

## Amos Pinchot's Open Letter To The President On Spending

Another extract from Amos Pinchot's open letter to the president in which he analyzes the pump-priming bill "that will neither bring recovery nor reduce unemployment," is herewith presented. The bill which appropriated three billion dollars for pump-priming has already passed both houses of congress but what he said prior to its passage is just as true now as it was then. And it is just as much an indictment of the New Deal's inefficient program as was Dr. F. E. Townsend's address in Coquille recently:

When the American colonists revolted against the tyranny of the British crown, it was Edmund Burke who said that the struggle for Anglo-Saxon liberty has always been fought on the battlefield of taxation. And the man who controls the money that is taken from the people in taxes is, in effect, a dictator—no matter what office he may hold, and irrespective of the form of government.

On the 9th day of May, a bill was introduced in the House of Representatives, appropriating over three billions for relief and pump-priming. And, by a last minute amendment inserted in haste by Chairman Taylor, after a conference with you at the White House, the spending of this stupendous sum was made "subject to the approval of the President."

The passage of the bill in the House, on May 12, raises a very great and immediate issue. For, if this bill becomes a law, in its present form, without proper limitation upon your authority to allot and spend, it will, in all likelihood, clothe you with much of the power over the country's political and economic life, which you would have gained had the Court Packing Bill, the Black-Connelly so-called Wages and Hours Bill, and the Executive Reorganization Bill all been placed on the statute books.

Your bill, Mr. President, embodying your big spending and pump-priming program, is an extremely bad bill—worse even than the other power-seeking measures you have urged on Congress. It will neither bring recovery, nor reduce unemployment. It is clearly a scheme to restore White House power by buying support in the coming elections. And, if passed, it will go far toward liquidating our two-party system of government by putting a faction of one party, dominated by one man, in control of the United States. The bill should be fought by every American who loves his country and honestly believes in democratic institutions.

Mr. President, when a nation gets into deep water, and the people grow cold to its political leadership, there are two standard methods which, all through history, leaders have used to restore their prestige and make the people forget their trouble. One is to produce a war, or a war scare—as was done by Caesar, Mussolini, and many other resourceful rulers. The other is to spend huge sums and make the electorate dependent on and beholden to the government. Sometimes both methods are used at once.

After, it must be conceded, grievous provocations and aggressions on the part of Japan, you made at Chicago, on the fifth of October, a remarkable speech—indeed a speech unparalleled by that of any other President—in which you asked that a nation not at war with us should be "quarantined" as a carrier of disease. And since that time administration bureaucrats and diplomats, responsive to you, have been rattling the sabre at short intervals and courageously offering to save the country by throwing the American people into the breach.

In January, as has been noted too briefly in the press, a secret meeting of about fifty persons took place in New York City. At this meeting were represented the General Staff, the War Department, the State and Navy Departments, the press, business, and public relations. And a discussion took place covering the disposition of the American and British navies in a war with Japan, the methods to be used and the time it would take to inflame war spirit in this country, and the way to silence the opponents of war and to take critics of war, like Mr. Boake Carter, off the air.

On Feb. 24, the May war-power bill was introduced in Congress, a bill which would create a complete presidential dictatorship the moment war is declared. The May Bill has been referred to by Mr. Carter as the bill to abolish American democracy.

But despite continued threats and growlings from Washington, including recent remarks of our Ambassador to Great Britain and Secretary of War Woodring, the effort to whip the country into a hate lather has, up to now, had little success for three reasons.

First, our newspapers, realizing that, after all, it is a serious business to expose our people to the horrors of modern warfare, have behaved with

magnificent restraint and patriotism. Second, Japan ceased her aggressions and apologized. And, in the third place, China, getting her second wind, plus an increased supply of munitions from other nations, has turned the tables on Japan.

To restore the prestige and power of the New Deal Administration, there remains the second alternative, that of enormous and rapid spending. And this is embodied in the pump-priming bill now before Congress.

As to that part of your program which deals with relief for the unemployed, it will meet with little opposition. I think the country is united in demanding that they shall be looked after until they can find jobs in private industry. And surely it should be united in demanding that, in the administration of relief, the government shall maintain a high sense of responsibility.

