

Highlights of Roosevelt Message on the Budget

(Continued From Page One)

WAR COSTS

"THE TOTAL war program . . . for the fiscal years 1941 through 1946 will total 450 billion dollars."

FOREIGN AID

"WE SHALL continue to provide lend-lease, and our allies to provide reciprocal lend-lease, to the full extent necessary to win the war. 'Lend-lease has been and will be an instrument of war; it will be liquidated with the end of the war. But when the war draws to a close in any theater, it may become urgently necessary for us to assist in relieving distress in the liberated areas."

AFTERMATH-OF-WAR

"TOTAL EXPENDITURES for (war veterans, interest on the public debt, and tax refunds) are increasing from 1.6 billion dollars in 1939 to an estimated 7.2 billion dollars in the current fiscal year, and will probably amount to 9.8 billion dollars in the next fiscal year. This increase arises directly out of the war. The 1946 total is larger than the whole federal budget five years ago."

"The number of veterans of the present war will increase until at full tide these veterans will constitute one-tenth of the population and almost one-fourth of the labor force."

AGRICULTURE

"WE MUST develop a program to eliminate malnutrition and rural poverty. . . . Farmers and the nation as a whole must be protected against heavy fluctuations in agricultural prices and income, and this must be accomplished without the accumulation of unmanageable surpluses. So long as a large number of people have an inadequate diet, we cannot have a true surplus of agricultural production. We can have only too much of the wrong things."

SOCIAL SECURITY

"I HOPE that the congress will give early consideration to extension and improvement of our social security system and will re-examine the financial basis of the program."

PUBLIC WORKS

"I RECOMMEND . . . appropriations for planning of public works which the congress has already authorized. We must continue to stock up a shelf of meritorious construction and development projects to be undertaken as manpower and material become available."

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

"APPROPRIATIONS for other than direct war or war-related activities have been reduced to rock-bottom. When the war situation permits a reduction in the war program, it will also be possible to reduce war activities of the civil departments."

TAXES

"WARTIME TAXES must be maintained as long as large-scale war expenditures are necessary. There is no justification for tax reductions as long as we are engaged in a major war. When a favorable development of the war allows a major decline in war expenditures, minor tax adjustments will become possible and desirable."

THE PUBLIC DEBT

(He said it would rise to \$292 billion by June 30, 1946.)

"I FAVOR a policy of orderly but steady debt reduction, consistent with the objectives of long-run economy policy. The mistakes in debt management and tax policy after the last war should not be repeated."

RECONVERSION

"AS LONG as we are at war—at war against two powerful enemies or against only one of them—we will give unqualified priority to all war production and to all manpower needs of war. Nevertheless, some reconversion of war industries may become possible, dependent on the progress of the war."

The Human Side—. . . I am particularly concerned over the fact that broad categories of workers are not covered by present legislation and that present standards for unemployment compensation are not adequate in many states. . . . A strong, integrated system of public employment offices is a basic necessity. . . . We should provide assistance for travel and retraining of war workers. We must also see to it that our administrative machinery for the adjustment of labor disputes is ready for the strains of the reconversion period."

The Material Side—Should also be conducted with a view toward the long-range objectives of economy policy. Surplus property disposal should contribute to filling the needs of production, domestic and foreign. . . . Every effort should be made to achieve full civilian use of plants built for war purposes when they are no longer needed for war production and to facilitate their rapid transfer to private industry for productive use."

INTERNATIONAL FINANCE

"AS THE war progresses, we must hasten our plans to secure worldwide economic co-operation in both the transition period and the post-war period. We have learned that just as the United States cannot afford to be isolationist in its political philosophy, neither can it stand the malignant effects of economic isolationism."

HOLDING THE line on prices and wages has prevented, and is still preventing, inflationary developments. . . . It will be necessary to retain the machinery for allocation and price controls as long as certain materials and finished goods are in short supply."

DEMOCRATIZATION

"LARGE-SCALE demobilization can hardly be expected to begin during the period covered in this budget. Nevertheless, as we continue to mobilize for a long, hard war, we must under no circumstance be caught unprepared for peace."

FULL EMPLOYMENT

"BEFORE LONG there may be 60 million men and women to be employed. . . . Manifestly, full employment in peace time can be assured only when the reduction in war demand is approximately offset by additional peacetime demand from the millions of consumers, businesses and farmers, and by federal, state, and local governments."

