

FREEDOM OF PRESS IS SEEN AT STAKE

Black Committee's Wire Tactics Visioned as Pro-Fraud Threat.

BY DAVID LAWRENCE. Irrespective of party and irrespective of personalities, the issue raised by a few members of the United States Senate as to whether the freedom of the press shall be maintained in America transcends in importance any other aspect of public policy today...

12,000 Messages Copied. But even though some 12,000 telegrams were copied by Senate committee representatives with the cooperation of the Federal Communications Commission...

Elisha Hanson, general counsel for various newspaper publishers, insists in a motion filed in the District Supreme Court that the Senate committee violated the law and so did the Federal Communications Commission...

It is not a question of what the messages contained because in one instance the telegram was a communication between a publisher and his Washington correspondent...

There is, moreover, the point that a judge in the District Supreme Court had a week ago ruled that the subpoena under which the Senate committee had obtained copies of its telegrams was unlawful...

This means the beginning of considerable litigation. The committee has obtained copies of its telegrams was unlawful. In the face of this opinion from the bench, the Senate committee went ahead with the transmission of the copy of the message to a member of the House...

Usage Makes No Law. It has been contended in the Senate that the subpoena used by the Lobby Committee is virtually the same as that used in many years. But this does not make it lawful or constitutional...

The chief difficulty with the Senate Lobby Committee's subpoenas is that they have not particularized or shown how the information sought is pertinent to an inquiry or how the proposed legislation on which information is sought comes within the constitutional power of the Senate...

The prospects are that an issue of real magnitude will come out of the seizure of the telegrams. It is rumored that President Roosevelt is not in sympathy with what the Senate Lobby Committee has done but, on the other hand, he has not manifested any interest so far as is publicly known in the alleged violations of Federal law by members or employees of the Federal Communications Commission...

It would seem probable that the controversy over the right of privacy of telegraphic messages would engage the interest of citizens generally, especially when, in the face of a Federal court decision, use is made by members of the Senate of telegrams which have been obtained by special committee on arrangements for the annual meeting of the society...

PLANS I. V. N. S. MEETING. Mrs. Harlan Flake Stone, president of the Instructive Visiting Nurses' Society, has appointed the following special committee on arrangements for the annual meeting of the society...

WIN BUT WON'T DANCE. Students Lift 78-Year Ban, but Interest Lags. BALDWIN, Kans., March 21 (AP)—Students at Baker University finally won a long fight to permit school dances, banned since the university was founded in 1858...

WIN BUT WON'T DANCE. But it was necessary to call off the dog because of the student's lack of interest. Advance students were not sufficient to hire an orchestra...

What's What Behind News in Capital

Return of Peter Grimm Marks Blow-up of Federal Housing.

BY PAUL MALLON. RESIDENT ROOSEVELT said he had high hopes that his housing advisers would have a plan ready when he returned from his trip to Florida...

The inability of any two of his housing experts to agree on anything has convinced him that nothing important can be attempted along that line. Furthermore, he has wasted so much time on the subject that he hopes that no one will mention it to him soon again...

Suspicious Soar. The experts cannot even agree on why they cannot agree. They seem to think it is a matter of personalities. Each one suspects all the others of working for subversive influences...

Processing Levies Opposed. There have been expressions of opposition in congressional quarters to levying processing taxes in an election year...

Discovery of a joker in Treasury calculations for the new tax on undistributed profits of corporations meanwhile forced the House Ways and Means Subcommittee considering the legislation to start again from scratch...

Spending Gains in Year. The daily Treasury statement as of March 18 disclosed yesterday that the Government had spent \$5,922,000,000 since July 1, as compared with \$4,905,000,000 in the comparable period a year ago...

Program Good Bailihood. At least these were the whispered considerations which dominated Mr. Roosevelt's recent series of ineffective housing conferences. They explain why the New Dealers cannot have a program, although they consider one highly desirable as campaign bailihood...

