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EDITORIALS

AMERICA'S BIGGEST BILL

Talking about the fact that the United States government is heading toward a \$35,000,000,000 debt doesn't mean much to most of us. The figures are too big for us to understand, and besides it is sort of like saying out neighbor is up to his neck in debt.

But some comparisons just developed by the United States News, a loped by the United States News, a newspaper published in the nation's months of 1935, the number was escapital, bring the facts home to as timated by the same Bureau to be in an intelligible way.

that the 125,000,000 people in the ed by the manufacturers in 1935 sons has been set up by the Works nation spend \$2,000,000,000 a year for light and power. \$6,000,000,-000 for clothing, \$10,000,000,000 for rent and \$11,500,000,000 for good. And for taxes, to operate fethe News finds they spend \$12,000,-000,000 making that the nation's maining difficulties. biggest bill.

Going a little further than the News went, we find some equally surprising facts. For every man, woman, and child in the country, industry is one important factor. puted public interest." somebody spends an average of \$15 food. But the tax cost per person in \$96.

\$1.00 for food, 87 cents for rent and his work." 45 cents for clothing. That, of course, is only an average. The man who is unfortunate enough to own his own home or an automobile or anything - literally anything, for everything nowadays bears a taxhas a much heavier load.

The figures would be much more astonishing if governments only would pay as they go. They are, instead, borrowing and piling up a debt that will have to be paid with taxes in the future.

When that day comes, 35 per cent of the national income will go to governments. Isn't it about time to call a halt?

MORE MILK, BUTTER AND COWS

Figures recently issued by the National Dairy Council show the tremendous potentialities for expansion of the dairy industry,

If milk consumption increased to an average of four quarts a day for a family of five-the consumption advocated by dietetic authorities-65,000,000,000 more pounds of milk would have to be produced annually. This in turn would require an increase of 15,000,000 head of dairy

Other health authorities say there should be a 50 per cent increase in butter consumption. Should that occur, 24,000,000,000 more pounds of milk would be needed, the product of 5.000,000 cows.

The dairy cooperatives are working continually to educate the public in the wise and adequate use of milk products. That work is gradually producing results-and it is directly in the interest of both consumer and producer.

THE HOD CARRIER

In everyday conversations, we use the phrase "hod carrier" to describe a man who does the heavy work. In view of the present attitude in some political circles, it's interesting to find out who is the government's hod carrier.

In 1935, the federal government got more than 80 per cent of its tax revenue from business. Consequently, since the government must depend so heavily upon business for revenue it should not do anything that would tend to reduce the capi-

tal that produces the business. There are suggestions that industry must put the unemployed to work. Collier's magazine describes as "obviously absurd" the argument that industry must provide work for

eight or nine millions unemployed. "Industry means manufacturing," Collier's says. "During the first ten months of 1929, wage-earner employment in manufacturing industries was about 8,839,000 according to figures of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. During the first ten



6,840,000. Thus approximately 2,-For example, the News shows 000,000 fewer workers were employ- tion" machine employing 300 perthan in 1929.

"Two million is not eight or nine

can provide depends on many factors sion, its purpose is not "propaganoutside the control of industrialists. da" but the dissemination of "in-The policy of the government toward formation requested or of undis-

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A new publicity and "informa-Progress Administration.

The new organization, founded by deral, state, and local governments, ployment the sooner we shall arrive past or present. The nearest ap- able from Local Welfare. at practicable solutions of our re- proach to the WPA set-up was that maintained by NRA in its heyday.

"How many jobs manufacturers As officials explain the new divi-

"It is good politics to talk as The division includes sections to Each day, that family contributes asking a farmer to provide jobs for WPA branches, to contact members \$1.05 in taxes while it spends only more people than he needed to do of Congress and to decide policies for state WPA organizations.

