

Congress Proposes a Tax on Gambling

While it is not legal to have a lottery in the United States, the Congress of the nation has about decided to impose a gambling tax to secure revenue which the nation needs.

The House, which first developed the idea, estimated the levy on commercialized gambling would yield \$400,000,000 a year. The Senate approved the gambling tax, although some members are highly dubious as to how much money the levy will actually turn into the treasury, since it deals with an activity which is illegal in most states.

THE GAMBLING TAX imposes a ten per cent excise on all bets on sporting events, elections or other contests, made with bookmakers or other persons accepting wagers for profit.

It applies to bets with lottery operators and to wagers placed in a pool in any sports event and a \$50-a-year occupational tax on persons accepting bets or receiving them from bookmakers.

Most of the revenue is expected to

come from off-track horse races and numbers betting. Specifically excluded are friendly bets between persons who are not commercial gamblers, card games such as poker, roulette wheels and bingo games.

ADMITTEDLY, THERE IS no question but that large sums of money are annually wagered in this country and the problem, as stated by Senator Walter F. George, will be to collect the tax levied. Obviously, there would be administrative difficulties in getting the money.

Senator Estes Kefauver, of Tennessee, argued against the levy on the ground that a tax on gambling would give some color of legality to enterprises the government ought to be trying to shut down. There is logic in his contention, of course. If the levy on gambling gets on the statute books, the danger is that the next step will be to legalize betting in order to make sure that the excise tax is collected.

And what a battle that will bring on!

From Our Point of View

Reds are called "Reds", we presume, because the Russian Soviet flag is of that color. On the other hand, red as a national color (as is Old Glory) is symbolic of an honest and courageous heart. It is admitted that Russian soldiers often are brave on battlefields . . . but, with a hammer and sickle in their hearts, how can they be brave as citizens struggling for personal freedom?

It is presumed, of course, that the United States is fighting against the ideology known as communism. That is why we are waging a war in Korea and taxing ourselves heavier than in World War II. Yugoslavia, headed by dictator Tito, is a communist nation, itself opposing the idea of being grabbed up by Soviet Russia. So we make a deal with Tito, along military and economic lines. We expect that Tito, in case Russia goes to open war, will be on our side. Such is the inconsistency of our world relations. But when gangsters attack a decent man, then can this man be blamed for getting help from another gangster?

So They Say . . .

Millard F. Caldwell, Civil Defense Administrator: "We are going on the theory that if we are hit by Russians, we will be hit by atomic bombs."

Buell G. Gallagher, Assistant-Commissioner of Education: "To study about Communism is not the same thing as to be indoctrinated in it."

Charles E. Wilson, Defense Mobilizer: "Failure to employ persons simply because of physical defects is a waste this nation cannot afford."

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GEORGE R. AVERILL, Editor and Publisher
PAUL NEAL AVERILL, Business Manager
GEORGE W. AVERILL, Managing Editor
HAROLD P. BUEGE, Advertising Manager

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ONE THING OR ANOTHER

By George Wm. Averill

REMARKS AT RANDOM

That tri-level grade separation on the highway plan to construct at the Woodward-8 Mile intersection will be quite a project, according to a glance at architect's sketches.

At least 100,000 motorists breathed a sigh of relief when the plan was announced. That's how many cars use this intersection on the average working day. Peak day will see 130,000 cars using it. The new intersection will be able to carry 175,000 cars daily without irritation.

It is proposed to permit local traffic to use the normal level at the sides, while Woodward thru traffic goes over the intersection, thru 8 Mile traffic under it. Both Woodward and 8 Mile thru traffic then merge with local traffic lanes about two blocks from the intersection.

Most housewives are on the alert for new chemicals which they can put on lawns to rid it of that "weed pest." These are called "retective" killers. However, there are consider-

able customers for "non-selective" herbicide killers which destroy all growth and leave only bare patches of ground.

Places where weed or grass growth is not desired (because it is a potential fire hazard) are along railroad rights-of-way and freeways, around power substations, manufacturing plants, lumber yards, petroleum storage tanks, arsenals, telephone and telegraph poles, etc.

Promotional campaigns to sell "special" clothing purported to protect the individual against known effects of atomic explosions in many cases attempt to take advantage of public misinformation on its value, according to the Federal Civil Defense Administration.

Much of the so-called "special" clothing merely duplicates ordinary clothing as far as protection is concerned, FCDA warns.

Don't worry about Birmingham having plenty of funds

with which to conduct its municipal business. We do things the luxurious way.

Like moving parking meters a few inches further apart in order to provide more room for people to pull into and out of angle parking spaces on Woodward avenue . . . when in the not too distant future the city will be forced to move them still further apart when parallel parking replaces the angle parking.

In order, single parking spaces are so little with the extremely light traffic volume now used Woodward avenue . . . it appears to be a well known fact (which I at least refuse to accept) that traffic volume can only be considered "heavy" when autos are stacked at least two high as they move past a particular point.

Naturally, I'm to be considered an "extremist" because I believe parallel parking should be substituted where only the surface level is packed with cars.

Made to Order



Happenings of Long Ago

Sits Of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric—The Items That Make Up The Historical Background Of The Birmingham Of Today.

50 YEARS AGO
November 1, 1911
Now wouldn't this trip a duck? "The deceased leaves four children, three of whom are respected residents of this city, but the other lives in Birmingham."—from The Holly Herald.

