MONDAY, JULY 14, 1947

# Round Two On The Tax Bill

SENATOR BYRD of Virginia is credited by the Well Street Journal with, making possible the Republican revival of the tax reduction bill President Truman previously vetoch. The Senator, it seems, has been able to persuade enough of his Southern colleagues, to switch their votes to duction it as known. DYRD of Virgina is credited by The Wall Street Journal with, making possible the Republican revival of the tax reduction bill President Truman previously vetoed. The Senator, it seems, has been able to persuade enough of his Southern colleagues, to switch their votes to guarantee that the veto can be over-ridden on the second time around.

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The remarkable thing about this is that Senate Byrd was one of the original critical of the across-the-board income tax siash. Indeed, it may fairly be said that his eloquent opposition to the plan when it was first broached led to its defeat, even though he himself voted for it in the end. Backed by his usual collection of charts and graphs, Senator Byrd made the point that sound fiscal policy dictates that reduction in expenditures must precede reduction in expenditures with the precision of the promises to measure the Presidential budget, and further expressed his doubt that major reductions are now possible in view of increasary expenditures for the armed services, the veterans, debt retirement, and our politices.

ther expressed his doubt that major reduc-tions are now possible in view of necessary expenditures for the armed services, the veterans, debt retirement, and our politica-economic program abroad. And he also agreed with Mr. Truman that high taxes must be maintained in this period of high income if the national debt is ever to be brought down to manageable proportions. Nothing, so far as we can ase, has oc-curred in the meantime to explode the Senator's original thesis. The only change in the new tax bill makes its effective date January I instead of July 1. Senator Byyd himself appears to recognize that he is on doubtful ground. His explanation is that he has "refuctarehy" concluded that the Re-publicans will not reduce expenditures un-til they are forced to by a reduction in na-tional income. Any way we interpret this it stands as a violation of the "sound fiscal policy" he originally defined for the bene-tit of his colleagues.

it of his colleagues.

In any event, The Journal is probably

well expension to the control of the

sult is about what might be expected.

Aside from the question of how much money should be raised by the income tax, there are questions as to the mechanics of the tax itself. Most economists have criticized its workings at both ends of the scale. cized its workings at both ends of the scale. At the bottom, the list now includes hundreds of thousands of taxpayers whose total payments are less than the cost of collection. Past the middle of the scale, the rates are so high as to be confiscatory, making fabulous increases in in come necessary in order for the recipient in crealize even a modest net gain. And, most increases the confiscatory controlled the confiscatory increases are not made to the confiscatory because the confiscatory b

salary.

The manner in which the Congress is handling the current income tax bill does not give rise to any hope that constructive action in this field is possible in the immediate future. Until after the 1948 elections, at least, tax bills will be mere vote-bait. When the high political winds have died away, however, the voters may come to recognize that a 30 per cent saving on their tax bill is no substitute for an equitable income tax structure.

### Is The South Really Liberal?

Is The South Realty

In An article entitled "Why Call The
South Conservative?" in the current issue of Harper's, the University of Florids's
Professor William ®0. Carledon attempt to
explode what he terms the "myth" that the
South, in pollitical matters, is completely
and consistently conservative. In answer
to left-wing critics who condemn the South
as the seedbed of American reaction, Proffessor Carledon points out that the South
as the seedbed of American reaction, Proffessor Carledon points out that the South
that the South is responsible for
the nomination of both Wilson and Rooseveit; and that the South is responsible for
the nomination of both Wilson and Rooseveit; and that its Congressional delegations spearheaded the liberal trend under
the New Freedom and the New Deal. He attirbutes the myth of Southern conservations to the changing nature of liberalism,
formerly agrarian in nature, but now urban and industrial; hence, he says, it is
unfair and unreasonable to expect Southworthern Demorats stone the South
in Sorthern Demorats stone the South
in Sorthern Demorats stone the South ern Democrats to be as progressive as Northern Democrats, since the South is still an agrarian section.

In statistical support of his thesis, Pro-fessor Carleton offers\_evidence that Sou-thern Democrats, by voting standards compiled by The New Republic, established more progressive records in the last Con-gress than Mid-Western representatives.

gress than Mid-Western representatives.

Southerners ashamed of their representatives' voting records, bewildered at the complexities of a system under which nominal Democrats vote consistently with Republicans, or merely resentful of left-wing criticism should find great solace in Proreturns about ind great soace in Pro-fessor Carleton's conclusions. However, a closer examination will reveal faults in the logic by which those conclusions were reached; the Professor's thesis, in fact, is quite deceptive.

