

THE CONGRESSIONAL FRONT.  
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16th District.

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NARCOTICS. Dope peddlers still ply their trade and for a year or more, a drive has been on to rid the nation of narcotic vendors. They sell opium, which is the coagulated juice of the poppy and its derivatives morphine, heroin and codeine. They also supply cocaine, derived from the coca leaf, and hashish and marijuana, derived from Indian hemp. China supplies 90% of the opium used for smoking while India supplies the balance. Three international organizations, namely The Opium Advisory Committee of the League of Nations, The Permanent Central Opium Board, and the Supervisory Body now deal with narcotics and seek to suppress the international drug traffic. Amazing stories are told of how narcotics are transported across national borders. It is carried in hollow heels of shoes, brass bedsteads, grindstones, journal boxes of railroad cars, camel saddles, auto cushions, Bibles, coffins. In one case, live turtles were being shipped in open wooden tanks full of water and the ship's carpenter, desirous of giving the turtles a change of water bored some holes in the tanks and found that the staves had been hollowed out and the hollow spaces filled with drugs. Such is human greed.

LITTLE CONGRESS. is a body composed of clerks and secretaries to Senators and Members of the House. It meets twice a month and debates measures which have passed both Houses. It has a Speaker and various Committees and insofar as possible, follows the rules of procedure used in Congress. For a time, interest in the Little Congress was lagging, attendance was small and its Speaker together with others hit upon the idea of packing the meeting room in the House Office Building by inviting Senator Huey P. Long to speak. It did. It did more. The place was jam-packed. Two thousand were turned away. Movie cameras, speakie machines and reporters were on hand. It turned out to be a function more than a meeting. One young clerk from Texas offered a resolution before Senator Long arrived, seeking to bar the Senator from speaking. The resolution produced a tumult and was howled down. The Senator did speak and a few weeks later, the Speaker of the Little Congress who comes from Arkansas (home of Senator Robinson and mortal enemy of Huey) was notified that his services as a clerk would no longer be required. Picayunish, you say? Well! You answer that.

RED TAPE. New Ulm, is a small town in Minnesota. Most of its people are good, law-abiding people of German descent. New Ulm has a small department store called the Beehive and operated by J. A. Ochs and Son. They employed a young lady named Ada Erler. Ada had been suffering from stomach trouble and her employer, conforming to retail code regulations, wanted to follow the doctor's advice and give her an extra half hour for lunch. Here is what happened: (1) Mr. Ochs wrote a letter to NRA, petitioning for an extra half hour for lunch, attaching doctor's affidavit to the petition. (2) Copies of same were sent to the NRA Advisory Board and to the National Code Authority (3) The managing director of the National Retail Code Authority reported his approval. (4) The NRA Research & Planning Division reported that this action would not be contrary to NRA policy. (5) The Legal Division of NRA reported its approval with suggested changes in the order that might be issued. (6) NRA Consumer's Advisory Board reported that it had no comment to make on the case. (7) The NRA Industrial Advisory Board then reported its approval. (8) The acting Deputy Administrator then reported that the case warranted approval. (9) General Order 329 was then issued stating that the "petitioner is hereby permitted to extend the lunch time of Miss Ada Erler from one hour to one hour and a half, until such time as the physical disabilities complained of have been alleviated". So Ada got an extra half hour for lunch. The petition was filed on November 16, the order was issued on Jan. 4th, - just seven weeks.

AAA and AMISH. Lancaster County in Pennsylvania is perhaps the garden spot of that state. Among its farmers are a large element of Amish folks. They still preserve original customs and traditions and cling tenaciously to the old faith. Men wear broad brimmed hats, women wear bonnets. They are frugal, thrifty and very prosperous. They raise much tobacco and when the AAA sought their signatures to a tobacco acreage reduction program, they refused on the ground that it was contrary to their belief to sign. They gladly, voluntarily cooperated with everything AAA wanted them to do but would not sign. Nor would they accept rental and benefit checks for their acreage reduction. What to do? In the measure now pending which seeks to extend the provisions of the Kerr Tobacco Production control measure and make it mandatory by imposing a tax of 33 1/3% on those who refuse to sign, it was decided to insert a provision excepting "conscientious objectors."

