

CONGRESS 'AT BAY' ON BOOZE, BONUS, TAXES

Politicians Fear Wrath of Voters If They Guess Wrong on Issues.

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WASHINGTON, March 12.—Be-wildered in the face of three grave decisions which aim straight at the stomachs and pocketbooks of practically every one, congress is listening almost frantically just now for the voice of the people.

As luck would have it, these critical votes come just about the time the voters are beginning to think seriously whether they want to make a change in their congressmen.

The house will take a test vote Monday involving the question of submitting federal prohibition to the country for judgment.

A few days later the house will vote on the biggest peace-time tax increase in history, including the revolutionary sales tax, which would place all except the smallest manufacturers under federal license and levy 2½ per cent on most manufactured articles.

Bonus Again to Fore

Following that, the soldier bonus issue will come up again in a proposal to pay off in full the veterans' adjusted compensation certificates at a cost of \$2,000,000,000.

All these questions drill down to the most sensitive nerves of the voters. The congressman who guesses wrong may find himself in the army of unemployed next November.

It is one of those great political emergencies when, as they say around here, statesmen must rise above principle. Now is the time for those who think they know what this country needs to speak up.

Professional politicians have many ways of running public affairs to suit themselves, regardless of popular wishes, but in this situation, if congress can find out what the country wants, it will be only too glad to provide it.

Tribute Paid Crisp

There is nothing cynical about this picture. It is accepted so commonly as to cause little comment here, where congress is regarded as the body of men which enacts laws and hopes to be re-elected.

When the tax bill came before the house this week, the Republican and Democratic members rose and applauded in an unusual tribute to a hard working, conscientious, plain looking man of medium build—Representative Crisp (Dem., Ga.). The reason for this exceptional honor was the exceptional willingness of Crisp to champion a drastic tax bill, some parts of which he recognized would be unpopular.

He was obliged, through the illness of a colleague, to assume the role in somewhat the same spirit that a dentist undertakes to chisel out a wisdom tooth in a way that will make his writhing patient come back again. The house instantly recognized such exceptional courage and paid its tribute of respect.

Listen for Voters' Reaction

Every member of the house recognizes the country is falling far behind in operating funds. The money—more than \$1,000,000,000 to come out of somebody's pocket. The fight is over whose pocket.

The sales tax would go on every manufactured article except certain foodstuffs and a few other exempted articles. It would compel every manufacturer doing more than \$20,000 worth of business a year to take out a federal license.

Opponents say it would disproportionately tax the little fellow—down to the baby's shoes. Many who seek defects in the plan are unable to find a satisfactory alternative. Outcome of the fight probably will depend on reaction from the country in the next few weeks.

On the prohibition vote, many members are trying to fathom the feeling of their constituents, particularly in hitherto dry districts which are showing strong repeal majorities in the Literary Digest poll.

The grip of the organized dry forces has been so strong that only now some members are beginning to wonder whether a shift has set in which they would do well to anticipate.

Veterans Demand Bonus

In spite of economic issues, prohibition has pushed its way down front in the 1932 political picture, and Monday's roll call will provide the text for many a political stump speech before November.

In the background, but advancing grimly, is the full soldier bonus payment bill by Representative Patman (Dem., Tex.). The house ways and means committee will hold hearings on it as soon as the tax bill is passed.

The American Legion has refused to endorse it, but countless individual legion posts have, as have the Veterans of Foreign Wars and several other service groups. Proponents estimated at 10,000,000 voters are affected through veterans and their relatives.

MORTGAGE EXEMPTION ERRORS BRING WARNING

Fifth of Applications Filed are Faulty, Auditor Asserts.

Frequency of mistakes in applications for mortgage exemptions today caused County Auditor Charles A. Grossart to point out the correct form for preparing papers.

