



# The Indianapolis Times

Partly cloudy with thundershowers tonight or Saturday; little change in temperature.

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### ELECTRIC TAX RATE DRAWS SENATE FIRE

Levy of 3 Per Cent on Consumer Is Made by Conference Bill.

### VOTE DELAY FORESEEN

Nebraskan Raises Point of Order That Possibly Will Hold Up Action.

By MARSHALL MCNEIL  
Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, June 4.—A tax on electricity which the house as a whole never acted on, and which the senate turned down twice, is before congress today for approval in the tax bill conference report.

This is the levy of 3 per cent on electricity consumed in homes and by commercial enterprises, to be paid by the users.

It is said that electricity is a necessity in more than 70 per cent of the homes of America.

This replaces the tax on electrical energy which the senate voted, apparently in the hope that it would not be passed along so easily.

This senate tax, incidentally, was calculated to please consumers more than the power companies, and the reverse is said of the tax agreed to by the tax conferees.

#### Snag May Be Struck

Political prophets say the conference report will be agreed to by the house early today, approved by the senate this afternoon, and that the \$119,000,000 budget-balancing revenue bill will be at the White House for President Hoover's signature by tonight.

But there is a possibility that the conference report may stumble in the senate on this very electricity tax issue.

Senator Robert B. Howell (Rep., Neb.), author of the electrical tax amendment which the senate approved, will raise a point of order against the new levy, arguing that there was nothing in either the house or the senate tax bills, which permitted the conferees to write in the consumers' tax.

#### Tax on Consumers

"We levied a tax on the power companies," Howell said, "and the conferees levied a tax on power consumers. The conferees exceeded their powers."

Pointing out that his amendment taxed industrial users of electric energy, while the new tax is levied only on domestic and commercial users, Howell declared the conferees had favored the power users who pay least, and who are in a position to bargain for rates.

Domestic consumers, he said, pay most for their power and can not bargain.

If Howell's point of order is upheld, the bill will go back to conference.

This tax first was proposed to the senate by the finance committee as a 5 per cent levy on domestic consumption of electricity and gas, to be paid by the consumers. It was rejected, 45 to 40.

#### Amended by Conferees

Senator David A. Reed (Rep., Pa.), in an effort to get the tax approved, amended it by providing that electricity and gas used in commercial business should also be taxed. He also reduced the rate to 4 per cent.

This was defeated by an even larger vote, 47 to 35, with fourteen senators not voting.

Then, the senate adopted the Howell amendment, which it considered less discriminatory, for it levied 3 per cent on power sold by power companies, the income to be paid by the utility concerns. Several senators expressed hope that this would not be passed on directly to consumers.

This amendment, which was agreed to, 61 to 19, read as follows: "There is hereby imposed upon energy sold by privately owned, operating electrical power companies a tax equivalent to 3 per centum of the price for which so sold."

#### Twice Asked by Senate

This provision, however, was killed in the joint house-senate tax conference, and for it was substituted one which is practically word for word the same as the two the senate rejected. The tax in the conference report is stated in these words:

"There is hereby imposed a tax equivalent to 3 per cent of the amount paid on or after the fifteenth day after the day of the enactment of this act, for electrical energy for domestic or commercial consumption furnished after such date and before July 1, 1934, to be paid by the person paying for such electrical energy and to be collected by the vendor."

#### HOGS CLOSE WEEK AT LOWER PRICE LEVELS

Cattle and Calves Steady in Dull Trade; Sheep Unchanged.

Hogs mostly were 10 cents lower this morning at the city yards. The bulk, 100 to 350 pounds, selling for \$3.05 to \$3.40; top holding at \$3.45, paid for a few small lots. Receipts were estimated at 3,500; holdovers were 152.

Cattle were nominal, receipts numbering only 50. Vealers held steady at \$5.50 down. Calf receipts were 100.

Sheep and lambs were quately steady or moving in a range of \$7.50 down. Receipts were 100.

#### Hourly Temperatures

6 a. m.... 67 8 a. m.... 78  
7 a. m.... 69 9 a. m.... 80

### FIEND HURLS TORCH INTO HOME, PERILING LIVES OF NINE SLEEPING PERSONS

Soon to Wed

### MENACE SEEN IN 10 MILLION U. S. JOBLESS

'Starving in Poverty, Waiting Impatiently to Earn Livings,' Says Green.

By Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance

WASHINGTON, June 4.—As both houses of congress prepared to consider relief measures next week, the American Federation of Labor today estimated that ten and a half million persons were out of work in March of this year.

This revised figure, much higher than any announced previously by the federation, is based on statistics gathered by the United States government, rather than trade union estimates.

William Green, president of the federation, explaining the method by which his new estimate has been made, said today he is confident it is conservative.

He pointed out that unemployment has increased by at least 200,000 persons since March, that one-fifth of those now normally employed are without work, and that unemployment now is higher than ever before in history.

Intense heat of the fire scorched dozens of chickens in a pen adjoining the house.

Jenkins, first to discover the house in flames, told police that a flaming torch had been tossed through an open window adjoining the bedroom in which he and his wife were sleeping. As he was awakened, the flames were spreading rapidly, he said.

He awoke Mr. and Mrs. Martin, sleeping on the second floor of the seven-room house, and they roused their two children, Ella and Chester.

