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Case History

The mystery of the young man with light automobile titles in his possession (one of them belonging to Sheriff "Whoozy" Wiley), along with a stolen car, has been partly cleared up. Police say the young man stole the titles from an automobile dealer, probably because the green certificates looked as though they might have some sort of value. But beyond that, the mystery of the ineptness of Justice in Mecklenburg County still hangs around unsolved.

The car-and-title thief was no stranger to the police, even though he was but twenty years old. The police had arrested him three or four times previously and turned him over to the courts. It is worth observing that the courts did to him—or, rather, what they didn't do.

On Jan. 27, 1945, for his first recorded offense, he was charged with the theft of \$175 from a storekeeper, and at about the same time with three break-ins. Tried in Superior Court, where public prosecutor is the Hon. John Carpenter, he was sentenced to two years in the State Prison. But sentence was suspended on condition that he go into the army. (Army authorities have patently made it plain, over and over again, that they are determined the army shall not be used as a reform school and that they don't care to recruit their enlisted men to associate with known criminals. That was the court's Mistake No. 1, and it was primary.)

After seventeen months in the army the man was discharged. He returned to civilian life near the end of 1944. With a minimum of delay he was in trouble again.

First he was arrested on a charge of stealing a wallet with \$48 in it, an automobile wheel, tire and tools. A week later he was back in the custody of the law, this time for stealing more tires and tubes and accessories from a car which had been wrecked and left unwatched while the driver took his wife to a hospital. Tried in Superior Court again, he was put on probation despite the previous conviction. This was Mistake No. 2.

In no time at all the cops had him again on the car-theft, which brought the mysterious titles to light and likewise evidence pointing to still another theft.

Here, then, is the record of a young man who, at twenty, has already given the police good deal of trouble, not to mention various citizens of the community. Surely the police must be weary of arresting him only to have short stay in the right direction. And when a rock-ribbed Republican commonwealth, only a little less loyal to old-time GOP doctrine than Maine and Vermont, speaks out for peace through international co-operation, then something is wrong.

The Squatters

Last Friday a pair of mocking birds on their acquaintance began house-building in a rambling rose bush atop an ancient arbor, just where they'll be covered by a great blanket of pink buds about the time egg production gets underway. They were most obviously newbies, for they were far more ardent in their young courtship than any of the long line of mockers and thrashers which have gone before them.

Moved by the romantic urge, they settled upon the new home-site after several hours of twittering, a session which was often interrupted by Papa's side trips to the tip of an oak, where he warmed up with his first bursts of song. By nightfall the two had laid a foundation atop a two-year-old ruin of a house, and at dark they were still fussing about, weaving in all the non-rational material they could find about. We presume they roosted there during the warm evening, anxious to be about finishing the task over the week-end.

Before they'd gotten things in order, and while the nest was in great disarray, they had visitors: a cardinal and his plump little mate. There was a good deal of gum-bating, back and forth. Evidently Lady Mocker was bridling, explaining, that it was nothing, really, just a modest little bungalow—and really untidy at the moment. The

Changing World

We'll wager that world citizens who are anxious for the future of the globe, even those who look forward gleefully to the day when the influence will be a mighty factor in all our affairs, have not considered the new birth rate. And it's more than a clutch of statistics of concern to obstetricians and dairymen. It means a great shift in the world population, a new line-up of the great powers. It reaches into industrial potentials, social development—and military might.

The figures are significant. There are these that the statisticians have dug up:

- Fighting strength (men from 15 to 35) of nations in 1940:
 - Russia, 30,100,000
 - United States, 20,100,000
 - Germany, 11,300,000
 - United Kingdom, 16,000,000
 - Italy, 7,400,000
 - Poland, 6,100,000
 - France, 6,000,000
- Fighting strength in 1970:
 - Russia, 43,200,000
 - United States, 21,600,000
 - Germany, 9,800,000
 - United Kingdom, 16,000,000
 - Italy, 7,400,000
 - Poland, 6,100,000
 - France, 6,000,000

Russia may thus anticipate tremendous population increase, from a total of 174 millions in 1940 to 251 millions in 1970. The U. S., meantime, will approach peak population, with all other nations save Poland beginning to decline. These figures cannot force the effect of losses in war, and future boundaries, but are offered as a clear picture of shifts in population in the generation ahead. Politeia aimed at changing these trends may be tried again, but as they have been unsuccessful in the past, they are not likely to alter the general picture. We might as well prepare for a greatly changed world.

Speaking Out

New Hampshire isn't going to save the world, we fear, but the Peace Voice of its citizens last week took a short step in the right direction. And when a rock-ribbed Republican commonwealth, only a little less loyal to old-time GOP doctrine than Maine and Vermont, speaks out for peace through international co-operation, then something is wrong.

The vote was overwhelmingly in favor of peace, and the proposition was almost that broad. Hampshiremen were voting against war in general, almost that simply. But they did approve the principle of U. S. participation in a world order, based on force for peace. In several towns, the vote was unanimous, as in the university town of Durham. There were cases, of course, where the influence of Vermont drifted over the borders, and internationalism turned thumbs down. These voted for isolationism again.