Relief, Mr. President, is too serious and, I may say, sacred a matter to be exploited by politicians, or used to violate a citizen's right to vote as he pleases. And, if I am not mistaken, the country's attitude toward relief spending is a simple and human one which might be expressed in a single sentence: Billions or, if need be, billions for relief, but not one cent for patronage and politics.

As to the question, raised in your message, whether we should continue, and, more than that, expand the pump-priming program, which for four years we have tried as a recovery measure, with little success, a wide and honest difference of opinion may exist. But on one point there is no doubt whatever. The money appropriated by Congress for relief, or, for that matter, for any other purpose, comes from the people. It belongs to the people—not to the government. The greater part of it is raised by indirect taxes on consumers. And every cent of it should be allocated by the people's elected representatives, and spent with care for the purposes designated by them.

And, what is more, the actual expenditure of relief money should be in the hands of local, non-partisan commissions, watched over by Congress and composed of citizens, of high character, who know the local needs and are chosen from all walks of life. This, Mr. President, is the custom in England, where politics in relief is almost unknown.

But giving the President and his appointees huge sums of tax money to dispose of as they please, and place here or there according to party or personal advantage, is so wrong and so unfair to those who need help, that no public servant, who is more than a politician in the less desirable sense of that word, should defend or tolerate it for a moment.

So much, Mr. President, for relief and for getting it out of politics. Now let us consider pump-priming as a general recovery measure. And let me say right here that opposition to your continuing your effort to pull the country out of depression by vast borrowing and spending, and staggering tax burdens, does not come from partisan or reactionary sources.

It comes rather from liberal and fair-minded men and women of all classes, who have watched the course of events, and who see that, after spending fantastic sums in a four years' trial of pump-priming—billions upon billions taken mainly from the public's pocket in taxes on the necessities and simple luxuries of life—production is still stagnant, unemployment is rapidly increasing, and the country is in many respects worse off than when pump-priming began.

On Sunday, May 8, in a radio broadcast, Mr. Harry L. Hopkins, Works Progress Administrator, defended pump-priming, and said that we should continue it in the future because it has proved successful in the past. Mr. President, let us see just what kind of a success it has been—and for whom? And, to answer this question, let us consult the testimony of leaders in your administration and of Mr. Hopkins, himself.

Let us first see what your pump-priming policy has done for the youth of America. During the hearings held early in May, before the House Appropriations Committee, Mr. Aubrey Williams, head of the National Youth Administration, estimated that seven million people between sixteen and twenty-five years of age are today unemployed and in neither colleges nor schools. How shall we visualize this immense and unfortunate army of young people, who are denied opportunity in a country that is held in depression, while almost every other democracy in the world has made a real recovery and is now, economically speaking, in a normal or better than normal condition?

Mr. President, if, from a grandstand erected on Pennsylvania Avenue in front of the White House, you were to review a parade of these jobless young Americans, it would take them over three months to pass, marching from dawn to dark in or-

inary military formation. Yet, while our new depression tragically keeps them from either making a living for themselves, or helping their families, Mr. Hopkins serenely announces that we have done so well under pump-priming and big spending, that we should go on with it on a larger scale than ever.

And how about agriculture? At the same hearings, Secretary Wallace predicted that our total farm income for the year 1932 would drop to ten per cent below that of 1931, i. e., to \$7,700,000,000. And this sum includes benefits from the government. Our average pre-depression farm income was approximately \$12,000,000,000. And, in bolstering Mr. Wallace's appeal for more money to spend, Mr. Milo Perkins, assistant head of the Farm Security Administration, said that three hundred and sixty thousand farm families are today bankrupt and in need of immediate aid.

Since 1929, our farmers have been short thirty-two billion dollars in their normal income. Producers of other basic commodities, lead, zinc, copper, et cetera, whose prices are largely governed by the same monetary forces, have had an additional shortage of fifteen billions, a total deficit of income and purchasing power of forty-seven billion dollars.

Among the producers, representing almost half our population, is much of the lost buying power that has caused unemployment.

Meanwhile, Secretary of the Interior Ickes asks for a billion dollars to spend on seven thousand public works projects, for the most part non-productive, to say nothing of the projects which will be started by Mr. Hopkins through the WPA. This, Mr. President, is putting government into competition with private industry for fair.

