

'TIME TO STOP CRYING WOLF,' ROOSEVELT TELLS CHAMBER; ASKS COOPERATION INSTEAD

'FALSE FEARS' ARE DECRIED

President Says People
Will Be Impatient of
Calamity Howlers.

CONGRESS AID IS PRAISED

His Message Follows Day of
Attacks by Delegates on
the Recovery Program.

STRAWN LEADS ONSLAUGHT

He Asks 'Sound Money' and
Security Act Change—Black
Defends the Gold Policy.

*The text of Mr. Strawn's speech
is printed on page 14.*

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, May 3. — President Roosevelt told the Chamber of Commerce of the United States tonight that the American people "as a whole" would be impatient of those who complained and held out "false fears" in connection with the government's efforts toward recovery.

In a statement to Henry L. Harriman, president of the chamber, made in connection with the organization's convention, Mr. Roosevelt warned business interests that it was "time to stop crying 'wolf'" and to cooperate in working for recovery and "for the continued elimination of evil conditions of the past."

The President's remarks were taken as an answer to the severe criticism to which his recovery program had been submitted by some chamber leaders during the day.

He wrote that he counted on the loyalty and "continued support" of the chamber.

Mr. Roosevelt also asked that his "most cordial greetings" be conveyed to members of the chamber. He pointed out that since their last session, "widespread and significant improvements" had taken place.

Cooperation Is Praised.

The President declared that American business men for the most part had "cooperated patriotically" in the administration's program for recovery, and voiced a hope that "increasingly intelligent cooperation" between the government and the commercial interests of the country would stimulate the business revival.

He remarked that the chamber organization "largely represents those interests which from motives of self interest as well as good citizenship have a leading rôle to play."

Mr. Roosevelt commended Congress on "doing its part," and predicted that within the "next few weeks" the legislative program for this session would have been completed.

After reading the message Mr. Harriman said:

"I am certain I will express your sentiments when I will tell the President that it is certainly the desire of the Chamber of Commerce to cooperate constructively to build up this country of ours."

The president of the chamber introduced several guests, among them Representative Snell, minority leader of the House, and Ernest T. Weir, chairman of the board of the Weirton Steel Company, which is engaged in a legal contest over alleged violation of the collective-bargaining clause of the NRA. Both were cheered.

The President's remarks were read at the chamber's annual dinner in the Washington auditorium. Earlier in the day opponents of the recovery program had their inning at sessions of the chamber.

Critics Have Field Day.

Led by Silas H. Strawn of Chicago, former president of the chamber and opponent on principle of all "experimental legislation," critics attacked virtually all phases of the machinery which has been set in motion during the last year.

Nearly every speaker had some criticism to offer, in contrast to yesterday's session, where most of the addresses chronicled business recovery attributable to the NRA, with its codes and its exception from anti-trust restrictions.

Eugene R. Black, Governor of the Federal Reserve Board, was the only administration spokesman to be heard. He spoke at the dinner, which was attended by nearly all of

Continued on Page Fourteen.

ROOSEVELT ASKS END OF 'WOLF' CRY

Continued From Page One.

the 1,400 delegates now in Washington.

PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT.

The President's statement to Mr. Harriman read as follows:

May 3, 1934.

My Dear Mr. Harriman:

Will you please convey to the members of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States my very cordial greetings?

Since your last session, widespread and significant improvements in our economic life have taken place. In the main, American business men have cooperated patriotically.

I hope that increasingly intelligent cooperation between the Federal Government and the commercial interests of the country will stimulate the progress of our recovery.

Congress has been and is doing its part, and, within the next few weeks, there is every probability that the legislative program for this session will be definitely completed. The Federal Government will continue its unceasing efforts to stimulate employment, increase American values and bring about a more wholesome condition. Private business can and must help take up the slack.

Your membership largely represents those interests which from motives of self-interest as well as good citizenship have a leading rôle to play. The people as a whole will be impatient of those who complain and of those who hold out false fears.

It is time to stop crying "wolf" and to cooperate in working for recovery and for the continued elimination of evil conditions of the past.

I confidently count on the loyalty and continued support of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States.

Black Defends Gold Policy.

Mr. Black in his speech defended as essential steps to recovery the abrogation of the gold clause in government contracts, departure from the gold standard and devaluation of the dollar.

"Violation of the gold clause by the government has been called a repudiation," the Reserve governor said. "It may be, but America was in a difficult position with respect to its present and future financing and the step was a necessary part of the recovery program.

"Nobody believes more in the sanctity of contracts than I do, but the inertia of the past four years could not continue.

"We were trying to bring back life into the veins of America, and even the sanctity of contracts must be destroyed if the public welfare demands."

America should not be impatient for an early return to the gold standard or for stabilization of the dollar, Mr. Black declared, adding:

"Why should we be impatient to get back on the gold standard when England has been off since 1931 and has made no effort to get back on? There never has been a financial crisis in America in which we did not abandon the gold standard.

"I don't know when stabilization will arrive, if ever. My own belief is that inflation is a state of mind. It can come only from fear."

Mr. Black's remarks, which constituted one of his few public statements on the recovery program, were construed by some as a reply, from the conservative forces of the administration, to criticism from Chamber sources.

NRA Stand Is Explained.

