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Inviting More Debt

Another easy way and an invitation to the states and municipalities to go into debt for the construction and reconstruction of highways, especially into and through cities, is also included in H. R. 7891 now pending before congress, which also includes authorization for regular federal aid road expenditures for the next two years. The resolution authorizes the federal commissioner of public roads to—

Acquire in the name of the United States by gift, purchase, exchange, exercise of the power of eminent domain, or otherwise, and to hold, lease, use, sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of any real property or interest in property necessary or desirable for, or adjacent to, any road project which will be a post road or will foster interstate commerce, aid in the national defense, facilitate the use of the mails, or promote the general welfare. . . .

The proposal also authorizes the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to make 40-year loans to carry out the purposes of the act, either directly to the cities and states or to the federal commissioner of public roads, whose approval of each particular project is required to make it eligible for a loan. It also makes available the services of the federal attorney general in condemnation proceedings, and opens the way to condemnation of excess widths of right-of-way both in cities and out at the discretion of the federal road bureau.

The scheme is designed to aid municipalities and states in financing the heavy right-of-way costs of super-highway entrances into and routes through large cities; i.e., the waterfront boulevard project in Portland.

Entirely aside from the objection that it invites abandonment of the pay-as-you-go policy of highway building by holding out the lure of cheap loan money, the plan has other "bugs" in it, conspicuous among which is the arbitrary power it confers upon the federal commissioner of roads to promote such projects at the ultimate expense of the cities and states. Henry F. Cabell, chairman of the Oregon highway commission and president of the American Association of State Highway Officials, appearing before the house roads committee, offered a partial remedy by suggesting that the authorization given the commissioner be confined to projects "requested by a state acting through its state highway department." City and state highway officers will be slow to promote such projects if they must assume responsibility for incurring heavy indebtedness to finance them. As written, this section of H. R. 7891 offers too much opportunity for buck-passing, and confers upon the federal commissioner of roads too much authority over matters of local concern.

Concealing the Public Debt

In response to a senate resolution Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau has submitted to congress a 65 volume report detailing information as to the operation of 30 government corporations which have issued obligations to the amount of \$7 billion, guaranteed in full by the United States government but not included in the published federal debt. It shows the tremendous increase in the recent use of corporate devices in administration of federal affairs, constituting a fourth branch of government independent of auditing and subject only to budget control of congress for purely administrative expenses.

The report fails to give an appraisal of the assets of these corporations, or a list of loans made and, until these are furnished, any estimate of profit and loss will be conjectural. Senator Byrd is endeavoring to secure this information. It does show however that \$1,053,742,488 loans made are now in default on both principal and interest, and that it has been necessary to take title and possession of property for resale to the value of \$880,905,469, a total of \$2 billion, indicating the losses that may result in liquidation.

The treasury report shows there is no uniformity of auditing of these corporations, that only 11 are subject to audits, 5 partly exempted, 15 completely exempted from auditing control and 7 do not even make annual reports to congress. Loans and funds are transferred from one corporation to another, even when their capital has been completely exhausted. And yet their obligations are guaranteed in full by the government.

Could any scheme be devised better calculated to speed the spending of public money? And probably the vast majority of these corporations, run by politicians, are being operated at a staggering but concealed loss. As Senator Byrd says:

The report clearly shows one of the most important duties of congress is to coordinate the activities of these various corporations and place their operations under the control of congress; to cancel the unlimited authority given for additional borrowing; provide that all of these government corporations comply with the independent audit of the general accounting office; and to estimate the value of assets by independent appraisements. We at least owe an obligation to the public to be frank and candid with respect to public expenditures and not conceal the real public debt which rests upon all the citizens of our nation.

Third Purchase Repudiated

Evidently the attempted "third purchase of Louisiana" was a failure, for although the political support for a third term of the scandal ridden Long machine was bought by suppression, at least temporarily of grand jury indictments for frauds, the deal was repudiated by the people in the defeat of Long in the run-off gubernatorial primary. Sam Houston Jones has been nominated by a majority of 20,000, on a pledge to "drive the rascals out."

Rural parishes elected Huey Long governor in 1928, and he converted the state into a tightly controlled dictatorship on his "share-the-wealth" promises. Since the death of the Kingfish the machine, led by his brother, Governor Earl K. Long, and his ally, Mayor Robert S. Maestri of New Orleans, has retained control, but federal or state indictments have sent many of his lieutenants to prison.