It is perhaps the longest step toward collectivism, and a totalitarian know-all and do-all state, that has been made by any modern nation with the exception of Soviet Russia. Yet this grandiose and costly excursion into socialism will concededly give work to but a small fraction of the unemployed, who would soon be put to work in private industry if confidence and a fair chance to make a profit were present.

In the same hearings Mr. Daniel W. Bell, Acting Director of the Budget, said that, while the government had previously estimated that the deficit for the coming fiscal year would reach nine hundred and fifty millions, your present program will raise it to at least \$3,720,000,000. In other words, under your big spending and pump-priming policy, the government's calculations have as usual gone wrong, this time to the tune of two billions and three quarters. And informed people have expressed the opinion that, before the year's close, your program will bring the deficit to the incredible sum of eight billions.

Meanwhile, Mr. Hopkins predicts that WPA alone must take care of three million people this winter, an increase over present figures of almost half a million. He calls attention to the fact that our national income has dropped "from a rate of sixty-eight billions (last year) to fifty-six billions (this year)," our average national income from 1923 to 1929 being about eighty and three-fourths billions.

Leaving the testimony of administration leaders, let us turn to organized labor.

On May 2, Mr. William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor, stated before the same Congressional committee, that three million seven hundred thousand industrial workers have lost their jobs in the last seven months. And John L. Lewis, Chairman of the Committee for Industrial Organization, said, in a broadcast to British labor, on March 15, that, in five years of pump-priming, your administration has spent twenty-two billions in subsidies to industry, agriculture and finance, and seven billions for work and direct relief. Said Mr. Lewis:

"Thirteen million Americans are now unemployed. Their numbers are steadily increasing, as the nation drifts with terrifying and deadly sureness to the never, never realm of financial bankruptcy, economic collapse and human tragedy. . . . America is moving in economic reverse."

Mr. President, the foregoing facts do not seem to establish the claim that your big spending policy has been good for the country. They form, on the contrary, a grave indictment of your policy. And this indictment is not brought by the allegedly hostile press, which your spokesman, Senator Minton, of Indiana, complains about so much. It comes from your own appointees, and from the heads of the two largest labor organizations in the country, one of whom gave half a million to help elect you.

Nor can it be argued that the collapse that has attended the application of the big spending theory is due to any let-up in spending. For Treasury reports show that, from the time pump-priming began, we have spent more and more money each year. And, but for the brief and shallow-

rooted revival of 1932, which was put to flight by the deflationary action of the Treasury and Federal Reserve in the Spring of 1931, your recovery policy, based on big spending and pump-priming, has been a complete and tragic flop during which we have at all times had at least half the reported unemployment in the entire world.

The government, in the fiscal year ending

April 1, 1933, spent \$3,777,067,909.16  
April 1, 1934, spent \$4,848,004,417.51  
April 1, 1935, spent \$5,062,459,201.21  
April 1, 1936, spent \$5,337,110,459.44  
April 1, 1937, spent \$5,520,982,140.33  
April 1, 1938, spent \$5,676,045,774.10

Mr. President, I realize it is often unfair to compare a man's past opinions with his present course. And yet the economic, and perhaps political, situation is today so similar to that in 1932, that your former opinion of big spending may have relevancy. In a campaign speech at Sioux City, in September, 1932, you said:

"I accuse the present administration (Hoover's) of being the greatest spending administration in peace times in all our history—one which has piled bureau on bureau, commission on commission, and has failed to anticipate the dire needs or the reduced spending power of the people. . . . On my part, I ask you to assume the task of reducing the annual operating expenses of the National Government."

And yet, despite the now demonstrated failure of the big-spending policy, your administration cleaves to it and to managed currency as a drowning man to a straw.

In no case, is your continuing desire to seize power and more power better evidenced than in your demand for stupendous lump-sum appropriations, which you may allocate for relief and other purposes, at your personal discretion, and without interference by Congress or the States. Mr. President, people are human. And the motive of self-interest works most actively in the lean years of a depression. It is therefore only reasonable to expect that the groups, the communities, the millions upon millions of individuals, who will receive their share of the enormous sums—to be taken from the people in taxes by your bill and distributed by yourself and your friends—will support, at the polls, the candidate favored by you.

