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THE CONGRESSIONAL FRONT  
By Congressman Everett M. Dirksen  
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THAT'S WHERE MY MONEY GOES. Remember the old song, "That's where my money goes etc." But where? Few citizens have the slightest idea of what is contained in the many appropriation bills, the second of which will pass the House today. The first bill, carrying a total of 73½ million dollars and styled The Independent-Offices Appropriation Bill carried the following general items: Salaries and expenses for President, Vice President and White House \$442,050. Board of Arbitration and Mediation \$125,564. Board of Tax Appeals \$502,116. Civil Service Commission \$1,476,000. Employees Compensation Commission including the fund paid in by Federal employees \$4,353,410. Federal Power Commission \$277,303. Federal Radio Commission \$666,885. Federal Trade Commission \$1,242,730. General Accounting Office \$3,461,920. Interstate Commerce Commission \$5,430,970. National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics \$726,492. Smithsonian Institution (Museum, Art Gallery, etc), \$864,024. Tariff Commission \$840,898. U. S. Geographic Board \$9440. Veterans Administration (includes pensions of all wars, ~~military and~~ naval insurance hospital services, medical and administrative, civil-service retirement fund and Bonus fund) \$546,005,891. These appropriations are in addition to permanent appropriations for the Federal Reserve Board, Power Commission, Employees Compensation Commission Home Loan Bank Board, U. S. Government Life Insurance Fund, General Railroad Contingent Fund and Smithsonian Institution aggregating 68½ million. Truly, governmental enterprise has become multitudinous and touches all phases of individual and business existence.

BIRTH CONTROL. Congressman Pierce, born at Morris Illinois, one time Governor of Oregon and now a House Member from Oregon introduced a bill to remove the penalty for sending birth control information and appliances through the mails. It is now a penal offense to do so. If the bill is reported out of Committee and passes, it can be done without penalty. Hearings on the bill began this week. The attendance was so large that a caucus room had to be used. Among the very interesting witnesses who testified was Father Coughlin of radio renown, Rabbi Israel of Baltimore and the famed Margaret Sanger of birth control fame. Interest was keen. Smartly clad women predominated in the audience. Pointed testimony was greeted with applause on both sides, despite the admonitions of the Committee Chairman. The bill of Gov. Pierce seeks to make it legal to send birth control matter through the mails on the theory that the information will be disseminated anyway and that quacks and charlatans are now reaping a rich harvest from gullible victims.

FEDERAL FARM MORTGAGE BONDS. In the special session of Congress almost a year ago, the Federal Land Banks were authorized to issue 2 billion in bonds to re-finance farm mortgages and save farms from foreclosure. The bonds were guaranteed as to interest but not to principal and the first efforts to market these bonds found investors willing to take them only if the Government would discount heavily, in some cases as much as 15 and 17%. The \$200 million in cash authorized at the same time has been expended and the 2 billion are needed. Result - a bill creating the Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation, administered by the Governor of the Farm Credit Administration and directors appointed by him, with a capital of 200 million, to issue 2 billion in bonds with both principal and interest guaranteed, to take over the other authorized issue, and gradually feed these guaranteed bonds into the hands of the Federal Land Banks for further relief of distressed farmers. These bonds, guaranteed by Uncle Sam with good farms as security should sell at a premium and carry a low rate of interest.

GOLD REVALUATION. This week there was married in New York a young man named Benjamin Gold to a young lady named Anne Silver. After the ceremony, he stated that his solution of the monetary problem was simply to merge Gold and Silver and that every wedding anniversary would be a gold and silver anniversary. Experts might wish that the gold problem were as simple of solution as that. The bill which has been prepared and introduced by the Coinage Committee to carry out the provisions of the President's message provides for (1) transferring title to the gold now in Federal Reserve vaults to the Government and authorizing the Government to take the profit; (2) to establish a credit for the Federal Reserve in return therefore payable in gold certificates; (3) to displace the word "gold" with the words "lawful money" in the Gold Reserve Act; (4) use the accruing profits from the newly acquired gold to set up a 2 billion dollar Stabilization Fund, similar to the British Equalization Account, said fund to be used to regulate the value of the dollar in foreign exchange; (5) forbidding circulation of gold coin, and using gold bullion only for purposes of settling international balances; (6) establish the upper limit of the gold value of the dollar at 60%. (The lower limit of 50% had already been established by the act passed on May 12, 1933.) Hostility to the bill thus far apparent, goes not so much to the substance of the bill as to the fact that it takes a temporary power that was granted to the Executive in May of 1933 and makes it more or less permanent. As usual, experts are not agreed. Many distinguished monetary experts have appeared before the Coinage Committee. Frank A. Vanderlip, former Chairman of the National City Bank of New York, who endorses the President's program; Father Chas. E. Coughlin, whose monetary radio talks are well known; James Paul Warburg, who states that he advocated stabilization within a ten point limit, months ago. The Act of May, 1933, was infinitely broader in scope and gave the President authority to direct the issuance of 3 billion in Treasury notes with which to purchase maturing government obligations, to direct Federal Reserve to carry on open market operations in Government bonds to the extent of 3 billion, gave the President authority to devalue the dollar down to 50% of its gold content, to provide for unlimited coinage of silver and gold, to accept silver on war debts up to 250 million at 50¢ per ounce, and to authorize the Federal Reserve to increase or decrease its balances against time and demand deposits. The bill carrying these provisions will be considered under a gag rule.

PRESIDENTIAL RECEPTION. The invitations to Senators, Congressmen, the Press, read for January 18, nine o'clock. Entrance at the East Gate of the White House. Secret Service men and policemen everywhere. Entrance was thro the long East Wing, up a stairway and into the ballroom where all congregated to be received. At ten the reception began, filing past the President and Mrs. Roosevelt, who were standing against a wall of ferns and palms. The President looked haggard and tired. Mrs. Roosevelt was vivacious and smiling. A handshake, a friendly greeting--then to move on. Military aides in gold braid supervising all. Fruit punch and dainty cakes were served. The uniformed Marine Band orchestra played for dancing. Promptly at eleven they played, "Good Night Ladies" and the reception was over. Co-mingling of gorgeous gowns, silk hats, swallow-tailed coats and stiff, precise manners.