

## SEEN and HEARD around the NATIONAL CAPITAL By Carter Field

Washington.—A real battle between President Roosevelt and the New Dealers, on the one hand, and the conservative Democrats plus the regular Republicans, on the other, seems certain despite the flood of exaggerated reports about the President's conceding the error of his ways and turning kindly toward business.

He hasn't changed any. His talks with Wendell L. Willkie, president of the Commonwealth and Southern Power company, and with Floyd L. Carlisle, chairman of the Niagara and Hudson Power company, details of which are now known, prove this, giving quite a different picture from that obtained merely from the news that he had called them in, and from their own statements just after their White House visits.

Actually the President conceded nothing. On the contrary he gained a great deal for the New Deal objectives. From Willkie he obtained concessions as to the rate-making base which are going to cause the utilities a great deal of trouble. More important, its publicity effect is to put Roosevelt in the right and the utilities in the wrong as to the battle so far.

From Carlisle he obtained a promise—again accompanied by a lot of publicity—to spend a great deal of money. Which reinforced Roosevelt's contention that the utilities have been holding back their spending, and thus helping importantly to bring about the present recession, in order to have an effect on legislation—specifically, to force modification of the holding company death sentence.

Roosevelt met every point made by either executive with an argument or silence. He disputed every figure cited, and denied or merely smiled at every contention.

On taxation the President is still fighting tooth and nail to restrict modification exclusively to the small corporations. Even the house committee (ways and means) has gone further than the President wanted—further than he had the Treasury officials urge.

### Sets Battle Stage

In the senate, of course, there is even more sentiment to modify taxes with an eye single to improving business—encouraging investment and hence employment. Senators, and many house members, are not concerned whether such modification happens to play hot with planned economy, war against bigness, or any of the other New Deal objectives.

This temper on the part of the White House and congress sets the stage for a battle which has been becoming more certain since the early arrivals of congressmen for the extra session. But every passing day has actually drawn the line of conflict more sharply.

One piece of this White House propaganda has been correct. The President is concerned about the recession. But he believes it due to the attitude of the economic royalists.

There are three chief reasons for the recession, in the mind of the President. They are:

1. Too high prices, containing too large profits, in many commodities, with steel No. 1 on the list and concrete a close second. Lower prices, the President believes, would have made greater sales, hence more employment in the industries mentioned (and other similar offenders) and in the industries that buy from them.

2. Hold-off in expansion and replacement by the utilities, amounting, according to figures given him by S. E. C., to a billion dollars a year for the last three years. Incidentally Willkie put this figure somewhat lower in his talk with the President, and was argued into silence because he wanted to keep the President in a good humor. This utility thing the President regards as even more damnable than steel and concrete prices. The last he due, he thinks, to greed, selfish and unenlightened. But the utility old-back is just a conspiracy to undermine Roosevelt on his objectives.

3. Failure of railroads to make necessary improvements. This is the only one of the three which the President regards as having no ulterior motive. He would like to help the railroads, but does not now how. Nor, apparently, does any one else.

One grain of salt must be injected into all this discussion. The President just may decide the battle is necessary. He may decide that there is too much risk involved, and that it would be better to bend before the storm to avoid consequences.

### Would Revive N. R. A.

A proposal to revive all the 900 odd NRA codes as a substitute for the wages and hours regulation bill now pending before congress has been made to President Roosevelt by a group of southern

senators. Only in this way, the southern senators told the President, could the legislation be saved. They predicted that otherwise this bill, which means so much to the progressives and is so integral a part of the administration program, would be sidetracked again as it was last session. Not in the same manner, necessarily, but perhaps by some other device.

This proposal was made to the President after the blast of William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, against the pending bill. This attack by Green was regarded as devastating for several reasons. One is that the A. F. of L. has a great many friends on Capitol Hill, not only senators and representatives who believe in the old organization as against the C. I. O. on principle or economic theory, but personal friends of long standing with A. F. of L. leaders.

More important is the difficulty of meeting Green's objections. Elimination of any type of governmental board to supervise enforcement of the law would seem simple. It would seem as though the law could be enacted just as any other federal statute, leaving prosecution for violations upon the federal government's legal department—local federal district attorneys, etc.

### There's a Problem

That would be simple were it not for the differential question. It is next to impossible to get any law passed fixing minimum wages and maximum hours without providing some arrangement whereby the South will continue to have the present differential, under which it may continue to pay slightly less wages and work its labor slightly longer hours than the competing industries in the North and West.