Not until later on will they realize what they will pay for this—pay far more than they will be getting. They will pay in bad business, in low production and an impaired standard of living. They will pay in heavy hidden taxes on almost every necessity of life. They will pay in unemployment and low wages and incomes. For from no other source than high production can employment, wages and incomes flow. They will pay in the lack of opportunity and discouragement of the younger generation. And they will pay in the political corruption which the massing of money in political hands always brings. And, finally, they will pay in the loss of the finest heritage we possess, our democratic tradition and democratic form of government.

If the lump sums contemplated in the Appropriations Bill are to be voted, unarmarked and not properly controlled, into the hands of the Executive by Congress, they will Tammanize America, if, indeed, this has not already been done. And I appeal to you and to every citizen who loves his country and has respect for the integrity of government, to reject this plan to buy America on the hoof.

### Certificates Awarded Friday

The Vacation Bible School, sponsored by the Coquille Ministerial Association and with which all the churches in the city co-operated, closed last Friday night. The closing program included a band concert by the Coquille band, a ten-minute program by each department of the school and an exhibit of the work done. The Pioneer Methodist church was filled to capacity for the meeting and much favorable comment on the work of the school was heard.

The school enrollment for this year was 260 and an average attendance of 198 was maintained. Certificates to the number of 186 were given, the requirement being that at least eight of the twelve sessions be attended. Many of the certificates were honor certificates signifying that the student had attended every session. Twenty-five faculty members were presented with a service pin by the ministerial association.

Late cabbage and broccoli plants may be purchased at Myrtle Gardens for approximately a cent apiece.

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**The Pioneer Methodist Church**  
Howard L. Graybeal, Pastor  
Sunday School at 10 a. m. Ernest Purvance, superintendent.  
Morning service at 11:00 a. m.  
Evening services at 8:00 p. m.  
Epworth League 7:00 p. m.

**Church of Christ**  
East Fourth and Coulter  
C. Adrian Stas, Minister  
9:45 a. m. Bible School.  
10:00 a. m. Sermon, "The Unfruitful Fig Tree."  
7:00 p. m. Christian Endeavor.  
8:00 p. m. Sermon, "The Artesian Cup." Special music by choir.

**The Holy Name Catholic Church**  
Coquille: 1st Sunday, 10:30 a. m.; 2nd and 3rd Sunday, 8:30 a. m.; Myrtle Point: 2nd Sunday, 10:30 a. m.; 4th Sunday, 8:30 a. m.  
Bandon: 1st Sunday, 8:30 a. m.; 3rd Sunday, 10:30 a. m.  
Powers, 4th Sunday, 10:30 a. m.  
Rev. J. M. Sheridan, Pastor

**Emanuel Baptist Church**  
Fourth and Elliott Sts.  
Morning Worship, 11:00 a. m.  
Evening Worship 7:30 p. m.  
Prayer meeting Thursday 7:30 p. m.

**Coquille Tabernacle**  
Second and Heath Streets  
Rev. R. D. E. Smith, minister  
Sunday School at 9:45 a. m.  
Morning Worship at 11:00 a. m.  
Young People's service at 6:45 p. m.  
Evangelistic service at 7:45 p. m.  
Prayer Meeting, Tuesday night at 7:30 p. m.  
Bible Study Friday night at 7:30.

### Raising Dam Ten Feet To Be WPA Project

(Continued from Page One)

quire a filtering plant on top of the hill to purify it, in addition to the chlorination the local supply now receives.

He advised that the city should add to its water facilities gradually and not incur a large debt to secure a greater supply than is now needed. He stated that Coquille has grown more rapidly than the state and than most of the communities in the state in the past ten years, but that there was no need now of providing a water supply sufficient for a town of 10,000.

The master meter at the reservoir on the hill east of town shows that the average consumption of water here is about 300,000 gallons a day, and the 24 million additional gallons made possible by raising the dam would last two months and a half or longer, and supply a city of 5,000.

Another objection to pumping over the 627 feet elevation was referred to by Mr. Koon as "dynamite." If anything should happen to stop the engine, the back pressure from the water in the two mile line up the hill would be very apt to tear to pieces the line and pumping plant.

