States Have Surplus Funds, But Tax Reductions Unlikely

By UNITED PRESS

For the first time since the depression, a majority of the 48 states have accumulated surplus funds as the result of increased defense employment and higher wages, a state-by-state survey disclosed today.

State revenues from income, excise and sales taxes have in general exceeded expectations of legislators who drew up the levies when the defense program was beginning.

For years most states have been operating in and out of the red, but now state officials are confronted with the problem of using their cash balances to the best advantage in the war effort.

ANTICIPATE LOSSES

Many states, the survey showed, anticipate heavy losses of revenue from reduced automobile and gasoline tax collections. Whether curtailed highway and public works construction resulting from material shortages would offset these anticipated revenue reductions, tax authorities and state officials refused to hazard a guess.

Neither would they predict whether increased expenditures for state war activities would be balanced by revenues tapped from the high employment level.

At least five states—California, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota and North Dakota—plan to pay up general fund deficits and other debts.

Several states have invested in defense saving bonds. Minnesota is building up a post-war reserve fund for construction of highways and public works after the war to cushion the impact of anticipated unemployment.

FUNDS CONSIDERED

Post war construction funds, which public finance authorities believe may be adopted on a widespread basis, are being considered by New York, Virginia, Nevada, and Montana. Utah already has set up a reserve fund for highway construction and relief after the war, but state officials said the amount accumulated so far was "insignificant." In Connecticut, several private industries have adopted the post-war "economic cushion" idea.

States reporting cash balances included Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota, the Dakotas, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, California, Idaho, Oklahoma, Wyoming, Oregon, Virginia, Montana, Utah, Washington, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Mississippi, Texas, Colorado, Maine, Vermont, New York, Kentucky, Michigan, South Carolina, Illinois, West Virginia, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Nevada, and Connecticut.

Officials of the Federation of Tax Administrators said the financial outlook for states was "uncertain," but one thing is sure—few tax reductions are planned.

War Workers Urged to Use Auto 'Pools'

All workers using privately owned automobiles to get to and from their jobs in naval stations of Kitsap county were urged today to form informal transportation clubs and use their cars to capacity by Leighton H. Steele, assistant director of the training within industry branch of the labor division of the war production board.

Steele wrote the major labor unions suggesting that the workmen cooperate by pooling their cars to prolong the service of tires.

"Great savings can be made in tires and cars," Steele said, "and traffic congestion can be reduced by voluntary cooperation. In traveling to and from war plants, the average automobile carries only one or two persons. If we pool our transportation now with our neighbors and fellow workers cars will last longer, the congestion on streets and busses will be reduced. The labor unions can help by assisting the men in locating others in their neighborhood with whom they can ride and arrange to share the cost.

Steele pointed out that the pooling idea should not be confined to workers in the war industry but was one in which every citizen could take part.

Navy Corrects Report of Sinking Of Cargo Vessel

HAVANA Feb. 26 (UP)—The navy has repudiated its report that an American freighter carrying sugar from Cuban ports had been torpedoed and sunk in the Caribbean.

Information received at navy headquarters permits the navy to offer assurances that the merchantman Coffees which had been reported torpedoed and sunk 60 miles off Cienfuegos, now is unloading 40,000 sacks of sugar in a U. S. port, it announced.

"The sugar was loaded in Cuban ports. News of the Coffees's sinking which was given out Tuesday in the press was in the nature of a rumor only."

The navy had announced the loss of the Coffees Tuesday.

OLD BELL IS RAID ALARM

SILVERTON, Ore. (UP)—Silverton residents depend on the old town bell for an air raid alarm. Old Faithful, formerly used for curfew and fire alarms, was brought back to service when residents complained they could not hear the new fangled warning signal.

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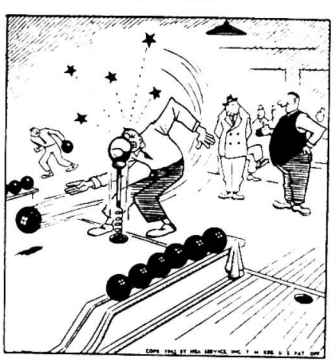
Family Separated by F.B.I. in Alien Roundup

This San Francisco Japanese alien family was only one of many homes broken up by the law when the federal bureau of investigation, co-operating with police, rounded up scores of enemy aliens considered potentially dangerous in widespread raids throughout California. As his wife, left, looks on, Ginzo Nakhiro, clutching a Bible, is taken from his bakery establishment for questioning—and possible internment.

FUNNY BUSINESS



"Every time they cross the foul line it pops up and bops 'em!"

Who Can Tell?—Girls May Take Bartenders' Jobs

NEW YORK Feb. 26 (UP)—Women bartenders may replace men who have been called into service, John J. Fitz Gerald, president of the Bartenders

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Nursing Units Hear Talks At Meeting

Explaining problems and activities of public health nurses, Miss Gladye Felix addressed members of Red Cross nursing classes in a program presented for them by the Kitsap county public health department last week in the auditorium of the public library.

She pointed out that the greatest problems are immunization of school children and control of tuberculosis. She emphasized the fact that tuberculosis cases in Kitsap county are higher per thousand than in most counties.

Samuel Reed, milk sanitarian, described milk inspection, sale of milk supply, the distribution and grades and types of milk.

Manager of the division of sanitation, Edward McKinstry, explained the work now being done by the health department to solve county health problems, such as water supply, sewage disposal, sanitary supply and restaurant inspection.

After the lectures, a film on cancer control, "Choose to Live" was shown.

School, revealed.

Fitz Gerald said he had taught 4,000 men the art of tending bar, but that recently he had been deluged with queries from hotel and restaurant owners and bartenders to take the place of those called into the army.

"There just aren't any men to be had," Fitz Gerald said.

I wonder, he said, how men like Diamond Jim Brady, Barry Wall, August Belmont, Otto Kahn and Harry K. Thaw, I have served in the Fitz-Carlton, Rector's in Knickerbocker would react to a woman bartender?

"I shudder at the thought."

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