Some renewed effort may be made in referring to the cost of housing and slum clearance, but the jig has been up, as far as they are concerned, since Mr. Morgenthau's real estate mortgage ally, Peter Grimm, tossed his hand in the air and returned to New York last week...

George U. Rose, 93, CLAIMED BY DEATH. George Uilshroffer Rose, Civil War veteran and retired Government employee, who served as secretary to James A. Garfield prior to the latter's election to the presidency, died at his home, 4217 Ninth street, Interment will be in Rock Creek Cemetery...

RAILROAD CONDUCTOR KILLED BY AUTOMOBILE. William W. Thrift, 50, veteran conductor on the Pennsylvania Railroad, was killed yesterday when struck by an automobile as he was crossing the road to a lunch stand near Kearny, N. J. It was learned today at his home, 615 G street southeast. Details of the accident were not known here...

How the railroad issue is going to break is not yet clear. The man who started Mr. Roosevelt writing letters to rail executives was the so-called rail co-ordinator, Eastman. He became excited because of the Wheeler-Crosser bill in Congress, proposing strict restrictions against rail economies...

THE WEATHER. District of Columbia—Fair and colder, with lowest temperature tonight about 34 degrees; tomorrow fair and slightly warmer in afternoon; moderate to fresh northwest winds, diminishing late tonight...

THE WEATHER. Maryland—Generally fair and colder in east, snow flurries and colder in west portion tonight; tomorrow fair and slightly warmer in afternoon. Virginia—Snow flurries in extreme west and fair and colder in east and central portions tonight; tomorrow fair and slightly warmer in afternoon...

THE WEATHER. Tide Tables. (Published by United States Coast and Geodetic Survey.) Today. Tomorrow. High 6:18 a.m. 7:09 a.m. Low 1:04 p.m. 1:57 p.m.

THE WEATHER. The Sun and Moon. Sun, today 6:11 a.m. 6:21 p.m. Moon, today 4:55 a.m. 4:52 p.m. Automobile lights must be turned on one-half hour before sunset.

THE WEATHER. Precipitation. Monthly precipitation in inches in the Capital (current month to date). Record. 1936. Average. Record. January 5.87 3.25 7.99 '81 February 4.83 3.25 6.99 '81 March 4.13 3.25 6.99 '81 April 3.27 3.13 '88 May 4.13 3.25 6.99 '81 June 4.13 3.25 6.99 '81 July 4.13 3.25 6.99 '81 August 4.01 3.25 6.99 '81 September 3.27 3.13 '88 October 2.84 2.87 '85 November 3.27 3.13 '88 December 3.25 3.13 '88

\$389,694,381 PAID IN INCOME TAXES

Receipts in First Twenty Days Are 28 Per Cent Above Last Year.

BACKGROUND—President Roosevelt has suggested that \$620,000,000 additional revenue be provided to finance new farm program and added cost of prepayment of bonus; his suggestion was for tax on undistributed corporation profits, with accompanying levy on individual income from corporation dividends...

Income tax collections of \$389,694,381 in the first 20 days of March were reported by the Treasury today, representing an increase of 28 per cent over the comparable period of last year...

Receipts are conforming very closely with the department's estimates. "The only comment from Treasury officials. The statistics were telegraphed from collectors in various districts. All the money in the total has not yet been paid into Treasury vaults...

Processing Levies Opposed. There have been expressions of opposition in congressional quarters to levying processing taxes in an election year. Mr. Roosevelt proposed increasing receipts by \$200,000,000 through taxing undivided corporate income and dividends...

