

# Washington Digest

National Topics Interpreted  
By WILLIAM BRUCKART  
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### Washington.

In this so-called modern civilization of ours when we are supposed to keep pace with progress, every one of us is confronted every day with some sort of government regulation or restriction. We are told what to do and what not to do and a good many politicians want to increase the number of things we are told to do.

### Network of Spies

Included in this modern civilization is a perfect network of spies who bear official titles of one kind or another, and probably the most insistent of these spies are the agents of government who look after taxes. All of which is necessary because tax payers undoubtedly will dodge a little if they can get away with it. The federal government has a good many thousands of them; state governments have them and county and city governments maintain a veritable army of employees whose job it is to check up on taxpayers. Make no mistake about that. If the taxpayer does not come through in accordance with the orders of the tax collectors, there is plenty of punishment.

Mr. Roosevelt's plan to destroy the curb on trick and illegal spending, this nation and its citizens will pay for the folly in waste not now conceivable.

### Someone might arise and say that my statement is unjustified because there was not such a terrific drain on the treasury before the general accounting office came into existence in 1921. My answer to that is that there was a tremendous drain on the treasury before 1921 when the accounting, auditing of bills and checks, was done by individual agencies of the government. The difficulty is that, except for war time agencies, the cost of running the federal government before the general accounting office was established was only about one-seventh of what it is now. None of the federal agencies then in existence were as large then as they are now; none had as much authority nor as great a scope of operations, and the bulk of the new agencies have been born in legislation that is haphazard and undigested to say the least. The older agencies of government have scores of workers who know how to handle their business. Regrettably, it must be said that most of the new agencies are controlled by, completely filled up with, men who are unfamiliar with the gigantic problems their jobs entail.

### Drain on Treasury

Public sentiment is a thing difficult to understand. For example, millions of people became wrought up when President Roosevelt sought to increase the membership of the Supreme court of the United States by the addition of six judges of his own choosing. They rightfully fought back against the destruction of our judicial system. Fighting words characterized the criticism of Mr. Roosevelt and his New Dealers who sought to break down the system of checks and balances created in our government by the founding fathers when they provided for executive, legislative and judicial divisions of governmental authority.

So, I am wondering why thus far there has not been an outburst of vehement criticism of Mr. Roosevelt with reference to the proposed destruction of the check on spending. I am wondering, too, why people who complain so violently against spies in the form of tax investigators should not demand of their government equal protection for the funds after they have been taken away from the taxpayers.

### There are two other agencies of the federal government which Mr. Roosevelt's reorganization plan eventually will destroy. Each has proved its worth. Each has a record of service to the nation and protection for individual citizens that cannot be ignored. I refer to the interstate commerce commission and the federal trade commission.

The ICC has supervised the railroads nearly half a century. It has compelled them to be fair when some individuals in the railroad industry were inclined to cheat or take advantage of an unorganized segment of the population. Sometimes there has been criticism of the commission for placing the railroads in a strait-jacket, but the good that the ICC has done far outweighs any damages it has caused.

Yet, it is proposed in the President's reorganization plan to take away the independence which has characterized the history of the operations of this agency. The President wants to place over the commission a political appointee responsible only to the Chief Executive.

Through all of the years I have worked in Washington, there has been a never-ending effort on the part of politicians to get their hands on the agency that controls the railroads. It takes no stretch of the imagination to see what would happen if the politicians were able to succeed in this direction. I am quite convinced that if the ICC is subordinated to the political philosophy of a presidential appointee, every one of us who uses the railroads will be paying toll. The toll will not go to the railroads but to the politicians.

With respect to the federal trade commission much the same can be said. Like the ICC, the trade commission is quasi-judicial. It is an independent agency. Times unnumbered, it has stepped on crooked business and has forced business of this stripe to play the game within the regulations. On occasion, I have criticized specific actions by the commission as lacking in judicial consideration. By and large, however, I think no one can say unqualifiedly that the federal trade commission has failed to do its job in the interest of individual citizens—which, after all, is what government is supposed to do.

