

One of Charlotte's outstanding Negro citizens is 82-year-old Thad T. Tate, who has been in the city since 1914. He is a member of the city's oldest shop to employ him. Tom Ferguson reports Tate's life on page 12-A.

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THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

Hot Fight Over Rival Tax Schemes Predicted

Knutson Says Truman Tax Plan Will Be Rejected

GOP Will Push Own Program

By FRANCIS M. LE MAY

WASHINGTON (AP)—

The first big election year battle between President Truman and the Republican-controlled Congress exploded today with a declaration by Rep. Knutson (R-Minn.) that the President's tax program "is as dead as a mackerel."

The chairman of the tax-writing Ways and Means Committee simultaneously announced plans to press for a new \$5,000,000,000 tax-shedding bill to seek approval in the House.

Mr. Knutson said Congress yesterday to grant a 400 "cost of living" tax cut for every member of the household—thereby freeing perhaps 10,000,000 low income persons from further taxation—and to make up the revenue loss by \$5,000,000,000 in new levies on corporations.

"It is just a political gesture. It will get no consideration at all," said Knutson, 70, Speaker of the House.

Mr. Knutson added:

"I don't expect the President's program to get through. I don't think the President expected it when he made it."

But Rep. Knutson will have a tax bill of his own that will give a 400 "cost of living" tax cut to every member of the household and will be one that will stimulate instead of hurting business.

Mr. Knutson said he would increase anybody's taxes, for the time being, no 400 cut of tax.

But Rep. Knutson of Texas, the House Democratic leader, quickly backed up the White House plan and, in a report to Knutson, declared it didn't oppose anything.

When the Minnesota introduced his bill in the last hours of the recent special session, he labeled it a " veto plan."

But the President's program is a little different than the White House plan in its present form. It is certain to be rejected.

Mr. Knutson last year twice killed a Republican-backed, \$4,000,000,000 tax-shedding measure, which was the wrong kind of tax reduction at the wrong time.

The big question now is whether, in an election year, enough Democrats will win in the House of Representatives to pass it over the Republican opposition.

Mr. Knutson said he would not support the measure.

President Truman's plan seemed to be general agreement, but one thing: that a new tax law will be passed this year.

And while Knutson refused to support the measure, some Democrats still reported that they believe the Republicans will pass the bill.

Mr. Knutson called the Ways and Means Committee to meet Jan. 8 on his bill, which would cut the Treasury budget and the Internal Revenue Service.

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Ex-Democratic Press Chief Chas. Michelson Taken By Death

WASHINGTON (AP)—Charles Michelson, newspaper man and former hard-hitting publicity director of the Democratic National Committee, died at his apartment here today at the age of 76.

Dr. Walter A. Bloedorn, his physician, said death was due to congestive heart failure.

Michelson, who did his most celebrated sharp-shooting at the Republican in the Hoover regime, had been in poor health for more than two years. He retired from his committee post in 1943, but stayed on in an advisory capacity.

In recent months he had kept to his apartment reading and under the care of his nurse, Miss Reisinger.

FOUND BY NURSE

Michelson awoke at 7:30 o'clock this morning and asked the nurse to get him up a coffee. When she returned to the bedside, she found him dead.

Michelson leaves three nieces and five nephews. A brother, Dr. Albert Michelson, the noted physicist, died in 1921.

Funeral services here were tentatively arranged for Sunday. Burial probably will be in Washington.

Michelson, veteran political writer, took over as Democratic press secretary in 1937 and held the post for thirteen years.

In 1946 he promoted a third term for Franklin D. Roosevelt—the first ever to pass.

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Marshall In Plea For Aid Program

WASHINGTON (AP)—Secretary of State Marshall appealed to Congress today for an adequate, prompt and effectively administered European aid program and bluntly challenged the lawmakers.

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER

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