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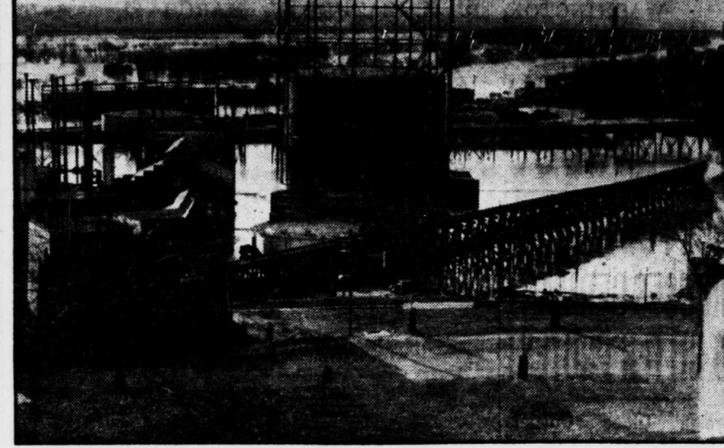
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Flood Shuts Off Gas at Richmond



The 200,000 inhabitants of Richmond, Va., were left without gas when this plant on the banks of the James River was flooded by rapidly rising waters.

Relief (Continued From First Page.)

trades, thus accelerating their return to a self-supporting status. Necessary furniture, clothing and other essential articles will be given the flood victims to enable them to rehabilitate themselves. Emergency shelter was provided in two boys' clubs and a colored church here...

Red Cross headquarters reported prompt response to the President's appeal for contributions to a national fund, and said the money was being received at 3,700 local chapters in greater amounts than usual for most national disasters...

The first report yesterday came from Wilkes-Barre, Pa., itself a victim of the roaring Susquehanna, where the local chapter said it expected to raise a total of \$25,000 by tonight. Officials will not be able to tabulate the national total for another week, but meanwhile they will advance whatever funds are needed immediately in the distressed areas...

Residents of Jersey Shores, Pa., late yesterday sent a request for typhoid vaccine and a motor boat to be used in routing the marooned families. They also reported that there was only about one day's food supplies left in the town. Assistance was being sent them last night and this morning...

Workers reached Williamsport, Pa., for the first time yesterday. They reported that between 4,000 and 5,000 families would need help there. Six medical units were sent from New York City and other points in Pennsylvania. In addition, 200 cots and 500 blankets were sent from Philadelphia...

Supplies are being furnished flood victims in Sunbury, Pa., from Shamokin, where sufficient stores are on hand. Reports from Sunbury indicated the scarlet fever "epidemic" was well under control. Great Need in Cumberland...

Mrs. Margaret Lewis, director of Red Cross work in Maryland, reported relief plans were working smoothly in Cumberland. Approximately 1,500 families would need help, she said. Mrs. Dorothy Johnston, supervising relief in Southern New York State, reported yesterday from Binghamton that 1,000 persons were being fed daily...

Approximately 1,500 families had applied for Red Cross assistance in Maine, the families for the most part residing in Rumford, Saco, Waterville, Hollywell, Brunswick and other small towns and villages. Reports received late yesterday said that Canton, Dixfield and Mexico were isolated...

With rivers on the seaboard pouring their flood torrents into the Atlantic, the Weather Bureau hoisted storm warnings from Nantucket to Eastport, Me. A survey showed the following death list for the affected States: Massachusetts, 113; West Virginia, 17; Pennsylvania, 8; Maine, 5; Vermont, 5; Maryland, 4; Virginia, 4; Connecticut, 3; New York, 2; North Carolina, 2; Georgia, 2; New Hampshire, 1; Ohio, 1...

In Maine many communities were wholly or partially isolated. Rumford, under martial law after being marooned for two days, sent word that food supplies were limited and there was no drinking water. Northampton, Mass., reported the Connecticut flooding. Electric power was resumed. Mayor Charles L. Dunn asked the National Guard to continue on patrol...

Rehabilitation went forward at Jointsown, where 16 were dead and 1,000 were still homeless. Mayor Daniel Shields sought \$10,000,000 from the Federal Government to restore buildings and aid merchants in setting up new stocks. Springfield, in darkness last night, also reported the Connecticut flooding. The city's main business section was impassable, however. Mayor Henry Martens said it was probable all refugees would be inoculated to prevent typhoid...