Which brings us to the point of and the reason for this discussion. It sets the stage for the question: If the government, national, state or local, is so punctilious about tax collections, the gathering in of people's money, why is it that government is not equally punctilious about the way the money is spent? This question is very much to the forefront now. It is a question of paramount importance because of a proposal for governmental reorganization which President Roosevelt insists must be considered by the forthcoming session of congress. The federal government must be reorganized. The reason for this reorganization, according to the President's argument, is that the present structure is inefficient, wasteful, and generally quite unwieldy.

It is to be granted, I think, that much of the present federal governmental structure is inefficient, wasteful and unwieldy. Throughout the government one will find various agencies charged with the same responsibilities, doing things in opposite directions, winding and binding red tape around the citizens until some of them scarcely can get a hand free to mark their ballots. The whole thing needs a thorough going over but, as I see the picture, this going over should be done with a view to making governmental machinery workable and rebuilding only where hastily conceived governmental agencies and functions have demonstrated that they are acting as a deterrent rather than an encouragement to the nation as a whole.

### Changes Proposed

I have no quarrel with Mr. Roosevelt concerning the need for changing some parts of the governmental machine. I have a very definite objection, however, to some of the changes he proposes. I object strenuously, for example, to his move to destroy the present setup for protection against improper spending of the taxpayers' money. Specifically, I can see no possible excuse for Mr. Roosevelt's demand that the general accounting office be made subservient again to the whims of politicians by placing that agency under the control of a political appointee, namely, the secretary of the treasury. That is exactly what is proposed, and if the President's governmental reorganization program is accepted by congress in its present form, the President of the United States, whether Mr. Roosevelt or his successor, again will be able to determine to a large measure how the taxpayers' money is spent.

That may appear to be an exaggerated statement. One may ask about the constitutional provision which requires that all appropriations shall be made by congress. This would seem to prevent executive mismanagement of the taxpayers' money. Such, however, unfortunately is not the case because we have had proof under President Roosevelt's administration what can be done when one political party has such complete control of the machinery of government. Congress appropriated billions. True. But had there been no general accounting office in existence, I doubt if anyone could have even guessed what would have happened to those vast sums of money.

It has been my privilege to watch operation of the federal government almost 20 years. Because of that experience, I think I am able to say that I am more conversant with the tricks to which politicians resort in getting money out of the treasury than persons who have not had an opportunity to study the government as it actually functions. And because of that experience, I am going to make the unequivocal statement that unless congress repels

## ASSISTANTS TO RAIL HEAD



E. J. Connors (left) and G. F. Ashby (right) have been named as assistants to the president by W. M. Jeffers, president of the Union Pacific Railroad. Both men were formerly assistants to the executive vice president when Mr. Jeffers held that position before his election to the presidency October 1.

## SUNSET VALLEY

MRS. L. E. NEWGREN

The Worthwhile Sewing club met Thursday, October 28th, with Mrs. George Wilson. Roll call was answered with household hints. The guests embroidered tea towels and pot holders for the hostess, who, in turn served delightful refreshments. The next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. Maize on Thursday, November 11th.

Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Bolitho went to Caldwell Sunday where Mrs. Bolitho will spend two weeks visiting her parents. Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Moffatt of that city. She expects to take treatments for her eyes and nose while there. Mr. Bolitho returned Sunday evening and plans an elk hunt while his wife is away.

## ARCADIA NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Bolitho went to Caldwell Sunday where Mrs. Bolitho will spend two weeks visiting her parents. Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Moffatt of that city. She expects to take treatments for her eyes and nose while there. Mr. Bolitho returned Sunday evening and plans an elk hunt while his wife is away.

R. A. Scott of Vale spent Saturday night and Sunday at the Newgen home.

Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Wilson and two young sons of Nyssa were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Vern Wilson. Mr. Anderson of Nyssa was also there building a flu for the Wilson house.

Mr. Frank Assumini is a new settler, having bought the Frank Morgan tract on the south side of the valley.

