More Taxation Looms As Paramount Issue During Next Congress

Republicans Face Difficult Problem As Treasury Deficit Mounts

By CHARLES P. STEWART
Central Press Staff Writer

Washington.—Taxation will be the big legislative issue in congress next winter. Presidential politics will be the really essential issue, but it will not exactly be legislative, although it certainly will effect legislation.

Taxation will predominate legislatively because there will have to be more of it, and the question will arise very urgently:

Upon whom shall all or most of the additional burden fall?

Interests will clash in the answering of this query. Philosophies of government will clash also, as, likewise, will economic theories.

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BUSINESS may improve between now and Dec. 7, when the nation's lawmakers are due to assemble for their next session. Administration spokesman say it already is improving more than merely seasonally; they think the worst of the depression is over.

Even so, taxes nevertheless will have to be increased.

Uncle Sam's treasury is in the red more than a billion dollars now. A year hence, according to especially pessimistic calculations, it will be in the red twice as much more, or a three-billion-dollar total. This deficit will require taking care of, no matter how much better business may be.

Hence there will be no dodging heavier taxation.

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IT IS TRUE that the increase will not absolutely have to be made next winter. It can be staved off considerably longer than that, by letting the national debt pile up.

That is one of the things the row will be about.

The party in power never likes to boost taxes, because it very naturally fears it will be blamed by the voters, to the prejudice of its chances of victory at the ensuing election.

At first thought it may seem as if this is just what would suit the out-of-power party—which would not be altogether a wrong conclusion. Nevertheless, the "outs" cannot clamor too loudly for an increase, scheming thus to embarrass the "ins." If they do, there is the risk that the voters will hold them responsible rather than the "ins," and their policy's recoil will be worse than the blast from its muzzle.

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HOWEVER, the arguments for a taxation advance at the next session of congress will be extremely cogent.

It will not be easy to defend a program deliberately contemplating government expenditures enormously in excess of the expected national income, and few persons are unsophisticated enough to believe that Uncle Sam's expenses can be pruned appreciably. Indeed, all that anyone hopes from economy conferences is that increases will be retarded somewhat; not that actual reductions will be effected.

Assuming it is agreed that fresh sources of revenue must be found, there are two widely differing schools of thought concerning the proper quarter in which to look for them.

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THE SMALL group of the country's very rich folk is the source upon which one of these two schools of thought holds that the government should draw almost exclusively.

The other school favors a much more thorough development of the source available among the masses of the people.

Of the former doctrine Senator James Couzens of Michigan is the most militant exponent. Practically without exception the so-called progressives of both major parties, in the senate and house of representatives alike, are included, as also are many near-progressives. Altogether it is a pretty formidable lineup—perhaps, but not certainly, a majority of the membership of the 72nd congress, though not of the 71st one.

Conservatives, without much regard to party, are of the opposite philosophy, of which Secretary of the Treasury Andrew W. Mellon unquestionably is the foremost interpreter.

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SECRETARY MELLON'S theory, compactly put, is this:

Lay the weight of taxation unduly upon the rich and they will stop trying to make more money. As a result, business will languish. Tax them less heavily and they will exert themselves, whereupon the country will prosper. It is a fact, however, that Uncle Sam needs additional revenue. The only folk to furnish it are the masses.

Senator Couzens' version is:

Wealth already is so concentrated in a few hands that America's population generally has lost most of its purchasing power. Industry is flat because the masses lack the cash to buy its products. Manifestly a bad matter will be made worse if their taxes are increased. But the rich can stand it. Moreover, they ought to be taxed more heavily, to put part of their hoards back into circulation.

KEEP IN TOUCH

Even though you're going away for the summer, you will still be able to keep in touch with home by taking The Birmingham Eccentric with you. Before you leave, simply call Birmingham 11 and leave your new address—at no added expense to you. The news of your neighbors will make your vacation more enjoyable.

BIG BEAVER

Mrs. E. J. Winters was hostess to her Five Hundred Club at her home on University Street Thursday evening. A delightful luncheon was enjoyed and prizes were awarded to Mrs. Rena Winters, Mrs. Florence Orr and Mrs. Ella Rankin.

Mr. and Mrs. George Ford of Beaver road have as their guests at their summer home at Houghton Lake this week Douglas Macon of Tampa, Fla., Miss Mamie Robman of Rochester and Mr. Palmer Howlett of Sixteen Mile road.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawson Lockhart of Goodison were guests of the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Howell of Rochester road, at a birthday dinner Monday evening, marking the former's 79th birthday anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Lawson of Ruth street had as their guests at dinner last Thursday Mrs. Kenneth Green, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Lawson and Mr. and Mrs. William Lawson, all of Avoca, who came here to attend the funeral of a relative, Mrs. Jennie Wilson of Royal Oak.

The Big Beaver Merchants defeated the Proletarians Class A team of Detroit Sunday on the Beaver diamond by a score of 7 to 4. Next week the Merchants will meet the Detroit Eagles, a colored team, on the Big Beaver field. On June 12, the Merchants Club will sponsor a dance at Mack's Danceland.

Mr. Ellis Eldred of New York and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Hardy of Boyd avenue spent the week-end visiting the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Eldred of Detroit.

Mr. and Mrs. Grant Lawson and their daughter, Joyce, of Port Huron were guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde H. Lawson of Ruth street.

