G. O. P. HISTORY FOR 1921 LIKE DEATH RECORD

Story of Buried Business Hopes and Failures to Accomplish.

ONE WORTH WHILE ACT

BY RICHARD LINTHICUM

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—A chronology of the Republican administration for 1921 under reactionary leadership partakes more of the nature of a necrology, including dead hopes for business and industrial revival in that calendar year.

Any review of the Republican failure in 1921 to be thoroughly understood and properly analyzed must be prefaced by at least a summarized statement of the legislative record of that party beginning in 1919, for the Republican party was in control of both branches of the Congress of the United States for two years prior to 1921.

In the Congress of 1919, the Democratic party presented a comprehensive program of reconstruction, including scientific tax revision based upon a knowledge and understanding of economic principles which if it had been adopted would have relieved the people of most of the burdensome war taxes and have made necessary taxation bearable by reason of its equitable and just distribution.

The reactionary Republican element in caontrol of legislation rejected the Democratic plan for reconstruction and then failed to pass any remedial legislation. Whether the failure was due to incompetency or to an unholy desire to continue the oppressive burdens of the wars in order to bring about a popular revolt in the campaign of 1920, is a matter of opinion. The excuse offered by the reactionaries for failure to act was that nothing permanent could be accomplished until the Republican party had full control of the Government.

In the Congress of 1919, the Republican Senate played politics with the peace of the world and in so doing promoted and brought on a universal economic breakdown, the effect of which is shown by an economic loss to this country alone of $40,000,000,000, or nearly twice as much as the war cost the United States financially. That is the legislative record of the party under reactionary control prior to the inauguration of President Harding last March, when it came into full control of all branches of the Government.

On April 11, the Congress overwhelmingly Republican in both branches, and the Republican majorities overwhelmingly dominated by reactionaries, was called in special session and did not adjourn sine die until the eve of Thanksgiving, by which adjournment it added a special reason for the observance of that day.

Without exception the good legislation passed by that special session was nonpartisan legislation or legislation passed by a coalition of Democratic and progressive Republicans. Among the nonpartisan legislation can be cited the budget act, farms credit act, good roads act, soldiers relief act, the grain exchange act, etc., some of which originated with the Democrats. The packers control act and grain exchange acts were passed after much reactionary Republican opposition.

The one outstanding great achievement—the Borah Resolution for a conference on the limitation of armaments—was forced through both houses by the fear of a coalition of Democrats and Progressive Republicans.

The two achievements, if such legislation can be called achievements, of the reactionary group were the emergency tariff act and the tax revision act. The emergency tariff act was loudly heralded by the reactionary Republicans as their specific for the ills of the farmer, but in reality it provided only high protection for the manufacturers, increasing the cost of everything the farmer bought, and instead of raising the price of his products and enlarging his market, resulted in rapidly decreasing the prices of agricultural products and more effectually choked agricultural exports which are vital to the farmer's prosperity. It was a brazen attempt to fool the farmer, trusting to luck that conditions would improve, and was thoroughly exposed prior to its passage. Instead of helping the farmer it has given him the first big concrete illustration of the fact, well-known to all economists, that a high protective tariff benefits only the manufacturing and specially favored classes and injures almost to the point of destruction the agricultural and other natural industries.

The other act of Republican reactionaryism, the tax revision act, is unsatisfactory to almost every class of taxpayer. The Republican leaders admit it is a botch and will have to be done over again. Its only redeeming features were in the form of amendments purposed by Senate Democrats led by Senator Simmons of North Carolina supplemented by the able and brilliant arguments of Senators Hitchcock of Nebraska, Reed of Missouri, Walsh of Massachusetts, Gerry of Rhode Island and of other Democratic Senators who have so clearly and ably demonstrated that the Democratic party is the one party that understands the economic principles of taxation and is thoroughly competent to enact a just and equitable tax law.

There is not so far a single act of legislation for which the Republican majorities in Congress are responsible that has solved a single problem of reconstruction or given necessary relief to the distressful condition of business and industry.

The administrative records of the Republican party for 1921 has been almost, but not quite, as bad as the legislative record. It is saved from unqualified condemnation by the calling of the conference on the Limitation of Armaments and by upholding the foreign policies of the Democratic administration whenever it has been compelled to act in a specific case.

On the other side it is a record of bad appointments, of the nullification of the principles of the civil service, of the discrimination against ex-service men in the matter of appointments, of catering to special privilage, of attempting negatively to influence legislation and of reactionaryism in all its most objectionable forms.

So much for retrospect.

The regular session of the Sixty-seventh Congress has just begun, and it can truly be said that the same reactionary leadership which dominates the regular session as it dominated the special session gives no indication that it intends to do any better or wishes to do any better in 1922.

The Senate Finance Committee is holding hearings on the tariff bill, which the House passed at a special session in such unsatisfactory shape that it will have to be redrafted in its entirety. President Harding is asking for sole authority for the executive to determine the tariff rates as conditions may require, thus admitting the inability of his party to frame a satisfactory traiff.