Mrs. Chas. Ditty, Mrs. Lucy Case and Mrs. Leslie Ditty, and two children went to La Grande Sunday evening. Mrs. Chas. Ditty and Mrs. Case returned Tuesday. Mrs. Leslie Ditty will visit for about three weeks there with her mother.

Misses Bernice and Verla Wolf spent Sunday afternoon with Viola Pullen.

A. R. Roberts and Troy made a trip last week to Unity for a load of posts.

Mr. and Mrs. Loyd Adams and daughter and Mr. and Mrs. Gardiner of Richland district visited in this vicinity Sunday.

The Culver brothers of Wilder were business visitors here Thursday.

Mrs. Ira Chadd was hostess for a pot-luck dinner Sunday. Those present to enjoy the feast were the John Reffett family, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Black, Mr. Black's brother and wife of near Caldwell and the Ira Chadd family.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Warren are working in the beets at Emmett. Their son and daughter are staying at the W. A. Mettlen home. Mr. and Mrs. Gick of Nebraska, relatives of Mrs. Warren were camped at the Mettlen's over the week end.

Otto Wolf moved his house to the new home site last Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Mosley of Vale were dinner guests at the Newgen home Wednesday.

Mrs. Chas. Schweizer spent the week end at home, going Saturday morning to the Owyhee dam with Mr. Schweizer and Chas. Share of Cow Hollow. She also attended the 4-H club meeting at Newgens.

Mrs. L. W. Pomeroy of Buhl accompanied by his brother were in Sunset valley Sunday looking over his place and visiting friends.

Leslie Ditty delivered seed corn to Ontario Monday.

Several range horses, bent on halloween fun Saturday night created considerable excitement on the north side of the valley, bringing many farmers out of their peaceful sleep to drive them away from their own stock.

The 4-H club meeting was held at the Newgen home Saturday afternoon with Mr. Hauser present. Nothing definite has been decided yet, but another meeting was planned for the near future.

Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler Dines and Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Dines of Nampa were visitors at the Chas. Ditty home Sunday.

Roy Tammonds of Pendleton was a week end guest of Mr. and Mrs. George Wilson. Mr. Tammonds is a brother-in-law of Mrs. Wilson. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, Mr. Tammonds and Mr. and Mrs. Thyar Alle spent Sunday in Ontario.

Chas. Ditty has been closely confined to his home for several days with an attack caused from high blood pressure. He was taken to Ontario to the doctor Saturday but has not improved.

Mrs. Chas. Wilson and daughter Beulah of Homedale spent Sunday with Mr. Wilson and son, Harley. Mr. Wilson has started building a new residence on their place here. They expect to move their stock and live here after December 1st.

Among those who enjoyed the halloween party at the Owyhee school house Friday night were Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Mettlen, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Wilson, Mrs. L. B. Landreth, Mrs. Maize and Mrs. Newgen.

Painters are working this week on the interior of the Bolitho residence.

The clover huller is threshing for Jake Kollen and will make a circle around the valley threshing for Anderson, Mortison and Terra.

Mr. and Mrs. Grover Vest and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Vest of Arcadia were looking over this valley Sunday.

John Case started working last week for Mr. Horn on the Homedale laterals.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Jamieson have their basement completed and are now ready to start on the house which will be a modern country home when completed.

Mrs. John Bartholma with Mrs. C. C. Wyckoff and Barbara and Jean visited at the Alva Goodell home on Tuesday.

The young people of this community attended the party given by the Community Church on Thursday.

Mrs. Chas. called at the E. L. Jamieson and A. P. Goodell homes on Friday.

Ralph Boyles has been digging his potatoes and has found some weighing three pounds a piece which is not so bad for new land.

Roy Boyles is attending to the chores at the Harold Maw place while Mr. Maw is hauling poles from the mountains.

## BUENA VISTA NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Perry attended the American Legion Auxiliary card party at the Eagles Hall in Nyssa Friday evening. Mrs. Perry won high and Mr. Perry won low.