Jones is evidently also a rabble rouser, at least he used the same appeal to the "poor country folks" that had put Huey in power over the opposition of the New Orleans ring and kept him in power. Jones promised to "rid the state of political crooks;" \$3 auto licenses; \$30 monthly pensions; free hot lunches, library books and school supplies for children; homestead exemptions free of political favoritism; and unhampered local government. Anyway he got the votes of the cotton farmers, shrimp fishermen and Acadians, along with the "silk-stocking" opponents of the Kingfish.

Sips for Supper

By Don Upjohn

Announcement that Willamette plans to construct a new \$100,000 science building on the campus has thrilled the town no end as it should. But immediately it raises the old question of whether a do-hickus such as adorns the new library building will be set atop the science hall. If we remember rightly we were called sternly to account by Dr. Baxter et al, for referring to the ulceration on the roof of the library as a "do-hickus" and advised same is a "lantern tower" although to date we've watched in vain for the lanterns. Whether a do-hickus on a science hall would be a lantern tower we have no way of knowing, the question of a do-hickus on science halls being one far beyond our ken. But common sense would dictate that to have

a lantern on a science hall would be more or less of an insult to the spirit of progress. It would be something like referring to a garage as a livery stable. A lantern on a library seems appropriate enough, hinting as to all the groping which is being done by the minds below. But science surely has passed the lantern stage and the do-hickus should, at least, rate some such distinction as "Klieg tower."

Taking No Chances

Olympia, (AP)—Mayor David Gamble said Monday he does not plan to visit Salem, Ore., in the near future. The reason—well, Olympia patrolmen, Sunday, arrested Salem's Mayor William W. Chadwick for speeding. He was released after handing over \$15 bail.

The great mystery surrounding the vacation trip of the president is still screened behind an unperced veil, and newspaper men who are trailing along confess great befuddlement. We're glad to offer one guess as to the solution and bet a sack of Lashish onions we're right. We make the guess he's just taking a vacation trip and having some fun on the side, with his mystery. After he shut the boys off on third term guessing he had to have a guessing game of some kind going, and this one is as good as any other.

The Salem chess club is out after big game and has framed up a 22-man tourney for Thursday afternoon against visitors from the Portland chess club. George Swift, major domo of the local organization, says that the Salem boys have reached a stage where they are patient enough to meet most anybody in chess games. A chess player has the reputation of being the most patient individual in the world—but how about the chess player's wife?

Candidates are beginning to bob up from all sides, in fact, blossoming out about like the daffodils and crocuses which are beating the gun to spring. This is sure great blossoming weather.

Novelties In the News

(By the Associated Press)
Newton, Mass.—This city's residents come pretty close to fulfilling the goal of the prosperity area — two automobiles in every garage.

The tax assessors' 1939 report showed the city had 14,894 homes and 27,827 cars, 4,508 more automobiles than last year at a valuation of \$9,265,000.

A Bad Day

San Rafael, Calif.—Charles Goessell, 60, was hauling his pet dog and two cases of beer to his country cottage.

The car turned over in a ditch. The frightened dog tore across the fields and never came back.

And while Goessell, with two broken ribs, was lying helpless in the wreckage another motorist stopped and stole the beer.

Niles Center?—Yes!

Niles Center, Ill.—Note well the name of this town, because it is still just plain Niles Center despite a three months' campaign and the cheers, jeers, and threats of the Ridgeview-lites.

After two hours' debate and much heckling on the part of a fraction which wanted to change the name of the Chicago suburb to Ridgeview, village trustees decided, 4 to 2, that the old name—Niles Center—was good enough.

Opponents of the change claimed that theirs was the only Niles Center in the United States, while Ridgeview came a dime a dozen.

Woman Tells of Cruel Treatment

Somers, Pa., Feb. 21 (AP)—Struggling to hold back tears, Ada Paugh, 22, told authorities today how she was locked out of her cousin's home while barefoot, causing her ears, feet and right hand to freeze in the intense cold.

Probation Officer A. D. Shaffer reported that when the young woman was kept out of the house at neighboring Queer Creek, she wore only a flimsy black dress wet from just being washed. She stood in the foot-deep snow and shivered in an outbuilding until she and a constable, informed of her plight, arrived and took her to a hospital.

Shaffer said that Miss Paugh, whose left hand has been paralyzed since childhood, had soiled the dress and was sent to the out-building to wash it. Her back was bruised from a beating, he added.

Her father dead and her mother out of the state, Miss Paugh went to live with her cousin, a miner, two years ago. She said the only food she received since then was scraps left by the cousin's family, including five children. She now weighs only 75 pounds, about 35 below normal.

District Attorney A. H. Matthews said he would complete an investigation before making any arrest in the case.

