

This Week in Washington

By Ralph E. Church
Washington, D. C., March 30—
The 74th Congress is about to enter upon the third month of the first session.

The bill for the repeal of the publicity section of the Revenue Act of 1934, commonly known as the pink-slip provision, passed the House without much difficulty.

Senator La Follette offered an amendment to increase the income tax rate from 4 per cent to 6 per cent, lowering the exemptions and increasing the surtax maximum from 59 per cent to 71 per cent.

On Thursday, March 28th, by a vote of 53 to 16, the Senate passed the bill repealing the "pink-slip" provision, but Senator Edward P. Costigan, Democrat of Colorado, succeeded in having an amendment adopted which would allow the income tax returns to be inspected by state and local officials charged with the responsibility of assessment and collection of taxes.

This amendment stands in the way of final enactment of the bill. It is now in conference.

The attempt of Senator La Follette to increase the income tax rates by amending the "pink-slip" presents an interesting feature of the Constitution, which provides that all revenue legislation must begin in the House of Representatives.

Taxing power is the power to destroy, and the world's history shows it to have been greatly abused. When the Constitution was written the framers decided to place this power as close to the people as possible and so provided that only a representative could introduce a tax bill.

Girl Scout News

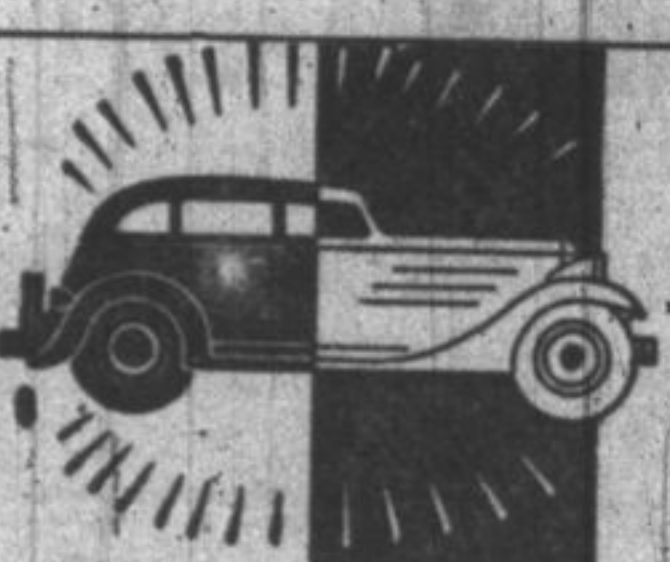
TROOP 27
After having patrol corners, Troop 27 had a treat of ice cream brought by Nancy Nereim and cake baked by Nellie Hayes, which was very good.

TROOP 22
First we took attendance and patrol corners. Then we played a relay game. Then we played another game called "Time Flies" in which we tried to judge how long 30 seconds are.

At the Troop meeting Monday we played an observation game. We divided into three groups, which were signaling, leader-foot and thrift. The signaling group divided into two groups who signaled to each other.

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Public Library Notes

Citizens who have discovered many public library shelves as bare as Mother Hubbard's cupboard, because of drastic cuts in library funds, are putting their shoulder to the wheel to support the four library bills now pending in the Illinois legislature, it is learned here today by Miss Cora Hendee, librarian of the Highland Park public library.

Men and women in many sections of the state are signing petitions and rousing their neighbors to see the significance of the library legislation to their own communities, according to a report just received here from Mr. Michael F. Gallagher, chairman of the legislative committee of the Illinois Library Association, and vice president of the Highland Park public library.

"People are beginning to see that libraries are as important as schools, especially to young people who can no longer go to school and must depend upon the library as their main source of education," said Mr. Gallagher after a meeting of library experts from the state, called in Chicago recently. Reports were made on the progress made in the present campaign to acquaint people with the importance of the library bills which are expected to come up for a hearing in the appropriations committee this month.

To bring library service to 2,000,000 people in the state now without it is the main purpose of House Bill No. 402, it was explained. If the bill passes, the sum of \$500,000 would

be appropriated each year for a two-year period from the general fund of the state.

"Boys and girls, men and women, especially on farms and in smaller communities are seeking book service, but it is not now available," declared Mr. Gallagher in commenting on the bill. "The legislation will not require the construction of new buildings, or any new boards or commissions. A state-wide book service will be organized and furnished through existing libraries and the state library extension division, and the entire fund will go for library service as needed in every county. No new taxes are proposed in connection with the library legislation; financing of the service being asked for from the general fund of the state."

Equally necessary is House Bill 405 which would appropriate \$800,000 for the purchase of books and periodicals by all libraries in the state, and \$10,000 for the administration of the act, Mr. Gallagher explained. He pointed out the drastic need for this appropriation in the face of the fact that funds available for book purchases in Illinois libraries since 1928 have decreased 53 per cent, while demands of the people for library books have enormously increased.

