is not expected to threaten a veto. No one seems to know whether he would veto a bill if taxes were provided, but, if they were not, it would offer him a reason that would seem valid to many who pay taxes.

The bill due to be introduced today will be known, legislatively, as the Vinson-McCormack bill in the House and, in the Senate, as the Clark bill, in honor of its sponsors, Representative Vinson (Ky.), and John W. McCormack (Mass.), and Senator Bennett Champ Clark (Mo.), all Democrats.

Young Mr. McCormack was said to have been tagged because he is from New England, where people are supposed to be thrifty, with the idea this might help take the curse off the proposed huge appropriation.

The measure might also be called the American Legion-Veterans of Foreign Wars-Disabled American Veterans bill, in honor of the three organizations which finally have united forces on a bill and whose leaders, gathered here to draft the measure and outline strategy, wrote a joint letter today to every member of Congress on its behalf.

Patman's Plan Shoved Aside

The cherubic-faced Representative Wright Patman (D.), Texas, whose name has long been synonymous with bonus, has been shoved aside, at least temporarily, by the selection of a non-inflationary bill as a substitute for his paper money measure which the President vetoed last session.

The Texan withdrew gracefully by publicly announcing that he would yield to the will of the House if it did not like his method of payment. He summoned his cohorts about him today—inviting to a caucus the 218 House members who signed the petition to force a vote automatically on Jan. 13 on his measure—to see if they were willing to back down with him.

He served notice that his group reserved the right to oppose either new taxes or issuance of bonds. The reservation may complicate the fight later.

Back Patman Plan

However, a band of 50 supporters of the Patman inflation bonus bill determined after bitter argument today to press for earliest possible floor consideration of the measure.

The group, signers of a petition to force consideration of the \$2,241,000,000 measure to pay the veterans through issuance of new currency, agreed also to recess until Monday in an attempt to reach agreement with advocates of the Vinson bill, approved by three veterans organizations.

The Patman group resolution was offered by Representative W. D. McFarlane (D., Texas) and urged the bill's steering committee to push for its floor consideration on or before Jan. 13, when the petition automatically forces it to be brought up.

Urge Speedy Action

The Patman action came as leaders of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Disabled War Veterans met with Chairman Doughton (D., N. C.) of the House ways and means committee, to urge

ROOSEVELT'S MESSAGE SPLITS PARTY LINES

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—Bitter differences over political and economic policies and the relationships of big and little men to government and to each other emerged today as a nation expressed its opinion of President Roosevelt's report on the state of the Union.

Republican and Democratic cleavage was evident. But party allegiance did not always determine individual reactions to the Roosevelt address.

"Splendid," Says Byrnes

"Splendid," said Speaker Byrnes. "It was a challenge to the enemies of popular government."

"It was a pure political speech," contended House Republican Leader Enell. "I am sorry I wasted my time today in opposing his appearance."

Senator Hiram W. Johnson, veteran Progressive Republican of California, said: "Bully."

"A fighting speech," said Chairman O'Connor of the House rules committee. "Just like Spartacus gave to the gladiators. Let 'em come on."

"It was an appeal to class prejudice," said Representative Carl E. Mapes (R., Mich). "A pure stump speech."

"Damned Good Speech."

"A damned good speech," proclaimed Representative Maury Maverick (D., Texas), "It had lots of fight and threw the hooks into the American Liberty League. That's all he has to do to win."

A Republican cheer came from Senator Gerald P. Nye (R., N. D.). "It was a great speech and certainly a challenge to the Republican party if ever a challenge was laid down to it."

Representative Martin J. Kennedy, a Tammany Democrat of New York, was more sharply critical than were opposition party spokesmen.

Flores Address

He said:

"I think it was a wishy washy speech without anything constructive in it. It sounded to me like a speech written by the brain trust to mislead Congress. The whole speech was for public consumption and appealed to the lowest instincts rather than the lofty ideals. I expected a masterpiece, but I listened to a claptrap."

