# The Matter Of Tax Reduction

REPRESENTATIVE KNUTSON, Republican chairman of the House Ways & Means Committee, is a late convert to the doctrine of conomy but a determined one. There was a time when Mr. Knutson was willing to sponsor the Townsend old age pension plan in Congress, although in fairness it should be noted that he also proposed to pay for it with a Federal lottery, Now, however, this eminent GOP economist has his heart set on a 20 per cent reduction in income taxes and not even the shiftling policy of his own Party has swayed him.

We hopes, he says, to bring his across-the-board reduction measure to the floor of the House this month. It will be presenied, presumably, as a Committee bill, although it is certain that Mr. Knutson's economy-mined predecessor. Representative Doughton of North Carolina, and his Democratic collectagues on the hand has been as the senior of the senior control of the senior of the senior control of Mchigan has denounced the Knutson plan as a "rich man's bill" and announced that he will move to kill it. And in the Senate Republican leaders have indicated their own conviction that a 20 per cent reduction in thome taxes is out of the question at this time. sented, presumably, as a Committee bill, al-

whether Mr. Knutson's measure is a "rich man's bill" or not is really beside the point. The debate over method of tax re-duction will have to wait until the matter of amount is settled. The Republicans, working from the President's original bud-get, seemed to be nearing an agreement on the amount expenditures could be slashed, but that, unfortunately, was before Mr. Truman presented his foreign policy mea-sage dealing with aid to Greece and Tur-key.

Senator Vandenberg has made the point that the President's message, while it made

his policy clear enough, did not go suffi-ciently into detail. One of the major om-missions was any mention of the potential cost of extending the Monroe Doctrine to the Russian border. The specific appropria-tions for Greece and Turkey are, compara-tively speaking, small But there is no rea-son to doubt that they represent a mere beginning.

beginning.

Conservative Washington observers believe that the United States will have to
maintain her armed forces on virtually a
wartime basis to support the anti-Russian
forcist policy Mr. Trum an advocates.
There is even talk of restoring some of the
wartime production controls in order to,
asfeguard stockpiles of strategic materials.
All of which means that the original budget is virtually meaningless now.

Painful though the process may be, the Republicans will have to abandon any plans they may have for a stampede back to normalcy. We cannot undertake to save the world from Communism and continue to transact business as usual, either at home or abroad. At the very best, it will be a long and expensive process.

a long and expensive process.

When the full realization of this dismal prospect sinks home with the people it may be that the illuston of national unity will be dispelled. And yet, strangely enough their has been little widespreased across-to-board fast ent. The prospect of a reduction in the heavy income tax is pleasing, certainly, but to cupiled with it is the realization that it isn't as easy as the more enthusiastic Republicans made it sound. If Congress did not hear a michtly roar of protest during the Ides of March, when some millions of Americans were struggling desperately somewhere between Schedule B and Line 51, it does not seem likely that Mr. Knutson will muster overwhelming. Mr. Knutson will muster overwhelming public support during the next twelve months.

## Evasion Of Judicial Responsibility

SENTIMENTAL and imaginative news-CENTIMENTAL and imaginative newspaper men have managed to make a right touching story out of the plight of Mr. Oille B. Swett of Wilmington. Mrs. Swett was convicted some time ago on a drunk and disorderly sount, but the judge suspended the sentence on condition that she leave the state. When she wound up in court again the other day, once more drunk and disorderly and still resident of North Carolina, the judge again ordered here deported. Whereupoa Mrs. Swett, with tears in her eyes, made an eloquent plea to be allowed to remain in the old North State where her heart will always be.

State where her heart will always be. We recognize that cases like these pose a difficult problem for the court. Jail has no reformative effect upon repeaters and in time any juris, grows profoundly weary of seeing the same old faces before him every time court convenes. A habitual offender's offer to go and sin elsewhere will usually draw a suspended sentence, and judges themselves have been known to suggest a change of readdines.

Nevertheless, we agree with The Winston-Salem Journal's argument that this is an indefensible judicial practice. Our criminals, major or minor, are our own responsibility and banishment to another state or community is simply a device to evade it.

The Journal suggests that Superior Court judges and the judges of courts of summary judications should work out an agreement to terminate the practice of bankshing defendants under asspended sentence. In most cases, those bankshed are there is no evidence that a change in scenery improves their behavior.

Judges should have wide latitude in de-termining the sentences handed down for misdemeanors. But the "be out of town by morning or you'll wind up in the work-house" sentence is beyond the bounds of propriety. The practice should be terminated, by agreement if possible, by law if it

### To Fix Gubernatorial Succession

WHEN Herman Talmadge seized the governorabile of Georgia through the gambit of "Legislative election" there was a good deal of scrambling around among the various state constitutions to see if such a thing were possible elsewhere. A good many newspapers raised the question as to what might happen in North Carolina if a governor-slect died between the time of the sengral election and bits formal time of the general election and his formal assumption of office, as Gene Talmadge

So far as we know, the question has not yet been answered. And this, we suspect, is the best evidence that North Carolina's constitution is as wayse on the point as Georgia's. At least one member of the Legislature, Representative Taylor of B uncombe, apparently believes the field would be wide open if such a tragic event oc-curred in Tarheelia. He has, therefore, ofcurred in Tarheelia. He has, therefore, of-fered in the House a constitutional amend-ment that would establish the succession beyond any possible question. In case of the death of the governor-elect, the lieuten-ain-governor-elect would succeed htm, just as he would if the death did not occur until after the oath had been taken.