Mr. Harriman issued a statement today commenting on reports attributing inspiration of the NRA and AAA to his organization. He said:

"My attention has been called to an article in the press stating that the Chamber of Commerce of the United States conceived the plan of the NRA and AAA.

"The Chamber of Commerce takes public positions only through the action of referenda of its members or through resolutions at annual meetings.

"In Referendum No. 58 and in a resolution adopted at the annual meeting in May, 1933, the chamber expressed itself in favor of the self-regulation of business by the adoption of codes of fair business practices, such codes to be subject to the approval of the government, and when thus approved such agreements should be free from the provisions of the Sherman Act.

"This principle of self-regulation of business with government approval is one of the basic principles found in the NRA. There are other features in the Recovery Act which have not received the approval of the Chamber of Commerce. Therefore its approval is limited to those features of the act on which it has taken a definite position.

"The Chamber of Commerce has taken no position for or against the Agricultural Adjustment Act."

People Still Rule, Says Farrell.

Preparing the way for more than a score of resolutions the adoption of which by the chamber is expected tomorrow, James A. Farrell, in closing a round-table discussion of foreign trade problems, declared that "government in the United States has not ceased in this time of national emergency to be a government by the people through their elected representatives."

Apparently intent upon obtaining careful consideration by the administration of the chamber's resolutions, Mr. Farrell added that "the strange theory advanced in this and other countries, that all human wisdom is centered in those responsible for government, is true only in so far as government is responsive to informed public opinion."

The same point was made by Thomas Y. Wickam, chairman of the Grain Committee on National Affairs, who declared in a speech before an agricultural group:

"Had I been charged with responsibility for the New Deal I would not have turned to the Brain Trust, but to merchants, because the problem is not to evolve theories but to restore trade."

Mr. Strawn described himself as "being, perhaps, too old, too slow, to get in step with the rapidly moving procession (some of my progressive friends say I don't even see the procession going by)."

"I find difficulty," he continued, "in consenting to the abandonment of a scheme of government which for 150 years has made us happier

and more prosperous than the people of any other nation, and to adopting a portfolio of discordant experiments which seem impossible of being assembled into a new governmental machine."

Strawn's Securities Program.

Speaking on a renewed market for business securities, Mr. Strawn laid down these points as essential to such a program:

- 1—The restoration of confidence in—
 - (a)—The stability of our government in accordance with the principles laid down by its founders.
 - (b)—The soundness of our currency and its anchorage to gold without fluctuation in its gold value.
 - (c)—The maintenance of our national credit and the rejection of the idea that governments should be engaged to supplant rather than temporarily to supplement private credit.
- 2—The balancing of budgets, national, State and local, so that business men may know the obligations they must meet.
- 3—Definite announcement that emergency legislation is ended or at least abandoned until we see whether that already passed can be implemented or is effective.
- 4—Revision of the Securities Act and amendments of the Stock Exchange Bill.
- 5—Recognition of the fact that we are a part of the world and that a policy of intensive nationalism is wholly inconsistent with the welfare and development of American business.

Montague's Code Protest.

Gilbert H. Montague, chairman of the New York State Bar Association committee on the NRA, speaking at a round-table conference of trade associations, said:

"Jurisdictional disputes and overlapping and conflicting claims, such as for years have waged between rival craft unions, are fast being written into NRA codes.

"More and more frequently industries and code authorities are having to resist attempts by NRA officials to take away operations that for years have been an essential and integral part of their activities, in order that these activities may be monopolized by other trades and other code authorities.

"Robbing Peter to pay Paul is

not sound policy—in NRA code making or anywhere else."

The administration's agricultural program was criticized by Clifford V. Gregory of Chicago, editor of The Prairie Farmer; Fred J. Lingham of Lockport, N. Y., president of the Millers National Federation; Charles F. Whiting of Boston, president of the International Association of Milk Dealers, and John W. Rath of Waterloo, Iowa, chairman of the Institute of American Meat Packers.

Fred H. Clausen of Horicon, Wis., president of the Van Brunt Manufacturing Company, expressed the belief that Federal financing of the recovery program would result in doubling the national public debt from 1930 to 1935, citing estimates that it would be raised from \$16,000,000,000 in 1930 to \$32,000,000,000 in 1935.

C. G. Pfeiffer of New York, president of the National Council of American Importers and Traders, urged that Congress, in delegating tariff-bargaining powers to the President, confine itself to expressions of broad principles of policy, leaving their interpretation and the power to enact them into rate schedules to an enlarged, non-political tariff commission.

Fight by Canada Is Hinted.

W. Sanford Evans, president of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce said in discussing Canada's recovery program in its relation to the financial policy of the United States:

"If the American dollar starts on any other excursions we may have to attempt a constructive monetary policy of our own in self-defense."

He declared that our going off the gold standard had interfered greatly with the commercial relations of the two countries.

"As Canada finances its world business through New York exchange and settles two-thirds of its international accounts with the United States," Mr. Evans explained, "an intimate connection between the Canadian and American dollars is inevitable."

The chamber's convention will close tomorrow with the election of officers and the adoption of resolutions. Speakers will be Secretary Wallace and Arthur Krock, Washington correspondent of THE NEW YORK TIMES.