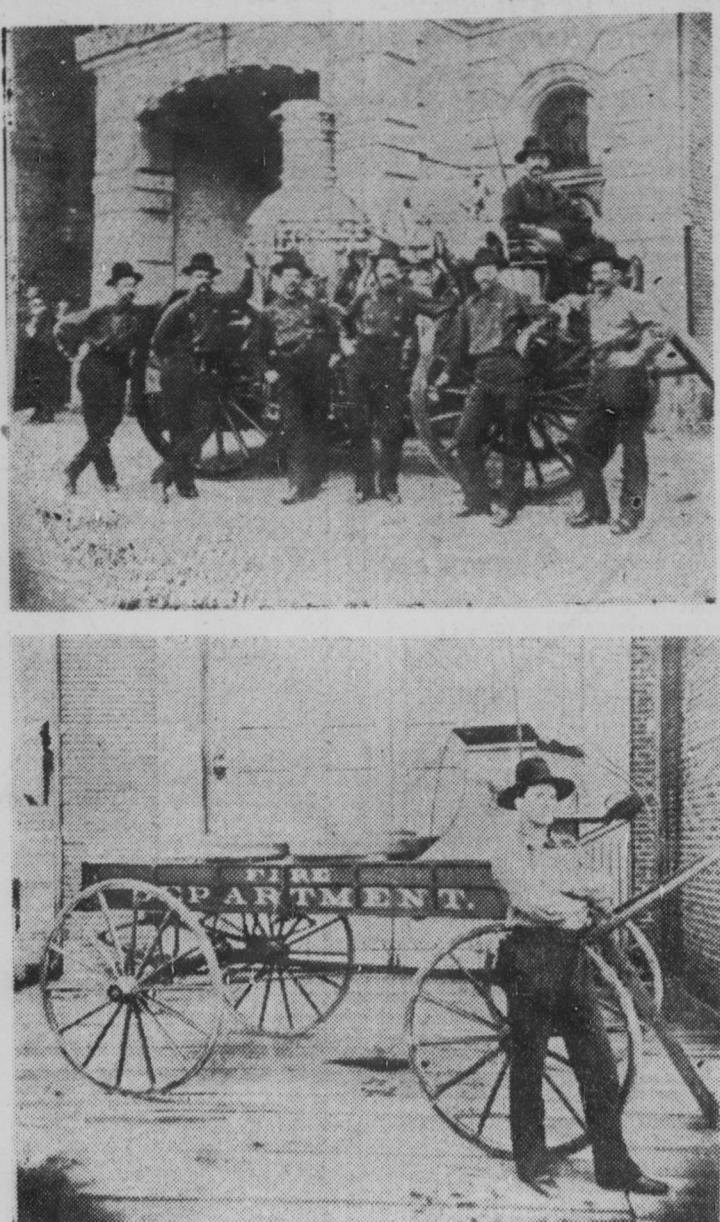
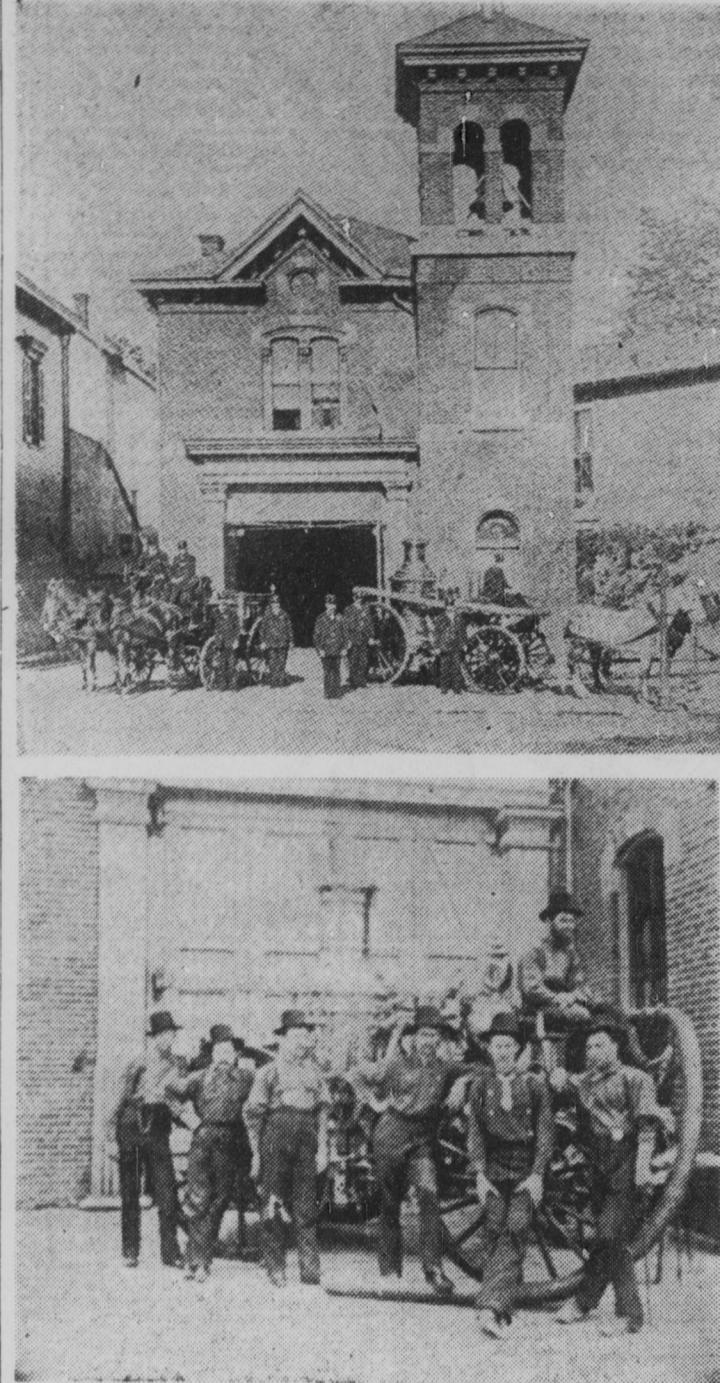
He said that about 20 per cent of 5,000 exemptions requested were faulty because of mistakes in filing. Property owners have until May 2 to file exemptions.