If the Democrats in Congress were inspired only by a desire to make political capital for their party in the enactment of a tariff bill they would give President Harding the authority he asks and also approve the American valuation clause contained in the act under which no importer will know what duty he has to pay and will frequently be paying a duty on a duty. But the Democratic leaders will continue to offer constructive amendments with a view of making all legislation of benefit to the people.

The so-called railroad funding bill to provide another $500,000,000 for the railroads has been sent to the scrap-heap, but the big funding bill—the war debt funding bill, which in its original form gave the Secretary of the Treasury the power to make any arrangement he pleased in the funding of the $11,000,000,000 of indebtedness, is still to be dealt with. The sinister character of this bill in its original form aroused general suspicion and apprehension and it is certain that the Democrats will undertake to invest it with every safeguard for the financial interest of the nation and not permit it to become a mere instrument for the benefit of international bankers.

It is understood that President Harding will soon send to the Congress a plea for a ship subsidy in connection with the American merchant marine which is certain to arouse acrimonious debate. A ship subsidy at a time when foreign commerce is constantly declining is another Republican anomaly.

It is proposed also to reopen the whole question of internal taxation, which can have only for its purpose the further relief of the multi-millionaire and profiteering classes by further reduction in the maximum surtaxes and result in further confusion and uncertainty in the business world.

The appropriations bills will be a feature of the regular sesion and in a way will be a test of the budget system; at least as it is administered under General Dawes. Heretofore the General's recommendations have not had very respectful consideration at the hands of Congress. He was appointed for the purpose of reducing appropriations, but the Congress has found it necessary to constantly reduce his estimates.

What is in store in the way of deficiency appropriations can at this time only be surmised. Already there have been two deficiency bills passed before the fiscal year was half over, amounting to $154,000,000 and the Navy Department has asked for $27,000,000 deficiency.

With respect to deficiency appropriations, the following prophecy of Representative James F. Byrnes of South Carolina, Democratic member of the Appropriations Committee, is worth keeping in mind:

"I call attention to this because I make the prediction now that we will have at least two or three more deficiency bills, and unless there is a great change in the executive departments the deficiency bills of this Congress are going to amount to almost as much as any Congress since prior to 1908 ever spent for all government purposes."

In the legislation yet to be enacted, there is not any pending that offers relief or even amelioration of existing conditions.

EPIDEMICS OF SUICIDE.

BERLIN, Jan. 10.—Losses sustained in stock market speculation are held responsible for the many suicides reported during the last few weeks. Sometimes the cases of self-destruction number ten a day.

AMERICAN PEERESS HONORED

Lady Curzon, daughter of the late J. Monroe Hinds, former American Minister to Brazil, was made Dame of the Grand Cross of the Order of the British Empire in recognition of her services as a war worker. Her first husband was Alfred Duggan, a wealthy resident of Buenos Aires. After his death she travelled in Europe, and there met the British Foreign Minister. They were married on Jan. 2, 1917.

LATE SENATOR KNOX PRAISED BY BEVERIDGE

Pennsylvania Solon Was Indifferent to Politics, Says Speaker.

POINTS TO RECORD

Special to The Times.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 10.—Tribute to the late Senator Philander C. Knox of Pennsylvania was paid last night by Albert J. Beveridge of Indiana, in an address before the Pennsylvania Historical Society.

Mr. Beveridge spoke of his intimate friendship with Senator Knox.

"The outstanding features of the character and public career of Philander Chase Knox were his patriotism, his independence, his constructive genius, his freedom from political ambition, and his abhorrence of office seeking," he said.

"He took little, if any, part in what we called 'politics.' Before he became Attorney General he made no party speeches, attended no party conventions; and throughout his official life he refrained from the usual party activities commonly engaged in by public men and, indeed, expected of them by their fellow partisans and the public itself.

"But if Mr. Knox was coldly indifferent to party politics, he was vitally concerned about public policies; the affairs of the Nation so absorbed him that lesser matters did not interest him.

SUCCESS IS EXPLAINED.

"This may be the reason for his achievements as publicist and statesman; it is possible that his remarkable success in these fields may have been due to the concentration of his powers upon the solution of public problems.

"Mr. Knox was strangely void of ambition. It is said that twice he might have been nominated and elected President, if he had exerted himself. To his intimate friend, the Hon. James Francis Burke of Pittsburgh, he said: 'Why should I seek the presidency? I have no illusions about the office. I regard it as the greatest in the world, but I have lived with it and shared its confidences and vicissitudes under three Presidents, and I know too well its never-ending anxieties to have any desire to sit in the White House, and especially so long as I can be of service to the country in other spheres of action.'

"Few men in American history have shown a creative mind of the quality of that of Mr. Knox. He was a builder; and, from his entrance into public life to the day of his death, he demonstrated his constructive ability.

"As Attorney General under President Roosevelt, he not only originated the legal theory and method for the Administration's attack upon mighty and lawless combinations of capital, which he prosecuted successfully, but Mr. Knox also devised the laws passed by Congress to end business evils then flagrantly practiced; in fact, he himself wrote many of these statutes.