But how to fix such an arrangement without a board, which would have discretionary authority, is a problem.

Complicating the situation is the remainder of the program. Already the senate has shown what it can do in the way of time-wasting. Discussion of the anti-lynching bill dragged on and on until the farm bill was reported. Every one knows that the report on the farm bill would not have been made yet by the senate agricultural committee were it not for pressure on Chairman E. D. Smith to rush this measure out so as to head off the anti-lynching bill. Otherwise, Senator Smith was informed, he would be blamed for not doing his part in battling the anti-lynching bill.

But whether any time was really saved by this pressure on the senate agricultural committee is something else again. As Senator Smith said, under the pressure, he would bring the bill out if it were a blank piece of paper, and leave the working details to the floor of the senate.

### Means a Struggle

The administration will be forced to fight with all its strength to preserve as much as possible of the social and economic reform objectives of the New Deal, while the offensive, caring nothing about the New Deal ideals or Brain Trust theories, will be considering only how to ease the strain on business sufficiently to produce prosperity and employment.

Roosevelt and his senate and house leaders will face a new problem. For five years the White House has fought an offensive war, reaching its high tide and its first serious reverse on the Supreme court enlargement bill. Now, however, with the business recession, plus the demonstration in the court battle that the President could be beaten, plus the fact that the politicians on Capitol Hill are now convinced that the folks out in the country, strong as they may be for the President, are not excited by specific votes against his recommendation, the picture is different. Determined to aid business, congress is on the offensive, and the President's forces are driven to a new type of strategy—a type which the history of the relations of Presidents with congress shows is frequently unsuccessful.

Unexpected fireworks may enliven the situation as the President tries to change the battleground. A master political strategist, he realizes keenly the difficulties of a defensive battle. So he may be depended upon to inject new proposals, make new appeals to the country over the head of an obviously recalcitrant congress. In short, he may be expected to make every effort to resume the offensive, and attempt to whip congress back into obedience.

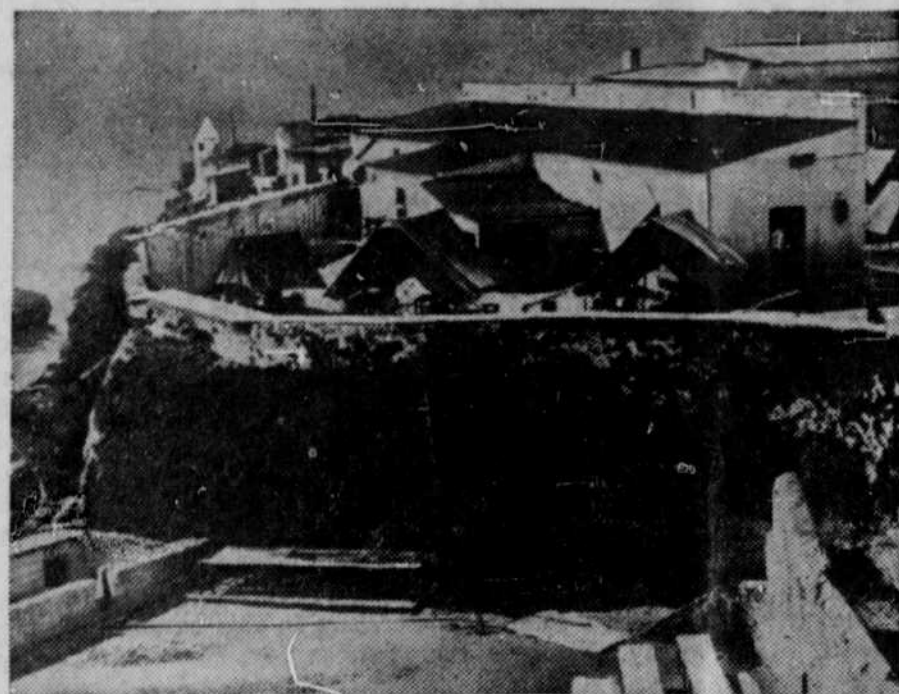
### Chief Problem

But the President's chief problem is that he is facing opposition on so many fronts. He is fighting his farm control battle now. The wages and hours battle has taken on a more serious tinge in the last few weeks, especially since William Green denounced the national labor relations board, and after a group of southern senators warned him that the bill would be sidetracked again unless he consented to reviving all the 900 odd NRA codes as a substitute.

Then will come the tax bill, on which the President and congress are absolutely at loggerheads, and seem destined to stay there. The difficulty of a compromise lies in the fact that the fundamentals of the two positions clash. One aims purely at business recovery. The other aims purely at social and economic reform through the tax route.

