

TAX BILL

W. J. Lawrence & W. B. J.

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The Senate has passed the tax bill. The vote - forty-eight to twenty-eight. Forty-two Republicans and six Democrats voted - yes. Twenty-six Democrats were joined by two Republicans in voting - No.

Yesterday, the Lower House passed the bill, two hundred and twenty to ninety-nine - much more than enough to override a Presidential veto. But the count in the Senate today was several votes shy of the two-thirds necessary to pass the tax cut over a veto. Moreover, Senator George of Georgia, while voting for the bill, declares that he will not vote to override a White House veto.

So it looks as if a veto would stick, if the President should elect to apply one to the bill that would provide a thirty per cent cut for all income taxpayers ~~save~~ save those in the ~~very~~ highest brackets. President Truman has stated often and emphatically that he doesn't believe there should be a tax cut right now; so he may veto it.

With the tax bill out of the way, Congress

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now turns quickly to the labor bill, with its political dynamite - the Unions being bitterly opposed. It is expected that the anti-strike measure will go to a vote in the Lower House tomorrow, and in the Senate on Thursday - to be passed along to the White House not later than Friday. Which will present the President with still another ~~fix~~ problem of number one importance - to veto or not to veto.

So this week brings to the genial gentleman in the White House two of the most explosive questions of his administration thus far. Coming in fast succession - the tax bill and the labor bill.

OIL

In the Senate Committee today, three Texans refused to sit down. They said they preferred to stand up - and do their talking on their hind legs. They were denouncing the oil agreement between the United States and Great Britain, which was signed in Nineteen Forty-Four and ~~which~~ is still to be confirmed by the Senate.

Today a Representative of the ~~State~~ State Department told the Committee that the Anglo-American Oil arrangement would not give the Federal Government any undue power over the American oil industry. The three Texans, up on their hind legs, proclaimed the very opposite. Two were members of the Texas Railroad Commission, and one an independent oil producer of Houston. ^{TP} All three declared that the British-American deal would create an international cartel that would tend to put American petroleum production under government control. ^{TP} One of them phrased it in the following words: "I believe ~~that~~ it is the first step the entering wedge, for the ultimate control of the oil business by the Federal Government."

INDIA

Tonight The program for India is a settled and accepted thing. ~~The British plan was~~ announced simultaneously in London and India - in London by Prime Minister Attlee to the House of Commons, in India by ^{the} Viceroy, Lord ^{Louis} Mountbatten. ~~in India.~~ (The response by the Indian Factions was immediate acceptance. ^{RP} Speaking for the Hindu majority, Pandit Nehru said - yes. Moslem leader Ali Jinnah declared the matter would have to be placed formally before the Moslem League, but in private Jinnah accepted.) For that other minority, the Sikhs, Baldev Singh gave an okay. So that would seem to be that - unless it should turn out that the Indian factions cannot agree in applying the program they accepted today. -- *the*)

~~using~~ program of partition. ~~There~~ *to be* at least two divisions of India - Hindu and Moslem. *To be called* ~~These will be called~~ Hindustan and Pakistan. (The Moslems get ^{ting} their Parkistan, which they had demanded so stubbornly.) ~~There is~~ There ~~is~~ to be a separate Moslem state - of a most peculiar sort, something

without precedent. The largest concentrations of Moslems in *India's* population are on opposite sides of ~~that~~^{with} great sub-continent - in Northwestern India, the Punjab, and in Northeastern India, Bengal over toward Assam. Thus the Moslem state of Pakistan will consist of two areas, separated by a thousand miles - yet ^{with} a single political entity. *That may be difficult.*

The British plan is for the people of India to divide up into as many independent states as they like. The Sikhs may have ~~their~~ their own state, for a third division, Sikhistan. And then there's the matter of the ^{many} Indian Princes, *— maharajas and Rajas,* The Hindu section, provided by the British plan, pertains only to British India - and not to the principalities of the ~~Mar~~ Maharajahs. Their status is up to them. They can join Hindustan, if they like, or they can form still another division, a combination of princely states ^{to be called} - Rajistan.

We don't know, of course, how far India will want to divide itself - how many divisions there'll be. Two, however, are certain, Hindu and Moslem states.

But it may be that the partitioning will divide India into Hindustan, Pakistan, Sikhistan, Rajistan. -- *stan meaning Land.*

Each of the Divisions will be given Dominion status immediately - under the British Viceroy. That is, each of the separate states in India will promptly acquire the self-governing status of ~~Canada~~ Canada ~~or~~ or Australia. Then, when all is settled, it will be up to them to decide their future status - ~~whether they want to stay on as British Dominions,~~ ~~or~~ whether ~~they decide~~ to become independent nations.

