

WSM - January 5, 1946

Good Morning, Friends:

I was greatly impressed by the convening of the 80th Congress. I do not mean that I was impressed by the speeches that were made because ^{they were common place + political and heavy} after eight years in Congress trite phrases and political platitudes become just so much eyewash. What impressed me most was the ~~actual~~ ^{as} reflection of changed American public opinion and will, ^{the} portrayed by the changed character of Congress.

Election day is the people's day. That is the day on which they can most effectively do something about their government. On that day, wherever the ballot boxes are kept pure, all officials from the highest to the lowest are subject to the people's will. ^{Although there was a very sharp difference of opinion,} The majority of the American citizens voting in November chose a Republican Congress and as these new members marched in, taking the place of members whose friendly faces ~~were absent, whose friendly~~ smiles and greetings were absent, dramatically illustrated not only the change in personalities but the change in the very complexion and character of the controlling influence of the American Congress.

The first bill -- bill No. 1 of the Republican Congress -- was to reduce taxes, to reduce taxes straight across the board, to slash personal income taxes 20 % for everybody; except that in a last minute concession to social justice, the bill ~~would~~ provide that there would only be a 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ % cut in taxes for people whose incomes are more than three hundred thousand per year.

Table

I have in my hand a cartoon which appeared in the Washington Post ^{of} yesterday morning. The cartoon pictures Mr. Knutson, the author of the bill, standing in a window; below him on the ground are two figures; one, is the ^{high} ~~upper~~ bracket income earners; the other is the low income fellow. ~~Mr.~~ Knutson is ^{pictured as} saying, "Something for everybody" ^{and} with one hand he is dropping

a large bag of dollars to the big income tax payer and with the other hand he is flipping a ^{small} coin into the little income tax payers hat. This cartoon is quite forceful and effective but aside from the tax cut issue, it depicts the changed philosophy. For several years now there has been a sort of soak the rich ^{for the benefit of the poor} attitude around Washington and now there is an attitude of help the rich so the rich can ^{in turn} help ~~a lot of~~ ^{the} other people.

In a statement accompanying the introduction of the bill, Mr. Knutson explained his philosophy. Mr. Knutson said that falling within the group receiving this 20% cut in taxes will be, and I am quoting directly from Mr. Knutson's statement, "The management groups

and quote
In other words, he says, lower taxes on the big fellow and he will spend it and help the little fellows but I don't agree with that policy.

The Senate was unable to organize because of a fight that broke out over the seating of Senator Bilbo. Thirty-seven Senators were elected in November. Their terms begin upon the taking of the oath as Senators in the present session. They are not members of the Senate nor can they participate in the deliberation of the Body until they do take the oath. For instance, the senior Senator from Tennessee who has served in the Senate longer than any ~~person~~ present member of the Senate is not now a Member of the United States Senate, technically speaking. ~~MM~~ If he were a Member, he would be the presiding officer until a new one was elected, but not having taken his oath, he is not qualified to preside or to vote or to raise his voice; in other words, technically speaking he is not a member of the United States Senate. This is true of every one of the Senators who were elected in November except Senator Baldwin whose name came ahead of Senator Bilbo and

who consequently was permitted to take his oath. When Senator Bilbo's name was reached, the fight over the seating of Senator Bilbo broke out and it is still raging. It is doubtful if President Truman can even deliver his message to Congress tomorrow as he had intended to do.

Of course, Members of the Senate whose terms have not expired are still members and through them the Senate can act. But a filibuster in behalf of Senator Bilbo is underway and all other business seems shunted aside.

As I gather the sentiment here it is overwhelmingly against Mr. Bilbo. One influential man said to me yesterday that the war contractor relationships of Mr. Bilbo were bad but that the basic cause of this fight was racial prejudice, bigotry and intolerance. In other words, he said it was typified by the letter which Senator Bilbo wrote to an Italian in which he started by saying, "Dear Dago," and by his bills and proposals to send the Negroes back to Africa. All Negroes born in the United States ^{are} just as much citizens^a of the United States as Senator Bilbo. And Congress would have no more right to pass a bill to send Negro citizens back to Africa than to send Senator Bilbo back to Scotland or Ireland or wherever his ancestors came from.

ALBERT GORE
4TH DIST. TENNESSEE

HOME ADDRESS:
CARTHAGE, TENN.