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## BORDER TROUBLES



The Fort at Ciudad Trujillo.

Prepared by National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.—WNU Service.

NOT many islands in the world have an international border. One of this select group is Hispaniola, the big West Indian island which is shared by the Haitian and the Dominican republics. Recently this obscure boundary came into the news as a scene of outbreaks in which Haitians were reported killed. The disorders were said to have been caused by heavy Haitian immigration into Dominican border towns.

Hispaniola's border divides more than governments. On one side of the line is the overcrowded, French-speaking, predominantly negro republic of Haiti, about the size of Vermont. On the other side is the Spanish-speaking and Caucasian-controlled Dominican republic, almost twice the size of its neighbor.

The island was discovered by Christopher Columbus on his first voyage to America and at Cape Haitien his flagship, Santa Maria, was shipwrecked.

### Course of Boundary Line.

Although the 193-mile boundary follows throughout much of its length a lofty chain of mountains which forms a natural wall, it cuts the island into two very unequal parts. The Dominican republic is almost twice as large as its neighbor, Haiti. Yet smaller Haiti has a population of about 3,000,000 as compared to the Dominican republic's estimated 1,400,000. Haiti, in fact, is one of the most densely populated nations in the world having some 275 persons per square mile.

Beginning near the bay of Manzanillo on the north, the border runs the gamut of nearly every type of natural obstacle known to geographers. At first it parallels the jungle-draped Copotillo river. After a few miles the boundary takes to the hills tumbling like a roller coaster over some of the highest peaks in the West Indies. In these mountains the frontier traverses a region of pines, oaks, and other temperate zone vegetation.

Near Manneville it plunges into a dry, desertlike trough, which, at nearby Lake Enriquillo is 150 feet below sea level—one of the two such depressions in the Western Hemisphere, the other being in California.

Continuing in a general southward direction the boundary next leaps over the rugged Sierra de Bahoruco more than a mile high along the southern coast of Hispaniola and finally picks up another small tropical stream, Rio Pedernales, before it ends in the Caribbean.

### Two Motor Roads Link Nations.

No railroad crosses this frontier, but there are two motor roads. One, in the north, crosses the Rio Copotillo at Dajabon. The other, about midway, pierces the mountain wall between the Haitian town of Lascahobas and the Dominican village of Las Matas. A narrow-gauge railway from Port-au-Prince, the Haitian capital, reaches almost to the border at Manneville, where an unimproved roadway connects with Ciudad Trujillo, the capital of the Dominican republic.

While the two nations on the island present sharp social contrasts, there is a great deal of similarity in the scenery and the economic resources of each. Both raise sugar, tobacco, coffee, and cacao (the source of chocolate) for export. Both have deposits of valuable minerals largely unexploited. The Dominican republic however has less rainfall for crops but more grazing land for cattle and greater timber wealth including mahogany, cedar, lignum vitae and satinwood.

Twice in recent years this second largest of West Indian islands made news for map-makers. The first time was when the old name of Hispaniola given to it by Columbus, was restored. Previously the island was termed either Haiti or Santo Domingo, which not only caused confusion among outsiders but resentment between the two countries on the island.

In 1935 the name of the ancient capital of the Dominican republic, Santo Domingo was changed to Ciudad Trujillo in honor of the nation's president Gen. Rafael Leonidas Trujillo Molina.

Threats of new trouble over the long-disputed boundary between Nicaragua and Honduras have focused attention again on these two Central American countries closely related to the United States economically and historically.

### Nicaragua and Honduras.

Each no larger than the state of New York and with populations respectively the size of Cleveland and San Francisco Honduras and Nicaragua occupy the widest part of the Central American isthmus and have many similarities.

Bananas are the leading export product of Honduras. Those raised for export are grown chiefly on plantations along the northern coast fronting on the Caribbean sea and extending inland 50 to 75 miles. Millions of bunches of the yellow fruit are produced in this "banana belt."

Coffee is the most important export product of Nicaragua and her prosperity rises and falls to a large extent with the price that coffee brings. In the United States, however, Nicaragua in recent years has been best known for the canal which has been proposed through her territory as an auxiliary to the Panama canal.

If the canal is built its route probably will be along the southern border of Nicaragua just north of Costa Rica, following the course of the San Juan river from the Atlantic to huge Lake Nicaragua, then across the lake and through the narrow strip of land that separates the lake from the Pacific ocean.

