

CONFUSED NATION SURVEYS WRECKAGE OF FARM LAW HIT BY COURT'S DECISION

All Hope for Revival of Act Under Present Conditions Believed Gone; Roosevelt Forces to Ask \$250,000,000 for Benefits.

(Continued From Page One)

scrambled President Roosevelt's new budget, which made no allowance for the loss of processing taxes.

Down with AAA fell its cousins—special control for tobacco, sugar, potatoes and cotton. Many believed the decision jeopardized New Deal policies due soon for court review, including the Tennessee Valley Act, upon which the court may rule next Monday.

In the absence of definite announcements from the New Deal, observers searched the known positions of President Roosevelt for some hint of the future.

As recently as Friday night, in his "state of the union" address, Mr. Roosevelt expressed determination not to abandon farm aid.

"Shall we say to the farmers the prices for your products are in part

restored, now go and hoe your own row?" he asked.

After referring directly to "adjudication by the highest tribunal," he added, "The Congress has the right and can find the means to protect its own prerogatives."

Developments Outlined

Out of the confusion of the first number reaction to the court's crushing blow emerged a number of possible developments:

1. Agitation for a constitutional amendment to give Congress powers now denied it, particularly to control crop production.

2. Adoption of an equalization fee, an export debenture, or a domestic allotment plan, the first two often proposed during Republican Administrations.

3. Separation of processing taxes from production control provisions.

4. Proposals to curb the power of the Supreme Court to invalidate acts of Congress.

5. Enactment of state crop reduction programs under Federal subsidy.

6. A popular clamor for or against drastic Federal action.

White House Is Silent

Notable was the silence from the White House, where the chief executive conferred with his farm aids.

Official and political comment was as confused and divided as reaction in farm villages, in cities, in towns.

Surveying the wreckage, they found that all control of agricultural production was barred. All hope for reviving an AAA under present conditions was gone. It seemed inevitable that other laws regarded as important would be buried along the same pathway of unconstitutionality.

As its first move to bring some order out of the chaos caused by the Supreme Court's decision, New Deal leaders at a White House conference last night decided to sponsor a bill to appropriate about \$250,000,000 on which the government is already committed for crop reduction next season.

It was expected to be a matter of days before a White House opinion on permanent strategy would be forthcoming.

The effect of the 6-to-3 decision by which the court struck down the Administration's basic farm aid statute was so momentous that issues considered of tremendous interest a few hours before were almost forgotten.

Benefit Payments Stop

In rigorous adherence to yesterday's decision, the Administration overnight stopped, temporarily at least, all benefit payments and collection of processing taxes under the Agricultural Adjustment Act.

The pay of 6646 AAA workers was stopped, as was any immediate payment on \$282,910,348 or more of money due farmers on 1935 crop reduction contracts. The proposed appropriation would discharge some of that obligation.

The decision threw into uncertainty the status of processing taxes collected under the law. They to

okay the barn, similar to thousands of others in Indiana, Fred and Albert Steinmeier, father and son, milled over the United States Supreme Court decision wiping out the AAA.

Legal lightning, generated in a marble temple of justice in Washington, hit a red barn atop a hill on Allisonville-rd. leaving two Indiana dirt farmers with a \$900 hole burned in their pocketbooks. "Politics!" was their comment.

In the barn, similar to thousands of others in Indiana, Fred and Albert Steinmeier, father and son, milled over the United States Supreme Court decision wiping out the AAA.

Even the pigs squealing in the barnyard in the assurance that in recent times they were worth more than 3 cents a pound on the hoof seemed a bit apprehensive.

The status of the latter fund probably will be decided by the courts in the pending rice case.

The decision had a paralyzing effect on Washington. For months the source of action, Washington tuned an ear to the rest of America to learn how the country's millions received the news.

Green Demands Action

Senator Edward P. Costigan (D., Col.), who is sponsoring a constitutional amendment to give Congress the broadest powers over industry and agriculture, said the decision imposed on Congress "the imperative obligation of submitting to the states a constitutional amendment, which will permit a constitutional legislation if and when it is required by the general welfare to cope with such bitter peace-time crises as our people have experienced."

