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TAX CUTS DUE WITH THE NEW YEAR

On New Years day the 23-year-old steadily rising direct and indirect federal taxation will pause, or at least be interrupted, temporarily at least, when 50 million personal income taxpayers get a 10 per cent annual reduction and the excess profits tax on corporations will lapse. Some 10 million lower bracket taxpayers, however, will not be as lucky. They are those whose net income does make them liable to any direct payment to the treasury, or whose payments are only a few dollars. They do pay, however, social security taxes, and those rates are scheduled to increase the list of the year on employer or employe alike from one and a half per cent to two per cent. This latter group will not get tax relief unless congress trims the excise and special taxes which are really sales taxes on a long list of articles from furs and jewelry to drugs and theater admissions, all of which increase living costs. Corporations may get another tax break at the end of the fiscal year, June 30, if all or a part of a scheduled corporate income tax cut is permitted to take effect, which would reduce corporate rates from 52 to 47 per cent. After World War I the U.S. tax rate trend had been steadily down until the depression year of 1930 when unbalanced budgets became the rule and continued under the New Deal. In 1930 a series of excise taxes was levied on many items and continued and increased during the following year. In 1932 income taxes also began to go up and continued to do so. World War II saw increased taxes all along the line and reductions were supplanted by increases during the cold war and the Korean war. Whether further tax reduction can be expected depends on world and national conditions. Peace will probably assure it the Eisenhower administration program of efficient economy is carried out and a balanced budget attained, and the national debt held down to the legal limit.—G. P.

MISSING NOTE IN BERIA EXECUTION

In the tremendous attempt of leftist elements in both Europe and America to prevent the execution of the Rosenbergs, their complete silence following the execution of Beria, the former chief of the Russian secret police, is significant. It will be remembered that although the Rosenberg case was in our courts more than two years and was passed upon by the supreme court of the United States twice there was a loud outcry that they had not received a fair trial, that American justice was at fault because they were finally condemned after "due process of law" was stretched almost to the point of absurdity. We've looked in vain for any international effort by Communies or their fellow travelers looking to a fair trial for Comrade Beria. But we've looked in vain. Not a yip out of any of these brethren or sisters following the arrest, the announcement that he would have a propaganda type trial or the announcement that he had already been tried and shot. None of the Red sympathizers anywhere in the world seemed to see anything out of the ordinary in the way the Beria matter was handled by the Kremlin. Nor indeed should there have been. It was typical of the way Russian "justice" works. Nobody was shocked, except possibly Beria himself, and he was shocked in a different way. The Communists themselves pay American and free world institutions a great if unconscious tribute when they make an issue of one of our trials which was meticulously fair, as called for by our national tradition, and pay no heed to a ridiculous travesty on the very name of justice in the country of their choice. The Communists may be too obtuse to realize the distinction, but none of the rest of us should miss it.

ARE WE TAKING A CHANCE?

Whatever President Eisenhower may lack in political background, he is thoroughly experienced in military matters, so there will be little disposition in the U.S. to dispute the wisdom of his decision to bring two U.S. divisions home from Korea. But we cannot assume the continuance of peace there. We have made no head way in trying to negotiate a settlement with the Chinese following the truce. The American public understands that China has rebuilt the wrecked North Korean airfields and has made preparations for resumption of war. The president's explanation for what might look like a dangerous move is twofold: (1) The South Korean forces are much stronger now, and could give a much better account of themselves if called upon to fight again, and (2) The U.S. air force is much stronger and would strike heavier blows at the enemy. It might also use atomic weapons if the Chinese were to break the truce. The cutback in Korea is in line with the administration's decision to reduce the armed forces by 10 per cent. It expects to do this without reducing combat effectiveness, but by a reduction of support troops, housekeeping forces which though necessary do not fight. Presumably some risk is involved, but our enemies may assume and probably rightly that we are fully confident of our strength due to superiority of weapons and otherwise or we wouldn't do it. So the risk may be much less than a quick look would suggest.

Ike Advisor Optimistic

Washington (AP)—Gabriel Hague, economic assistant to President Eisenhower, said Sunday the nation's economy is in excellent shape and that room of St. Mary's school. "I look for next year. . . .", he said. "We are to avert a depression," he said, "it will be necessary for us to recognize the problem and not hide from it as we did in 1931 and 1932."

DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE BUDGET



WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND Party Revolt No Monopoly For GOP; Dems Have It Too

Washington—Democrat senators returning to Washington for the hot congressional session find that the Republicans aren't the only people troubled with rumblings of revolt. There are also rumblings against the handsome young senate minority leader, Lyndon Johnson of Texas. For the first time, Lyndon has lost the support of the man who made him—ex-speaker Sam Rayburn. To those who used to watch Lyndon in Sam Rayburn's office in the days when he was a young congressman, this is almost unbelievable. The young congressman from Texas hung on to the coattails of the elder congressman from Texas as if Sam was his nursemaid. Where one went the other went. If it had not been for Rayburn's faithful, never-falling friendship, Johnson would be just another congressman or else defeated today. Last summer, however, Rayburn, despite his age, 71, set out to heal the wounds of the badly fractured democratic party. He held \$10-a-plate dinners all over Texas. Meanwhile, his former young disciple, aged only 45, went his own way. He made more than 180 speeches all over Texas, but he made them for Lyndon, not for the democratic party which his one-time mentor was trying to cement. Privately, Rayburn has had plenty to say about this. He's even been willing to agree to the appropriateness of the Johnson nickname, "Lyn" Down. Lyndon. But publicly he says nothing against his old friend. Sam isn't built that way. However, various senators are saying things about Lyndon. They are especially asking the question: "How can Johnson lead the democratic party in Washington if he wouldn't lead it back in Texas?" They know the reason Johnson wouldn't lead it in Texas was because he is afraid of Republicans and Dixiecrats when he comes up for re-election next year. And while they sympathize with re-election problems, they also figure that they need a senate leader who can concentrate on going forward on behalf of the democratic party, not looking backward at Texas on behalf of himself. Strange Friends Amiable T. Coleman Andrews, the nation's tax chief, has been sharply criticized in Capitol Hill for impropriety in handling Senator McCarthy's tax case. At the very same time that three revenue agents were investigating McCarthy's amazing income-tax returns Andrews was entertaining him royally at Richmond and later introduced him to a banquet audience as "one of the great Americans of our age." One senator who had probed McCarthy's finances as a member of the senate elections committee even took the trouble to warn Andrews in advance that it would be improper for him to act as host to McCarthy at the same time the internal revenue bureau was investigating him. However, Andrews pookooed the advice, went ahead with his date with McCarthy. This occurred after McCarthy had sought to embarrass Andrews' chief in the White House. McCarthy and Andrews drove together from Washington to Richmond, where the senator stopped by Andrews house, borrowed a razor and shaved off the dark stubble so often featured in cartoons of him. Later, the two drove together to the Hotel John Marshall, where Andrews had arranged a reception. He expected 800 guests. Less than 200 showed up. Real reason Andrews has been fawning over McCarthy is that the senator happens to be chairman of the appropriations subcommittee, which decides how much money will be allotted to the internal revenue bureau. Though McCarthy is the only U. S. senator whose strange finances are exposed in an official senate report, it doesn't look as if Andrews' tax agency will be doing anything about it. Peace Messages Secretary of State Dulles stated last week that the people under soviet domination are so discontented "it would be reckless" for the Russians "to engage in general war." All the information I've been able to obtain confirms this. Refugees and other sources along the iron curtain all back him up. However, this situation is not going to last forever. Therefore, now is the time to begin the campaign promised by both General Eisenhower and Mr. Dulles during their election speeches of getting peace and friendship propaganda behind the iron curtain. One of the simplest ways of doing this is by sending messages across the iron curtain by large weather balloons. Most successful experiment to this end was conducted by C. D. Jackson, now on the White House staff, together with Abbott Washburn, also on the White House staff, and this writer, in the summer of 1951. Working from West Germany within a couple of miles of the Czech border, we launched balloons carrying 11,000,000 leaflets to the people of Czechoslovakia. By gauging the winds it was fairly simple to get the balloons to spill their leaflet load over the bigger Czech cities just as people were going to work. The effect on the Czech people was so electrifying that Premier Zaptocky had to deliver a speech on the floor of parliament denouncing the leaflets germ carriers. But the Czech people, who knew better, continued to go for the leaflets in a big way, even tacking them up secretly on communist bulletin boards. The present winter is going to be rough on people behind the iron curtain. Food is not plentiful. Clothing has never been plentiful. This would be the perfect period to balloon-drip friendship messages attached to anything—from pins and needles to tea and biscuits. (Copyright, 1952)

GAY DOG Hartford, Conn. (AP)—After their pet dog, Joy, was killed by an automobile. Gov. and Mrs. John D. Lodge replaced the puppy with another they named Gay.

'Mere Journalists'