Fire started from a thrasher engine burned up three barns and dwelling house belonging to John Vorheis and Thomas Jones north and west of here. They are insured in the Monitor. Loss was \$5,000.

Mrs. Anna Pike, of Caro, sister of Thos. Cook of Southfield has passed very pleasantly a few weeks visit in this locality. When she returned home her niece, Miss Addie Cook, went with her and will enjoy her visit as well.

We are pleased to introduce to our readers a new Royal Ginge correspondent. We have one now to rely on and promise our Royal Oak friends a fine lot of news as fast as that wide awake bustling little city can make it.

Notwithstanding her inability to get around, Miss Maud Camp is quite a hodge-podge. She has several views of the wreck which will rank among the best and would do credit to a professional.

20 YEARS AGO
November 5, 1931
Detroit Edison has consented to discontinue service on 42 street lights in Birmingham, saving the village an expenditure of \$4,032. The darkening will be done on Woodward avenue, outside the principal business district.

Three Bloomfield Hills officers, Hills Brady, Fredrick Powell and Parks Huff, will be dropped from the force on Nov. 30, since their services as patrolmen at Cranbrook are no longer needed. No indication was given as to why the decision was made.

Script, totaling \$50,000 will go on sale in Birmingham today in local banks and at the board of education offices. The board has stated they hope to sell enough of this emergency scrip to enable

them to meet the \$5,250 payroll now due.

Elial Saarinen, area architect, is listed with other celebrities in the November Hall of Fame as published by "Vanity Fair". The accompanying article describes him as the "most distinguished of all Scandinavian architects."

Dr. M. Yoder, medical director at the Ypsilanti State hospital, will be the guest speaker at Sunday evening services of the First Presbyterian church. His appearance is being sponsored by the Men's club of the church.

5 YEARS AGO
November 7, 1946
Kin Sigler, Michigan's new governor, led a successful Republican caucus office at Tuesday's election when he took a 6-1 lead in Birmingham over Murray D. Van Wagener, Birmingham resident. The election set a new off-year record when 4,890 ballots were cast.

Birmingham Rotarians voted \$3,000 toward the Cummings park at a special meeting Monday. The park will be designed especially for the accommodations of pre-school children, to provide them with a neighborhood play area.

Total valuation of building permits applied for in Birmingham during October dropped to the year's lowest level of \$60,305 according to Scott Hersey, building inspector. Of the 18 permits issued, five were for homes and two for business.

An employee's error in using gasoline rather than diesel oil in a bus started a fire at the local station Monday morning which may have cost thousands of dollars. Quick action of firefighters, including a former volunteer fireman, extinguished the blaze before it had a chance to spread.

Ticket sales for the annual Turkey Trot and Turkey Dinner at the local station Monday morning which may have cost thousands of dollars. Quick action of firefighters, including a former volunteer fireman, extinguished the blaze before it had a chance to spread.

HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE

BY ALICE E. MORGAN

Radio, TV, magazines, newspapers and wire services have that big question mark in front of them as they ask themselves who will remove it by becoming the millionth highway fatality in this country.

They are all sure, along with safety experts, automotive engineers and insurance people that the story will be written this year—probably before Christmas. It's a grim thing, and the horrible part is, it is unnecessary. In a minute, you have probably known someone who has died in a highway crash. Why did it happen? Could it have been avoided?

We read, almost every day, of some "unavoidable" accident—but was it?

About 50 years ago the automobile became a part of our American way of life. Through five decades it has become more and more an integral part of living. It has reached the point that most of us feel a car is an essential.

GOING TO the corner drug store for a pack of cigarettes means getting the car out of the garage. We drive to the church, to the movies, we take the kids to school, we use the car to go to and from our social engagements. We clock up thousands of miles and burn thousands of gallons of gas annually, using the family car and courting sudden death.

In our comings and goings we too frequently become involved in these "unavoidable" accidents.

The one you had last week was nothing more serious than a broken headlight and a smashed fender. You were lucky, it could have been a broken neck. And was it really "unavoidable"?

before the cross traffic started. Had you stopped at sea, yellow light the other car would have been able to keep traveling as the green flashed on, and would not have lost the split second needed to slow down and clear your car.

The fact that you were able to stop before the impact does not constitute an "unavoidable" accident—you should have been driving in a manner which would have given you plenty of time to stop.

Without doubt, the most horrible part of this picture is that it is not the cars, but you and I who are at fault. Our cars do not kill people—we do. The machine has no emotion or will of its own, it can only respond in a dumb, mechanical way to ours.

THE BEST mechanical brains in the world have worked to make our cars models of perfection. They have slaved over blueprints of highways, measuring every angle to further the safety element they are trying to build into them. Roads and cars being nearly perfect, highlights the statement made by, I believe, the late Will Rogers: The weakest nut in a car is the one that holds the steering wheel.

Think it over, Mr. and Mrs. Birmingham. Make up your mind whether you want to become that much publicized MR. MILLION. Make up your mind if you want to be the person who makes someone else become MR. MILLION. Then, when you have decided, go out and drive accordingly.

Pakistan-India Situation
Detroit Town Hall Topic
Pakistan's explosive relations with India will be discussed by Begum Aga Kahn Raza at Detroit Town hall, Wednesday morning, Nov. 7, at 11 o'clock in Fisher theater.

The Begum is the wife of Brig. Gen. N. A. K. Raza, military attaché of the Pakistan Embassy

in Washington. She is one of her country's foremost women leaders and was active in Pakistan's struggle for freedom.

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