Immediate Drop In Rates Impossible

The proposed Lincoln county peoples utility district, which would contain 175 square miles, could not effect an immediate substantial rate reduction if it purchased the privately-owned distribution system which is valued at \$437,500, the state hydroelectric commission said today.

The district would have a population of 8,000 and an assessed valuation of \$3,830,722.



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Mother Who Killed Her Child Asks for Death

Los Angeles, Feb. 21 (AP)—Mrs. Betty Hardaker, who, police say, confessed slaying her 5-year-old daughter, sobbingly asked for death in her jail cell today.

"Why don't they electrocute me?" she cried. "Why do they have trials? I want to die."

Asked about reports that she belonged to a cult which believed in "human sacrifices," she said: "I believe in God, but I don't belong to any one church. I did belong to the Presbyterian church. I tried to get my husband to go with me but he just laughed and told me I was crazy to go to church."

The 25-year-old mother was transferred later today from her cell to a bed in the jail hospital ward. An inquest into her daughter's death was set for Friday morning.

"She was too good to live," Police Chief Harry Bishop of Palm Springs said Mrs. Hardaker told him after he arrested her in a shack on the Indian reservation there yesterday afternoon. The child's body, with a crushed skull, was found in a rest room of a park in nearby Montebello Monday afternoon.

Mrs. Hardaker was returned here last night to face questioning by psychiatrists and for determination of formal charges.

Police said they would ask her about a strange religious sect which her husband, Charles Hardaker, 29, informed them she had joined. Officers quoted him as saying:

"She told me that the cult members believed in human sacrifice. She thinks God tells them to kill people."

Dr. Russell M. Gray, Palm Springs physician who treated and questioned her, reported she said she had been "hearing voices" for a year or so.

Deny Germany Aviation Oil

Bucharest, Feb. 21 (AP)—Pressure by Britain and France was reported authoritatively today to have led to a Rumanian government decree banning the shipment of aviation oil to Germany.

The reported decree is in direct contradiction with an arrangement made with Germany's trade envoy, Dr. Karl Viodius, a few weeks ago by which Rumania agreed to increase her shipments of aviation oil provided that increased export taxes were paid.

(The decree presumably applies only to refined lubrication oils for aircraft.)

The decree was said to be the latest of Rumania's desperate attempts to keep the balance between Germany's demands for fuel and lubricants for her war machine and the allies' counter demands. It was believed to be the result of Britain's recent note asking an explanation of Rumania's petroleum policy toward Germany.

Both Britain and France consistently have pointed out in Bucharest that they might be compelled to reconsider their guarantees of Rumania's independence if King Carol's government favored the Nazis in oil policy.

It also was reported today that Rumanian promises not to favor Germany have resulted in resumption of British shipments of arms and ore to this country. Nearly all exports from the allies to Rumania dwindled to a trickle when Bucharest promised last month to ship 30 per cent of her annual oil production to the reich.

(It was reported in London that Rumania had told Britain her agreement called for shipment of 1,500,000 tons of oil to Germany this year.)

Dunbar Family Moves

Riverview—The Wesley Dunbar family has moved into their new house. Their home was destroyed by fire last month.

Foreign and domestic telegrams handled in Germany in the last year totaled over 12,000,000.



Mystery Death — Los Angeles police were investigating the strange slaying of Geraldine Hardaker, 6, whose body with a crushed skull was found in a park restroom, Geraldine's mother, with whom she is shown in top picture, was reported found after a search at Palm Springs. The father, Charles Hardaker (lower), was being questioned. Police said the Hardaker girl's grandmother had told them the Hardakers had joined a cult which "believe in human sacrifice." Police also were investigating the possibility the child had been killed by a hit-run driver. — Associated Press Photo.

Animals Die In Circus Fire At Rochester

Rochester, Ind., Feb. 21 (AP)—Pressed against the still red hot bars of their cages, circus men found today the tortured bodies of six lions, two tigers, two black leopards, two zebras, 100 monkeys, 15 antelopes, two llamas, and a sacred cow.

They had died horrible deaths in the fire which swept the winter quarters of Cole Brothers and Robbins circus last night.

Thirty hundred horses, 12 camels, 11 elephants, and 20 mules, monkeys, and ponies, liberated by their keepers, stampeded through this town, and scattered over the north Indiana countryside.

Early today townspeople and farmers assisted circus men in rounding up the grazing animals, which, because of their peaceable natures, had been permitted to escape the inferno that engulfed the meat eating and savage animals.

They found camels grazing along the paved highways, amid billboards, aios, and farm houses. Here and there, they discovered an elephant, his placidity restored, trudging distastefully along through the snow.