By RAYMOND MOLEY I have received a letter from a professor in a large American university taking me to task for my views favoring the Bricker amendment. Since the gentleman is a perfect stranger to me, and since the letter and an article accompanying it are obviously propaganda efforts to influence my opinion on a public question, I do not regard what he says as a private or privileged communication, although I shall withhold his name and that of the institution in which he is a professor. In fact, the propaganda purpose of the communication is so stated. It says that he hopes his pamphlet will lead me "to take a somewhat different attitude." His first sentence is this: "It is natural that some columnists who are mere journalists should be misled by the ardent supporters of the Bricker amendment, but I greatly regret that a former Columbia professor should be infected by their terror of treaties." I shall not argue the Bricker amendment in this piece, although my views stand unimpaired after this attack. Nor shall I stress the patronizing tone of the communication except to say that this attitude of some professors may explain why their institutions are having so much trouble these days. I have had enough experience to know how that attitude grows with the seclusion in which a long academic life is more or less enjoyed. Incidentally, I am not "a former" professor yet. In the sentence I have quoted, the word "natural" appears. Another professor in this man's institution used to warn students against the loose use of the word "natural." In this case it is used to glide easily over a hard point of evidence. There is nothing "natural" in the sense of an innate or habitual disposition of journalists to lose their balance in the presence of "ardent supporters" of this or that. I have found that the more ardent a person is, the more a good reporter will suspect the validity of his case. There are good lawyers and plausible arguments on both sides of the Bricker matter. The real reason why I favor it is based not on anything I learned as a professor, beyond the plain meaning of the law before and after the Holland v. Missouri case. I favor it because in my contacts with the actual people who conduct foreign relations—as distinguished from the dream people used in much academic discussion—I have learned how fallible they are and, in particular, how ardently the members of the executive department will try to rid themselves of congressional restraints. I also have learned how shocking have been the betrayals of the national interest by members of the foreign service in past years. I learned this by the hard way of 20 years in journalism. I also might add, I hope without returning patronage in kind, that, unlike this professor, I served in the State Department for a period and know the actualities there. "Mere" journalists are in contact with the government. Their knowledge of its nature is more likely to be reliable because of that fact. Finally, I would remind my correspondent that, after learning my trade in the two professions of teaching and journalism, I found the latter much more exacting. This professor might not be so contemptuous of "mere journalists" if he tried for a while to interest a million or more people several times a week and at the same time to be accurate and libel proof. BASKETBALL LOOKING UP Albany Democrat-Herald It would be no favor to Coach Gill and his troupe of towering basketweavers to begin picking them already for the national championship; but their victory over Indiana, national champions, after a loss of an overtime game the previous evening, tags the Beavers as probably the best basketball team assembled in Oregon since Howard Hobson's Tall Firs, who captured the national title in 1939.

Sen. Dean Walker

Astorian-Budget Death has removed one of Oregon's most valuable political leaders in the death of Sen. Dean Walker, former state senate president and a member of the legislature for two decades. He has been for some years one of the legislature's acknowledged experts and leaders, particularly in matters of taxation and finance. Other members of the legislature tell of the worth of his counsel and guidance in the activities of that body. His experience has been of great value to the legislature in establishing taxation programs, and therefore of value to all the people. Sen. Dean Walker was born in Astoria, Oregon, in 1877. He was educated in the public schools and at the University of Oregon. He was a member of the Oregon State Bar and practiced law in Astoria. He was elected to the Oregon State Senate in 1934 and served until 1946. He was also a member of the Oregon State Board of Education and the Oregon State Board of Taxation. He was a member of the Oregon State Bar and the Oregon State Association of Judges. He was a member of the Oregon State Bar and the Oregon State Association of Judges. He was a member of the Oregon State Bar and the Oregon State Association of Judges.

LINDY'S GETTING OLDER

Pendleton East Oregonian Did that picture of Charles Lindbergh, in the newspapers last week, shock you, too? How time flies? Seems Lindy made that 1927 flight to Paris in the Spirit of St. Louis only yesterday. Guess he looks a little older in 1953 for the same reason we do. Have you looked in the mirror recently? ON THE WING Memphis, Tenn. (AP)—Walton Lipsev, Jr., didn't fire a shot, but he got his quail just the same. He said the flying bird hit the barrel of his gun and broke its neck.

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

By HAL BOYLE New York (AP)—Once upon a time there was a perfect Christmas. Everybody in America got exactly the presents he wanted, every man, every woman, every child. And every present was just the right size. Peace lapped the land in an invisible tide of love. The children behaved. Each mother-in-law felt as welcome as a queen. Papa and mamma found nothing to quarrel about. In Louisville a man gave his wife a canary and when she said the bird would never be able to sing the canary promptly warbled "My Old Kentucky Home." Same thing happened in Dallas, except that canary saluted three times with his wing and boomed in baritone, "The Eyes of Texas Are Upon You." Every mouse got free cheese, every dog a bone, every cat a nip of catnip. No housewife burned the turkey. Everybody in every family got to the dinner table on time. Everybody ate until he was full, but nobody ate too much. There wasn't an aspirin or sodium bicarbonate bottle opened all day from Maine to California. Nobody drank more than he should. Well, yes, one fellow did, an old hermit in the Ozarks. But that's the way he wanted to spend Christmas, because he enjoyed hangers-on all by himself. As a matter of fact, that was why he had decided to become a hermit years before. There wasn't a traffic jam anywhere in the nation, and whenever anybody looked for a parking space he found two, and women drivers found three, so they had no trouble parking either. No cars crashed together or left the highway and turned over. Accident cases? There was none. "Nothing," replied the band. The average American groaning inwardly, then began going through his bankbook figuring how he would pay for his Christmas bill. He found he not only had enough to pay them all—there was enough left over to take his wife and kids on a winter vacation. Then the average American went next door to call on his neighbor, and found the neighbor planning a vacation, too. "Have a nice holiday," said the neighbor. "Yeah, I guess so," said the average American, and added, "but somehow it didn't seem much like Christmas, did it?" Moral: The trouble with people is that if you give them real holiday from trouble they don't feel like people.

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