It is true that the agrarian liberalism of the pre-Wilson era has given way to the

Industrial liberalism of today However, if the South cannot accept the brand currently in vogue, how can we legitimately avoid the conservative label today? If the South has a true liberal tradition, as Professor Carleton maintains, why is it "unifair and unreasonable" to expect Southern Democrata loady to be as progressive as Northern Democrata loady to be as progressive as Northern Democrata loady to be as progressive as Northern Democratal Party and yet support in Congress the policies of the traditionally conservative and the second of the traditionally conservative and the New Deal as the Boafeston billedy suggests. The Souths indexis in Rosaveti was, for the most part, pure opportunism rather than devotion to the liberal cause. Having been deprived of power for twelve years, Southern Democratis in 1932 were eager to back anyone who seemingly could guarantee a Democratic victory; it was the capitulation of Jack Garner which insured Rosavevitis nomination, rather than an overshelmination of the progressivism of the proposed of the New Deal was more an evidence of loady to the party leader than to his progressivism. Theodore Bilbb, for example, could boast in the early days of one of the outstanding New Deal voting records in the Senate.

Instead of attempting to rationalize the Instead of attempting to rationalize the South's political schizophrenia, offering us the comfortable deliusion that we are really not so conservative after all. Professor Carleton should have brought his premises to a more logical conclusion. That the South's failure to modernize its "iberal-sim" may eventually be disastrous. The third party talk of Henry Wallace is not nearly so idd as threat as a good many Southerners seem to believe.

### A Warning For The Bootleggers

DURING a recess at Superior Court the other day, an attendant overheard a conversation between a defendant in a bootlegging case then in progress and two other men. Standing on the Courthouse steps, the accused was calmly giving instructions to his assistants for delivery of a load of liquor.

Solicitor Whitener later offered to introduce this conversation in evidence, but
Judge J. Will Pless grimly remarked that
it would not be necessary. It wann't The
Judge, not be basis of testimony already
taken, found the defendant guilty of operating a speakeasy and handed down the
maximum sentence along with so me
sorching remarks.

It probably would not be correct to claim
that this stiffrening of the judicial attitude
is a direct product of the recent ABC victory at the polis. This, in swertheless, a
heatrening harbinger of things to come. If
It is maintained, the old free and easy days
when our boolleggers conducted their illicit
banders with arrogant disregard for the
law will quickly become a thing of the past.

So long as Mecklenburgers kept the pro-Solicitor Whitener later offered to in-

law will quickly become a thing of the past. So long as Mecklenburgers kept the prohibition iaw on the books and themselves
openly laughed at it, there was little incentive for the courts to try to enforce it.
Now, however, the citizens have served
notice of their intention to rid the county
of its thriving boolige industry. The courts
appear to be taking the results of the eleclitor at face value. Judge Pless' action may
be taken as evidence of full judicial cooperation in the effort to see that every
action of hard liquer consumed in the toun-

ty passes over the counters of the ABC

stores.

The wise bootlegger will regard this case as a clear warning to change his ways or his piace of residence.

Two Broadway play critics use almost the identical phraseology in biasting a new drama. Are the boys now hunting in couples?

Kidding aside, we as a listener don't re-sent those commercials. How else would one learn that last year's perfect soap flake has been perfected?

Lately added to our repertory of day-dreams is one in which we strike oil, be-come fabulously rich, dress up like an Arab and tell off the U. N.

The physicists conclude that the glanc-ing blow is more devastating than one which smashes the target directly. One re-calls that when Champ Joe Louis just grazes them they're no good in a return bout.

### 'This Rocket Travel Sure Beats Flying'



## The Bulwinkle Bill

CHARLOTTE

Editors. The News:

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Senator Moev would not indone any bill he thought detrimental to the best interest of the state and country of the state of the state and country of the state of

ing and testified vigorously in support of the measurs. I hope more of the statements made during debate will misled any Senator with respect to interested or position of the shippers of this control. They wish You would also be interested, no doubt, to know that Mr. W. S. Creighton, executive vice-president of the Charlotte Shippers & Manufacturera Association, communicated his indocrement to both of the N. C. Tollevier to more than fair for voir to give publicity to the favorable comment on this bill, inamunch as the editoral mentioned might leave an immanuch sith re-distrain methode might leave an other than the control of the bills purpose.