He said it was too late to secure a permanent increased supply for this summer, unless some emergency made haste imperative, and characterized the dam-raising as an ideal WPA job, which would probably require two years to complete.

Acting on Mr. Koon's suggestions, the council instructed the city engineer to make application to the office in Portland for doing the work as a WPA project. Also to clean the banks of the storage reservoir of brush and debris as high as the water will be when the dam is raised.

When that is done Mr. Koon will come down and make investigation of the dam's foundations, although he stated he was convinced from his observation there last Friday that it was sound and offered no danger to those in the valley below nor of a possible loss of the city's supply.

Another thing Mr. Koon told the council was that instead of possibly reducing the water rates in Coquille to pump from the North Fork, it would actually make it necessary to increase them. The sprinkling rate here is five cents per thousand, after the \$2.00 minimum charge is reached, but the cost of pumping up the hill would be 10 or 15 cents per thousand gallons.

### New Cases in Circuit Court

June 22—Clarence S. Hatcher vs. Paul and Vida Prince.  
June 22—M. R. Lee vs. Albert N. and Mary V. Godwin et al.  
June 24—Alexander Turner vs. Alexander G. Thrift.  
June 24—State Industrial Accident Commission vs. E. M. Wilkins.  
June 25—Pacific Coast Joint Stock Land Bank vs. Dollie R. Smith et al.  
June 27—Rae Maxine Stark Pierson vs. John Luke Pierson. Suit for divorce.  
June 27—C. Mae Wolske vs. Geo. W. and Emily D. Kruse.

**St. James' Episcopal Church**  
Cor. 3rd and Elliott Streets  
Rev. George E. Turney, Vicar  
Summer Schedule in effect  
8:00 a. m.—Holy Communion.  
9:30 a. m.—Morning Service and Sermon.

**Church of God**  
Corner Seventh and Henry Sts.  
L. E. Neal, Pastor  
Sunday school, 10 a. m.  
Morning service at 11 a. m.  
Rev. and Mrs. L. E. Neal have gone to Santa Cruz, Calif., to attend the state camp meeting held in that city. They will also visit relatives at that place.

Rev. Mamie Bisconer, pastor of the Church of God at North Bend, will have charge of the services Sunday morning. There will be no service Sunday evening.

**Methodist Episcopal Church**  
Evening preaching 7:30 p. m.  
Prayer meeting Wednesday 7:30 p. m.  
Scriptural, spiritual preaching. Everyone welcome.  
G. A. Gray, Pastor

**Coquille, Oregon**  
Sunday School at 9:30 a. m.  
Sunday Service at 11 a. m.  
Subject for next Sunday, "God."  
Wednesday evening meeting at 8 o'clock.

Free public Reading Room open in Church Building every Tuesday and Friday afternoons except holidays from two to five o'clock.  
The public is cordially invited to attend our services and to visit the Reading Room.

Calling cards, 50 for \$1.00.

### Marriage Licenses

June 23—Stanley M. Betz and Eldora P. West, both of Coquille. They were married here at the Earl West home on Sunday, by Rev. R. B. Wilburn.

June 23—Oliver Rudolph Dunberg and Hallie Harriet Jensen, both of McKinley. They were married at the Baptist parsonage here last Thursday by Rev. W. A. Stephens.

June 23 — Henry Shirteff and Sheila Delzell, both of Myrtle Creek, Ore.

June 24—Clarence Nelson McNair and Norma Anne Buell, both of Coquille.

June 25—Donald Earl West, of Coquille, and Ellen Glenda, of Coaledo. They were married at a double wedding at the Earl West home Sunday by Rev. R. B. Wilburn.

June 27—Joe Sinko, of Arago, and Helen Anna Robinson, of Coquille. They were married by Rev. W. A. Stephens at the Baptist parsonage on Monday.

June 27—Jack Frederick Hagquist and Nadine Lydia Carlson, both of Marshfield.

June 27—Everett C. Kidd, of Coquille, and Clara Allen, of Myrtle Point.

June 27—Virgil E. Kenyon and Viola Lucille Ice, both of Bandon.

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