

The Democratic Advocate
WESTMINSTER, MD.



FRIDAY AFTERNOON, APR. 28 1922

DEFICIT FOR 1923 INCREASED
FROM \$167,000,000 TO \$484,000,000.

While Republicans are claiming that the administration is making savings, Secretary of the Treasury Mellon in an official statement shows that the estimates of deficits are steadily increasing. One of the wildest statements concerning Republican economy was recently published in the press and attributed to Senator Lodge, leader of the Republican party in the Senate.

Senator Pat Harrison (Dem., Miss.) called the attention of the Senate to this error published all over the country and also exposed the false claims of the junior Senator from Ohio (Mr. Willis) in a recent New York speech. "In the course of his (Senator Lodge's) speech," said Senator Harrison, "which was carried in all the press of the country, he made the statement that appropriations of \$5,237,000,000 asked by the departments have been cut to \$1,428,000,000. Whether he made that statement or not I do not know. Of course, he was speaking as a candidate and laboring under the enthusiasm of speaking to his constituents and it was but natural that he should get his figures a little confused. Whether he made the statement or not, the papers carried it that way."

Senator Lodge said there was an error of one word in the statement which he corrected on the floor and, in the permanent Record, but admitted that the papers carried his statement wrong.

Senator Harrison said many grossly exaggerated claims have been made. He called attention to the speech of Senator Willis of Ohio, making claim to big changes and big cuts and then referred to the letter from Secretary of the Treasury Mellon to Senator McCumber saying that the estimates of \$167,000,000 deficit for 1923 have increased "under the alleged splendid management of the new administration" to \$484,000,000, which the Senator thought might be more when the facts are known.

Saying that Secretary Mellon attributed the increased deficit to the falling off of the income tax, Senator Harrison added: "I think that is true. There is depression everywhere. Nobody is making any money scarcely under the promised prosperity under this administration. So it is perfectly natural that incomes should be greatly diminished. You, who have been laying and may in the future lay large claims of savings, should study the deficits and remember this report of the Secretary of the Treasury."

NOT ENOUGH INCOME FROM THE INCOME TAX.

Pharisaical self-congratulations that we are not as those poor European nations who can't balance their budgets, and who have to keep borrowing money to pay their expenses, are interrupted by the announcement from Washington that the income and profits tax collections for this year will run \$200,000,000 below the estimate. This means, according to the New York World, that the Government, which had before been at a loss to meet appropriations on the basis of the budget revenue estimates, "now faces the necessity of borrowing heavily to balance its budget." Treasury officials have been expecting a drop in total receipts this year from a total of \$3,200,000,000 in 1921 and \$4,000,000,000 in 1920 to \$1,740,000,000 for the current calendar year. Now they find, on the basis of the payments on March 15, that the total income and profits taxes are not likely to come within \$20,000,000 of the figure. Half of this deficit comes out of the expected revenue for the current fiscal year ending June 30. If that income tax is, as a New York expert accountant specializing in taxation describes it, "the barometer of our economic life, the gauge of power to pay," then "Congress, our tax-leaving body, should take warning." The administration has cut expenditures and reduced taxation in accordance with its pledges, but, declares the Republican Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, "it cannot escape the problem of decreasing revenues." Editors politically out of sympathy with the administration cannot refrain from smiling at its present financial plight. The Newark News (Ind.), for instance, wonders whether we are now to be told again that the "best minds" will find a "painless way" to

meet a Treasury deficit amounting to one or two hundred million dollars. The Treasury's plans for debt reduction "must give way to action in debt expansion," the New York World (Dem.) remarks, while "a leaderless Republican Congress moves now placidly and now riotously along, legislating new expenditures as if the Treasury were bursting with surplus revenues."—Literary Digest.

BALTIMORE LETTER.