The circus employees were badly shaken by the horrible deaths of the big, ferocious jungle beasts. Their screams and howls filled the night, ringing shrill and tortured above the roar of the flames and the shrieking of fire truck sirens.

Also roasted alive were two mouffons and two aoudads, the wild sheep of Aerdinia and north Africa respectively.

Employees heard the great black leopards throwing their magnificent, rippling bodies against the steel bars of their cages. They heard the fierce snarlings of two lionesses turn to tortured whimperings as the flames engulfed them. The lionesses had ribs and the two babies died with them. The roarings of two male lions came through the flames almost to the last.

A pigmy hippopotamus died the worst death of all. He was slowly boiled to death in his tank.

The screams and shrieks could be heard for half a mile.

The grazing animals were led individually from the burning building and liberated. Mad with fright they raced a half mile over fields and U. S. highway 31 into this community of 3,500, running down the main street more or less in a pack, the camels with their necks stretched out, the elephants with their trunks curled over their heads, occasionally trumpeting.

Most townspeople heard the thunder of the galloping herd from a distance and were out of the way by the time it arrived, and there was no sign of panic among them.

Carl Quick turned a corner in his automobile and ran into an elephant. The elephant ran on but Quick's car was badly damaged. A pony ran in front of another motorist and was killed.

State Hospital Overcrowded

The state hospital is badly overcrowded and is in need of financial assistance, Dr. John C. Evans, superintendent, told members of the Salem Active club during their dinner at the Marlton hotel Tuesday evening.

Despite lack of room for the ever-increasing patient load, the per capita cost of the institution is the lowest in the state and has an enviable record throughout the nation, it was revealed. During the course of his talk, Dr. Evans pointed out that 40 per cent of the first admission cases are ultimately released from the institution.

Syphilis and alcohol are responsible for a large percentage of insanity cases. Dr. Evans stated, adding that 50,000 children are born with syphilis in their blood each year. He spoke of the Swedish method of handling the disease, where persons who fail to report infection are sent to jail. As a result that country has just about wiped out syphilis. Dr. Evans said that 75 per cent of the alcoholics admitted to the hospital have become unbalanced through the use of fortified wines.

Ignazzitto Defendant

Dallas—A complaint for divorce was filed in circuit court Monday afternoon by Wills E. Ignazzitto against Antonio J. Ignazzitto, charging cruel and inhuman treatment. The couple were married in Vancouver, Wash., on July 1, 1939.

How One Woman Lost 26 Lbs. of FAT

Fat Girls—Here's a Tip
NEW YORK—Special. In 40 days Mrs. Helga Blaugh reduced 26 lbs. Took 4 inches off hips, 3 inches off waist and 7 1/2 inches off waist. Writes: "I feel fine and look 10 years younger."

How would you like to safely and harmlessly lose 15 pounds of fat in a few weeks? How would you like to have your double chin and your too prominent hips and abdomen and along with it get the increase in energy and improvement in health which so often accompanies excess fat reduction?
Get on the scales today and see how much you weigh. Take a half teaspoonful of Kruschen in a glass of hot water first thing every morning to gently activate liver, bowels and kidneys. Cut down your caloric intake. Eat wisely and rationally. Then after 20 days, weigh yourself again and just see if you haven't lost pounds of ugly fat. Refuse imitations. Demand and get the genuine Kruschen made right here in the U.S.A. A jar lasts 4 weeks and costs but a trifle. Money back if not joyfully satisfied.

Sprague Advises State Architect

Governor Charles A. Sprague today suggested to the board of control that the board hire an architect-engineer to work permanently for the state. There is no such department at the present time.

Such a man could plan state buildings and report periodically on the condition of present buildings, so that repairs might be made early, the governor said.

Two ways of paying such an individual were discussed: through the budget department, or by a pro-rate fee to be charged each institution inspected.

No definite action was taken on the proposal.

Valentines Exchanged

Brooks—The Brooks grade school children held their annual Valentine exchange at the schoolhouse, each room separately.

HE IS GOING

Miss Kate Dunning is coming to Miller's with Jantzen Foundations February 22, 23, 24 JANTZEN DOES IT AGAIN! This time with Foundations . . . Miss Dunning brings a complete line of Jantzen's newest foundations to Miller's. She will conduct a clinic for three days, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. You no longer have to lace up and hold your breath to get that necessary slim waistline, flat abdomen and round hip look. Jantzen does it in a new way way, and perfectly, too. Yes, it's the same Jantzen that put allure into swimming suits . . . and it's the same brand of allure, too. Try it and see. This service is complimentary . . . and you are invited to attend any hour of the day from morning till store closes.

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