

THE CONGRESSIONAL FRONT
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A BIT FLIGHTY AS IT WERE!

We're becoming a bit "flighty". That is to say that as the months rolled by, the air is robbed of it's hazards and terrors and more people glide over the earth from place to place to carry on all manner of human pursuits. Believe it or not, an average of 1000 persons roamed the skyways every day during the month of July. Counting passengers, mechanics, pilots and others, the number would be even larger but the Civil Aeronautics Authority reports that the revenue passengers for the month of July on the domestic air carriers was 275,847. Taking out Sundays, this would be about 1000 per day. This is an increase of 61% over July of 1939. More than 570,000,000 pound-miles of express were flown in the month of July to indicate that the shipment of goods by air is definitely on the increase. Army and Navy emphasis on flying plus the vast student pilot training program now under way plus the researches of the Civil Aeronautics Authority, the private carriers and the government aeronautics laboratories in the field of stratsphere flying all indicate that as time goes on, air travel will be one of the major industries of America.

"NOT ON YOUR TIN TYPE."

Count the food items on your dinner table which came from a tin can, multiply them by the number of families and restaurants and hotels in the United States and you get an approximate idea of how important tin is to the food industry of this nation. More than that, tin is used to make metal alloys which are so essential in national defense. The tin containers from which America fairly leaves are nothing more than a light weight of sheet steel coated with tin to prevent spoilage of the food and also to guard the health of the consumers. Now the amazing thing is that nature was rather niggardly about placing tin deposits in the earth. Virtually all tin now used is found in the Dutch East Indies or in Bolivia. Another amazing thing is that the only tin smelters available are in England so that tine ore must be shipped to England, refined there and then re-shipped to other sections of the world. War has made it difficult to ship this ore to England. Consequently, we have been thinking of constructing tin smelters in this country and to that end, we invited Simon Patino, the tin-king from Bolivia to come here for a conferennee on this problem. Senor Patino is nearly 80 but his vigor and bright smile belie that age. He is one of the world's richest men. Forty years ago, while trying to collect a debt for \$250 the debtor having no money gave Senor Patino a deed to some mountain land as payment. This land was full of tine and one mine alone on this \$250 tract was appraised ay a value of 150 million dollars. All this happened back in the days when the current sland expression was "Not on your tin-type."

TAX BILLS THAT BAFFLE UNDERSTANDING.

Not infrequently, the legislators are baffled by the involved and intricate language which is used in writing a tax bill. Experts say that a simple tax bill could be written so that all could understand but that when it becomes necessary to make exceptions to the general provisions, those exceptions must be written in such careful, broadguage language as to challenge the ingenuity of a Philadelphia lawyer. The latest tax

measure, dealing with amortization of defense facilities, excess profits, army insurance and a variety of other matters is a case in point and if proof is required as to it's prolixity, listen to this paragraph which is selected at random:

"If during the taxable year there has been a short-term capital gain with respect to an inadmissible asset, then so much of the amount attributable to such inadmissible asset under subsection (b) as bears the same ratio thereto as such gain bears to the sum of such gain plus the dividends and interest on such asset for such year, shall, for the purpose of determining the ratio of inadmissible assets to the total of admissible and inadmissible assets, be added to the total of admissible assets and subtracted from the total of inadmissible assets."

THE WAVES OF GRAY HAVE THINNED.

Even as the Grand Army of the Republic has thinned to a shadow these 75 years since the Union was preserved, so the Boys In Gray who were hurled back from Little Round Top and the Peach Orchard at Gettysburg more than three quarters of a century ago have seen the decimating hand of Time. Of the million or more who fought with Lee, Stuart, Stonewall Jackson and others under the Stars and Bars only 57 have appeared for the golden Jubilee Reunion of the United Confederate Veterans in the nation's capitol. It is but a remnant of a vast host. One of the most colorful is James Edward Monroe, who enlisted when 50 years of age and who fought with Stonewall Jackson. Major Monroe is 125, (No, that's not a mis-print.) and manifests a keen interest in world affairs.

DUGOUTS FOR CIVILIANS.

Whereas major military activities in the present war are conducted in the air, and Whereas bombs are dropped on vital points and Whereas consideration should be given to the protection of civilian population against air attacks, therefore Be It Resolved that the military authorities give consideration to the location and construction to adequate retreats and shelters to accommodate the people. This in substance is the purport of a resolution adopted by the U.S. Senate recently. "Dugouts" we called them in the advance military zones in World War days. One hardly suspected that we would ever be considering a program of dugouts for civilians on an expanded scale only a generation later. Such is the effect of the airplane on the technique and necessities of war.