"It is inconceivable," Mr. Costigan said, "that a Congress which is empowered to declare war with all this implies will be content to remain powerless to deal with economic disorders which if unremedied may force the nation into paths as difficult and disastrous as war."

President William Green of the American Federation of Labor said the decision made "the necessity for an amendment to the Constitution more imperative."

Irrespective of the effect of the Supreme Court decision upon the final farm policy of the government, the court's action has precipitated an immediate crisis in the payment on farm contracts already entered into or complied with by farmers.

Some way must be found, even if on a relief basis, for compensating farmers who have reduced their production in compliance with government contracts.

ST. PAUL PIONEER PRESS—There will be impatient, rash persons who will tell the farmers that the decision condemns them to subordination to industry. The farmers will not give heed to such counsels against the Federal organization of this country.

LOS ANGELES TIMES—The whole legislative structure which the President and Congress have erected during nearly three years comes tumbling down. The blame, however, rests not upon the court, but upon an Administration which, in spite of all warnings . . . persisted in an attempt to enlarge its authority.

SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE—No leg is left for the AAA to stand on. If other New Deal acts go out, as the present ruling indicates they will, and if they are revived under the general taxing power, everybody will be taxed to make everybody rich. It is the final absurdity of the New Deal.

PORTLAND, ORE. OREGONIAN—The court's decision, by analogy, carries down with AA so much other legislation as to point the complete and final wreck of the New Deal.

KNICKERBOCKER PRESS, ALBANY, N. Y.—Many of us have not realized how far afield the Roosevelt Administration has strayed. It is therefore salutary for the Supreme Court to remind Americans again that an Administration born of hysterical voting has no right to violate the sacred principles of our Constitution.

MARION COUNTY FARMERS, FATHER AND SON, STUNNED BY AAA DECISION



STONE DISSENT IS HELD BOON TO ROOSEVELT

Minority Opinion Would Be Help If Court Is Made Issue, Is View.

(Continued From Page One)

Roberts led the conservative attack which wrecked the first railroad pension bill. He voted against NRA, but in support of the New Deal in the gold cases. Until he came to the bench, the man from Pennsylvania was best known as the oil scandals prosecutor of Harry F. Sinclair and Albert B. Fall. He is 60.

Holds Judicial Power Abused

There were no Supreme Court mourners last spring for the Blue Eagle and NRA. The National Recovery Administration went down 9-to-0 before the court last resort. But then, with dissent yesterday, when Mr. Roberts read the Agricultural Adjustment Adminstration into the junk pile.

The theme song for reform of the courts or amendments to Constitution—or something more abrupt and painful—seemed to be written into the dissenting opinion.

"So may judicial power be abused," was the solemn warning of Associate Justice Harlan F. Stone who read the dissent in behalf of himself and Justices Louis D. Brandeis and Benjamin N. Cardozo.

"The only check upon our own exercise of power," said Justice Stone, "is our own sense of self-restraint. For the removal of unwise laws from the statute books appeal lies not to the courts but to the ballot and to the processes of democratic government."

Against Mr. Stone's warning that the courts are not justified in assuming sole protection for our institutions, Mr. Roberts argued that the courts do not in fact pass judgment on the wisdom of congressional acts but must apply to them the test of their rightness under limitations of the Constitution. Mr. Roberts insisted that this question the courts must "decide."

He refused to consider the argument that AAA could be substantiated under the constitutional authority for Congress to "provide for the general welfare." Justices Stone, Brandeis and Cardozo challenged him there.

But the issues raised extend far from the bench to the grass roots and it is there they probably will be settled either in the presidential campaign this year or later. Reasonably certain it is that they will be settled. Mr. Stone uttered grave warning of possible consequences of that settlement if the Supreme Court stands fast in the position assumed yesterday.

