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Experts Predict Fight On Expiration Of Controversial Excess Profits Tax

WASHINGTON (AP)—Several veterans on the House Ways and Means Committee today predicted that excess profits taxes, now yielding about 2½ billion dollars a year, will be allowed to expire June 30.

But Rep. Eberhart (D-Pa.), a sponsor of the tax, forecast a fight by some Democrats to extend it.

The tax which can run the government's take up to 82 percent of business profits, was imposed shortly after the Korean War started in mid-1950 to help pay for defense expansion and diminish any war profiteering.

The present law carries an automatic June 30 expiration date. Congress can extend the controversial tax as is, rewrite it or simply let it die.

Chairman Reed (R-N.Y.) of the House Ways and Means Commit-

tee, where all tax legislation must start, already has called for "a natural death." He spoke against what he called the law's throttling effect on business, and unfair, arbitrary and discriminatory tax provisions.

Two other veteran Republicans on the committee, Representatives Kean (N.J.) and Simpson (Pa.), said in separate interviews today they share a view the tax hurts rather than helps the economy—and will be dropped.

Rep. Martin (R-Ia.) said he was "very strong" for dropping it. They picked up support from some Democrats. Rep. Mills (D-Ark.), a strong backer of the present law, told a reporter he probably will favor letting it die because of inequities.

Many of the largest corporations benefiting from defense contracts are escaping the tax due to special

exemptions, while many smaller firms are being penalized, Mills protested.

Rep. Dingell (D-Mich.) said he favors tax relief for "the little man" more than for business, but probably will go along with the move to let the excess profits tax die.

Reed, Simpson and others agreed that individual income tax payers should be given some relief at the same time.

The excess profits tax is piled on top of regular corporate income taxes like this: The normal tax takes 30 percent of income up to \$25,000; a surtax takes 22 percent of all income over \$25,000—a total of 52 percent; then an additional 30 percent levy is imposed on income determined to be excess profits.

Actually, no one knows just how many corporations are paying excess profits taxes. A revenue bureau breakdown won't be completed for several months.

The best guess from congressional staff experts is that about 70,000 of roughly 350,000 tax-paying businesses are being tapped under the excess profits provision.

Committee members generally agreed there are inequities in trying to apply the present excess profits levy to all types of businesses, with widely varying operating conditions.

But Eberhart said these inequities should be corrected. He said an effort definitely will be made to extend the law.

Bricker Seeks Treaty Change

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sen. Bricker (R-Ohio), joined by 60 other senators, has proposed amending the treaties which might interfere with U. S. domestic affairs.

Bricker said yesterday in a Senate speech the amendment they offered would prevent any such intervention by the United Nations. The senator, who has fought before for similar legislation, declared the U.N. was threatened by a "desire to interfere in matters essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of its members."

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Film - making Veteran Says Future Bright for Movies

By BOB THOMAS

HOLLYWOOD (AP)—Adolph Zukor, 80 years old today and still an active leader in the film industry, said "the future of the movie business looks brighter than at any time during my 50 years in it."

The spry and peppery Zukor hustled into an office at Paramount, which he founded. He had just come from Grauman's Chinese Theater, where he had implanted his footprints beside those of other movie immortals.

Tonight the film stars of today and yesterday will turn out for a dinner honoring his 80th year and five decades in the movies. In succeeding months, he will be feted at other dinners in New York, Dallas, Chicago, Mexico City and Toronto. Then he plans to tour Europe.

The prospect of this strenuous schedule falls to lesson Zukor's daily office routine in New York, arriving at his desk at 9:30 a.m. And he still continues his unflinching faith in the future of the movie business.

"The future of this business is more exciting and promising than it has ever been," he commented. "I see no grounds for pessimism."

What about the competition of television?
"Naturally, television was going to cut into our business," he replied. "It was a great novelty to sit in your living room and watch a show that was being presented at that moment in New York. But the novelty wears off. People still want to see top attractions in theaters."

Cecil B. DeMille's "The Greatest Show on Earth" is playing to more people than any picture made in times when people were going to the theaters to see anything. That shows you that people want to see good shows. As showmen, it is our job to make pictures that will make people get out of their homes."

Zukor added that he based his optimism on two factors—pay-as-you-see TV at home and third-dimensional films.

"I think there is a great future in telemeater or some other method of showing new pictures to home viewers," he said. "Perhaps a picture would be shown for a certain amount of time in a theater. Then the theater owner would put it on TV and collect for each screen. In that way, the theaters could stay in business."

I think third-dimensional films will win back the movie customers as developed as sound was, in that it adds new excitement to film attractions."

He remarked that Paramount has been conducting research into third-dimensional methods. He also said that Paramount, which was a leader in TV development, has developed a color tube for which it has high hopes.

Now Paramount chairman of Paramount Pictures, Zukor said he had no plans to retire.

"I don't feel 80," he said. "I could be 75 or 60 or 55. I still go to my office every day and I see all the pictures, not only our own, but those of other studios, too."

"I think it is a shame to cut off a man's life when he is 60

or 65 by retiring him. That is a sure way to kill him off. Unless a man become mentally or physically unfit by age, I think he is more valuable to a company as he grows older. He then has the experience and wisdom to advise the younger men, who are so busy with their everyday duties that they are not able to reflect."

Zukor's career starts with the penny arcade and carries up to today's multimillion-dollar productions. I asked him for his favorite films.

"One of them stands out—'The Covered Wagon,'" he answered. "It had the scope and the feel that made you proud to be part of this country."

And, still being a salesman, he mentioned that the studio had a future Western epic with the same feel—"Shane."

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Variety of Laws Called For To Deal With Serious Strikes

WASHINGTON (AP)—Rep. McConnell (R-Pa.) said today he favors legislating a variety of alternative methods for dealing with national emergency strikes to make it easier to deal with them.

The new chairman of the House Labor Committee said in an interview that if unions and management are kept guessing over which technique might be employed by the government, that in itself would spur the parties to greater effort toward a settlement.

"If they don't know what might happen to them, there's more of a tendency for them to settle their own troubles," McConnell said.

"I think the idea is fundamentally sound. No one yet has come up with a sure answer to handling these big strikes. And I think we should encourage the participants of these labor-management disputes to try to work out their own problems wherever possible."

"Leaving the situation flexible to meet the varying conditions of each case would provide more leeway for the interplay of human relations and might thus bring on more settlements and fewer strikes."

McConnell has a lot of ideas

for rewriting the nation's basic labor laws. But he said he hesitates to express them until his committee is fully organized and gets down to work.

Hearings on suggested changes to the Taft-Hartley law are tentatively set in both the Senate and House in early February. Sen. Taft (R-Ohio) has said they will be "wide open." McConnell said the House hearings may last several months, in a thorough sifting of the whole problem.

The House committee chairman said he favors retaining the court injunction method, perhaps modified somewhat from the present provision in the Taft-Hartley Act.

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as one of the "tools" available to the President to handle the big, extraordinary strikes.

But an injunction may be unnecessary in many cases, he said. The law might also let the President name a board of inquiry to recommend a settlement. Or the Chief Executive might ask Congress in-

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