

4/28/34
[April 28, 1934]

THE CONGRESSIONAL FRONT.
By Congressman Everett M. Dirksen
16th District.

DE PRIEST RESOLUTION. Oscar De Priest represents the first Congressional District of Chicago. He is the only negro in Congress. He was born in Alabama, is 63 years of age, is dignified, restrained, able, conservative. Is serving his third term. He speaks for more than 12 million negroes. His capable, quiet, secretary Morris Lewis, brought a negro friend to lunch in the Capital Restaurant. The management of the Restaurant, under instruction from Hon. Lindsay Warren, MC from North Carolina who is Chairman of the Committee on Accounts, refused to serve them. Other members, other secretaries are served. The Restaurant is maintained from public funds. Heretofore it has always lost money. In 1933 and 1934, it is for the first time showing a handsome profit. Congressman De Priest protested that he was entitled to the same prerogatives for himself and his office force as other members, introduced a Resolution, calling for an investigation by a select committee of 5 members. In his resolution, he recited the contributions made by negroes to the development of this nation, and asked for fair treatment. After much jockeying, the Resolution came before the House. Heroic attempts were made to prevent a roll call vote but the demand for such a vote prevailed. One hundred eleven Democrats and two Republicans voted against the Resolution, 132 Democrats, 95 Republicans, 5 Farmer-Laborites voted for it. It was essentially a North vs. South vote.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION. In 1918, Congress passed the Smith-Hughes Act, appropriating one half million for agricultural education and one half million for home economics and industrial and trade education. This money was apportioned among the various states on the basis of population, for the employment of teachers and supervisors. By 1926, it had been raised to 6 million. In 1933 and 1934, the economy axe was applied and the appropriation reduced almost a million dollars. In 1929, Congress passed the George-Reed Act, supplementing the Smith Hughes Act and making additional appropriations except that trade and industrial education was eliminated. Appropriations under the George-Reed Act would terminate in June of this year. To make certain that vocational education would not lapse, the House on April 26 passed the Ellzey Act, appropriating 3 million for 1935, 3 million for 1936 and 3 million for 1937. One third is allotted to States for agricultural education in the proportion that it's farm population bears to the whole farm population of the U.S., one third for instruction in home economics in proportion that the rural population of the state bears to the total rural population of the U. S., and one third for trade and industrial education in proportion to the non-farm population of the state to the total non-farm population of the U. S. There is a disposition to end these appropriations in 1938.

CONDENSED FACTS ON AAA. Number of wheat, cotton and tobacco farmers who signed reduction contracts - 1,862,532. Benefits paid - 179 million. Cotton signers - 1,032,154. Benefits - 112 million. Wheat signers - 798,614. Benefits - 65 million. Tobacco signers - 31,764. Benefits - 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ million. Hog-corn signers - 1,100,000. Amount expected to be paid to hog-corn producers - about 350 million. Production of California rice will be reduced about one million bags in 1934. Six dairies in northern Illinois and Wisconsin, have been cited to show cause why their licenses to sell milk should not be revoked as a result of alleged violation of the milk marketing agreement. At the request of 90% of the distillery capacity which signed a marketing agreement for that industry, that marketing agreement was terminated on April 18th. The reason is that blackstrap distillers have hogged the show, thus injuring those distillers who wish to make spirits from domestic grain and give the American farmer a chance. This fits in very nicely with the refusal of administration leaders to permit an amendment to the sugar bill, establishing a quota for blackstrap molasses and so protecting the American farmer.

TID BITS. 598 out of 600 lawyers who attended a meeting of the District of Columbia bar association endorsed Judge James A. Cobb, a negro, and present incumbent for re-appointment to the Municipal Court Bench. The U. S. Cavalry has been ordered to store it's sabres "for good" because of the "improbability of their use in the future." Reflecting back to the days when Margaret Sanger, No. 1. Birth Control Exponent was inhabiting some of our best jails, it is a far cry to what happened yesterday when the Judiciary Committee of the U. S. Senate approved and reported out, the Hastings Bill to permit the circulation of birth control literature by doctors, hospitals, medical colleges and druggists. Heretofore, to do so, constituted a violation of our postal laws. Tensile strength of airplane rivets is doubled by rushing them from a 950 degree heat-treating bath to the cold of a 100 degrees below zero. In 26 years, Uncle Sam has instituted about 40 court

actions against so-called "cancer cures." The U. S. aviators who took a contract to act as instructors in the military forces of Colombia, South America, do so on their own responsibility and cannot look for U. S. protection while in such service. Charles Francis Nesbit, the man who conceived the idea of insuring soldiers and sailors during the World War died this week at age 66. It is said that more than 70 members of the 73rd Congress were born in Illinois.

THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE. Uncle Sam is the world's largest, most complete printer, engraver and typesetter. The GPO has 4709 employees whose annual pay amounts to 10 million dollars. It contains 406 typesetting and casting machines. 400 proof readers are kept busy reading proof on the daily grist from Congress. The Patent Office, The Library of Congress and the Governmental departments. 192 presses manned by 665 pressmen print Congressional Records, Government post cards, money orders, booklets, circulars and what not. Three rotary presses will print, cut, band, and deliver post cards in bundles of 50 at the rate of 6400 per minute. In 1933, the Documents Division of the GPO distributed over 70 million copies of printed matter. An apprentice school is operated in connection with the GPO from which more than 500 printers have been graduated. GPO employees operate their own cafeteria, serve 2500 meals daily, have their own group Life Insurance Association, maintain an auditorium in which an orchestra of 25 and a chorus of 40 (all GPO workers) entertain weekly, and maintain their own emergency hospital with two doctors, three nurses, and modern equipment. It is a city in itself. The annual output of the linotype machines would make a newspaper column 218 miles long, reaching from New York to Washington.

DR. REXFORD GUY TUGWELL. (Brain-Truster No. 3.) Dr. Tugwell is doubtless the leading brain-truster. Born in N. Y. July 10, 1891, graduated from high school in Buffalo, N. Y. in 1911, secured Bachelor of Science degree, also degree of Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy at Wharton School of Finance, University of Pennsylvania in 1915, married Miss Florence Arnold in June of 1914 and has two children, both girls. Instructor of Economics at U. of Pa. from 1915-1917, Assistant Professor at U. of Washington 1917-18, rose from instructor to full professorship in Economics at Columbia University from 1920 to 1931. Became associated with administration in an official way as Economic Adviser to Secretary of Agriculture in 1933, was nominated by the President to become Under Secretary of Agriculture on April 25, 1934. Member of the Am. Economics Ass'n, the Am. Civil Liberties Union, Advisory Board of the People's Lobby. His home is in New York City. Author of Economic Basis of Public Interest which was published in 1922, Trend of Economics published in 1924, co-author of American Economic Life, published in 1925, Industry's Coming of Age in 1927, co-author of Soviet Russia In the Second Decade published in 1928, author of Experimental Control of Russian Industry, contributing editor of the New Republic. He is of medium height, dresses well, is handsome, and popular at Washington functions. Spent two months in Russia. Generally credited with being the author of much of the New Deal philosophy, particularly as it relates to agriculture. Recent utterance, "The battle for a New Deal is not yet over; indeed, I suspect it has just begun."