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Editor and Proprietor

EDITORIALS

EDITORS VIEW SOCIALISTIC ISSUE

The Industrial News Review recently asked country newspaper editors for their opinion on various phases of the "power question." With around 1,200 replies now tabulated, some extremely interesting fact are being produced.

Only 42 of the editors said that the utility industry is not giving good service—while 1,111 feel that service is good. Only 295 editors favor municipal ownership of power plants, while 863 are against it.

Most important of all, perhaps, only 157 editors believe that government or municipal ownership of the electric industry would give more progressive, efficient and cheaper service, taxes and public subsidies considered, as against 947 who feel otherwise.

It is very probable that these percentages showing overwhelming opposition to any socialist trend that would put the government into business to the injury or destruction of private enterprise, represent the general feeling of informed citizens. It was not accidental that in the last election voters turned thumbs down on proposed local measures to put various states into business.

A BALANCED BUDGET
The first statement of the President as to future policies dealt with the problem of the Federal deficit. Mr. Roosevelt, in a brief announcement, said that he believed it would soon be possible to balance the budget and that he intended to do so at the earliest possible time.

Various commentators, some of them close to the White House, anticipate that the budget will be balanced at the end of the 1937 fiscal year, which starts next July.

It is doubtful if any act by the President and the Congress would do more to restore confidence in our government's financial structure, or to stimulate industry and investors. Once the budget is balanced—and kept balanced—we will at least know that the Federal debt will grow no greater. And, with a balanced budget, we can apply ourselves to the tremendous job of reducing the debt to a more normal level.

It has been Mr. Roosevelt's opinion that during a time of depression a country should spend far beyond its receipts and, once a reasonable amount of recovery is achieved, reduce outgo and return to a business basis. Current conditions indicate that the time is here when business improvement should make emergency spending unnecessary.

The President has apparently refused to listen to those who would have the government keep on spending vast sums in excess of income until debt repudiation or insolvency arrived. It is to be hoped that it will be possible to balance the budget very soon.

COMPETITION STRENGTHENS COOPERATIVES
Some wise words on the agricultural cooperative movement are found in the Dairyman's League News, the organ of the Dairyman's League Cooperative Association, Inc., which was a pioneer in the Eastern dairy co-op field. The News said: "One of the reasons why farmers' cooperative marketing organizations have grown healthfully and become sound business associations is that from the start the cooperative movement in the United States has been a voluntary effort. In addition, farmers' cooperatives have had to meet stiff competition from the beginning. They have had to fight their way up."

THAT BROKEN STEERING GEAR
You commonly see news items such as: "John Jones was charged with reckless driving following a collision between his car and another vehicle. Jones stated that his steering gear failed. Both cars were badly wrecked, the occupants sustaining minor injuries."

Sometimes the item has a grimmer sound, when people are badly injured or killed. But the "broken steering gear" is one of the commonest defenses put up by drivers responsible for accidents—and, curiously enough, the more influential the driver, the oftener it is used.

As a matter of fact, it is doubtful if any part of a modern motor car is structurally stronger than the steering gear. Exhaustive tests by manufacturers show that real steering gear failures are practically unknown. But John Jones is always having them.

Maybe John is drunk and weaving his way home when the crash comes. He sees that the front end of his car is completely mangled—and so he calls upon the ghost of his steering gear which "broke" for some reason just as he was making the turn. Maybe he was speeding on a slick pavement and went into a skid—well, the steering gear is

blamed again. Maybe he was dozing and didn't even see the vehicle he hit—blame it on the steering gear, it can't talk back!

It's time we stopped listening to the steering gear alibi and similar alibis which are false 999 times out of 1,000. John Jones may escape jail—but the fact remains that some 35,000 people are being killed each year in preventable accidents. The reckless and incompetent motorists must be punished and their alibis laughed out of court, if that ghastly toll is to be curbed.

Economic Highlights
Happenings That Affect the Dinner Pails, Dividend Checks and Tax Bills of Every Individual. National and International Problems Inseparable from Local Welfare.

Not even in the boom days was there such a surge of extra dividends, wage increases and employee bonuses as this season. Corporate industry is pouring out money to its stockholders and workers in unprecedented amounts.

A list of extra dividends and bonuses declared would take many pages to detail, but here are some outstanding items: Steel has announced a 10 per cent advance in wages, which will up payrolls a \$70,000,000 in 1937. General Motors will pay its workers a Christmas bonus of \$10,000,000, in addition to other benefits. Chrysler has voted an extra dividend of \$5.50 per share. Eastman Kodak declared a 75-cent extra, and Jewel Tea Company \$2.00. Standard Oil of New Jersey will pay a \$4,500,000 bonus to workers, and Sears, Roebuck one of \$1,500,000.