"And that means that consumers' expenditures and business investments must be increased by about 50 per cent, measured in constant prices, above the level of the year 1939 if full employment is to be provided by private enterprise."

"It is the responsibility of business enterprise to translate market opportunities into employment and production."

"It is the responsibility of the government to hold open the door of opportunity and to assure sustained markets. Then and only then can free enterprise provide jobs."

WHAT WE MUST DO

"WE MUST develop the human standards and material resources of the nation, which in turn will tend to increase our productivity and most effectively support business expansion and employment."

"Our program should include provision for extended social security, including medical care; for better education, public health and nutrition for the improvement of our homes, cities, and farms; and for the development of transportation facilities and river valleys."

"We must plan now so that these programs can become effective when manpower and material are available."

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President Sees Need for 60,000,000 Post-War Jobs

By SANDOR S. KLEIN

United Press Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9 (U. P.)

President Roosevelt, reminding congress that there will be need for 60,000,000 jobs after the war, called today for an immediate start toward an adequate post-war social and economic program.

He emphasized in his fiscal 1946 budget message that full employment constitutes part of this country's stake in post-war world-stability and prosperity. The President added that other nations are fully conscious that international cooperation cannot succeed unless the United States is prosperous."

Calling for an attack on every front of the employment problem, Mr. Roosevelt outlined these salient features of a post-war program which he said could be tackled now:

ONE—A revised tax structure to stimulate consumer demand and to promote business investment should be developed now so that it could be put into effect after victory.

TWO—National and international policies affecting credit, trade, investment, competition and monopoly, should be adopted now to determine future business and employment opportunities; and "we

must make sure that there are opportunities for new and growing business."

THREE—Planning must begin now on development of human standards and material resources of the country to increase productivity and most effectively support business expansion. This he said, involves extension of social security to provide better medical care, education and nutrition, as well as planning "for the improvement of our homes, cities, and farms, and for the development of transportation facilities and river valleys."

"I shall," Mr. Roosevelt promised, "from time to time submit to the congress recommendations for legislative measures to implement our demobilization program and to assure jobs for all returning war veterans and discharged war workers."

Then, the President posed this question:

"What will be the outlook, when federal expenditures are \$6 and 25 billion dollars in the period of demobilization and thereafter?"

Budget Director Harold D. Smith explained to newsmen that the President obviously was referring to a range of possible governmental costs in the post-war years.

"The American people," Mr. Roosevelt said, "have learned during the war the measure of their productive capacity, and they will remember that experience in the peace to come."

It is the responsibility of business enterprise to translate market opportunities into employment and production.

After the war, Mr. Roosevelt said, many of these persons will retire, resume their schooling, or devote themselves to their homes and families.

But this reduction in the civilian labor force, he emphasized, would more than offset by demobilization of the armed forces and by the natural growth of the working age population.

"Thus, before long there may be 60 million men and women to be employed," he said. "Huge war expenditures have brought full employment, more than full employment."

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congress recommendations for

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program."

To assure full employment by private enterprise in peace time, the

President said, consumers' expenditures must increase by about 50 per cent above the level of the calendar year 1939, when they totalled \$61,700,000,000. In the calendar year 1944, these expenditures totalled \$87,000,000,000.

The Kendall committee headed by Senator John A. Kendall (R. Danville) is expected to make a report next week.

A two-year study of the welfare department completed recently by a legislative committee headed by Rep. Earl B. Teckmeyer (R. Indianapolis) found present merit system operations ineffective.

The later group felt among other things that there was evidence of persons being discharged without proper hearings. Their recommendations have been included in pending measures.

The Kendall committee is expected to investigate all phases of the merit selection, employment, assignment and discharge of state personnel before submitting its recommendations early next week.

TUESDAY, JAN. 9, 1945

CHANGES IN MERIT LAWS TO BE URGED

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The five-year-old fox-terrier, above, aptly named Jack, will get plenty of just, barring legal difficulties. His former owner, the late Mrs. Margaret Myers, of Detroit, made him sole heir to an estate estimated at \$20,000. Her handwritten will also provided that "whoever takes care of him at my home shall have free rent."

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