Jenkins and his wife, Yovon, 19, carried their three children into the street.

Pet Dog Burns to Death

Only a few scattered pieces of furniture were saved by the two men before flames enveloped the structure.

Intense heat of the fire scorched dozens of chickens in a pen adjoining the house.

A Boston Bull terrier, pet of the family, was burned to death.

Jenkins and Martin told firemen the family had no enemies and they could account for no motive on part of the fiend.

The home was located in the center of a large field with no other residences near.

Looking for Help

"These ten millions of unemployed are looking to congress for help," said Green. "They want work. They impatiently are looking for plans that will provide them opportunity to earn a living."

"Poverty is starving these millions physically and spiritually. Vital questions are dominating discussion in homes and meeting places all over the country."

"Deep-seated unrest is everywhere apparent. Men and women are near desperation. They ask for an opportunity to earn their daily bread."

"The increase in credit and decrease in bank failures mean nothing to them, if jobs are not forthcoming as a consequence."

Democratic members of the house agreed Friday night after a lengthy caucus to support the limit Speaker John M. Garner's \$2,300,000,000 relief bill, including a stall dollar public works provision.

Up for Vote Tuesday

The measure will come up for a vote Tuesday, under present plans, with rules giving no opportunity for amendment.

The vote will be close. Republican leaders have thrown their whole strength against the measure, and will seek to defeat it, and offer later, the smaller relief plan of the President, to be accomplished through Reconstruction Finance Corporation and other public works construction.

The senate banking and currency committee probably will act today on the Wagner relief bill, drawn by senate Democrats, so that it may be ready for consideration as soon as the economy bill is out of the way.

22 DIE IN BOMB BLAST

41 Others Reported Hurt at Chinese Plane Drops Explosive.

By United Press

SHANGHAI, June 4.—Twenty-two civilians were killed and 41 were injured when a Chinese military airplane accidentally dropped a large bomb in the street at Pengtou, north Kiangsu province, Friday. Chinese sources reported.

I met Caldwell three months ago," Miss Smith, a beautiful blond, told police. "He was just a friend—not a sweetheart."

"Friday night he came to me at the exhibit and asked me to go away with him. I insisted I couldn't. As I started to walk away, he fired."

### SUITOR SHOOTS GIRL; ENDS LIFE

21-Year-Old Art Student Is Seriously Wounded.

By United Press

CHICAGO, June 4.—Dorothy B. Smith, 21, art student, was in serious condition in a hospital today after Gordon T. Caldwell, 26, a frantic and rejected suitor, shot her and took his own life at an art exhibition in a loop skyscraper.

The tragedy culminated what Miss Smith, daughter of a board of education official, described as "one of those crazy love affairs."

Caldwell appeared as Miss Smith was showing to friends a canvas which she had entered at the exhibition of the American Academy of Art.

He called her to a corridor, and a moment later the 100 persons thronging the exhibition hall heard shots ring out. They found Miss Smith seriously wounded in the neck and shoulder and Caldwell dead, a bullet in his temple.

"I met Caldwell three months ago," Miss Smith, a beautiful blond, told police. "He was just a friend—not a sweetheart."

"Friday night he came to me at the exhibit and asked me to go away with him. I insisted I couldn't. As I started to walk away, he fired."

Seven Others Are Missing in Oklahoma City Tragedy.

By United Press

OKLAHOMA CITY, June 4.—At least six persons were dead today, drowned in the flood that swirled over central Oklahoma Friday and gave its victims no chance to escape.

Seven others were reported missing, and rescue workers feared they had died. Three thousand were homeless. Property damage was expected to run to hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The flood struck without warning, and caught its victims as they slept.

Seven inches of rain fell within six hours.

Mrs. James Webster, 38, and her daughter, Ellen, 11, were drowned at a tourist park, where they had stopped on a trip across the country from their home in Massachusetts.

Elle Christine Morgan, 13, and Buster Morgan, 5, were swept from the porch of their home while their agonized father tried vainly to swim to them through the rushing waters.

Their brother lay in a hospital today, injured. The mother was missing, and almost certainly had perished.

The other known victim was Mrs. Nora Norris, 50.

James Robinson, Negro mail carrier, was drowned at Seminole.

The waters of the North Canadian river, which flooded a large portion of Oklahoma City, rapidly went down today.

It was accompanied as far as the eye ministry as Stanley Hausner, an unknown Polish-American flier, was believed piloting his big flame-colored plane, the St. Rosa Maria, over the Atlantic on a projected flight from New York to Warsaw.

Heavy clouds with visibility between two and three miles in the middle and eastern Atlantic, and wind between northeast and east with a velocity of fifteen to twenty miles an hour, were reported.

Then at 9 a. m. New York time the plane, which had been flying in weather and a drizzle in the Atlantic from 600 to 700 miles off central Ireland. Visibility was about twelve miles with moderate north-easterly winds.

From southern Ireland to 300 miles at sea, rain, low clouds, and some fog prevailed.

At 4:46 a. m. (EDT) the blue-eyed, sandy-haired little amateur flier, formerly a motion picture operator, will have been twenty-four hours from Floyd Bennett airport, New York. The St. Rosa Maria carried no radio equipment. Hausner's takeoff was at 9:46 a. m., Friday. His Wright-motored Bellanca plane made a graceful run down the concrete runway and sailed out into the Atlantic mists.

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