Chairman Fletcher of the Republican National Committee said:

"The speech was a political harangue. The Republican party will submit the New Deal and all its works to the whole people in the coming campaign, and we have no fear of the verdict."—Ex.

THEY TURNED BACK

They were speeding in a taxi toward the theatre.

"I wish you hadn't made me dress up. I—er—" he began.

"Nonsense, dear," she replied. "You look nice in your dress clothes."

"I wish I hadn't, all the same."

"I never saw such a man."

"All the same, I think we ought to turn back."

"We're 10 minutes late already. What's the idea?"

"Well, I've just remembered that I left the tickets in my brown suit."

prompt consideration of the Vinson bill.

Doughton said that he did not favor holding hearings on the Vinson bill since the committee had plenty of bonus data available.

Under terms of the resolution adopted at the Patman group meeting, Chairman Patman was authorized to name a committee to attempt to "get together" on a program with the Vinson-Legion group by Monday, when they will meet again.

Senator James F. Byrnes (D., S. C.) expected to be the leader of the bonus forces in the Senate, complicated the situation when he said he hoped to have the Senate act on his own plans for an immediate 97 per cent cash payment.

Like Original Vinson Bill

The bill introduced today is like the original Vinson bill—rejected last session by the House—in the direct appropriation provided, and the immediate payment authorized but it carries some new features.

Those include the refund of interest paid by veterans on loans on their certificates; cancellation of accrued and unpaid interest, which amounts to \$275,000,000, and a proviso that veterans who prefer to hold their certificates may draw interest on the maturity value from the date of full payment.

Of the 3,735,886 certificates issued, 3,025,663 have been pledged for loans.

Leaders of veterans' organizations say that only a one billion dollar appropriation will be needed. They explain that holders of some \$500,000,000 of certificates will not cash them, while another \$500,000,000 is available in the insurance fund of the veterans bureau.

HOOSAC TEST CASE FAILS IN U.S. COURT

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—In a sweeping decision today the Supreme Court held the agricultural adjustment act (AAA) unconstitutional.

The decision was rendered on the government appeal in the Hoosac Mills case.

This knocked out another chief pillar of the Roosevelt administration by holding the AAA (agricultural adjustment act) to be unconstitutional.

The AAA follows the NRA into the discard, and necessitates a vast revamping of the administration's whole program.

The court killed the AAA last May in a sweeping decision that was matched only by today's.

The NRA and the AAA were the twin pillars of the Roosevelt program. The NRA was to have rejuvenated industry through federal regulation of hours and wages and to obliterate many other acts of the 74th congress since the Roosevelt administration took office.

The majority opinion was supported by Chief Justice Hughes, and Associate Justices Brandeis, Vandevanter, Butler, and Sutherland, in addition to Justice Roberts.

The decision of the court was so sweeping in character that many lawyers who listened to its rendition believed that when its full import is realized, it also will consign to oblivion many other acts of the 74th congress since the Roosevelt administration took office.

Like NRA Scandal

Word of the decision was flashed around the capital and created a sensation comparable only to that of the NRA decision and the court's decision in the famous gold devaluation case.

At the White House there was no comment, and Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace, who has been the directing head of the AAA, declined to see newspapermen or to comment.

Word of the decision reached the senate chamber during the reading of the president's budget message. As the news travelled from lip to lip on the floor, the Republicans laughed so loudly that Democratic leader Robinson was moved to arise and request the vice president call for order so that the budget message could be concluded.

Others Doomed

The sweeping opinion also doomed the amended AAA, which was designed to cure the defects of the earlier act. It invalidates \$1,000,000,000 in processing taxes.

The majority opinion held that the action of congress, in ratifying the original AAA processing taxes, went beyond its authority.

Justice Harlan F. Stone delivered the minority opinion, in which Justices Brandeis and Cardozo joined.

