

THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON

By **RALPH E. CHURCH**

Representative 10th Congressional (North Shore) District

Washington, D. C., May 28 — Nothing is more destructive politically to a party in power than to have an economic depression set in during its regime. Whatever the causes of the business decline, the public mind fixes the responsibility for it on the party in power. No explanation, however plausible or however true, will completely satisfy the people that those in control of the machinery of government are not fully responsible for the economic conditions.

That story has been recorded many times on the pages of American history. The Republican Party was credited with the responsibility for the economic collapse in 1929 and the ensuing depression. It was explained over and over again that the collapse was brought about by world and not purely domestic forces. Time and again it was pointed out that every nation in the world suffered from the same condition. It was repeatedly emphasized that the party in power did not have a workable majority in Congress.

It is unnecessary to recount the great efforts thus made to convince the people that the party in power in 1929 was not responsible for the business depression. It is equally unnecessary to say that the people could not be satisfied with the explanation. The party in power was held responsible and another party was given its place of control.

Today the Democratic Party is in power and a business decline has set in. This being an election year it is understandable that the Administration is extremely anxious that there be at least some evidence of business improvement before November. It is to that end that the called "pump-priming bill" is partly designed. It is more of an expedient than a basic remedy.

To what extent the party in power on this occasion will be able to absolve itself in the public mind of the responsibility for the recent decline in business remains to be seen. It may succeed. If it does, to the best of my knowledge it will be the first time in our history that "depression alibis" have ever been convincing to the people.

Even under ordinary conditions it is difficult to make a "depression alibi" very convincing. Having en-

joyed six years of practically complete control of the national as well as state governments, the party in power has an especially difficult task to be convincing. That fact the Members of Congress well recognize and it seems to be causing much anxiety as they prepare for adjournment to return to their respective districts.

What form the "alibi" will take we do not yet know. Certainly the present depression cannot be credited to world conditions. In the first place, that was the "alibi" of the Republican Party for which it was subjected to criticism. And, in the second place, economic conditions abroad have been steadily improving in the last few years.

The explanation which I have heard most frequently in the course of the debates is that "capital is on strike," that it went on strike simply and solely to punish the Administration. That this explanation has been acceptable to some there can be no doubt. Now and then some constituent writes to express his opinion about "capital being on strike." But it is to absurd an argument to be convincing to many.

I should like to know what manufacturer would close down his plant simply to punish some one politician or political party for policies not to his liking. It hardly seems likely that any businessman would sacrifice all possible profits, as well as continue to pay taxes and overhead on idle property, to realize some political end. But that is the explanation, that is the "1938 depression alibi."

Let it be said, for this seems to be the real explanation for the present situation: capital is not on strike but rather is prevented from working by too much government, too many taxes and to much uncertainty.

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Haessler Pupils in Dance Exhibit Benefit Saturday Afternoon

"The Toy Shop" and "The Enchanted Lake" are the dance pantomimes to be given by the pupils of Mildred Haessler Saturday afternoon and evening, June 4, at 2:30 and 8:15 p.m. at the Ravinia School Auditorium. For many months pupils have been in training for the program, which ought to prove a high spot in amateur programs.

The matinee is arranged especially for young children. Home made candy will be sold by Girl Scout Troop No. 6 of the Ravinia school and they will also act as ushers at the performances. In the evening certain numbers of special interest to adults will be given including the Strauss Waltz. A large audience is expected because besides being an annual community affair, it is also a benefit for the recreation department of the Park Ridge School for Girls. About 40 girls from the school will dance in the program.

The following in the performances Saturday are from Highland Park, Highwood, Ravinia, Braeside:

Jane and Ann Arenberg, Shirley Markell, Paula Raff, Mona and Carol Johnson, Bill Peddle, Barbara Aronoff, Mary Jane MacFadden, Mary Jane Eriksen, Marjorie Claussen, Ann Thurston, Marilyn Lavenant, Donn Moore, Louise Haessler, Betty Jean Morani, Theresa O'Sella, Delores Casorali, Mary Novello, Loretta Newton, Delores Del Bene, Carmen Ann Pasquesi, Gloria Massini, Leah Delores Smith, Kathryn and Cynthia Baruffi, Evelyn Stanley, Janet Johanson, Shirley Ann Preti, Angeline Corso, Shirley McOmber, Connie DeMillie, Gloria Ballard, Carmella Rossi, Marion Benson, Bertha Shernoy, Bernice Hangren, Anita Henderson, and Margaret Carlson.