The boundaries of the various states are to be decided^d by Boundary Commissions, and there will be elections and decisions by local assemblies on questions of various ~~and~~ doubtful areas, ^{that is} which division is to have them. These details are so complicated, that in the House of Commons today Winston Churchill declared: "It all seems ~~is~~ very difficult to understand."

The main facts are simple. Lord Louis Mountbatten told the Indian people today that Britain would ~~xxxxxx~~ much prefer to have a unified independent

India, but that unity could not be had without coercion - and, partition was better than that. The Indian Nationalists said likewise that they wanted unity, but this was unobtainable right now ^{-- so} and they ^{would} accept division.

~~Equally obvious is the fact that the British are making haste to get out of India. Today's plan, with its provision of immediate dominion status for each division of India, is to be accompanied by a withdrawal of British forces - sooner than had been expected. The British have adopted a faster schedule for their intention of turning over India to the Indians.~~

The great question now is - how well will the Indian factions get on with the job of dividing up their country? We've been having the most alarming indications of an impending civil war between the Hindus and the Moslems, internal conflict on a huge and systematic scale. Will this be called off by today's all-around acceptance of the British program? Or will new troubles grow out of the business of

dividing up the country, which the Indian factions themselves will do? There are endless possibilities of argument and dispute in dividing the strange and ancient land into perhaps as many sovereign states as Hindustan, Pakistan, Sikhistan, and Rajistan.

WINDSOR

Today at Sunninghill, in England, a man and a woman celebrated their tenth wedding anniversary by walking hand in hand out of the front door of a mansion. A little while later, they were on a cross-channel boat going to France. The Duke and Duchess of Windsor, on their tenth anniversary, ~~were~~ going into exile again.

For three weeks, they had lived at that country house, a guest of friends. The Duchess, upon leaving, called it - "A lovely three weeks." The word is that they had hoped to stay in England for good, making their home in the Duke's native land. The Former Edward the Eighth may have hoped for an appointment ~~tax~~ to some responsible public office. He made it plain that he would have liked some such appointment ~~x~~ to serve in his native country.

The word in England is that last week the Duke of Windsor, at Marlborough House in London, had a long talk with his mother, ~~a~~ Queen Mary. There are London rumors of what was said by the mother to her ~~son~~ son.

Dowager Queen Mary is said to have informed

the Duke that she would never accept the Duchess, the former Wallis Warfield of Baltimore, the woman for whom Edward the Eighth gave up the world's greatest crown. So that was that - as long as the Dowager Queen's opinions continue to govern the attitude of the British Royal family.

The Duke's attitude seems to be - take me, take my Duchess. Ten years ago there was many a cynic, and many a person with cool good sense, who said the marriage wouldn't last long - that Royal Romance, with the abdication of Edward the Eighth for the woman he loved. But ten x long years have gone by, and today they walked out hand in hand, going into exile again - on their tenth anniversary.

ARGENTINA

The long drawn out quarrel between the ~~Wxxxx~~ United States and Argentina seems to have been settled - and in a hurry. At least the official gesture didn't take long. The Argentine Ambassador called at the White House today, and had a ten minute talk with President Truman - after which the announcement was made that the United States was ready to go ahead with a system of ~~Rxxx~~ Pan-American defense, including Argentina.

The matter of a defense treaty between all the American nations for a general Western Hemisphere Alliance has been under consideration for a long time now, but was held up because of disputes between our government and the ~~Regime~~ of Argentina's President Peron, often ~~af~~ accused of being a Fascist. The complaint was that Argentina had failed to expel Nazis, in accordance with promises made at the Conference of Chapultepec.

Recently, the Peron government tossed out some Nazis, and that would seem to fill the bill -

President Truman stating today that we are now ready to go ahead with an all-American Treaty of mutual assistance, Argentina to play its part as a member of the American family of nations.

POSTMASTERS

Congress is going to stage another inquiry, this one to investigate a deep dark suspicion about postmasters. Could it be possible that some postmasters have been nominated for political reasons? Imagine any such thing - local politicians getting jobs as postmasters. Why, it would shake our American democracy to its foundations.

Nevertheless, the Senate Civil Service Committee voted today to look into charges that politics has played a part in some postmaster nominations that President Truman has made. Right ~~now~~ now, the Committee ^{actually} is holding up the confirmation of seven-hundred-and-seventy-five ^{postmasters -} _^ on the suspicion that one or two appointments may not have been made entirely on the basis of genius for the job of postmastering.

