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THE CONGRESSIONAL FRONT  
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THE FIGHT AROUND THE U.S. SUGAR BOWL. The candy-eaters, the coffee-drinkers, the bakers, the housewives, and all other sugar users in our land consume about  $6\frac{1}{2}$  million tons of sugar per year. We produce about 25% of it and the rest comes from Hawaii, Virgin Islands, Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines. The sugar fight therefore revolves around the 75% that is imported. In this controversy we find the sugar producers and the sugar refiners. The producers may be classified as domestic and foreign. The domestic producers may be divided under beet growers and cane growers. The cane growers are localized in La. and Fla. The beet growers in Mich., Colo., Utah and a few other states. The foreign producers are all cane producers located in the islands mentioned above. The refiners may be classified under American refiners and Island refiners. Under the sugar bill now pending, the beet and cane growers are halfway satisfied with the quotas given them because they feel that these quotas will stabilize the price and give them a profit. The island producers for the most part are satisfied with their quotas of raw sugar. Where the fuss comes in is that a limit is set upon the amount of refined sugar that may come in from Hawaii and Puerto Rico. The former is given a quota of 29,616 tons of refined sugar and the latter a quota of 126,033 tons. The American refiners insist that these quotas be kept in the bill so that most all sugar consumed in this country can be refined in American refineries. To support their case, they argue about unemployment and wage scales and what not. But the President, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Interior, the Secretary of State and others feel that this restriction on Hawaii and Puerto Rico is unfair because they are a part of this nation. They belong to us. They may be several thousand miles away but nevertheless they are as much a part of this nation as Oklahoma, Alaska, Illinois or New York. As respects Hawaii, Congress in 1900 passed an act extending the Constitution to Hawaii and declaring Hawaiians to be American citizens. Therefore, if quota restrictions are placed upon them, we are in essence placing restrictions upon our own people. If this becomes a precedent, will the day come when Congress may legislate restrictions against the people of a particular state. And if it does, is it not tantamount to nullifying the Constitution?

THAT ELECTRIC REFRIGERATOR. There is a statue in Statuary Hall in the Capitol of Dr. John Gorrie of Florida which reminds us that that electric refrigerator of yours is 86 years old - that is the principle. Dr. Gorrie settled down in Apalachicola, Florida in the year 1834. It was hot, humid, and swampy and fever was rampant. The presence of fever not only kept Apalachicola from booming but it also made patients for Dr. Gorrie. They were troublesome cases and one of the difficulties of curing the patients from this dread malady was the heat. Dr. Gorrie speculated on how to cool the rooms where he kept his patients and out of those speculations came a crude mechanical contrivance for cooling the air and making ice. The Patent Office issued him patent No. 8080 in 1851. In 1854, Dr. Gorrie issued a 15 page pamphlet on his "Apparatus For The Artificial Production of Ice In Tropical Countries." His first machine stands on a brick base in the Smithsonian Museum. Dr. Gorrie died penniless on June 18, 1865 but in the eighty odd years since he invented his mechanical ice machine and became the father of air-conditioning, the world has come around to millions of electric refrigerators and air conditioning for homes, stores, office buildings and what not. Think of it. More than 80 years for an idea to grow into an accepted custom.

INSIDE STUFF. People generally will not be greatly interested in the fact that Congress has after much labor and difficulty succeeded in fashioning a bill to raise 8 millions of extra taxes for the District of Columbia because it's essential of local interest. They will however be interested in the fact that the Senate hooked a "rider" to that bill which has no relation to the tax bill and deals with price maintenance. The "rider" is the full text of the celebrated Miller Tydings Price maintenance bill in which independent merchants are deeply interested. Five Senators and five representatives acting as a conference committee of the two bodies, left it in the bill and will report it back to their respective Houses for adoption. Now the battle begins. The opposition will state that the President opposes this rider, the Attorney General opposes it, the Federal Trade Commission opposes it and also others. Now for some inside rumors. It is said that the Attorney General did oppose it unless it was amended. The rider was amended to conform to the alleged recommendation of the Attorney General. The President is said to oppose it by those who are opposed to the rider; it is said by those who favor it that the President will sign it if it comes before him. It is said that while the Federal Trade Commission did write a letter in opposition to it, that such letter was but a gesture and that off the record, the FTC would not be opposed. All this will be aired in the debate and after the sound and fury has been spent, the House and Senate will after the manner of Kipling, "Pays yer money and takes yer choice."

LONE STAR STATE. The Lone Star State of Texas is not so lonely in the national scheme of things. All things considered, the lone star has multiplied. It has John Nance Garner, Vice President of the US, Jesse Jones, Chairman of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, Sam Rayburn, Majority leader of the House, Hatton Summers, Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee which had something to do with the Court Bill, Marvin Jones, Chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture, Joseph Mansfield, Chairman of the Committee on Rivers and Harbors, James P. Buchanan, Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, (now deceased) Fritz Lanham, Chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings & Grounds, together with a host of key men in different departments of government. Texas is not so lonely.

PURE FOOD, DRUGS & COSMETICS. Early in 1936, the Senate passed the Copeland Pure Food and Drug and Cosmetics Bill, designed to tighten up the ancient Food & Drug Act that was enacted in 1906 through the crusading zeal of Dr. Harvey Wiley, Chief Chemist for the Dept. of Agriculture. It came to the floor of the House on the 21st of June 1936, about eleven o'clock at night. It was the last night of the session. A squabble ensued as to whether the Federal Trade Commission or the Dept. of Agriculture should be entrusted with certain enforcement features of the bill. As a result, it died an unhappy death in those closing hours. On March 8, 1937, the Senate again passed a Pure Food and Drug Bill. On March 10, 1937, it was referred to the House Committee on Interstate & Foreign Commerce. That's five months ago. It is still mouldering in committee. Once more Congress is in the shadow of adjournment. Soon, this session will go down to the dreamless past and no Pure Food & Drug Bill. Doubtless, the housewives, the manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers of foods, drugs, cosmetics and devices would like to know where it is and why? So would we? We've been unable to find out why its been sidetracked.

BEAUTIFUL WOMEN WITHOUT SHOES. From the Congressional Record of July 30, Senator Pat Harrison speaking on the Wage and Hour Bill relative to the authority that would be conferred upon Madame Perkins, the Secretary of Labor: "I do not care to vote for legislation which will affect the people of my state and the American people generally that will permit or direct its execution to persons who have an antipathy against my section, who have an idea that our women wear no shoes and who have various impressions about my people which are not true and whose assertions in fact, in these respects are unfounded. Of course there are some women down there who do not wear shoes. (Laughter) There are some men down there who do not wear shoes. But our women are just as beautiful and just as well dressed as the women in other sections of the country."

UNCLE SAM MAKES A POOR HORSE TRADER. Uncle Sam wouldn't be worth his salt as a horse trader. He believes in telling all the bad qualities about his surplus livestock whenever he has any to sell. Just now, he has a couple of mules to sell so the Procurement Division sends out this For Sale announcement. MULE: gray gelding, approximate age 18 years, weight about 1100 pounds, weak tendon in left hind leg, causing mule to drag leg. Fair condition. Name: "Dick." the other animal up for sale is listed as follows: MULE: gray gelding, approximate age 20 years, weight about 900 pounds, tender footed and stiff in joints. Fair condition. Name "Pewee." Fancy selling a mule with that kind of recommendation.