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

January 7, 1947

Wym

Miss Rebecca R. Allen
3301 Gallatin Pike
Nashville, Tennessee

Dear Miss Allen:

I am in receipt of your kind letter for which
I thank you. I am glad to know that you listened to my
broadcast last Sunday and found yourself in agreement with
it. I appreciate having the benefit of your opinion.

Sincerely yours,

Albert Gore, D. C.

AG:EC

1-6-1947
Harborville, Tenn

Congressman Albert Gore

Dr Sir —

Dear Sir: —

I again wish to express appreciation that you as our representative should come to the defense of the Negro as an American citizen. Senators defending Bulboism and filibustering in defense of such known & acknowledged misdeeds of the high officer of a United States Senator for personal gain and in the acknowledged violation of our Constitution denying a minority the right to vote discredit our government both at home and among other nations.

Thanks for your honest and fair stand on Negro question as expressed in today's talk very truly
Rebecca P. Allen
3301 Gallatin Pike

January 12 Broadcast

Stevens?

Mr. Stephenson - Readers -
Digest

Took this - Jan. 22
will return next week

Budget

Dealers Seek to Luxury Tax Qu

Knutson's Plan

Table Shows Proposed Tax Reductions

By the Associated Press

Chairman Knutson (R., Minn.) of the House Ways and Means Committee yesterday issued the following table comparing the individual income tax under existing law with what the tax would be under the Republican tax-cutting bill (H. R. 1), for a married person with no children:

Net Income
Before
Personal

Exemption Present Law H.R. 1

1,200	38.00	30.50
1,500	95.00	76.00
1,800	152.00	121.60
2,000	190.00	152.00
2,500	285.00	228.00
3,000	380.00	304.00
4,000	589.00	471.20
5,000	798.00	638.40
6,000	1,045.00	836.00
7,000	1,292.00	1,033.60
8,000	1,577.00	1,261.60
9,000	1,862.00	1,489.60
12,000	2,869.00	2,295.20
13,000	3,230.00	2,584.00
14,000	3,638.50	2,910.80
15,000	4,047.00	3,237.60
20,000	6,393.50	5,114.80
25,000	9,082.00	7,265.60
30,000	11,970.00	9,576.00
40,000	18,097.50	14,478.00
50,000	24,795.00	19,836.00
60,000	31,891.50	25,513.20
70,000	39,273.00	31,418.40
80,000	46,939.50	37,551.60
90,000	54,891.00	43,912.80
100,000	63,127.50	50,502.00
150,000	105,383.50	84,306.80
200,000	148,124.00	118,499.20
250,000	191,339.50	153,071.60
300,000	234,564.50	187,651.60
400,000	321,014.50	264,723.50
500,000	407,464.50	342,073.50
750,000	623,589.50	535,448.50
1,000,000	839,714.50	728,823.50
2,000,000	1,704,214.50	1,502,323.50
5,000,000	4,275,000.00	3,822,823.50

(This table would not apply to persons over 65 years old, for whom a special extra reduction is allowed by granting them an additional \$500 tax exemption).

TAX

From Page 1

"let's give it to the people who

Manufact Public Wi Buying Ot

New York, Jan. 3.—Manufacturers and sellers of fur coats and some other types of goods subject to the wartime luxury tax will attempt to have the tax repealed by Congress prior to the expiration date, it was said today.

Apprehensive as to the public's reaction to tax increases in the meantime, retailers and manufacturers differed in their views on the effects of a waiting period would be required.

"A recent poll of the taxation committee of the Retail Dry Goods Association resulted in a unanimous vote that the retail excise taxes be repealed or reduced at the earliest possible moment," said a general manager of the National Fur Trade Association.

Eugene K. Denton, president of the Tailored Woman, a specialty shop, predicted that Congress doesn't remove the tax before the expiration date will hold off buying furs for the next six months—an action which will be true of his jewelry.

"That would result in a suspension of very serious proportions in the affected industries," he said.

Some retailers do not expect an immediate dropoff in buying. Until the end of the season, they said, women will buy coats this season. Their view is that the tax will reduce the purchase of coats for next winter's use.

Sol Rosenberg, president of the Associated Fur Coat and Trimming Manufacturers, asserted that furriers today are selling furs below cost to close out inventory. He argued that because sales would hold up, since the tax is not bought now, even though it is a 20 per cent tax, women would better buy than a coat bought at the 10 per cent tax reduction.

Jewelers Anticipate Slow

Jewelers anticipated that the removal of the 10 per cent tax on June 30 would slow up particularly in the medium and high price brackets.

