

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 1945

Accounting

Administrators of the loan provisions of the "O.I. Bill of Rights" would do well to recall the admonition that...

At the end of another conflict, the general State of North Carolina set out to do something extraordinary for its veterans of World War I...

It is said of the granting of those loans that some of them were made more on political than other security...

The way it looks now, the original \$300,000, what, with interest charges, less and operating deficits, will have shrunk to half that amount...

Keep 'em in Line

That was a pointed little story in yesterday's News—the one in which J. A. Moore, the deputy industrial director of the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce...

Let Southern Congressmen remember, he said, that they do not deserve to be paid \$30,000, if that is the case...

Amazing, it was, and likely to draw some wide grins in Washington. But beneath, of course, is a background of grim economic facts which is not at all amusing...

Nothing, put into a curious mood by Mr. Moore's suggestion, we delved into tables of wage figures and worked out a sliding scale for Congressmen and Senators on the basis of average wages in states they represent...

Michigan's \$32,500; California, \$29,600; Connecticut, Oregon, and Nevada, \$29,250; New Jersey, \$28,250. Those are the top states...

We get that way by figuring that Michigan's average weekly wage (it happens to be \$32.7) is 130 per cent of the national average...

Home-Made Pipes

Off from imported material by the war, America's tobacco pipe industry is turning to the roots of mountain rhododendron and laurel and other shrubs and trees of the Southern states for its raw material...

Figure—and so on down to Mississippi and South Carolina, which fall to 60 per cent. This is going to wind up as one of Mr. Moore's little jokes, but after all, what's funny about that? Do we not abide by principles like Ability To Pay, and Them As Has Gits?

A New Twist

One of the new currents of thought in our war is with us now. It takes the form of an enthusiastic pan-Russianism in this country. It is to be noted in ordinary conversation with ordinary people...

Remember that this was not always so. A year ago, and even beyond, there were more than a few Americans who feared that the Russians actually would beat us in the race into Germany...

When the German offensive in Belgium became known to us, a certain lifted from the war in Europe. Back home we could see the Red Army doing its, exacting a bloody toll...

When the Germans broke through, soon to be followed by the Russian drive in the East, it occurred to many of us that it was the Russians who knew what they wanted, and who knew how to deal with Germany as it deserved...

So there is a new appreciation of the Russian military power and the Russian political strategy. There is also a new sense of our code with the Red Army...

Out, Fireworks

We darsay the new Mecklenburg ban on the sale of fireworks, now on the drafting board, will not be hailed by the numerous younger citizens of the community...

The County Commissioners were brought to this by a certain amount of public pressure. There had been numerous requests for the ban, they said...

We think there's little doubt that the ban would effectively reduce the use of fireworks in the county, and consequently reduce accompanying hazards...

We're not too strong on this prohibition stuff in most cases. And in this one we're of no mind to suggest, in memory of the Volstead Act, that there will arrive a whole generation of children totally unacquainted with this dangerous nuisance...

But we're all for it, regardless. And if it develops that county-wide action stops the sale of fireworks no more effectively than a city ban, then we can consider the idea of broadening the field...

Hot criticism of the conduct of our war is voiced by the Monday quarter-backs and retired generals. That Belgian setback has the boys up in armchairs...

THE enemies who opposed him so bitterly at Ohio were now silent. Wallace was given in stature. He went out of the Vice-Presidential election a bigger man. There was no trace of disappointment in his voice which, though by nature Wallace is a sensitive, easily hurt man...

He got the call of office to his successor, Harry Truman. There was a ring of sincerity in his voice which identified those around him, and which made the Vice-Presidential ceremony the most impressive of them that which followed...

A few minutes later, Truman told Wallace, "I've been off the payroll for two days already myself. The boys are taking out taking up a collection for me over."

Wheeler Takes Over Wallace's office staff was none too happy on Inaugural Eve. The fact that Montana's Senator Burton K. Wheeler was taking over the Vice-Presidential office suite poured salt in their wounds...