So Help Me, It's True

Economic Highlights

Happenings That Affect the Dinmillion, however. The sooner we Harry L. Hopkins, head of work re- ner Pails, Dividend Checks and Tax delegates at the convention. Such derway, even though, theoretically, stop making loose general state- lief, employs more publicity men Bills of Every Individual. National commentators are tending toward the opening gun will not be fired unments about employment and unem- than any other government agency and International Problems Insepar- belief that the big figures in the par-

Nothing noteworthy has occured in business of late-industry is op- dark horse. erating on an even keel, and the recovery movement continues slowly. And nothing noteworthy has occured in government-Congress is pursuing its routine, and no legislative a year for light and power, \$40 for though industrial corporations could prepare and distribute motion pic- send Plan and the American Teleactually be expected to absorb the tures, to answer telephone inquiries, phone & Telegraph Co. investigaloan of unemployment, because cor- to prepare written statements for tions, is apt to occur in the near Take the average family of four porations don't voe. Yet nobody in gather and consolidate "news" from future. Finally, nothing noteworthy -father, mother, son, daughter, politics or elsewhere would think of gaher and consolidate "news" from has occured in the tense European situation-the great powers continue to play their diplomatic chess game. It might also be said that nothing

noteworthy has occured in the poli-

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tical situation so far as major deve- points will vary with the candidate. lopments are involved. But there If, for instance, Senator Borah were 1936 is gradually taking form.

everyone knows that, barring the will be used. News. Another strong wing, led finish the job. by Senator Borah, and generally be- It is widely believed that the Prelieved to have the support of such sident will stress economy in the Leader McNary of Oregon, wants a penditures were unavoidable and liberal candidate. Still another saved us from ruin, that wherever strong wing wants a middle-of-the- possible he aut expense. In line road candidate, such as Governor with this, he recently appointed a Landon of Kansas. At this writing, committee of three experts in public the best bet for the nomination administration to survey the governwould be Governor Landon, and ment and prepare a plan for reormost public polfs show that he is more popular with the people than ganization and consolidation of burother leading Republicans. But it eaus in the interest of economy and must not be forgotten that promi- efficiency. In his letter to the memnent commentators seem to believe bers he intimated that some of the that neither Senator Borah nor Ex- new agencies he created were justi-President Hoover are in favor of Landon-and those two men, standing poles apart in their viewpoints, having little in common save sin- curtailed in their operations. cerity, can sway a great number of ty may offset each other with their opposed strength-may indirectly bring about the nomination of a will fly thick and fast.

That remains to be seen. But this can be said with certainty-no matter who is nominated, he will campaign on certain planks. Constitutionalism will be one of those planks -the Republicans will hold that it is the President's plan to get around the Constitution in one way or another, establish what amounts to a dictatorship of the Federal bureaucracy. Taxes will be another-the Republicans will say inflation impends, and that the country goes toward bankruptcy. Relief will be another-the Repubicans will claim that Administration relief plans have been wasteful and socially and economically menacing, that more distress could have been alleviated with less spending, that the spoils system prevails. Public policy toward industry will be another-the Republicans will claim that Administration tax and regulatory policies have barred the way of greater industrial recovery. And so it will go. The accent laid on these various

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great activity beneath the sar- nominated, he would probably lay face, and the political picture for greatest stress on the Constitution. while Governor Landon would be ex-Main political interest naturally pected to talk most about taxation focuses on the Republican party- and ffscal policies. But all the planks

grim reaper or a grade A miracle. The Democratic campaign must. the Democratic candidates for the of course, be based on the Presihighest elective positions in the dent's record. It will be held that country will be Franklin Delano he was responsible for the recovery Roosevelt of New York, and John we have achieved-that his mis-Nance Garner of Texas. And, with- takes were inevitable in an emerin the Republican party, the battle gency where speed was essential. lines are firmly fixed. One strong that he has no idea of tampering wing of the party, led by Herbert with the Constitution or the Su-Hoover, wants a highly conservative preme Court, that his program, by candidate, such as, for example, Co- and large, has succeeded and earnlonel Knox, publisher of the Chicago ed him the right to go back and

potent figures as Senate Minority campaign-declare that his vast exfied by emergncy, will be dropped with the recovery, that others will be

So the political war is getting unradio in shape—the verbal shrapnel

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