was quizzed. By common consent, the RFC is regarded as one of the outstanding
made and when the accounts are balanced, he will show a profit for the people.
Texas to become a member of the RFC and later to become Chairman. When the whole
Every amendment is thoroughly examined and then a report is drafted. This report is
independent agencies of government.
Congress provided almost unlimited funds but it expected an accounting of his
what constitutes an employee and broadens eligibility for retirement annuities. In many respects the
bill has been much improved and passed the House with but one dissenting vote.
HOW TO MAKE BOOKS OF ACCOUNTS. The books of accounts of a railway company are
amounted to $165,000,000 annually. This too passed the House without a dissenting
The courts then reconciled the two versions and sent the bill to the President. When the bill reached
who is the RFC. He came up out of the wide open spaces of
its position. Either body may insist upon its amendments. Sometimes, they compromise, especially in the matter of appropriations and split the difference. Every amendment is thoroughly examined and then a report is drafted. This report is
then called up for action in both bodies and if agreed to, the bill is thereby
There is therefore good
JESSE JONES. There are many executives in the government service who are the heads
of departments. There are a precious few executives who "are" the departments.
he set himself to the task and how well he succeeded
and to compose their differences and bring out a bill that would be acceptable to all sides. Such
a bill was produced and it is understood that its validity will not be challenged by the roads or the employees. In a general way, the new bill enlarges the definition of an employer so as to include inspection demurrage and weighing bureaus, traffic associations and other agencies. It re-defines what constitutes an employee and broadens eligibility for retirement annuities. In many respects the bill has been much improved and passed the House with but one dissenting vote.
One day later, the Ways & Means Committee brought in the Carriers Taxing Act of 1937 which is a companion bill and under which the railroads will pay an excise tax on payrolls and the employees will pay an income tax to be deducted out of their wages, for the purpose of defraying the cost of railroad pensions. For the first three years, both employers and employees will pay a tax of 2 3/4%. For the next three years it will be 5%. Each three years it increased until in 1949 and thereafter, both will pay a tax of 3 3/4% on payrolls or a tax of 9 3/4%. It is estimated that this tax will raise $121,000,000 the first year and will increase until in 1949, it will produce $165,000,000 annually. This too passed the House without a dissenting vote.
WHAT IS A CONFERENCE COMMITTEE LIKE. Someone once remarked that committees appointed by House and Senate to iron out the differences between the two bodies on a bill that has been passed by both, constitute the "third House" of the legislative branch of government. In a sense, this is true. When a bill passes the House, it goes to the Senate for action, or if it originated in the Senate it goes to the House for action. Very seldom does a bill of any importance get through both Houses without amendment. Sometimes, more than a hundred amendments are written into a bill. The House which passes the measure last then sends a message to the other body stating that it has passed a designated bill with amendments and asks for a conference. The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House then appoint committees who are known as conferees. As a general rule, three from the Senate and three from the House are appointed but on occasion, five or seven House members are named. At a stated time, the members of the conference committee then sit down at a table and discuss the amendments in the bill. Any one of several things can happen to an amendment. The House can recede from its position. Either body may insist upon its amendments. Sometimes, they compromise, especially in the matter of appropriations and split the difference. Every amendment is thoroughly examined and then a report is drafted. This report is then called up for action in both bodies and if agreed to, the bill is thereby changed in conformity with the action of the conferees. There is therefore good reason for designating these committees as the "third House."
THIS WILL INTEREST ALL RAILROADERS. In 1934, Congress enacted and the President signed the first Railroad Retirement Act. With little delay, a text committee went to the Supreme Court and the act was declared unconstitutional. In 1935, Congress re-enacted the Retirement Bill with such changes as were deemed necessary to meet the Court's objections. Without delay, the validity of that act was challenged in the courts and is now pending. It has not yet been determined by the Supreme Court. At the instance of the President, railroads and officers of the railway labor organizations were induced to sit down around the table and attempt to compose their differences and bring out a bill that would be acceptable to all sides. Such a bill was produced and it is understood that its validity will not be challenged by the roads or the employees. In a general way, the new bill enlarges the definition of an employer so as to include inspection demurrage and weighing bureaus, traffic associations and other agencies. It re-defines what constitutes an employee and broadens eligibility for retirement annuities. In many respects the bill has been much improved and passed the House with but one dissenting vote.
