

# O'CONNOR ASKS 'SENSIBLE' DEMOCRATS TO PICK LEADER

Attacks 'Radicals';  
G.O.P. Condemns  
'Dangerous Power'

## NATIONAL AFFAIRS

ROOSEVELT may cut cruise short, Washington hears. MORGENTHAU says business is in "rest period." AMERICAN LEGION starts pension bill rolling. 18 TIRE companies face million-dollar trust suit. PRESIDENT, sunburned, to join in naval games today. PLANE sale ban may be sought in Senate. ANNUAL WAGES hinted in wage-hour regulation. ANTILYNCHING bill introduced by Senator Barbour.

(Editorial Cartoon, Page 10)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20 (U.P.)—A public plea for "sensible" Democrats to oust "radicals" from party control and a report of "dangerous" power lodged in President Roosevelt by various emergency laws placed the New Deal under a cross fire of conservative attack today.

These developments coincided with unfavorable reports from abroad which may compel the President to cut short his seagoing vacation. He is observing Panama Canal defense maneuvers aboard the cruiser Houston in the Caribbean Sea. There were indications that he and his advisers feared a German-Italian territorial coup of some kind at the expense of French colonies.

Serious developments abroad would materially alter political conditions at home and probably quiet much of the anti-New Deal activity developing now among Republicans and conservative Democrats. But pending some extraordinary international calamity, Democratic conservatives apparently were determined to regain control of their party to prevent either the re-nomination of Mr. Roosevelt in 1940 or the naming of a 100 per cent New Dealer to succeed him.

Former Rep. John J. O'Connor of New York, only conservative Democrat Mr. Roosevelt selected in defeating in the 1936 elections, brought the controversy into the open today with a letter calling on "sensible" Democrats to unite in "pushing the radicals out of control of our party." He said Republicans would win the 1940 election otherwise. He made the statement in a letter to Rep. Patrick H. Drewry (D.Va.) Elections Committee chairman.

"If drastic steps are not taken by sensible Democrats," he wrote, "the result in 1940 is a foregone conclusion because we are right back where we started from in 1932. Prior to that, the average voter, and especially the small businessman, believed the Republican Party assured prosperity. We rode into office on the backwash of the Hoover depression.

"Someone must boldly speak out, even at the danger of becoming additional victims of the purge."

## Mentions Possibilities

He said the Democratic Party was liberal but that the word had been usurped by "the radicals, only a shade off red."

Rep. O'Connor, reached by the United Press at his Bayport, N.Y., country place, preferred not to suggest possible candidates who might oppose the New Deal for Presidential nomination at the 1940 national convention but said he had heard several mentioned, including Vice President Garner, Postmaster General Farley, Secretary of State Hull and Senator Bennett Champ Clark (D.Mo.).

Coincident with Rep. O'Connor's challenge, Republicans attacked New Deal emergency powers. Chairman Jesse P. Wolcott of the House Republican committee named to examine various authorities conferred on the Presidents reported that "dangerous powers" reside in the Export-Import Bank and other emergency New Deal agencies. His committee was critical of a large loan recently made by the bank to China.

"The preliminary study," Rep. Wolcott reported, "has disclosed that the potentialities for the use of these various extraordinary powers to dominate or influence the domestic and foreign policies of other nations by the President of the United States are numerous and dangerous."

## IN INDIANAPOLIS

### Here Is the Traffic Record

County	Deaths	Speeding	.... 18
1938	9	Reckless	.... 28
1938	16	driving	.... 5
1938	14	Running	.... 25
1938	5	preferential	.... 20
1938	10	streets	.... 21
Feb. 19	21	Running red	.... 21
Injured	8	lights	.... 21
Accidents	29	drunken	.... 3
Dead	2	driving	.... 3
Arrests	99	Others	.... 38

### MEETINGS TODAY

American Savings and Loan Institute, convention Claypool Hotel, noon. American Society for Metals, dinner, Hotel Washington, 6:30 p.m. National Association of Women, meeting, Hotel Washington, 6:30 p.m. National Small Businessmen's Association, luncheon, Hotel Washington, noon. Marion County Agricultural Agents, meeting Hotel Washington, 10 a.m. Associated Retailers luncheon, Hotel Washington, noon. Paul & Waller Credit Group, meeting, Hotel Washington, 4:45 p.m. Indianapolis Press Club, dinner, Monument Circle, 5 p.m. Hotel luncheon, Board of Trade, noon. Service Club luncheon, Hotel Lincoln, noon. Irvington Republican Club, meeting, 544½ E. Washington St., 5 p.m. Hotel Upscale, luncheon, Board of Trade, noon. North Side Realtors luncheon, Canary Club, noon. Notre Dame Club, luncheon, Board of Trade, noon. University Club, luncheon, Columbus Club, noon. Meeting, Lutherans Club, luncheon, Canary Cottage, noon.