The Committee vote today was six to three. That is, the six Republicans on the Committee voted to investigate, while the three Democrats voted - No. The Democrats charged that the Republican idea is to compel President Truman to dole some of the Postmaster jobs _{out to Republicans. Could be!}

LANDING

Some daring flying, ~~some~~^{some} luck, and ~~some help from~~^{some help from} dramatic aid by motorists below saved the lives of a young pilot and his sister who were forced down in a small plane ~~at~~^{near} Redding, California.

The emergency landing-field picked, was a narrow bridge across the turbulent ~~pit~~ Pit River, spanning a chasm five hundred feet deep.

~~was~~ John Post, a flier from Tacoma, Washington, ~~was~~ trapped above some of the toughest country in the West. Bad weather, no landing field in sight, and gasoline about gone.

Suddenly below him, young Post saw a long, narrow surface. More than half a mile long. From the air it ~~was~~ appeared no wider than a ribbon. But it seemed the only chance. The plane's motor attracted the attention of motorists and they quickly cleared all cars from the bridge.

~~Tys~~ The tense moment, the pilot started down towards the thin, concrete span. If he missed, it would mean five hundred feet down into the canyon,

to pile up on the rocks.

Now he throttles the engine, now back with the stick. The wheels touch, and he's down -- made it.

Some landing for the boy ~~and~~ and girl.

RENO

It's the little things in life that count. For a steel worker in Reno last night, the little thing that changed his life seems to have been a short cut through a gambling house.

Emil Sacks, steel worker, strolled into a "Hall of Chance" on his way to work -- the early morning shift. Clad in overalls, carrying a lunch pail, he paused to watch a game at one of the tables.

On a hunch he reached into his jeans, pulled out his wad, fifty dollars, and, shot the works on double-~~da~~ six -- a thirty-to-one ^{chance.} ~~shot~~. The dice rolled, crashed against the backboard -- and turned up [^]double-six.

Without a word he raked in his fifteen hundred bucks and walked out the back door. Putting his lunch pail in the alley he threw his overalls in a corner - then disappeared. His lunch pail and his overalls are still there. ~~He has vanished.~~

WEAPONS

Tonight a force of three hundred G.I.'s and Officers are ready for festivities, which begin tomorrow. That is festivities if you like hot weather. They are on maneuvers called "Operation Furnace."

These are being had on the Great American Desert near Yuma, Arizona. And, if you've ever been down there in the summer time, you'll have a deeply felt appreciation of that name -- "Operation Furnace."

Every day and all day long, the thermometer is above a hundred in the shade, if you can find any shade. The desert is blistering enough to fry a rattlesnake, or even the heat-palpitating-lizards that scurry around in the cactus. But the schedule for G.I.'s is -- a vigorous and strenuous test of the new weapons and equipment for desert war.

Oh, for the life of a G.I! When they are not on Operation Frostbite testing arctic equipment in sub-zero Alaska, they are broiling somewhere out on the American desert on "Operation Furnace."

And now Nelson, will you take over Operation Ivory

BICYCLE

In England, they ~~are~~^{are} having an argument over a point of law, and bicycles. In the town of Melkiham, a Judge found two young fellows guilty of riding a tandem bike without lights. ^{What sentence did} ~~and there's the sentence~~ his honor impose? ^{is six "bob" - about} He fined each one a dollar and a half. - The one who was riding in front because the bicycle-built-for-two had no front light. The one riding behind, ^{he} ~~was~~ ^{finned him} ~~was~~ because the tandem bike had no tail light. That would seem to be even-handed - or perhaps even-seated - justice.

But there's an uproar from the British National Cyclists Union, which protests that the sentence violates a fundamental rule of tandem bicycling. Which is that the man in front is in charge - so the Judge ~~should~~ should have imposed on the front rider the entire fine for the absence of lights.

Well, it's hard for an American to ~~form~~^{form} an opinion - it having been so long since we've ~~seen~~ seen a bicycle-built-~~for~~ for-two over here.

out to Republicans.

Well, with a good long memory of our American way with politics with Postmasters, I can sympathize with one legislator who uttered words of wisdom today. Postmasters are now under civil service instead of being straight-out appointments - and the comment of the wise man in Washington was:- "I believe it was a mistake ~~x~~ ever to put postmasters under civil service. They ^{are} ~~are~~ political appointments," said he, "And I believe they ~~must~~ ought to be political appointments."