Wallace sent all his official papers to the Library of Congress where many will be sealed for twenty years, including complete reports on his globe-grinding trips. Behind, he left only a battered set of shaving cream and a shabby hair brush which his secretary, Mary Busch, had purchased on Jan. 19, 1941...

Wallace's Washington-wise chauffeur, Tom Hart, was sorry his boss was leaving though the ex-Vice-President probably had him working harder than any of his predecessors. Hart's first came to work for Vice-President Calvin Coolidge, has since chauffeured Vice-Presidents Charles Dawes, Charles McNary, and Roosevelt's first Vice-President, John Nance Garner...

Patience Fanny Perkins looked as happy as a baby at President Roosevelt's inaugural ceremony until she bumped into a friend at the White House luncheon. "I hear you're going to be with us for a few more years, Madame Secretary," he said, referring to the grapevine report that Roosevelt had been unable to find a Labor Department successor...

"Well, I've resigned and I'm delighted about it," said the lady who has taken such a beating during the last twelve years in Washington. "Yes," answered her friend, "but you're going to be at your desk Monday morning just the same, aren't you?"

"Well, I may be," replied the Secretary of Labor, "but I'll practically be over my dead body."

It's A Sad, Sad Song, Mates

It's a sad, sad song, mates, that the British are singing in the Balkans. The British ordered troops in Salonika to suppress the Greeks, the troops sided with the Greeks and refused to fire on them. The troops were a garrison of the British Indian Army. The Indians threw their weight on the side of the Greek organization which bitterly opposed the return of King George, and which Churchill claims to be Communist...



Iceland Joins The World

REYKJAVIK, ICELAND. If proof were needed that the world is bound together beyond any possibility of isolation, it is this once lonely island that seemed to be so far off the beaten track. It is not lonely now. Big planes come and go, along with the shortest air route to Europe...

Then came the Nazi thrust for world power. Iceland was an important spot on the Nazi map of aggression. The Germans began the process of propaganda and infiltration which was to have been followed by seizure of the island. The Americans and the British moved first. Their "invasion" was hardly more welcome than the Nazis would have been...

On both sides there is strain. For American soldiers stationed here, the place seems bleak and lonely. Fog and wind and rain sweep over the rocky fields. The capital of Reykjavik offers little in the way of entertainment, and that is particularly true for enlisted men. What is more important, it's hard to realize your part in the war, and a vital part, when you never see it or hear it. There was danger here for a time. But it has long since passed, and now this spot seems like a backwater...

two influential members of the British Parliament. "Just what sort of help can we expect from you people over Germany? I'm a bit of a cold-blooded man." "Well, we've got an Army of over 3,000,000 Indians, one of the two British republics. You can have them." "But you know perfectly well we need help on them," Paulson said bluntly. "You'll be lucky if they don't fight against you! Let alone fight for you against Japan!"

The Britisher admitted he, too, was worried about the Indians. But added, "At any rate, there's a large Army of the British Empire, and I know I know British or Russian help against Japan. They feel U. S. forces can do the job themselves." "When the British want to send a naval force to cooperate with the American fleet in the Philippines, Admiral King objected and the President virtually had to overrule him."

British Protect Greeks For some reason the news was suppressed in the United States. But a very significant event took place in Salonika, Greece, during the trouble between the British and the EAM-ELAS forces.

When the British ordered troops in Salonika to suppress the Greeks, the troops sided with the Greeks and refused to fire on them. The troops were a garrison of the British Indian Army. The Indians threw their weight on the side of the Greek organization which bitterly opposed the return of King George, and which Churchill claims to be Communist. There was no fighting or bloodshed. The Indian troops simply cooperated with the Greeks.

Simultaneously Krishna Menon, Secretary of the India League, made a speech in London, attended by several members of the British Parliament in which he praised the Indian troops in Salonika, and said, "They go in their landrover cars and vote against him."