A Fifth ave. jeweler said he expected even before the end of the year to indicate they will

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From Page 1

"let's give it to the people who need it to eat."

There was no immediate sign that Knutson's late revision of the measure had lessened the opposition by Democrats and some other Republicans.

Senator Byrd (D., Va.) told news-

men: "Before we reduce taxes we must reduce Government expenditures, eliminating many thousands of Federal employes, removing duplicating Federal activities and make other economies. We must balance the budget and pay something on the debt. Then, when we can, cut taxes."

Keefe's Position Same

Representative Keefe (R., Wis.) likewise said "my position is the same. It would be mighty easy to cut taxes now, and then forget about paying the debt."

The Republican bill, if it prevails, would bring to almost five billion dollars the annual reduction

said today.

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Jewelers Anticipate Slowdown

Jewelers anticipated the slowdown of the 10 per cent tax reduction June 30 would slow up particularly in the medium brackets.

A Fifth ave. jeweler even before the end of the season indicated they would postpone buying until the tax reduction.

"That tendency is felt in gold items rather than in diamonds," he said, "buying extremely high jewelry don't mind so much tax."

He added that if the tax reduction moved before the announcement it will "slow up sales as we approach the deadline 90-day holdback in buying."

Makers of women's luggage will continue their efforts for immediate removal of the tax, said Max Berkow of the National Association of Ladies Handbag Manufacturers.

Luggage and leather makers also are in favor of elimination of the tax. A spokesman for that industry, however, said luggage is likely to be seriously affected by the resistance than personal goods, such as wallets and similar items, because leather is scarce.

Only items in the toilet goods field which are not made of leather

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The Republican bill, if it prevails, would bring to almost five billion dollars the annual reduction in America's Federal tax load, since next July 1 an automatic \$1,500,000,000 annual reduction is scheduled for the excise list, including lower levies on such things as liquor, furs, jewelry and cosmetics.

It is possible that steps will be taken to head off some of the excise tax reductions.

Congress in 1945, immediately after the war, wrote the first tax-cutting bill in 16 years. It cut six billion dollars off the war-imposed tax load. Despite this prior easing of the burden, taxes from individuals, corporations and the excise list amounted to around 40 billion dollars in 1946.

In a formal statement, Knutson said:

"The group which receives the full 20 per cent reduction includes the worker, the earner, and those who utilize their incomes in production, expansion and employment.

Class Explained

"Falling within this class will be the management groups and those who furnish risk or venture capital for new enterprises which would create more jobs in an expanding economy. In general, incomes above \$300,000 are included. . . .

"It is hoped and expected that H. R. 1 will give the greatest possible incentive to the investment of capital in new ventures, which will open up new avenues for employment as well as expanded markets for raw materials.

"I am satisfied that its operation will prove beneficial to all classes.

"It will start the country on the road to complete economic recovery (and provide the Treasury with even greater revenue that will make it possible to speed up the process of retiring the national debt.)"

SPECIAL NOTICES

NOTICE

The annual meeting of the stockholders of The American Company will be held in the Colony Room, Ambassador Hotel, 1412 K Street, Northwest, WEDNESDAY, January 8, 1947, at 10 a. m., for the election of directors and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting. Very respectfully, JOHN W. FISHER, Secretary. 3,4,5,6,7

OFFICE OF THE FIREMEN'S INSURANCE COMPANY OF WASHINGTON AND GEORGETOWN, 303 Seventh Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C. The stockholders of the Firemen's Insurance Company of Washington and Georgetown will meet at the office of the company on MONDAY, January 6, 1947, for the purpose of electing thirteen directors for the ensuing year. Polls open from 11 a. m. to 12 noon.

V. MANNING HOFFMAN, Secretary.
24,27,28,29,30,31,1,2,3,4,5,6

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Only items in the toilet goods field were expected to bump into competition to the tax authorities as fitted cases and perfumes.

NOTE

From Page

were disillusioned.

They found that from their Senator other hunk of past.

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amples of Pan Americanism in practice.