### Have Much in Common.

Both Honduras and Nicaragua have low, damp tropical regions along the coast, while the interior is made up of high mountains and plateaus with a cooler, more temperate climate. Gold and silver are plentiful in the mountains of both countries, but few mines now are worked.

The boundary between the two countries follows the course of the Wanks or Segovia river from Cabo Gracias a Dios ("Cape Thanks to God") on the Caribbean coast, far inland. Then it runs through the mountains of the interior to the Rio Negro which it follows down to the Pacific. Disputes between Honduras and Nicaragua are not new. The two nations have had several disagreements over the boundary in the past, and were at war in 1907, 1897, 1884 and 1863. Internal disturbances have caused United States marines to be landed in both countries at various times.

Lack of roads through the thick jungles of the lowlands and the high mountains of the interior, some of which reach 10,000 feet in Honduras, has kept both countries from fully developing their resources. Tegucigalpa, capital of Honduras, is the only capital in Central America not reached by a railroad, but nevertheless is an up-to-date city for regular airplane service operates between it and other Central American centers.

Managua, capital of Nicaragua, was almost completely destroyed by a disastrous earthquake in March, 1931, but its people have returned and a new city has risen rapidly from the ruins. Extinct volcanoes are features of the skyline in the mountainous interior of both countries and Nicaragua has an active volcano, Ometepe, forming an island in Lake Nicaragua.

People of Honduras and Nicaragua are largely a mixture of the original Indians and their Spanish conquerors with small proportions of pure-blooded Indians and whites of unmixed Spanish descent. Negroes, some descended from slaves and others brought in as contract laborers from the West Indies, perform much of the labor in the banana-growing regions.

### First Permanent Settlement

While several communities and towns in America predate Jamestown (now Jamestown) that location is considered the place of the first permanent settlement of the American continent. Through discord and dissension, storms and fires, winds and wars, the town lasted nearly 200 years, only two dwellings being there in 1807. But one of these was there in 1881 and was burned during the Civil war. The ruins of a single house, an old church, a Confederate fort and tombs of a few of the ancient worthies mark the spot of the once-thriving Colonial village.

## Sinusitis and Adenoids

By DR. JAMES W. BARTON  
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IT IS only natural that parents who have undergone the suspense and expense of having their youngsters' tonsils and adenoids removed should expect immediate and complete relief of the usual symptoms—frequent colds, discharge of mucus (or pus) from the nose, mouth breathing, snoring, sore throat, tiredness, loss of interest in work or play.

Fortunately in most cases the results are very gratifying; in some cases, however, the youngster still feels tired, has frequent colds, and may remain or become ill tempered.

What should prove of interest to parents and to physicians also, is that in a number of cases where removal of tonsils and adenoids does not remove the symptoms, the cause of these symptoms may be some infection of the sinuses—the little hollows or caverns in the bones about the nose.

**Sinuses May Be to Blame.**  
Dr. James Crookes in "Archives of Disease in Childhood," published by the British Medical association, states that any or all of the sinuses may be affected but the large sinus in the upper jaw is very frequently affected and the infection very readily discovered.

In a large series of routine operations for removal of tonsils and adenoids, about 15 per cent had chronic disease of the sinuses. This was shown by the fact that during the operation the wall of the sinus was punctured and the disease (pus formation) was found.

"This is a startling fact which may go far to explain the trying group of 'failures' after the removal of tonsils and adenoids, in which symptoms of nose, throat, and bronchial tube infection and other disorders occur again, despite the 'complete' removal of tonsils and adenoids."

### Water and Salt.

In prescribing a diet to decrease weight most physicians advise that table salt and all liquids be reduced in amount. This is because every pound of fat tissue holds three pounds of water, and every grain of salt keeps 70 times its weight of water in the body tissues. Table salt is known as sodium chloride. Table salt and water are both necessary for the proper action of the different body processes.

"The need of additional salt in the diet of certain animals is recognized by the farmer who provides salt for his stock. Wild animals, too, sometimes seek salt licks but only when forage is scarce. Animals differ from human beings, however, in that they refuse to eat a quantity of salt in excess of that which the body really needs. Since a vegetable diet contains a large amount of potassium salts (and each mineral salt seems to need a certain definite proportion of the other mineral salts in order to do its work properly) man and those animals which are herbivorous (eat grasses and similar foods) require an addition of sodium chloride, table salt, to their regular diet. Without this extra salt they become uncomfortable and lose appetite. On the other hand, the carnivorous Eskimos, who eat their meat raw, do not require this sodium chloride since their supply of this salt is obtained from the blood of the prey, which is distinctly salty."