Mr. Ted Newton left for Walla Walla, Wash., last Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Bill Ashcraft and Floyd Zesiger accompanied him. They are returning home Tuesday. Mrs. Ted Newton is staying in the Ed Newton home at Payette until her daughter Shirley improves from an abscess on her throat.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Drown are taking care of the Service Station during Ashcraft's absence.

Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Thompson of Arcadia visited in the Perry home Saturday before they leave for California for the winter. Stranger than fiction is the fact that both Perry's and Thompsons were close neighbors in California and knew each other's friends but never met each other until they moved here.

Mr. and Mrs. Arch Parker were Wednesday dinner guests of the Charles McConnell's.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerrit Muntjewerff

## Nyssa Heights

MRS. DAN CORBETT

Quite a number of our youth and slightly older attended different halloween parties in Nyssa this season and all report a splendid time.

Mr. Brady of Ontario visited Sunday at the home of Frank Graham.

Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Anderson of Nampa were all day visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. I. B. Allen on Wednesday of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Kurtz and sons spent Sunday near Nyssa with his sister, Mrs. Carl Ro'h and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Anderson were business callers in Fruitland last Monday.

Marion Sulter won the prize for the best costume at the Junior high halloween party in Nyssa Saturday night.

A new house is being started on the Jess Hunting ranch.

Mr. and Mrs. W. McDurment and family spent the day Sunday visiting friends in Apple Valley.

Mrs. Glen Sulter and children and brother Eugene Evans spent Sunday at the home of their sister Mrs. Manford Stimmel in Homedale.

Mr. Lewis finished drilling a well for O. J. Kurtz the first of the week at the depth of 370 feet.

Mr. and Mrs. John Quigley and Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Cahill were dinner guests at the Mr. C. Shurke home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. I. B. Allen were dinner guests at the Jensen home last Wednesday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Sweet, Mrs. John Quigley's sister from Twin Falls spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. Quigley.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Seburn gave a venison steak diner Sunday to about twenty-five relatives and friends. Those attending from Nyssa Heights were Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Webster and daughter, June, Mr. and Mrs. Reece Blyram and children, Dean and Floyd, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Corbett and sons, Mont and Jimmie Joe.

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## MODERN PLUMBING

A home is only as modern as its plumbing. In bathrooms, kitchens, laundries and lavatories, attractive fixtures and dependable "hidden" materials pay dividends in extra satisfaction and convenience.

—□—

**GEO. J. KINZER**  
Plumber  
PHONE 134-J-2 PARMA

visited in the Ed Newton home in Payette last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernor Parker have moved to the home formerly occupied by the Newtons.

The Kingman Colony Girl Scouts are practicing each evening at the Adrian grade school on a play to be given in the near future.

The H. E. C. club will meet with Mrs. Perry Tuesday to do some more sewing for the bazaar.

The Halloween party given at Holy Brothers store Saturday night was enjoyed by all who attended. There was much fun and noise when hats, horns and cider were given away.

### Education of Children

Education of children is not an external thing, a writing upon blank paper, a planting of selected seed in receptive soil, but an inward growth, sustained and stimulated by experiences and activities of many kinds, the response to the whole of the child's surroundings.

## UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

### NYSSA SHOE SHOP

John Aldecoa, Owner

Our Job is to make them look like new.

**John's Shoe Shop**  
Formerly Nyssa Shoe Shop

## Complete WINTER CHECK-UP

### No Guesswork!

Our Allen Tester's Will Test...

Accurate Gas Consumption  
Entire Electric System on trucks and cars

Don't Guess-Know What's Wrong

Everything In Auto Repairing

## Nyssa Garage

Located in Hoxie Building

### Paging Mr. New Car Buyer

... See the FIRST NATIONAL BANK SELECT YOUR CAR PAY CASH TO THE DEALER

**Cash Buyer PLAN**

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## THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF PORTLAND

MEMBER F. D. I. C.

New Packard-Bell Radios  
Also Good Used Radios

**SPECIAL**

Milk Cows and Work Horses  
At Reasonable Prices

**Olson's Second Hand Store**