

TUESDAY, DEC. 10, 1940

1ST LADY URGES AID FOR 'OKIES'

Paints Dreary Picture of
Plight for House
Committee.

(Continued from Page One)
that she has testified at a Congressional investigation. Last spring she appeared before a House Committee to criticize conditions at a local hospital which she had visited.

On Stand an Hour

She concluded her testimony today after having been on the witness stand in the brightly lighted, crowded caucus room—temporary quarters of the House—for more than an hour.

Before leaving the hearing she shook hands with Mrs. David Thomas, mother of a migrant family whose earlier testimony had precipitated the union discussion. Mrs. Thomas said her husband, an electrician, had sought work at \$1.65 an hour at Ft. Meade, Md., project, but was told that he must pay \$300 in union initiation fees and dues.

"What is your thought about that?" asked Rep. John Sparkman (D-Ala.)

"What the union A. F. of L. or C. L. O.?" Mrs. Roosevelt asked.

Rep. Sparkman said he didn't know, but asked her to comment.

May Be a Racket

"There is a division in the electrical workers," Mrs. Roosevelt said. "There are certain rackets. I suppose that may be one, but I don't know the immediate situation and I could not pass upon it."

"If it is not a racket there are possibilities of adjustment. I think you ought to get the local union head here, and find out about it, and have it out. It would be very interesting."

Mrs. Roosevelt said, in reply to a question by Rep. Frank Ossler (R. N. J.), that unless there is planning now for the future when the defense program slackens off "we are going to have mass migration again."

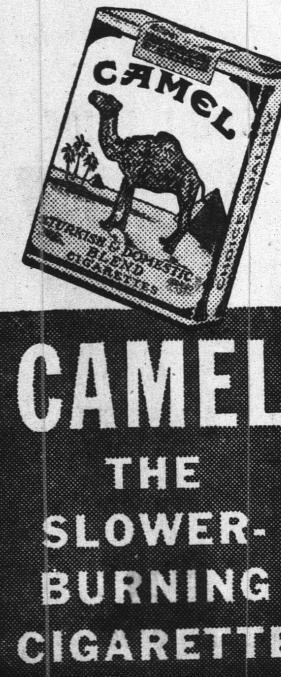
"We have time. We are not at war. There are plenty of people with brains and ability to see into the future. And it is criminal if we are not using them today."



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Draft of U.S. 'Slacker Cash' Urged as Defense Policy

Morgenthau Wants Congress to Tax Bonds; Sets Pace With Note Issue.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10 (U. P.)—Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau Jr. today backed a draft of funds to force "slacker money" to contribute to national defense by removing tax exemption privileges from Federal bonds.

"We feel here very strongly," he said, "that in view of this national defense program we should draft all money. By that I mean to say if a man is going to lend his money to the United States Government, that he should pay taxes on it."

He said that to continue the issue of tax-exempt bonds would make "possible the additional creation of what I call slacker money."

The Treasury, he explained, will request the new Congress for authority to issue wholly taxable bonds. He pointed out that his department already has that discretion in Treasury notes and will take advantage of it in a \$500,000,000 financing tomorrow.

Small Sums Welcome.

Referring to income from tax-exempt bonds as "slacker money," Mr. Morgenthau said he was considering plans to give every citizen the "privilege" of contributing to national defense, that he "would not turn down 25 cents" if it gave the average American the feeling that he was part of the rearmament program.

"You can't expect a man to work eight or 10 hours a day (as a drafted soldier) for one dollar a day unless he feels that everybody else is making his contribution too," he said. "We have got to raise an awful lot of money and I want to make as many people as possible to take part in raising it."

Savings Bonds Widely Held

He described a program, similar to the Liberty Loan drives of the World War, in which every citizen would be called upon to contribute. He recalled the World War "stamp plan" in which Americans could buy 25-cent stamps to paste in a book and indicated he was giving it serious consideration.

The tax exemption plan, he said, had been discussed with the Federal Reserve Board and members of Congress who had approved it.

Approximately 2,500,000 citizens hold U. S. savings bonds, Mr. Morgenthau estimated. He declared he would like to see that figure tripled but that tomorrow's financing would be restricted to wholesale lots.

Mr. Morgenthau told the House Ways and Means Committee Saturday that he had limited the December financing to \$500,000,000 because he wanted to see what action Congress would take on such questions as raising the debt limit and imposing new taxes. He believes the legal debt limit should be raised to match national defense appropriations "at least."

British Resources Studied

Meanwhile, speculation arose in connection with talk of financial aid to Britain as to the possibility of counting \$1,000,000,000 in Dutch resources with British holdings in this country in determining the need of anti-Axis powers for credits.

Mr. Morgenthau and Sir Frederick Phillips, representing the British Treasury, are exchanging information preliminary to President Roosevelt's return next week when the British financial picture is expected to be complete for his examination.

Mr. Morgenthau said yesterday that Great Britain had not asked for financial aid directly or indirectly.

He implied that the Administration was ignoring the statement made to the press last month by the Marquess of Lothian, British Ambassador, that his country must have financial aid.

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