Annual Confirmation at N. S. Congregation Israel, Next Sunday

Rabbi Charles E. Shulman will conduct the annual confirmation service at the North Shore Congregation Israel on Sunday morning, June 5, which is the day of the Jewish festival of Shovuos, on which, traditionally, all Reform congregations hold their confirmation services.

The service at the Glencoe Temple will start promptly at 10 o'clock. Each of the children in the class will speak briefly on some subject of his own choosing and the beauty and impressiveness of the ceremony will be further enhanced by the violin music of Eddie Katz, youthful musician who has already achieved fine distinction and who was himself confirmed from the North Shore Congregation Israel just two years ago.

Visitors are cordially welcome to attend this service which will conclude the schedule of Sunday morning services at the Temple until next fall.

Bids On Bonds For TB Sanitarium Are Received By Board

Lake county moved a step closer to the construction of a sanitarium for the care of tuberculosis patients by receiving bids in anticipation of the sale of \$375,000 in county bonds.

Leading bond houses in the county appeared before the finance committee of the board of supervisors with proposals to purchase the county bonds as soon as the special session of the state legislature passes the enabling act, empowering the county to issue the bonds without an election.

These bonds, if issued, will be used exclusively for the construction of the sanitarium and for its maintenance and operation under the 10-year tax levy of 15 cents on each \$100 valuation approved by the voters of the county in November, 1936.

If the bids submitted by the bond companies to the finance committee, composed of Supervisors David Van Patten, Leo Fenlon, W. W. Steele, Homer T. Cook and Harold E. Pillifant, are approved, Chairman Daniel Hentges and the clerk of the board of supervisors will enter into a contract with the selected company for the sale of the bonds.

The concern getting the contract must post a certified check in the sum of 2 per cent of the bond issue, or \$7,500, with the county treasurer as a bond of faith in fulfillment of the contract.

Supervision of the pending legislation at the special session, as well as legal opinions regarding the bond issue and the printing of the issue, must be performed by the company receiving the contract.

Principal and interest of the proposed bond issue will be paid from the annual revenue obtained by the county on the tax levy. Taxpayers of the county will incur no additional expense.

The tentative program for the bond issue is to have the bonds in \$1,000 denominations running serially from 1939 to 1953. The issue is to be retired at the rate of \$25,000 annually with interest being paid on April 1 and October 1 until 1947. After that year unretired bonds and interest may be paid for in the same manner or may be taken up on a 60-day optional call by the county.

In proposing the bond issue, the board of supervisors is cooperating with the tuberculosis sanitarium board composed of Dr. Theodore S. Proxmire, Victor Woertz and James F. Stiles Jr.

The tuberculosis board, with Dr. Charles E. Pettey as director and superintendent of the sanitarium, has been caring for tubercular patients since last December, as provided for in the proposition voted in 1936.

A tract of land at Belvidere st. near Lewis ave. has been purchased by the county for the site of the sanitarium, and architectural plans for a modern hospital unit to house approximately 92 beds have been prepared.

Miss Bentley Presents Pupils in Recital

The pupils of Berenice Benson Bentley, assisted by Alice Holmes, pianist, will appear in recital in Miss Bentley's studio on Woodland road next Sunday afternoon, June 5, at 4 o'clock.

The following pupils will give the program: Priscilla, Carol and Jane Falley of Evanston, Carol and Frances Grimes, Peter Bigler, Marilyn Cahn, Paula Bollenbacher, Billy Winters, Joyce Gitlin, and Betty Hart of Highland Park. Miss Holmes will play numbers by Debussy, Ravel and Dohnanyi.

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