"Men and women as well as boys and girls are crowding libraries, appealing for books, not alone for recreation but for their education and work," said Mr. Gallagher, "but their demands are refused, in a large measure, because the volumes cannot be provided. This serious shortage of books prevails in most of the cities of the state."

Registered borrowers in Illinois in 1933 numbered nearly two hundred

thousand more than the combined enrollment of students in public schools, normal schools and the state university, according to Mr. Gallagher. For the eight cents per capita spent on book service, Illinois citizens borrowed from their public libraries approximately \$10 per capita worth of books.

Two other library bills, House Bills 403 and 404, now before the legislature, provide for the certification of librarians in free tax-supported libraries, it was explained. These require future employees of libraries to meet reasonable educational requirements.

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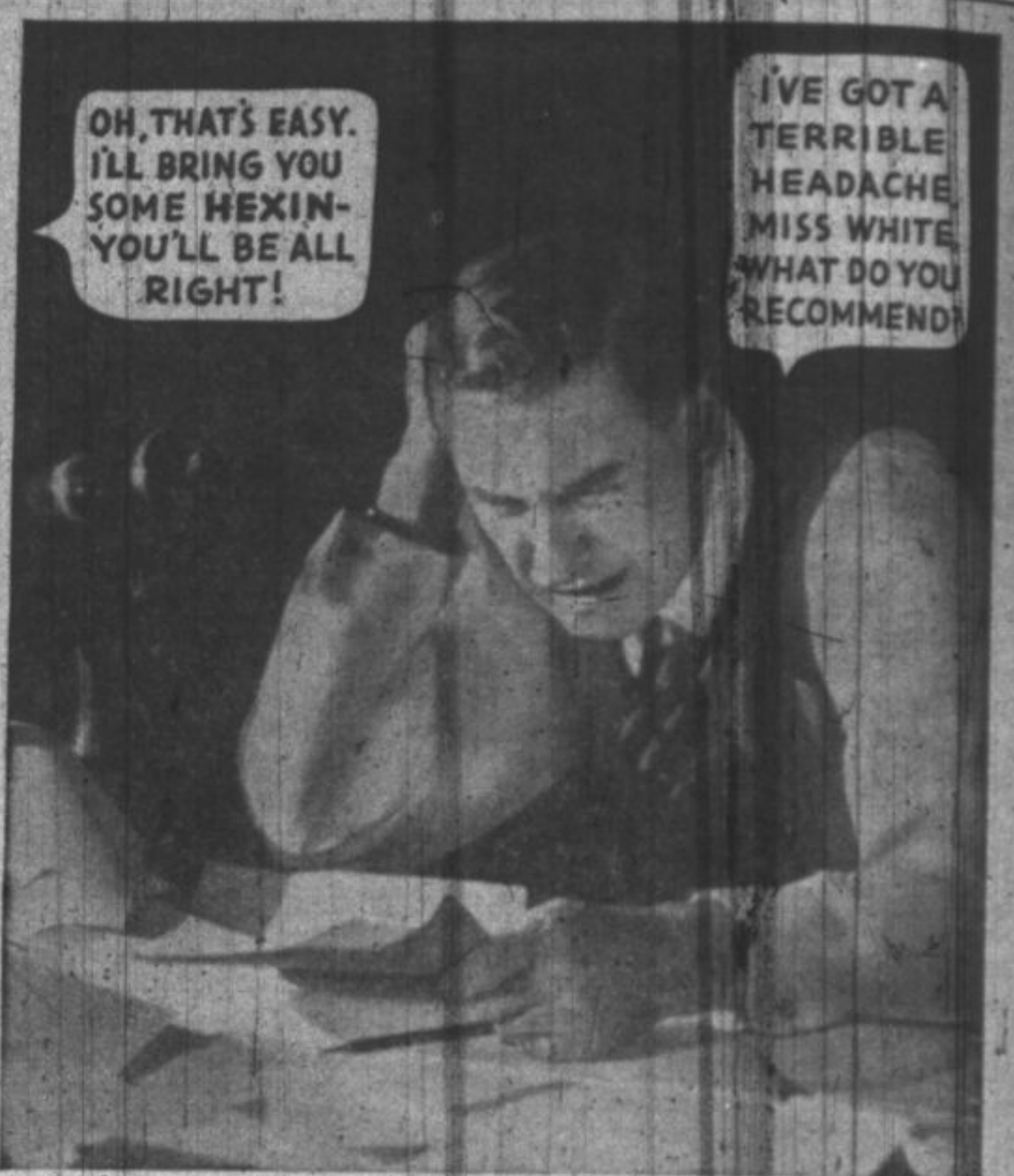
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