### MEETINGS TOMORROW

American Savings and Loan Institute, convention Claypool Hotel, 12:15 p.m. Eastern Club, luncheon, Claypool Hotel, noon. Astoria Club, dinner, Hotel Washington, 6:30 p.m. Hotel Omega, luncheon, Board of Trade, noon. Grey Club, luncheon. Spink-Arms Hotel, noon. Meridian Club, luncheon, Columbia Club, noon. Universal Club, luncheon, Columbus Club, noon. University of Michigan Club, luncheon, Board of Trade, noon. Knights of Columbus, luncheon, Hotel Washington, noon. Lutherans Club, luncheon, Canary Cottage, noon.

### MARRIAGE LICENSES

(These lists are from official records in the Clerk's Office, and The Times, therefore, is not responsible for errors in names and addresses.)

Gilbert O. Underwood, 29, of 1318 Burdette, and Dorothy D. Miller, 21, of 882 E. Washington St.

## Runaway Engine Hits Train, Two Die



Times Telephone  
Here's what happened when a runaway freight engine wrecked a passenger train in Iowa. Two persons were killed and 22 injured in the freak accident. (Story, Page One.)

## SLOW BUSINESS RISE PREDICTED

### Morgenthau Tells Congress Commerce Is Now in 'Rest Period.'

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20 (U.P.)—Treasury Secretary Morgenthau told a secret session of a Congressional Committee recently that business is in a "rest period," but predicted a "slow but steady" continuation of recovery during 1939, it was learned today.

He indicated disagreement with the "compensatory spending" theory of Federal Reserve Board Chairman Marriner S. Eccles by declaring that the Administration should work toward balancing the budget.

Committee members asked Secretary Morgenthau about his knowledge of business conditions and the progress of recovery. He replied:

"Ever since last December Day, business has had a remarkable recovery, and has gone forward at a very rapid rate. But right now, I would say, we seem to be in a sort of resting period."

"The recovery has been so rapid that it is not surprising that it seems to have reached what I would call a temporary halt. Conditions are very much better at this particular time of the year than they were 12 months ago. I think that the country as a whole is in a very much better shape."

"While I never like to make predictions, I think we can expect during this calendar year a slow but steady continuance of improved conditions."

Asked whether he believed the Government should "aim at a balanced budget," Secretary Morgenthau replied simply: "Yes." But his reply was considered significant in view of the attitude of other Administration officials that the Federal Government should continue its deficit spending and financing until business improves.

"You do feel that we ought to try to keep the national debt down by making just such appropriations as are absolutely required to meet our needs?" one of the Committee members asked.

"I do not know what you mean by 'meeting our situation,'" Secretary Morgenthau replied.

"I mean do it in an efficient and economical manner."

"If you will add the word 'humane,' in order to take care of the needy," he said, "I would say yes."

By THOMAS L. STOKES  
Times Special Writer

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20. The long-expected drive for pensions for World War veterans is breaking upon Congress.

The cat was let out of the bag by John Thomas Taylor, American Legion legislative representative. He asked the House Committee on World War Veterans' Legislation to provide pensions for all World War veterans over 65, of which it is estimated there are 25,000 now.

This is regarded as the opening wedge for a later campaign to pension all World War veterans.

Mr. Taylor also urged an increase from \$30 to \$40 in the compensation of totally disabled World War veterans whose disability is not connected with their war service, and

said the time has come to consider extension of pensions to all widows and orphans of World War veterans. Such pensions are now limited to dependents of veterans who were disabled.

Thus the Roosevelt Administration, plagued on one flank by Townsendites and others who are seeking out-of-pocket pensions far beyond the Social Security Act allowances, now finds itself attacked on the other flank by veterans' organizations. For the American Legion spokesmen are not alone in edging toward a flat pension program.

Gen. Frank T. Hines, Veterans Administrator, will appear before the House committee tomorrow to present the Administration's opposition to the pension movement, along with his views on numerous other bills supported by the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Disabled American Veterans.

Their measures would greatly increase the Government's liability to war veterans by modification and expansion of existing laws.

Eugene L. Van Antwerp, Veterans Affairs Commissioner, also urged an increase from \$30 to \$40 in the compensation of totally disabled World War veterans whose disability is not connected with their war service, and

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