Eightieth Congress

The Republicans took control of the Eightieth Congress yesterday amid sobering reflections as to their responsibilities. The exuberance of November was decidedly toned down. Overshadowing their satisfaction at being in the saddle once more was a thought-provoking awareness of the rough road that may be in store for them. ~~This was reflected in the sudden collapse of intra-party fights, except the lone protest of Senator Reed over the loss of a chairmanship. The impression given is that the outlook for the session is far too grave to encourage Republicans to fight among themselves at the outset.~~

In speeches and comments, too, there was a large degree of serious concern over inherited obligations. "In this time and in the face of these momentous problems," said the newly elected Speaker, Joseph W. Martin, jr., "the Republicans do not gloat over a victory won. We Republicans are prayerfully conscious of our responsibilities..." In spite of the fustian and mere rhetoric that also went into this maiden address of the Speaker, it has aroused considerable hope that the Republicans will meet the challenge of the present situation without the know-it-all attitude that often characterizes a new majority in Congress.

One other hopeful sign was the decision of the Republicans in the House to retain the single Committee on Armed Forces instead of trying to revert to separate committees for military and naval affairs. This decision suggests that the new majority is determined to take advantage of the new streamlined congressional machinery created by the La Follette-Morrone Act. It suggests also that the way is open for further organizational improvements. The Republicans are naturally interested in a strong Congress. That interest may well induce them to sponsor additional reforms of the type recommended by the La Follette-Morrone Committee but dropped in the eleventh hour of the last Congress at the dictation of the Democratic leadership in the House.

It is ardently to be hoped that steps in this direction will be taken, for, in spite of its propitious beginning, the Republican

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portunity to watch the progress of
the occupation forces since the
termination of hostilities. The re...
port was followed by a number of
articles and editorials in the Na...
tion's press—the majority of which
came to the conclusion that the
present Military Government was
functioning well "under the cir...
cumstances."

It was evident, however, that a number of reasons, which were largely evaded or overlooked, still prevented the AMG from exercising its full responsibility. Strangely enough, this and similar accounts of the inconsistencies of our Military Government emanated from the same sources who might have anticipated such a situation by creating legislation enabling the War Department to carry out previous plans for the occupation.

Turning the spotlight away from Capitol Hill, these gentlemen would place the results of their negligence at the feet of the various unit commanders and the "immoral attitude" of our troops. The latter, in the words of one such article, today largely consist of "green, ill-trained, teen-age youngsters who have been taught little about soldiering."

In view of this and similar statements, permit me to voice a few words in defense of those "youngsters" who enlisted rather than face the uncertain future our Representatives in Congress provide for us by failing to act on the issue of Selective Service. As long as the Army must depend on the ready ebbing enlistments of youngsters for the better part of its stabulary there can be but hope for a solution of the occupation problem.

However, at present we have a host of critics and suggestions where sound legislation would be more appropriate. A training program, as outlined by the War Department and advocated among the various branches of the service, presents the only alternative to the confusion existent where the future of our Army is at stake at the same time preparing the country with a trained more mature reserve.

It is wrong, therefore, to place the blame for any deficiencies in the occupying Army's administration on the men themselves. For as long as Con...

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It is ardently to be hoped that steps in this direction will be taken, for, in spite of its propitious beginning, the Republican Congress has no liaison with the Democratic President that gives hope of consistent teamwork. The present outlook is for sharp differences between the White House and Capitol Hill on such vital issues as taxes, the volume of governmental expenditures, curtailment of strikes, stabilization of agriculture and other issues. ~~We have often pointed out in the past that~~ good will and a sense of responsibility on both sides are not enough to prevent dogfights on these issues. What is really needed in the present situation of divided responsibility is a measure of bipartisan government—a routine means of making orderly compromises instead of resorting to pitched battles that would inflict heavy losses on the people.

~~I do not see how either the Republican leaders in Congress or the President can escape a sense of neglected duty until they have bridged the gap between them with some kind of agency capable of working out compromise policies that will have a favorable introduction in both the legislative and executive branches.~~

Else the people will suffer the consequences of reduced efficiency of their govt.

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However, at present we have a host of critics and suggestions where sound legislation would be more appropriate. A training program, as outlined by the War Department and advocated among the various branches of the service, presents the only alternative. The confusion existent in the structure of our Army is, at the same time, a country with a trained more mature reserve.

It is wrong, therefore, to place the blame for any deficiencies in the occupant Army's administration to take the men there. For as long as Congress fails to recognize the need for prompt action, it is that this laxity, able in the rank on the dough, immemorially bear it!

CORPL.

Fort Myer

"Song Of

In re the columns on "South" and "North", may I suggest against the Appleyard

The "Oxford" misunders-contrary ion, has led to Oxford. As a matter of fact, Oxfordsh which clern Ame as we do seventeen university varied acc and facu American