The majority opinion held that the AAA, with its processing tax on cotton in the Hoosac Mills case, was a scheme to control production of cotton. Congress, the court held, has no such power under the constitution.

Acts of the Roosevelt administration believed to fall within the decision by inference, include:

1. Bankhead cotton act.
2. Amended AAA.
3. Kerr tobacco act.
4. Warren potato control act.
5. Guffey coal act.

The decision may also affect other Roosevelt administration acts.

The decision was so broad that some lawyers considered it doubtful if congress can re-enact a satisfactory substitute for the AAA.

Justice Stone, in the dissenting opinion, asserted that congress—under the "general welfare" clause—had power to levy the taxes and make grants to farmers.

The majority opinion, he said, may lead to "absurd consequences."

The principle of the majority opinion, he said, may mean that the government can pay the unemployed but cannot require them to work.

It may mean, he said, that congress can appropriate money to aid rural schools but cannot impose conditions.

He maintained that the majority opinion meant that congress could pay bounties to farmers but cannot require them to reduce production.

A DOUBLE BURDEN

Doctor (breaking news of twins to father)—Well, Mr. Cross, if I may say so, we all have our little crosses, and you have two.

A woman's best qualities do not reside in her intellect, but in her affections.

HECKLING THE WORLD

By V. BERNARD
In Houston Labor Journal

The old year has been a strenuous one for the world, but there are many indications that the new will top it in excitement and trouble. Things look far from reassuring, either at home or abroad, and there is little the average man can do about it. The mistakes of the world have advanced so far that it seems nothing can avert a catastrophe, or several. For that, of course, the average man is to blame, as much as our statesmen and leaders, for the leaders express the will of the people. In other words, the people themselves must lead. If we could realize that things would be better.

Leadership of public opinion was vividly demonstrated when the French and British statements pulled off their masks and frankly proposed the partition of Ethiopia in the interest of themselves and Italy. Public opinion forced them to backstep.

Only very trusting people believed that these statesmen were moved by a desire to protect and help Ethiopia, and it is well these are disillusioned. Between countries, as well as between individuals it is still grab and self-interest, but war is not as popular as it used to be.

The dangers of dictatorship are forcibly illustrated by the behavior of Mussolini. He may have started with a genuine desire to help his people, but he wound up with a crazy notion of conquering the world. If a European war comes, he, and he alone, is responsible.

Not, he alone. The spineless Italian people who have taken the yoke of slavery on themselves, slavery to one single man. Now they will have to obey orders to the bitter end, unless they want to end up in front of a firing squad. The dictator brooks not a single dissenting voice.

The saddest thing about it is that a whole nation, to a man, have not only given their bodies to the will of the dictator, but their souls as well. They feel and think and act just as he will.

And yet they think they are men. In Germany we see the same phenomenon. One glib-tongued

madman has led the whole nation astray.

In Russia the people have only changed masters. They are as much under the heels of a tyrant as they were under the Romanoffs. There is one bright spot, however, in the Russian picture, namely, the fact that many people realize this. Russia will change to a freer order, if not peacefully and gradually, then by another bloody revolution.

In the United States we are at the cross-roads; it may take several years to make the choice, but choose we must. Among ourselves as individuals we have exactly the same causes existing which move the nations to war—self-interest. It is a sparring between those who have, or wish to get, material advantages. The so-called New Deal is only the initial phase of this struggle. It has not accomplished much, save to give hope to the poor and fear to the predatory rich. Actual results in either of these are lacking. The poor are still poor, the idle are still idle, and the profit mongers are having a boom under the old rules.

The choice is not only between war or peace among ourselves; we must choose also between freedom and slavery. I think it is a truism that no nation can exist half free and half in slavery. If a man is not economically independent, then he is not free, but a slave. Right now we have millions of such slaves and a way must be found to liberate them, or slavery of some kind or another will spread to the whole nation.

