

High Taxes And Inflation

PRICES are currently the No. 1 political issue in the opinion of a great many politicians but taxes may turn out to be an equally hot question in the 1948 campaign and in the next season of the 80th Congress. And they should be. Although everyone is clamoring for a reduction in the cost of living, the high cost of government is a larger item in the inflation which now is alarming consumers as well as economists.

The New Jersey Taxpayers Association has figured out that the per capita food bill is \$328 a year, and the cost of supporting the Federal Government alone is \$341. To the latter figure the cost of State and local government must be added. As the price spiral continues, we are likely to hear more discussion and see evidence of public awareness of this big tax item. There will be demands for "less government" as well as for citizens' control of the State Treasury. There is some ground to believe that Senator Taft now is busily working in his sentiment-leasing swing in the West.

Strongest point in the Democratic case is that it is more important to accumulate a surplus now than to reduce taxes. The crisis we now face poses the question whether anything is more important than a tax cut at this time.



and to attempt to get back into Governments from which Communists have been excluded. The Soviet Union believes that we will grow weary of our expensive adventure in the Near East. They have announced that they will withdraw, and they will wait until... OUB POSITION STRONG In spite of the delays and the... the position of the United States is strong in Greece today, and the situation is a good background of experience here. The Communist propaganda... has hardly scratched the surface.

A Delayed-Action Bomb

THE GREAT sin of the North Carolina Grange, according to the gospel of Commissioner of Agriculture Kerr Scott, is that it flew its banner for the Good Health program last Winter for a shout to assembled farmers in Raleigh that they, the Grange, and the state at large had been duped by the sinister movement to build new hospitals and train more doctors in North Carolina.

Mr. Scott's notions are his own business, and we suppose the Good Health Association is as vulnerable as the next cause. But we can't see why the Good Health program is being served by stirring the past again, more than six long months after the Legislature had put out the money for a program it approved in substance two and a half years ago.

People's Platform

A Big Difference in Isms It seems to be true that at least a majority of American people know little or nothing about Fascism and Communism. If it were not true, astute politicians would not attempt to make political capital of the false assertion—There is no difference between Fascism and Communism—obviously he believes that the politically ignorant are more numerous than the intelligent. Such widespread political ignorance is a great menace to democracy, especially when about attacks on democracy are under way.

A Big Difference in Isms

CHARLOTTE writes: The most striking difference between the two isms is that while the Fascist is a man of letters, the Communist is a man of letters. It is mighty easy for Mr. Churchill to sit back in his den, with a long cigar in his mouth, and tell the Americans just how to run the show.

Decline And Fall?

WH INFINITE reluctance, the American Congressionary leaders have taken the first headlong steps towards dealing with the economic situation. But dollars are only half the problem. Dollars are not edible. This is why, in moments of gloom, those close to the Washington scene are sometimes tempted to lead the horrid, Italian-style, industrially crippled "Decline and Fall of the United States" might write as follows:

The House That No One Knows

WE'VE never heard such a vast and awesome municipal silence as that which now surrounds the coming bond election for a new Charlotte auditorium. It is a striking contrast to the superb disinterest in the whole affair. But it isn't because the community doesn't know that it needs an auditorium, or that it doesn't want one. Up to now, the voters know enough to know what to do. It's another pie in the pike. They suspect that once more, the big announcement has been made, and the day of decision set, before the planning has been done.

out by the noise of marching feet below, of pianists driven mad by slamming doors and the roar of football crowds outside, of barn dances and pot smoking and chicken throwing and conventions and wrestling matches and symphonies and orchestras battling the echoes, all from the same stage. Perhaps we will not lose so many convictions or lack of will. Perhaps we will always be "No One Knows."

Churchill's Blueprint

MONROE writes: THE EDITORIAL in The News of Sept. 30, "Churchill Recalls Fulton," was both able and accurate. The article recalls that Churchill announced to the world that he was coming to the United States in January, 1946, to rest and also to make a speech. He planted himself in a Florida resort, and Wall Street had all the nation's big shots down in Florida and let the nation know just what a big in their ears with reference to America's duty and responsibility in fighting almost single-handed the Russian brand of socialism in all parts of the globe.

Shakespeare For Burkholder

CHARLOTTE writes: P. C. BURKHOLDER'S "stuck whistle" about the "villainous New Deal" is getting a little thingering. He has been most accurately described by William Shakespeare, who wrote: "But 'tis common proof 'Tis now from young ambition's ladder Where the climber upward turns his face, Who, having reached the summit of his pride, But to fall down the other side." Then into the ladder turns his back. Looks in the clouds, scolding the base degrees of his fall, and then, when he has tumbled down the ladder which brought the people up from the depths of dejection, he looks up at the top of the ladder which was ransacked in our great nation during the Hoover Administration in the conditions which were there was not a bank open without Charlotte, N. C. and Charleston, S. C. where farmers were not seeing anything for their produce and fire upright citizens were in honor and decency, men with large families were being driven to the wall.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round : Soap Emperor Heads Food Committee

"We know all about you," replied Chairman Geoffrey Heyworth, thumbing through a thick report on every phase of the soap business. In that report was the story of a Kansas City boy who began life selling newspapers, jerking a milk can, and then working his way through the University of Illinois, finally selling soap for Colgate's. In fact, the little boy who was now the largest soap manufacturer in the world, and eventually made such a showing for Colgate that he was snapped up by the Peppermint Corporation. Later, Lever brothers bought up Peppermint. And it has been said in favor of a "Lever" soap that it is the only soap to obtain the services of Chuck Luckman. (His present salary: \$300,000 a year.) Only that prominent Lever directors gave Luckman when he took over his new job was to "operate as he thought best." One of the first things he did after taking over his new position was to turn the soap world upside down by stating that the Association of American Soap and Glycerine Producers be headed by the soap association. For years there had been rivalry and bitterness between the three big soap companies of the USA (Lever Brothers, Colgate and Clorox) and the largest soap manufacturer in the world on the other. Always in the past, the little soap and candle maker had been the largest soap manufacturer of the "small soaps." Great was the astonishment in the soap trade, therefore, when Luckman, newly appointed head of the soap association in the USA, calmly announced that though it was his turn to be president of the soap association he would be stepping into the shoes of the soap emperors.