—GORGE C. POTTEE.

-GEORGE C POTTER

#### Disagreement

nowher and conventions to also Provided the control of the control

The People's Platform is available to any reader who care to mount it Communications should be less than 130 words, typewritten it possible and on only one side of the paper. Libel and obscently will be deleted-otherwise anything goes Each letter must be signed although in exceptional cases and upon request, we will withhold the writer's name.—Editors, Tan News.

### Senator Soaper Says:

As to ballplayers swearing at the umpires, it is ruled this is OK unless it is so loud as to be overheard by red-faced 200-pound fans at the impressionable age.

### Marquis Childs

## How Many Soldiers?

areas will go home without doing anything about universal military training.

It is a question of paring down here and cutting there in an effort the state of th

#### PLANNERS PLEASED

PLANNERS PLASED
Army planners are particularly
pleased with this showing at a
time when employment is at probably the highest level in the mation's
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by Congress offers better inducements for long-range careers in the
Army and the hope is that it will
drive. Inspect to the recruiting
driver.

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WASHINGTON

Ion is growing within the War Department figure out what army's deficit in manpower will be army's deficit in manpower will be gree will go home without doing that. It was belind this recent attempts about universal military training.

statement unring an early peace settlement with the Japanese.

KOREAN RETEKAT!

Some officials, and among them are important policy-makers, go so out of Korea entirely. They argue that, while the Russians would take-over, the difficulties of the Soviet while the Control of th

OPPOSITION WEAKNESS

## Joseph & Stewart Alsop

# Lesson Of The Discs

THE flying saucers have served the leaves of the common form. That is that the United States has developed no effect of the common form. That is that the United States has developed no effect should be supported the substance of the common form. The common form of the common for

# Drew Pearson's : Solons Protect Fellow 'Club' Members Merry-Go-Round's : Solons Protect Fellow 'Club' Members

(Editor's note-Drew Pearson's column today takes the form of a letter to his daughter, Mrs. George Arnold).

the form of a letter to his daughter, Mrs. George Arnold).

My dear Daughter:

I have your letter with the clipping from the Chicago Tribune and I note that cousin Bertle McCormick is going after me hammer-and-tongs. I am norry you are worried.

Perhaps your father should zeep out of Senate battles and continuation crusseds. but alond on you are worried.

Perhaps your father should zeep out of Senate battles and continuation crusseds. but alond any other alternative. One of the things I don't stand for, or rather stand against, is the Ku Kikin. And when I see a Congressman nominated to high office who comes from a cout the facts, even if Colonel McCormick doesn't like it and even if the battle is sure to be a losing one.

As a matter of fact—and I probably know this better than anyone cles in the USA—I'ts nearly always a losing Congress is the most erchaited cibis in the world, and no matter how much the members litter with each other when an outsider attack, they all raily to each other's defense. I could scarcely believe it at first, but when indications Andy May of Kentucky, Benafor Alben Bartley, for whom I have the highest regard on most things, tried to call off the investigation. Bartley wanted to protect a member of the clib—especially one from Kentucky.

### Policing Congressmen

Congress.

Therefore, I suppose it's only to be expected that Senators would rush frantically to the defense of their colleague,
Congressman Robert P. Jones of Ohio, and want to ram
through his confirmation to the Federal Communications
Commission with scarcely five scanty hours of superficial

Commission with scarcely five scanty hours of unperficial hearings.

Meanings. The scance of the scanty hours of unperficial hearings are considered to the scance of the

record.

The difference is that Congressman Jones is a member of the club. Mr. Perlman isn't.

### Mauling Witnesses

ANOTHER thing which gripes your dad is to see the unfaira way Senators will maul and tear to pieces some scared
A way Senators will maul and tear to pieces some scared
Committee or never even been in Washington. Then when
a member of the club comes along for cross-examination,
milk and honey simply drips from their mouthst. Never do
they sak an embarrassing question. Never do they look into
his past. miss an embarrassing quantities of they ask an embarrassing quantities of they assign an FBI agent while past.

A simple phone call from the Senate to the Justice Descriment would have revealed the fact that exactly one day

#### No Black Angels

No Black Angels

No Black Angels

Naturally, members of the Black Legion are not an example and these wineses had some unavory spots in the angels, and these wineses had some unavory spots in the spots of the spot