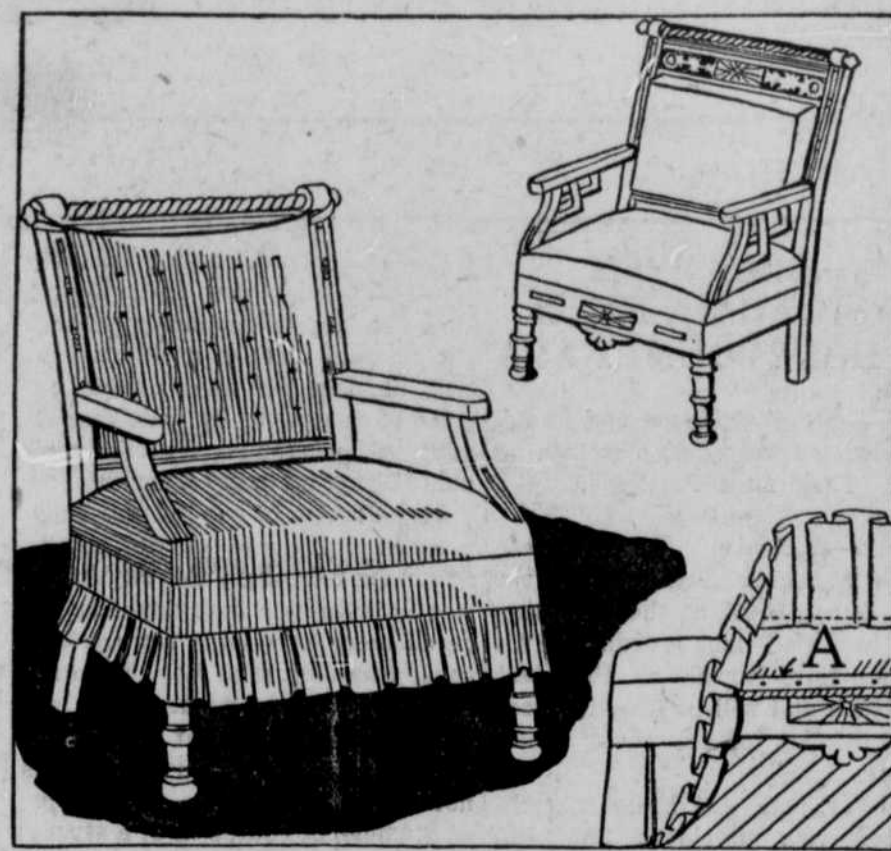
I am quoting from an article by Dr. Edwin A. Cameron in Hygieia, who shows that too much salt requires too much water for the tissues and organs (particularly the kidneys) to handle.

According to insurance companies, deaths from kidney disease between the ages of forty-five and fifty-five years, are three times more than those for the period of thirty-five to forty-five years. In regard to preventing kidney disease, "restraint should be more specially directed against overindulgence in table salt (sodium chloride) and fluids of all kinds since the reduction in salt and water intake is often extremely necessary in the treatment of any condition affecting the kidneys."

It is estimated that in every minute the blood flowing through the kidneys equals the weight of these organs. This quantity is from ten to twenty times greater than the flow through any other organ. Thus the popular belief that the forced drinking of water removes poisons by flushing the system is false.

**Fingernails Denote Rank**  
Gentility is said to be judged by the fingernails. In China, for instance, long, pointed shapes signified at one time high rank or birth. In ancient Egypt and other Oriental countries dyed fingernails set royalty apart from the common people.

## HOW to SEW By RUTH WYETH SPEARS



TO modernize the old walnut chair at the right the pieces under the arms were removed and most of the carving covered up. The padding at the back was removed entirely and replaced by a fiber board which was covered by a loose cotton filled cushion tufted like an old fashioned bed comfort except that the tied thread ends of the tufting were left on the wrong side.

This back cushion was fastened in place with tapes that slipped over the knobs at the ends of the upper carving. If the knobs to hold the cushion had been lacking it could have been tacked in place along the top on the under side by using a strip of heavy cardboard to keep the tacks from pulling through the fabric as shown here for tacking the box pleated ruffle around the seat as at A. A plain rust colored heavy cotton upholstery material was used for the covering.

Every Homemaker should have a copy of Mrs. Spears' new book, SEWING. Forty-eight pages of step-by-step directions for making slipcovers and dressing tables; restoring and upholstering chairs, couches; making curtains for every type of room and purpose. Making lampshades, rugs, otto-

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