Uphold of this is that dividends of various big industries will be as large as in pre-depression days—while wages, in some cases, will be higher. Steel's new wage rate is the highest in its history, General Motors is 10 per cent above the 1929 average. Business Week says that next year industry's labor costs will possibly be the highest in all U. S. industrial history.

What caused this amazing change? Obvious answer is better times—and there is no question but what industry in general has pulled out of depression, has entered a period of recovery.

But that isn't the entire answer to why business is figuratively breaking its neck in an effort to get as many dollars as possible into the hands of stockholders and workers before 1937 dawns. Big and potent influence is the new tax bill on undistributed corporation profits, passed by the last Congress.

This tax bill levies taxes of undistributed profits. It is the tax which is the major reason why business is following its present lavishly generous course. According to the New York Journal of Commerce, distributions to stockholders ordered for the last three months of this year directly traceable to the tax law, total at least \$500,000,000.

Economists are highly dubious of the ultimate results of the law, fear it will prevent industry from building up surpluses that are essential if future depressions are to be survived. In the meantime, however, the tax is helping cause a veritable dividend and wage boom.

At this writing, President Roosevelt is on his way to the Inter-American peace conference at Buenos Aires, where he will make a speech the first day and then return. He was preceded south by an imposing American delegation headed by Secretary of State Hull—implacable fighter for better commercial and diplomatic relations between countries.

There has been considerable discussion concerning the value or the futility of the conference. Some point out, with truth, that there is no danger of a war arising in North or South America, that Europe and the East are the danger spots.

However, it is the President's belief—which is shared by many—that if the nations of the Western Hemisphere show Europe that a round-table discussion of issues can lead to amicable settlements and agreements, some progress toward world peace will be made. And it is likewise believed that if the President takes a forthright and aggressive stand for peace and throws his vast prestige against armed conflict, heads of powers which are now close to war may think again before giving the command to open hostilities.

The President's trip to Buenos Aires is thus in the nature of a gesture in a world which was never nearer to armed chaos. As a matter of fact, in recent months there have been more occurrences contributory to war than there were in 1912 and 1913.

Action—Not Words!
Today school children take part in health programs and understand the how, why and wherefore of preventing such communicable diseases as tuberculosis. They learn by doing. Christmas Seals have done much to stimulate this modern method of health teaching in the schools.

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Everyone hopes that gesture will be productive of good. In the meantime, it seems that every seasoned news commentator and every old-time war correspondent, is certain that war in Europe and Asia is inevitable—one of the leading correspondents recently stated, on departing for Europe, that he was going to cover the next war.

The Italo-German recognition of the Spanish rebels has further widened the cleavage between these powers and France and Russia. The greatest force existing today in both Europe and Asia is the force of hatred.

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clear visibility, the crisp, clean air, the pungent scent of the autumn leaves all make for attractive picnic weather.

All forest roads, though rough because the weather has not allowed maintenance work, are open and various mountain drives will be found very enjoyable. Some of these are: The Siskiyou Summit Loop Drive, with a noon stop at the newly-developed Wrangle Cap Forest Camp; the Main Applegate with a noon stop at the McKie Bridge Forest camp, with perhaps a loop trip over Carberry and Thompson Creek; Lake of the Woods and Union Creek making up the variation of attractions which may be still enjoyed.

Reports of larger fires, both north and south of this territory, indicate that an unusual fire season still exists. Camp fire permits, no smoking while traveling and the axe, shovel and bucket rules are still in effect, as well as the requirement for burning permits for slashing and debris fires.

CCC tree troopers from Mill Creek camp on the Ochoco national forest near Prineville, Oregon, recently came to the aid of 73-year old Lewis Regelsberger, whose farm home was destroyed by fire late last month and who faced the winter without household or personal effects except the clothes he had on.

Through the local Red Cross, various Prineville organizations, and neighbors Regelsberger was restocked with provisions, clothes and furniture, and lumber was provided for a new dwelling.

CCC boys realizing that it would be impossible for the elderly man to rebuild his house before winter, volunteered to give up their week-end trips to town and asked instead to be allowed to build a dwelling for him on their own time. As a result, a new double boarded house, floored and sealed, with composition roof, is now 100 per cent completed. Needless to say Regelsberger has a warm spot in his heart for the tree troopers.

Continued Cold Irks Duck Hunters
Continued cold, clear weather, which has resulted in spotted shooting, throughout the season, still prevails. Local geese have apparently moved south, as many of the bags now being taken in the Upper Klamath Lake are much thinner birds than those killed during the early part of the season.

Throughout the Forest swimming, fishing, hunting and over-night camping are past for the season and the morning and evenings are uncomfortably cold unless one is dressed for it. But during the middle of the day the temperature is very comfortable. The

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