Hotel Rennett, Baltimore, April 27th, 1922. The announcement by Governor Ritchie that he will not be a candidate for the United States Senate, has caused no surprise. It had been known for several months that he was seriously considering the matter, and that he was strongly inclined to do as he has done, and let the people know that he would ask for a renomination in his present position next year. He has made up his mind that it is his duty to devote his time to the completion of his plans for the reorganization of the State Administration forces, under the laws passed for the purpose at the recent session of the General Assembly, and in order to carry out his plans in full, he will, next year ask the people of the State to re-elect him Governor. He has nearly two years of his present term to serve, and during that time he believes he will be able to demonstrate to the public, that he is worthy of a second term, that it will be good business to give it to him, and that it will be largely to the advantage of the tax payers, and those citizens generally who are anxious for good and efficient administration of public affairs, to break the old-time traditional policy of giving a Governor but one term, and retain him for a second term. How it will turn out, is unforeseeable, but the Governor is willing to take his chances. There is not much doubt but that he could be nominated and elected United States Senator this year, without serious opposition, but he believes it to be his duty to complete the great work he has begun in the State, provided the people wish him to do so.

The retirement of the Governor from the contest for the Senatorship, has thrown the field open and the indications are that there will be several candidates for the Democratic nomination, and it is beginning to look like a free-for-all fight. Of course all these predictions are based on the supposition that Senator John Walter Smith, is definitely out of it, but he has never made any public statement to that effect, and very many people will not be convinced that he is out of it until he says so over his own name in some definite and public manner. And it may be said here that much pressure is being brought to bear at the present time on the distinguished gentlemen to come forth and consent to a renomination, and end what threatens to be an acrimonious and extremely vigorous interparty fight.

The latest candidate to enter the field for the nomination, is State Senator William I. Norris of the First Legislative District, who has been President of the Senate for the last two sessions. Mr. Norris is looked upon as one of the best and ablest products of Baltimore City public life in recent years. He is literally a self-made man. He has worked himself up to an enviable position at the bar, and in politics he won his spurs practically alone and unable, for he won victory after victory over the so-called organization before that body realized that he was a force which had to be dealt with, and, in self defense took him up. His record at Annapolis in his many years service in both Houses of the General Assembly has been marked by independence and ability throughout, and, it is not saying too much to state that he is one of the best and most thoroughly equipped men who have ever served the City and State in the General Assembly and every member of the Senate who has served in that body while he was President of it, both Republicans and Democrats, will say that no better presiding officer ever wielded the gavel in that body. That he would make an able and thoroughly competent member of the Upper House at Washington, is not open to doubt.

The City leaders do not seem to have made up their minds yet as to whom they will back for the succession to Senator France. Upon one point, however, all here seem to be agreed, and that is that under no condition will they support David J. Lewis for the nomination. In fact, all from Mr. Mahon down are open in their opposition to Mr. Lewis and assert that it would be party suicide to nominate him. Other possible candidates discussed at the present time for the Senatorial nomination, are ex-Congressman Charles P. Coady, Mr. Stephen W. Gambrill, ex-Congressman Joshua W. Miles, Major Brooke Lee, and Senator Orlando Harrison, with others in the shadowy back ground, waiting for an encouraging word. Mr. Coady is probably more favorably spoken of than any other possible nominee. He made a most excellent Congressman, and is well equipped in every way for the Senatorship. He is a man of the highest personal character, and has an unblemished record, not only as a member of the General Assembly in years past, but also as a representative in Congress, and at the present time he is probably looked upon with more favor than any of those who have been mentioned for the honor.

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New York, April 24.—Sentences to go to church every Sunday for six months were imposed by Magistrate Fish in Brooklyn today upon two men who spent the church hour yesterday quarrelling, swearing and fighting in a restaurant.

Harry Baulsir, who admitted he was an "occasional" Methodist, and Harry Pearson, who said he was a member and sometimes went to the Presbyterian church, were the recipients of the unusual sentences. Their pastors were asked to check up on them and report to the Court if they failed to appear regularly.

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