Greater Danger Is Feared

"Interpretation of our great charter of government by the Constitution should be permitted equal latitude in touching upon purely intrastate matters and that to deny that right was to draw a distinction making the scope of the taxing power considerably less than the scope of other powers delegated to Congress under the national charter."

"The only conclusion to be drawn," he said, "is that when they are incidents of those powers (commerce and customs), an indomitable union of indomitable states than the frank recognition that language, even of a Constitution, may mean what it says."

"That the power to tax and spend includes the power to relieve a nationwide economic maladjustment by conditional gifts of money."

The sharp touch of sarcasm gave hint of the antagonisms aroused in the court as in the nation by the challenge to AAA.

"That the governmental power of the purse is a great one is not now for the first time announced," Mr. Stone insisted. "The suggestion that it must now be curtailed by judicial fiat because it may be abused by unwise use hardly rises to the dignity of the alfalfa pasture."

"That the power to tax and spend includes the power to relieve a nationwide economic maladjustment by conditional gifts of money."

"That the governmental power of the purse is a great one is not now for the first time announced," Mr. Stone insisted. "The suggestion that it must now be curtailed by judicial fiat because it may be abused by unwise use hardly rises to the dignity of the alfalfa pasture."

"That the power to tax and spend includes the power to relieve a nationwide economic maladjustment by conditional gifts of money."

"That the governmental power of the purse is a great one is not now for the first time announced," Mr. Stone insisted. "The suggestion that it must now be curtailed by judicial fiat because it may be abused by unwise use hardly rises to the dignity of the alfalfa pasture."

"That the power to tax and spend includes the power to relieve a nationwide economic maladjustment by conditional gifts of money."

"That the governmental power of the purse is a great one is not now for the first time announced," Mr. Stone insisted. "The suggestion that it must now be curtailed by judicial fiat because it may be abused by unwise use hardly rises to the dignity of the alfalfa pasture."

"That the power to tax and spend includes the power to relieve a nationwide economic maladjustment by conditional gifts of money."

"That the governmental power of the purse is a great one is not now for the first time announced," Mr. Stone insisted. "The suggestion that it must now be curtailed by judicial fiat because it may be abused by unwise use hardly rises to the dignity of the alfalfa pasture."

"That the power to tax and spend includes the power to relieve a nationwide economic maladjustment by conditional gifts of money."

"That the governmental power of the purse is a great one is not now for the first time announced," Mr. Stone insisted. "The suggestion that it must now be curtailed by judicial fiat because it may be abused by unwise use hardly rises to the dignity of the alfalfa pasture."

"That the power to tax and spend includes the power to relieve a nationwide economic maladjustment by conditional gifts of money."

"That the governmental power of the purse is a great one is not now for the first time announced," Mr. Stone insisted. "The suggestion that it must now be curtailed by judicial fiat because it may be abused by unwise use hardly rises to the dignity of the alfalfa pasture."

"That the power to tax and spend includes the power to relieve a nationwide economic maladjustment by conditional gifts of money."

"That the governmental power of the purse is a great one is not now for the first time announced," Mr. Stone insisted. "The suggestion that it must now be curtailed by judicial fiat because it may be abused by unwise use hardly rises to the dignity of the alfalfa pasture."

"That the power to tax and spend includes the power to relieve a nationwide economic maladjustment by conditional gifts of money."

"That the governmental power of the purse is a great one is not now for the first time announced," Mr. Stone insisted. "The suggestion that it must now be curtailed by judicial fiat because it may be abused by unwise use hardly rises to the dignity of the alfalfa pasture."

"That the power to tax and spend includes the power to relieve a nationwide economic maladjustment by conditional gifts of money."

"That the governmental power of the purse is a great one is not now for the first time announced," Mr. Stone insisted. "The suggestion that it must now be curtailed by judicial fiat because it may be abused by unwise use hardly rises to the dignity of the alfalfa pasture."

"That the power to tax and spend includes the power to relieve a nationwide economic maladjustment by conditional gifts of money."