A reasonable description of the real estate must be given in the application. Grossart warned on necessity of giving book and page number of the mortgage, as listed in the county recorder's office.

An exemption not to exceed \$1,000 is allowed each property owner paying taxes on property under mortgage.

The United Kingdom produces about two-fifths of the world output of marine engines.

City's Oldest Fire Stations Are Doomed; 60-Year-Old Structures May Be Replaced



Upper Left—Engine house No. 1 and firemen, and, right, one of the first fire companies at No. 6. Lower Left—Fire company at old No. 10, and, right, No. 1's first supply wagon.

SIXTY years ago Indianapolis

firemen looked with pride on

four new fire stations, the latest

word in fire houses.

They were built to endure, and

they did endure, for all four still

are standing today, two of them

in use as fire stations, and a third

having been abandoned only a few

weeks ago.

But the march of time can not

be halted, and the remaining two

soon may make way for more

modern structures.

Members of the safety board are

considering a recommendation of

Fire Chief Harry E. Voshell, that

station No. 1, on Indiana avenue, be replaced by a new station on

another site.

STATION No. 1, oldest firehouse

in use here, was placed in use

Dec. 28, 1871.

Five days later three more sta-

tions were completed. They were

numbered 2, 3 and 4. No. 2, at

748 Massachusetts avenue, later

known as No. 8, just has been

abandoned with completion of

new No. 8 station on Eleventh

street, at Broadway.

Station No. 4, still in use and

now known as No. 10, is located at

Russell avenue and Merrill

street.

The first paid fire department

was organized in 1859, the city's

first steam engine being purchased

a few months later.