All Maine streams except the Penobscot were declining. Gov. Louis J. Brann said damage would reach at least \$15,000,000. Maine counted 10,000 homeless, with 16 communities wholly or partially isolated. The National Guard patrolled nine municipalities. Emergency relief agencies sheltered refugees in armories, town halls and lodge rooms. Nine of the State's major bridges...

THE NATIONAL SCENE. BY ALICE ROOSEVELT LONGWORTH. THE President had a lot of fun in his relief message. He took another job at the Supreme Court, this time it is to blame for unemployment. That, of course, is quite absurd. N. R. A. had a two-year run, was on the rocks before the court killed it, had made hardly a dent in unemployment, and even if it had been upheld the budget would have been just as much out of balance...

NEW NAVAL PACT IS READY TO SIGN

U. S. Reserves Right to Reject Large Cruiser Holiday Conditions. BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS. LONDON, March 21.—The London Naval Conference approved the final draft of a new six-year treaty and announced the document would be signed by the United States, Great Britain and France next Wednesday...

The main line of the Central Vermont Railway was reopened between St. Johns, Quebec and White River Junction. Restricted temporary passenger service was inaugurated from Montreal through Vermont. Proctorville, an Ohio village of 1,000, was isolated when the waters covered its streets. Seven Coast Guard cutters at Huntington, Va., were ready to give quick aid if conditions became worse...

Thousands of residents fed before the onrushing waters, and relief workers believed others would have to be removed before the peak was reached. An unidentified man drowned at Poshatan, Ohio. Steel mills, pottery plants and coal mines in the upper West were damaged. Many communities reported shortages of food and drinking water. As many persons as possible were inoculated against disease...

A 3-mile river wall plus a layer of sandbags protected Portsmouth, Ohio, where a 48-foot flood peak was expected Sunday noon. A Kentucky National Guard unit moved into Augusta after the river overflowed into portions of the city. The waters had receded at Wheeling, W. Va., but 10,000 persons remained in emergency quarters. Only a few hundred persons were permitted to go back to the island—center of the city—which had been swept by the flood...

Food centers were established and utilities were operating once more. Families which had returned to the island, however, were not permitted to use gas because of fire danger. Pennsylvania: Danger of epidemics combined with shortages of food and water to bring new anxiety to many flood-beset communities in Pennsylvania. Relief forces were working at top speed to give aid to 80,000 homeless in the face of weather reports forecasting snow for the week end...

The situation in Pittsburgh and its suburbs showed considerable improvement. Supplies and partial restoration of public utility service. Through a water famine increased, although engineers hoped to start a key pumping station Sunday. Thousands of workmen cleared away flood debris from the business district, and some stores announced they would operate today...

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HIGH COURT FIGHT LOOMS ON WIRES

Right of Lobby Committee to Use Private Messages Is Pivotal Point.

BACKGROUND—Senatorial investigation of lobbying has run into unprecedented legal opposition as interests under suspicion have sought protection through courts. Issue raised on revelation that probers had reviewed telegraph files, with aid of Communications Commission, of groups opposed to controversial utility holding company legislation...

Chicago law firm and Publisher Hearst have been leaders in court fight, but other publishers also have threatened proceedings. A finish fight, which probably will end in the United States Supreme Court, appears likely to cover the issue of a congressional committee's legal right to delve into operations of private industry through confiscation of records...

Revolving around the Senate Lobby Committee and Publisher W. R. Hearst's efforts to block the committee's use of telegrams of editorial instruction, two major developments occurred yesterday. In the Senate approval was given a request of Senator Black, Democrat, of Alabama, for \$10,000 counsel fees by which the committee might carry on its legal defense. In District Supreme Court a Republican of Oregon, assailing the committee for issuing what he termed unconstitutional blanket subpoenas for telegrams, and asserting that the courts "had almost universally" condemned "fishing expeditions" in the private affairs and efforts of citizens as illegal...