Mr. and Mrs. Chancey Mitt of Detroit were Friday guests of Mrs. Theresa Harris and her daughters of Rochester road.

Mr. and Mrs. Logan Fiddler of Sturtevant avenue, Detroit, were Sunday guests at dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James B. Adams of Rochester road.

Mrs. Mary Monroe of Detroit was a Tuesday dinner guest of Mr. and Mrs. James Tracey of Rochester road.

Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Popkey of Detroit were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Beaubien of Boyd avenue.

Mrs. Theresa Harris was a Friday guest of her sister, Mrs. Martha Goodale of Royal Oak, who is ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lansing of Auburn road east, were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Norman C. Orr of Sixteen Mile road.

Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Travis and their daughter, Gladys, of Wayne were guests of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Winters of University street, Sunday.

To end their bridge meetings for the summer months, Mrs. Thomas Moore entertained the Tuesday Bridge Club Saturday evening at her home on Beaver road. The men joined the ladies at pot-luck dinner and enjoyed bridge throughout the evening.

Miss Shirley Orr of Sixteen Mile road had as her guest for the weekend, Miss Jeanne Pomeroy of the Red Run Golf Club.

Charles Hale of Oak Grove was a Saturday guest of Mrs. Mary Miles of Sixteen Mile road, west.

Miss Dorothy Woolery of Beaver road was the week-end guest of Miss Lucille McKinsey of Clawson.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. VanGorp of Boyd avenue, Mary Elizabeth Chamberlain of Royal Oak, and Arlene Siglow of Meadowcrest avenue were Sunday dinner guests of the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Siglow of Romeo.

Mr. William Steele of Toronto is spending this week as the guest of Jan Ferguson of Rochester road.

Mrs. George Ford and her son, Melvin, of Beaver road motored to Niles last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Crack, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Johnson, and Mr. James Jack, all of Detroit, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Ferguson of Rochester road, Sunday.

School Notes

The boys' baseball team defeated Auburn Heights Friday, 10 to 8. On June 12 they will meet the Log Cabin nine in a return game. The girls' nine was defeated by Royal Oak High School Friday, 21 to 15.

The Boy Scouts plan a boat trip to Put-In-Bay Saturday. They will be accompanied by Superintendent S. K. Baker, Scoutmaster Jessup and E. J. Winters.

The present faculty will remain at the Big Beaver school for the next term. They are as follows:

Mrs. Mildred Schuffler, kindergarten; Mrs. Esther McCulloch, first grade; Miss Ruth Conrad, second grade; Miss Elizabeth Baker, fourth grade; Miss Lottie Rice, fifth grade; Miss Helen Biles, sixth grade; Miss Helen Scharer, English instructor; Nyle Jessup, junior high school principal. S. K. Baker, superintendent.

The last three teachers are seventh, eighth, and ninth grades.

Church Notes

A sunday school and church board meeting was held at the Troy M. E. Church Monday evening.

A social evening, sponsored by the Ladies Aid Society will be held at the home of Mrs. George Hill of Sixteen Mile road Friday evening. Everyone is invited. A silver collection will be taken at the entrance.

The Big Beaver School and the sunday school invites the public to attend a combination picnic to be held at Dodge Park Friday, June 19.

Fire Destroys Home

A home and its contents, valued at $4,200 and owned by Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Wells of Kilmer avenue, burned to the ground here Friday.

Mr. Wells was working in the garden and his attention was called to the flames by a neighbor. Mrs. Rose O'Donnell, who called the Big Beaver and Clawson fire departments. They arrived too late, however, and everything was a total loss.

Mr. and Mrs. Wells and their children will make their home in the garage while their new house is being built.

John Noel Hurt In Automobile Crash

John Noel, 327 Greenwood avenue, Birmingham, received a fractured collar bone, lacerations of the head and other injuries when an automobile he was driving south on Woodward avenue was struck by another car at Coolidge highway driven by Joseph Noell 260 Fisher avenue, Pontiac, Friday morning.

Royal Oak police who held Noell following the accident said that his car ran through a red light at the intersection. Noell and a companion, William Moriarty, 19 Grant street, Pontiac, were both slightly injured and were treated at the Royal Oak Private Hospital.

Noel was rushed to the St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac in the Kimball-Bailey ambulance. He was discharged late the same day.

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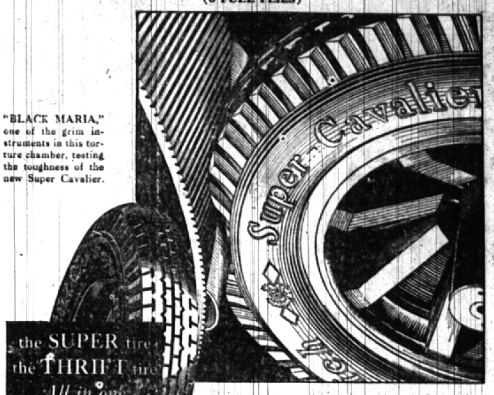

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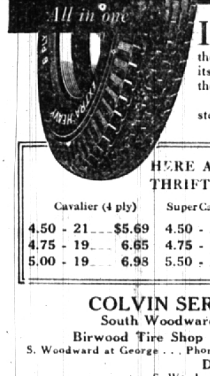

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