In Fascist Italy and Germany, as also in Russia, the illusion of liberty may hold for a while, but the fact of it is that these people have already lost their liberty.

The Liberty League, in this country, professes to fight for the old dame, and the Republicans are loud in praise of liberty. But all of these mean only liberty for the despoiler, not for all the people.

That is a Mussolinian dream; the only difference is that we will have many Mussolinis, and the rest of us slaves. Thus the Republican object need not deceive anybody in the coming presidential campaign. If they have much success, we will be near to Fascism and its regimentation, for the slaves must eat and be clothed somehow.

Our case is hopeless, I think, unless somehow we can manage to adopt a new philosophy of life in which service, not wealth, will be the emblem of merit.

RIDING AT ANCHOR

By MR. MODESTUS
In the Garment Worker

We call it Christmas—
It comes at the turn of the Year
Just after the shortest day, north
of the Equator.

When Winter is clamping down
its coldest grip—
We know that the sunbeams are
fighting for our lives—
It was the Birthday of A Child,
bringing promise of Love and
Good Will and Peace!

In the old days of the conquer-
ing Roman Sword—
When every city had more slaves
than free men—
When human life was cheap, and
gladiators fought for an afternoon
matinee—
That was a glorious promise and
a hope which cheered the world—

Three Wise Men came to see the
Child, so the olden story goes—
Bowling before him as a king,
bringing their tributes of gifts,
rare and precious—
Following this example the world
has turned to giving of Christmas
gifts—
At first to those who needed
most the offerings given in His
name—
Increasingly given now to near-
er friends and relatives—
Incidentally and quite publicly
to the "neediest"—
All to the greater glory and
prosperity of the Merchant!

Two great Ideals came with this
Child—
Brotherhood of Man, and Peace
Among Men—
Contradicting all practices and
doctrines of the time in which He
came—
But cherished ever as the pattern
of a distant goal—
After many centuries, and the
wiping out of ancient social forms
Human society, without special

Judging by the ease with which
Communist Russia and the Fascist
countries make an existence in
slavery attractive, it would not be
hard to teach the people something
really worth while, if we only had
a mind to do so. They can be
taught anything, for they are but
children. But there is no sign
of such a movement.

The new year will bring trouble
sure. What the outcome will be
we can not even guess.

reference to the ancient and holy
hope—
Learned that human slavery was
an expensive form of labor—
Which now exists only in the
most backward of earth's corners—
But vanished long since in lands
where modern tools of production—
Call for powers not to be found
in the hand of a man—
Command precision and speed
impossible to any supply of slaves.

But Slavery came mainly out of
War—
Whatever men thought of other
gods, of earth, and sea, and sky—
Mars was the God of the World—
Loot was the reward and guar-
don of his servants—
Loot of gold, and of slaves, and
of lands—
So long as the new lands in-
vited the conquerors—
So long as more tribute waited
to be gathered—
So long as more treasures await-
ed the pillaging armies—
So long as more taxes could
be levied upon the victims—
War was a God to be worship-
ped!

But the world turned out to be
round as an apple—
At last the marching and sail-
ing hosts met each other across
horizons—
New lands, unconquered peoples
unleveled wealth, were no more—
Greater navies than ever, might-
iest armies of history—
Now menaced only each other's
conquered provinces—
tential destruction so certain—
That earth's greatest fighting
With equipment so vast and po-
nations agreed in council—
War's risk to be greater than
any possible reward.

And the Promise of Peace dawned
as the Logic of War.

But the Planners of Peace would
not give up the Loot—
Demanded tribute impossible of
payment—
Roused again among men the
Law of the Jungle—
That He Takes Who Can—and
He Pays Who Must—
Resurrecting again old Gods of
Battle—
Whose relentless purpose and
savagery might can be subdued only—
By a Brotherhood of Man magni-
fied now to its logical conse-
quence—
In a Neighborhood of Nations.

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