Black's resolution authorizing the issuance of counsel was so drawn that it must have the approval of the House and the signature of the President before it can become effective. This was done because of an existing law limiting committee counsel fees to \$300 a month. Freedom of Press Urged. Hearst first asked an injunction restraining the Western Union from delivering a particular telegram subpoenaed by the committee, claiming an infringement of the right of freedom of the press was involved. All ready equipped with a copy of that message, the committee sidestepped the suit by withdrawing the subpoena...

Meanwhile, a second Hearst suit, that involved in yesterday's court news, has been filed, asking an injunction requiring the committee to return all Hearst telegrams in its possession to the publisher, to make no use of them and to refrain from further efforts to obtain such messages. The motion gave the committee and the Federal Communications Commission, also named as a defendant, five days in which to reply to Hearst's allegations...

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C. C. C. S. PRAISED FOR FLOOD WORK

Men Saved Industrial Area of Richmond, Commander Is Informed.

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS. BALTIMORE, March 21.—Maj. Gen. A. J. Bowley, commander of the 3d Corps Army Area, was informed yesterday that the "fine work by the C. C. C. men saved the industrial area" of Richmond, Va. The message was received from Gen. William E. Persons, who is in charge of the Civilian Conservation Corps work there in turning back the flood waters from overflowing into the city...

The report came after Gen. George C. Peery of Virginia and Gov. George H. Earle of Pennsylvania had telegraphed Gen. Bowley their appreciation of the work done by the C. C. C. men during the recent floods. "I am deeply grateful to you for your offer to help in connection with the floods which has been brought to me by Col. Persons," Gen. Peery wired. "Your men are rendering fine service now in Richmond."

Col. Persons reported that 1,200 enrollees from eight C. C. C. companies yesterday strengthened a recently constructed 700-yard dike, "which in my opinion saved about 35 acres of wholesale and industrial property from inundation and serious property loss."

West Virginia (17). Follansbee—Charles Campain, unidentified man. Wheeling—John Harris, Mrs. John Harris, Buddy Harris, 2; Mrs. Benjamin Hill, 62; Mrs. Lita's grandchild, identified as "Blackburn"; man identified as "David"; Mrs. W. F. Reed, Mr. Dailey. South Wheeling—One unidentified. Wellsburg—Elmer Leonard, Mr. Deneen, three unidentified. Keyser—Unidentified elderly man. Vermont (5). Hancock—Donald Rattie, 5; Elizabeth Rattie, 7. Newport—Byron Herrick, 24; W. P. A. surveyor. Williamson—Mrs. Hiram S. Drury. Windham—Harold L. Smith, 42. Massachusetts (8). Farley—J. L. Moylan. Hadley—William McGrath. Leominster—Harry R. Willard, railway freight agent. Boston—Lawrence McCarthy. Lowell—Bernard Grant. North Adams—Mrs. Jessie L. Smith, 75; two unidentified. Connecticut. Stamford—One unidentified. Hartford—John Vrtis, one unidentified. New York (2). Elmira—Robert Michalek, 44. Salamanca—Nancy McMorris, 3. Maine (5). Waterville—Henry H. Neal, 73. Searsport—Unidentified man. Brunswick—Robert Coolen, Donald McCabe, Bradford. Virginia (4). Lynchburg—Kenneth Patterson. Richmond—C. M. Boston. Saltville—Edward Worley. Stanton—Lewis Wells (Negro). Maryland (2). Cumberland—A. M. Lickenstein. Brimstone—Samuel S. Caddick, 65. North Carolina (2). West Springs—William B. Paris. Winston-Salem—Leon Hunter, 8 (Negro). Georgia (2). St. Marys—C. H. Monroe, Mrs. C. H. Monroe. New Hampshire (1). Unidentified man. Ohio (1). Powhatan—Unidentified. Pennsylvania (97). Pittsburgh (metropolitan area)—Jane G. Shiba, Samuel S. Rocks; John Kuse, 45; McKees Rocks; William Lang, 22, found drowned