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JESSE JONES. There are many executives in the government service who are the heads of departments. There are a precious few executives who "are" the departments. Such an executive is Jesse Jones, Chairman of the Board of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. He is the RFC. He came up out of the wide open spaces of
THE ORIGIN OF FATHER'S DAY. In characteristic American fashion, we poke a bit of good natured fun at Father's Day and hail it as an occasion for presenting the Fathers of the nation with gaudy ties and wearing apparel that Father can only wear after dark or down some alley. Yet behind—Father's Day is a beautiful story. It was thirty seven years ago that a family living in a humble cabin on the wind swept and snow swept Big Bend Hills in the state of Washington was bereft of a mother. A lonely father with a brood of young children kept the vigil and for twenty years thereafter that father, William Jackson Smart, exercised paternal vigilance over that family. In 1910, one of those children, in appreciation of the sacrifices made by that father undertook to have the third Sunday in June designated as Father's Day. Little by little, the idea grew into the consciousness of the country, resolutions and petitions were presented to civic and legislative bodies by interested organizations and today, Father's Day is generally recognized throughout the land. An effort is now being made to have it nationally recognized by Congressional enactment.

THE LAND OF UNREALITY. We are a movie minded people. Now that the wild west is no longer wild, the North and South Pole have been explored, Stanley and Livingston have charted Africa, Lindbergh has flown the Atlantic and the Royal Northwest Mounted is to be equipped with motorcycles or automobiles, we turn in increasing numbers to the movies for romance, adventure and make-believe. So big and far-flung has the movie empire become that organizations interested in civic welfare have begun to appraise movies with a critical eye and legislators have turned their attention to the fiscal and corporate aspects of the movies. Many bills have been introduced at one time and another seeking to remedy alleged abuses. You may therefore be interested in the size and extent of this domain of make-believe. There are approximately 18,818 picture theatres in the U.S. with a seating capacity of 11½ million, of which 17,915 exhibit sound pictures and only 903 still cling to the old silent picture. Of this number, 2,560 theatres with a seating capacity of 1,030,267 are closed, leaving 16,258 in operation. Many organizations such as the Women's Clubs, Catholic Alumnae, Parent and Teachers Congress and others now regularly preview pictures to determine their fitness for young minds. A study of 20 cities where 2,902 pictures were shown, indicates that 70% of all pictures shown were on the list recommended by these organizations. Of 103 features shown in a single season, Mae West's picture, "She Done Him Wrong" lead the rest with 10,012 showings.

OUR 30,000 OVERSEAS DEAD. In a few short months, we shall observe Armistice Day. We shall be reminded then from pulpit and rostrum that 30,000 of our soldier dead lie sleeping in American cemeteries in Europe. They seem so far away. It is so easy to forget. The Congress has tried not to forget. Thus far, it has authorized the expenditure of nearly 4½ millions for suitable memorials to the 30,000 "boys" who did not return. Beginning with August 1st, 1937, these memorials and tablets will be dedicated under the auspices of the American Battle Monuments Commission of which General John J. Pershing is the Chairman. An official Commission of 24 persons, including Representatives, Senators, former Cabinet members, and members of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Disabled American Veterans and the American War Mothers, will attend the dedication ceremonies as official representatives of the United States. There may be some of the comrades, reading this column who may contemplate attending these ceremonies and to that end, we append a list of the dedication dates: August 1st Montfaucon, 2nd Montsec, 3rd Sommepy, 5th Tours, 8th Flanders Field Cemetery, 9th Audenardo, 8th Vierstraat, 9th Bellincourt, 9th Centigny, 12th Brest, 15th Brookwood Cemetery. What vivid memories some of these names must suggest to men in the highways and byways of this nation.