"That the governmental power of the purse is a great one is not now for the first time announced," Mr. Stone insisted. "The suggestion that it must now be curtailed by judicial fiat because it may be abused by unwise use hardly rises to the dignity of the alfalfa pasture."

"That the power to tax and spend includes the power to relieve a nationwide economic maladjustment by conditional gifts of money."

"That the governmental power of the purse is a great one is not now for the first time announced," Mr. Stone insisted. "The suggestion that it must now be curtailed by judicial fiat because it may be abused by unwise use hardly rises to the dignity of the alfalfa pasture."

"That the power to tax and spend includes the power to relieve a nationwide economic maladjustment by conditional gifts of money."

"That the governmental power of the purse is a great one is not now for the first time announced," Mr. Stone insisted. "The suggestion that it must now be curtailed by judicial fiat because it may be abused by unwise use hardly rises to the dignity of the alfalfa pasture."

"That the power to tax and spend includes the power to relieve a nationwide economic maladjustment by conditional gifts of money."

"That the governmental power of the purse is a great one is not now for the first time announced," Mr. Stone insisted. "The suggestion that it must now be curtailed by judicial fiat because it may be abused by unwise use hardly rises to the dignity of the alfalfa pasture."

"That the power to tax and spend includes the power to relieve a nationwide economic maladjustment by conditional gifts of money."

"That the governmental power of the purse is a great one is not now for the first time announced," Mr. Stone insisted. "The suggestion that it must now be curtailed by judicial fiat because it may be abused by unwise use hardly rises to the dignity of the alfalfa pasture."

"That the power to tax and spend includes the power to relieve a nationwide economic maladjustment by conditional gifts of money."

"That the governmental power of the purse is a great one is not now for the first time announced," Mr. Stone insisted. "The suggestion that it must now be curtailed by judicial fiat because it may be abused by unwise use hardly rises to the dignity of the alfalfa pasture."

"That the power to tax and spend includes the power to relieve a nationwide economic maladjustment by conditional gifts of money."

"That the governmental power of the purse is a great one is not now for the first time announced," Mr. Stone insisted. "The suggestion that it must now be curtailed by judicial fiat because it may be abused by unwise use hardly rises to the dignity of the alfalfa pasture."

"That the power to tax and spend includes the power to relieve a nationwide economic maladjustment by conditional gifts of money."

"That the governmental power of the purse is a great one is not now for the first time announced," Mr. Stone insisted. "The suggestion that it must now be curtailed by judicial fiat because it may be abused by unwise use hardly rises to the dignity of the alfalfa pasture."

"That the power to tax and spend includes the power to relieve a nationwide economic maladjustment by conditional gifts of money."

"That the governmental power of the purse is a great one is not now for the first time announced," Mr. Stone insisted. "The suggestion that it must now be curtailed by judicial fiat because it may be abused by unwise use hardly rises to the dignity of the alfalfa pasture."

"That the power to tax and spend includes the power to relieve a nationwide economic maladjustment by conditional gifts of money."

"That the governmental power of the purse is a great one is not now for the first time announced," Mr. Stone insisted. "The suggestion that it must now be curtailed by judicial fiat because it may be abused by unwise use hardly rises to the dignity of the alfalfa pasture."

"That the power to tax and spend includes the power to relieve a nationwide economic maladjustment by conditional gifts of money."

"That the governmental power of the purse is a great one is not now for the first time announced," Mr. Stone insisted. "The suggestion that it must now be curtailed by judicial fiat because it may be abused by unwise use hardly rises to the dignity of the alfalfa pasture."

"That the power to tax and spend includes the power to relieve a nationwide economic maladjustment by conditional gifts of money."

"That the governmental power of the purse is a great one is not now for the first time announced," Mr. Stone insisted. "The suggestion that it must now be curtailed by judicial fiat because it may be abused by unwise use hardly rises to the dignity of the alfalfa pasture."

"That the power to tax and spend includes the power to relieve a nationwide economic