The incident is considered extremely important not only as it affects Greece, but as it affects India and the Far East. General Billweli, when in the Burma theater, was reported by U. S. Ambassador William Phillips as considering British-Indian troops mercenaries who would not put their hearts into any battle as long as India was not given its independence.

Secretary of Labor? Patient Fanny Perkins looked as happy as a baby at President Roosevelt's inaugural ceremony until she bumped into a friend at the White House luncheon.

"I hear you're going to be with us for a few more years, Madame Secretary," he said, referring to the grapevine report that Roosevelt had been unable to find a Labor Department successor.

"Well, I've resigned and I'm delighted about it," said the lady who has taken such a beating during the last twelve years in Washington.

"Yes," answered her friend, "but you're going to be at your desk Monday morning just the same, aren't you?"

"Well, I may be," replied the Secretary of Labor, "but I'll practically be over my dead body."



"Sometimes I think women are better planners than men—for instance, my new secretary hadn't worked here an hour before she managed to get into a car pool!"

He Took A Chance

German skulls and taken more prisoners than any other American armored division commander. This time, however, he was on no "save the American Army" assignment. Montgomery had only him down as part of Maj. Gen. L. H. Howie's (Lightning Bolt) Collins Seventh Corps to wait until Bundeswehr had extended himself to the limit, then to counter-attack viciously and destroy as much German armored force as possible.

But the Germans moved faster than even the toughest possible. Harmon sent out the usual patrols and the first thing they did was bump into a Nazi armored column speeding for the Meuse.

Harmon immediately got into touch with his corps commander. He explained the situation, and asked permission to counter-attack. "Lightning Bolt" told him to go ahead and he personally would take responsibility for changing the plans.

The Second Armored Division immediately moved into action, though many of its tanks need repair. In four days of slambanging fighting these veterans had destroyed most of the enemy armored vehicles opposing them and kicked into a Meuse breakthrough.

Montgomery, a knowing of Harmon's love for a good scrap, thought Ernie had picked a queer command. He was hesitating. He was hesitating. He was hesitating. He was hesitating.

No one ever accused Ernie Harmon of being a good reason for "The Bull" of backing away from a fight. He has cracked more than a few times.

Henry's Battle

BY SAMUEL GRAFTON NEW YORK A FEW weeks ago, the President appointed a flock, or covey, of conservatives to the State Department and the Senate liberals rose in flushed protest.

They do not mind the consideration of the names of Messrs. Clayton, Hays, and Clegg, and Rockefeller. Senate conservatives, including the Republicans, supported the liberal appointment of Jesse Jones.

Now the President has chosen Henry Wallace to be Secretary of Commerce, replacing Jesse Jones. This post has carried with it, in Jones' case, heady overtones of the Government's huge money lending agencies, including the Reconstruction Finance Corp., and that fact makes the Senate peculiarly sensitive to the question of whether the appointee is a liberal or a conservative.

A liberal at the head of these agencies could pump money out to make jobs in the post-war period; and we know that Mr. Wallace has a wide view of pre-employment. He doesn't really care for it. He thinks money can be a useful thing; Jesse Jones used to hold more to the idea that it was awfully pretty.

Life in the Senate will now revolve around the State Department appointee, and the liberals will be in charge of disposing of our war plants. The manner in which we use our war plants will make all the difference between full or partial employment.

It is not the kind of thing that the President normally views, proposing a major cabinet change. The letter Wallace has written to the President is a good campaigner's letter; it is a flat letter; it never gets off the ground.

All sorts of prospects open up. The President really backed Wallace in the Senate, as he backed Clayton? Or will he be completely occupied with international affairs when the vote comes, and will he let whatever happens, happen?

The President's letter to Jesse Jones, in Jones' case, heady overtones of the Government's huge money lending agencies, including the Reconstruction Finance Corp., and that fact makes the Senate peculiarly sensitive to the question of whether the appointee is a liberal or a conservative.