This strikes us as a reasonable solution, but it doesn't go far enough. Since the election itself would have demonstrated the people's desire for a change of administration, it would be proper enough for the istration, It would be proper enough for the lleutenant-governor-elect to take over as acting governor. But, since a full four-year term would lie shead of him, it does not seem proper that he should be permitted to fill the office permanently without fur-ther reference to the voters. The constitu-tional amendment, we believe, should also provide for a special primary and elec-tion to be called within a reasonable time after the office becomes vacant.

In any even, we hope Representative Parker's bill will not be lost in the rush toward adjournment. All the gubernatorial prospects for '48 appear hale and hearty enough, but there is no sense in taking chances that can be avoided by a simple constitutional amendment. As matters now stand, an extra-legal gubernatorial contest such as that in procress in Georgia is possible in North Carolina, and even the possibility is a serious threat to orderly government.

#### Another Voice

### Fourth Of July AtVicksburg

SINCE 1863 July 4 has been a day of tragedy in Vicksburg For it was then that General Pemberton put up the white flag of truce and surrendered to General Grant the tattered remnants of his Considerate defenders. It was one of the bitterest defeats of the Confederacy, and in Vicksburg its anniversary long remained not Independence Day but only a Yankes holiday.

But scars have healed at last, And this But scars have healed at last, And this year another United States General, Dwight D. Elsenhower, will visit Vicksburg— at the invitation of its citizens. His In-dependence Day address will mark the first belebration of July 4 the town has seen. It will be a surrender, too, but a surrender not of troops, but of a section's hurse and re-sentments.

serve as the symbol of this rejoicing. For he typifies the United States today, a nation whose men and women from Maine and Mississippi and all the rest served under his command in one cause, and whose in-terests and allegiances are one.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

To the general surprise, women members of Congress support a bill giving only equal rights to women. We had supposed the sex would rise as one against this discrimina-

Hirohito's fortune, in the words of a Tok-yo dispatch, has "withered" to a mere 40 million. We are not, however, numbering this among the wonders of modern dehy-dration.

'Remember When There Used To Be Far-Away Places?'



### People's Platform

## Where The Coyotes Roam

Editors, The News:

"THAR'S Gold in them that hills' here in Artisons, and as ons-man committee It'd like to
induce more North Carolinians to come out here
and help me hunt for gold. Lots of 'em are already
here, but they so into other businesses, such as cattier raising, farming, industrial trades and some come
here to seek better health. Evidently, most of them
are successful in frinding whaterer they are
an other precious metals.

few, if any, ever come out here to fund gold and other precious metals. In ... I wan to wars all and Before I go and the chain the same and and the same and the

and the enhance of the profit of the profit

man.

The writer first came to Arizona as a soldier in 1915. He also spent a year in Old Mexico with General Pershing's expeditionary forces in 1916-1917, haled some poton German gas in 1918, returned to Arizona in 1923, from North Carolina, as a very sick man. The Arizona desert has given me back my health and today at the sage of almost 57 years, if an a good man physically, a little weak with the same of the

ann sometimes a trusted cog. There's something about living in the desert and hills that July set and the set of the set

peace of mind, health, some good. Therety and the County, N.C., they used to call me and the County, N.C., they used to call me and the County and the Count

#### Marquis Childs

## **Trend To Monopoly**

a warning that no one seems to listen to.

A reasonable man himself, Sen.

O'Mahoney thinks that the law-about the seems of the him so very clear. Fut in the sim-plest language, what O'Mahoney is me be crowd that a complete the process it so going on today faster than at any time since the depres-tors are seems of the seems of the seems of the than at any time since the depres-tors now have economic power far greater than all but a few states. See all corporations and they will taken over and run. by the Oor-ernment.

#### STATISM AT END

ONE MAN'S TROUBLES

interest out of the control and the control of the

## **Isolationism Revived**

NEW YORK

M. Will provoke a worse crists at the program of the program of the provoke as worse crists at the provoke as worse crists at the provoke as worse crists at the provoke and the pro

# Drew Pearson's: Truman Has Good Intentions, Bad Friends Merry-Go-Round:

Enveling to the famed Potedam Conference.

Possibly more significant in view of the current Greek crisis, Maragon also was sent on a special mission to Greece, and the unique position he enjoys around the executive of Congressional curriotity.

In more ways than one, his history is unique.

It was less than an hour after Pranklin Rocseveit ded that John Maragon arrived at the White Rouse to Thereafter he was given a special white House pass, pitts a reserved parking place for his car just outside the executive offices. He accompanied he Rocseveit International Conference of the Con

Police Record
THE most interesting thing shout Mr. Marsagon is how
the happens to be tolerated around the White House in
view of his record.

In the proper should be a supported by the support
when William J. Burns was operating shart, agency. The
narrottes racted at that time cenfered around Leavensworth,
Kana, and Marsagon gast dates operating shart, agency. The
narrottes racted at that time cenfered around Leavensworth,
for unexplained reasons, and there dritted to Washington
where he became a bad-debt collector and credit, investigator-for several bank.

In the state of the state of the state of the state
pleaded guilty of transporting liquor likesally (1/1720, was
three times arrested for disorderly conduct but never procecuted, once a cross of the Washington Sensors where some
of the ball players beat him up. Most interesting part of
the police file pertains to the death of Pulicol's most
Arthyrious homicide cases.

The Associated Press of that date carried the following

In The Social Whirl

EVENTUALLY, Maragon went

& Ohio Railroad where he w

gress and renewed his acquint
then Senator from Missouri. Ma

General Eisenhower is a happy choice to