SERVED AS ADVISER TO ROOSEVELT.

"In the execution of his fundamental, moral and economic policy, Theodore Roosevelt relied upon the constructive mind and legal skill of Philander Chase Knox.

"To a great capitalist who reproached him for his attitude and conduct at Attorney General, Mr. Knox retorted: 'There is no ticker in the White House.'

"He could be neither persuaded nor intimidated from doing what he believed to be right; and he feared the vengeance of infuriated wealth as little as he feared the execrations of angered publics. He seemed utterly oblivious to those influences which affect most men.

"It was to this steady quality, this imperturbable indifference to undeserved praise, or unjust blame, that President Roosevelt paid tribute: 'We need common sense, common honesty and resolute courage. We need what Mr. Knox has shown—the character that will refuse to be hurried into unwise and precipitate movement by clamor, whether hysterical or demagogic, and, on the other hand, a character that will refuse to be frightened out of any movement by any pressure or by any threat, expressed or implied.'

"During his first three years in the Senate, Mr. Knox displayed the same intellectual and moral powers that made illustrious his administration of the office of Attorney General. For example, his speech on the railway bill of 1906, and his argument in the matter of the soldiers discharged in the notorious Brownsville affair, had more influence with the Senate and the country than any of the other excellent addresses made in those two notable debates. In both these efforts Senator Knox sustained President Roosevelt.

LOYAL TO U. S. AS SECRETARY OF STATE.

"As Secretary of State he ran true to form. His foreign policy was to advance and defend legitimate American interests abroad, to cultivate friendship with all nations, and particularly those of Central and South America, to promote the settlement of international disputes by arbitration.

"Mr. Knox was again in the Senate when Congress declared war against Germany; and during that struggle this calm, composed man was transformed. He became a living fire; yet his marvellous brain worked as before.

"He rebuked Senators of his own party for complaining of the extensive authority given the President; he went to the extreme of interpreting the Constitution in the lurid light of so-called 'war power;' he asserted the right of the President to seize the railroads; he even insisted that war revenue should and could be raised, constitutionally, by national taxation of State bonds.

"But the crowning work of his career was done after hostilities ended. Even before the armistice was signed, but when victory was certain, he warned against ending war and founding peace at the same time. In a series of speeches, unsurpassed for logic, learning and true eloquence, in the record of parliamentary engagements, he assailed the covenant of the League of Nations.

"Beyond all question, the attitude and arguments of Senator Knox, more than any other influence, defeated that scheme of internationalism. His speech of March 1, 1919, will rank beside that of Webster's reply to Hayne."

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RESINOL

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GIVES LABORING CLASS A CHANCE TO BE MUSICAL

Los Angeles Institutes Bureau of Industrial Music to Promote Culture.

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 10.—Taking the lead among American cities in a broad line of endeavor, the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce has instituted a "Bureau of Industrial Music." The new department is said to be making a strong appeal to the leading merchants and manufacturers in this district.

In telling the objects of the bureau, Miss Antoinette Ruth Sabel, who has been made director, stated: "The aim of the Chamber of Commerce is to furnish a clearing house for the musical activities of Los Angeles—not for supervision, but in order that the culture already existing here, together with its further development, may be available to newcomers, as well as to the citizens who may now be at a loss as to where they may use their musical ability to the greatest advantage."

"What kind of a reception has the movement received?" Miss Sabel was asked.

EVERYBODY BOOSTS.

"The very kindest from almost everybody," she replied. "Heads of industries employing large numbers of men and women have become enthusiastic when the meaning of the effort has been explained to them.

"The functioning of the bureau will result in the establishment of choruses, bands and orchestras among employes and their gradual training and development into effective and permanent forces, which will mean much to the city's life.

"This is no experiment, for a few years ago such a movement was started among the working people employed by Marshall Field & Co., of Chicago. Today the Marshall Field chorus is recognized as having passed the amateur stage and is rated as a professional organization, giving great oratorios to large audiences every year.

MUCH TALENT SNUFFED OUT.

"I have long since learned from actual contact with the people that any amount of the best talent is snuffed out because its possessors are compelled to labor daily for a living, without the opportunity or the means which musical culture demands. To the thousands of such people an opportunity like this comes as a Godsend.

"Practically all of the city's clubs are extending their whole-hearted cooperation. I am strong in the belief and assurance that Los Angeles will become one of the greatest music centers, outside of New York, in the entire country.

"Once a year, at least, it is planned to hold a great industrial music festival, when the various organizations will be massed and their work demonstrated to the public. This will mean a wonderful impetus to music in this city and to Southern California."

NEW CAUSE OF WRINKLES.

LONDON, Jan. 10.—If your wife wants a new coat with a high fur collar, tell her this: leading London physicians assert that the high tight fur collars now being worn cause the skin of the neck and chin to wrinkle.

DUTCH SMUGGLE OPIUM.

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 10.—Dutch and British police are cooperating in efforts to round up a gang of opium smugglers believed to have its headquarters here. Most of the members are said to be Dutch citizens.

WORN-OUT TIRED WOMEN

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