AGRICULTURAL APPROPRIATIONS. For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1935 it will take about 118 million dollars to run the Department of Agriculture. It is perhaps the most far-flung of departments and embraces many activities. This amount includes funds for experiment stations, exhibits at fairs, cooperation with schools, operation of the weather bureau, Bureau of Animal Husbandry, Bureau of Dairy Industry, Bureau of Plant Industry, Forest Service, Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, Bureau of Biological Survey, Bureau of Public Roads, Bureau of Agricultural Engineering, Bureau of Ag. Economics, Bureau of Home Economics, Food & Drug Administration and others. The Bureau of Biological Survey is the one which protects and enforces the laws protecting migratory birds such as wild ducks. For this enforcement work it will receive but \$167,978. This is enough for only 22 full time Federal game wardens and 37 part time wardens. With this small force, Uncle Sam seeks to protect wild ducks and enforce a program designed to conserve and restore wild fowl. They cover the north, central, east and south sections. By way of comparison, New York City has four times as many policemen on a single street than Uncle Sam has wardens for the entire country.

\$42.42. You may be interested to know that if all the money in circulation outside the Treasury were divided up equally between every man, woman and child in the U. S., you would receive \$42.42. The following table shows by different dates, our population, money in circulation at the time and the per capita amount.

Date	Population	Money in Circulation.	Per capita.
Jan. 1879	48 231 000	\$ 816 266 721	\$16.92
June 1914	99 027 000	3 459 434 174	34.93
Mar. 1917	105 716 000	4 172 945 914	40.23
Oct. 1920	107 096 000	5 698 214 612	53.21
Jan. 1934	126 120 000	5 288 755 930	41.93
Dec. 1934	126 791 000	5 535 671 557	43.66
Jan. 1935	126 852 000	5 380 428 959	42.42

SHORTS. The HOLC has paid 143 million dollars to cities and counties to cover taxes and special assessments on properties in which it has an interest...Free garden seeds have not been distributed by the Dept. of Agriculture for more than 12 years and yet, thousands of requests come in every year ... From 5000 to 6000 vessels pass thro the Panama Canal each year, carrying from 25 to 30 million tons of cargo and paying from 20 to 27 million dollars per year in tolls..... 59 nations maintain membership in the International Labor Organization, the office of which is located in Geneva, Switzerland. The purpose of the organization is to study trends and standards of labor in the hope of improving labor relationships between all nations.

HOLDING COMPANIES. Hundreds of thousands of letters continue to pour in on Congress against the holding company bill known as H. R. 5423. The Administration saw in this literary barrage from the people, a possible defeat of this measure whenever it comes before Congress. To offset it, the President sent a message to Congress. Request was then made to strike off 50,000 copies of the message to be sent out as a kind of counter propoganda. What is the issue? A holding company is a corporation which secures a stock interest in a number of operating companies such as electric, power, gas, water, telephone, or telegraph companies and thro this stock interest exercises control and sells securities to the public. Strictly speaking, a holding company neither owns or operates the physical properties. HR 5423 is a bill 180 pages in length which seeks to compel all holding companies to be licensed by the Government with a stiff penalty for failure to obtain a license. Later it will seek to compel them to submit to governmental control but the item in the bill which started the conflict and on which the issue is joined is paragraph (c) of Section 1 of Title I of the bill which states "and to provide at the end of five years for the abolition of the public utility holding company." That means whether good or bad, they shall be abolished. Naturally holders of bonds and stocks in holding companies saw actual losses staring them in the face and began to protest. It promises to be a lively battle.