The point we get out from the affair is that this is the true voice of the stand-pat Republican in the ranks. These are the people who have followed GOP leadership through thick and thin, even through the long, hopelessly since '33. And they are undoubtedly ahead of party leadership to-day. The GOP gave lip-service, at least, to the internationalism in its recent campaign, but convinced precious few voters.

News from New Hampshire is that the Republicans have misread the sentiment of the little people of the Party—and also have ignored it. They might take this broad hint, and begin to mend their ways immediately, long before the off-season elections of '46. With these New Englanders showing the way, GOP leaders might go even beyond that, and indicate the willingness to international operation in a document complete with all the ifs, ands and buts. If they miss this sign of the times, they will be dull indeed.

Statesmen At Work

(Serious, facetious and comic excerpts from the Congressional Record.)

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Mr. WHEELER (Neb.) The very thing the Senator has been discussing is also occurring in the State of Nebraska. Our people depend upon pork as an essential part of their diet, and it is exceedingly scarce now.

THEY haven't been published, but President Roosevelt has issued some very important new orders to the Army Civil Affairs Branch on the occupation of newly captured German cities.

The orders indicate quite clearly that the Army is for a tough job. Friends say he has been shocked at reports that Allied officials now co-opting one-fifth of the German people have yet to find a Nazi who admits he's guilty of anything.

FOR also learned with surprise that the Army Civil Affairs Branch was using known Nazis to control civil government of occupied Aachen. He became thoroughly aroused at these reports, and has issued strict orders that the Army is only to restore power, light, sewage and water supplies in conquered areas. After that the Germans will have to shift for themselves.

The President also ordered the Army not to select prominent Germans to put in charge of occupied zones. In Aachen the Army found a German who had been tied up with the Nazis, but whom they fact the Army persisted in selecting one of them to be mayor because he was well-known in the community. Instead the Army has been instructed to find people who were never tied up with the Nazi Party, even though unknown, and to elevate them to places of authority.

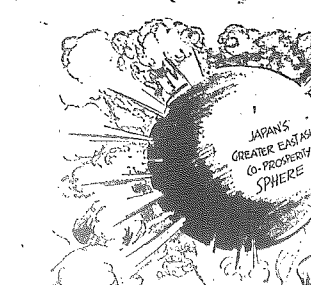
Roosevelt's final step was to order that the occupation of newly-won Cologne be used as a laboratory test for the establishment of a system to be used in all of U. S. occupied Germany. Later FOR fully told the Army he will have personal representatives check up on the way the War Department handles the Germans, and definitely wants them to enforce a tough peace.

War Chiefs Gilled

Undersecretary of War Patterson and Lt. Gen. Thomas T. Handy, Deputy Chief of Staff, underwent some cross-examination behind the closed doors of the Senate Military Affairs Committee last week. Senator Happy Chandler of Kentucky had the two going nearly two hours on our military policy in Alaska and the disposition of our European troops and equipment after VE Day.

The Kentucky Senator first was upset about the failure of the Army to do a first-class job of building up Alaskan defenses as it originally set out to do. "If the Japs really meant business," he declared, "we simply didn't have the stuff to stop them."

A Hot Potato



Thirty days is just long enough to make a man want to stay a civilian," Chandler said. "If he were shipped on direct from Europe without coming into this country he wouldn't have a chance to forget being a soldier. In addition, many soldiers and their families know that a delay in being reunited is much less wearing emotionally than being together for a month and then having to break up again."

Other members of the Military Affairs Committee agreed with Chandler that even though getting home for a short time might seem highly desirable to the GI and his family, it would be better all around for him not to come home only to leave once again to go into battle against a new foe.

It's Tough In Italy

By Marquis Childs

WITH TENTH MOUNTAIN DIVISION ON ITALIAN FRONT

THEY were carrying a dead German down from the top of a ridge 300 yards up a steep slope. You could see men in foxholes up there. One was reading a newspaper in the bright, warm sunlight.

Four GIs put the dead German down beside three others in the basement of a house ruined by two days of shelling. They stood looking for a moment at the four enemy soldiers who had been killed by our soldiers during the night and morning—killed expertly with bullets through their heads or hearts.

You've got to do three things to them," said GI. "First you've got to kill 'em, then you have to carry 'em down, and then you have to bury 'em."

Standing there, the GIs had a brief, profane argument as to whether they really were compelled to bury the four dead Germans. It was a futile argument, because they knew from the beginning what their orders were.

Overhead comes a flight of planes—our planes, of course, since the Germans have none on this front. We all stand and watch them swoop down into the valley behind the nearest mountain, which conceals enemy supply lines. The sound of strafing comes to us.

Enemy artillery positions are just down there. In the clear light, you imagine you can see them without glasses.

"They have their shells," says one of the GIs. "They

"New is the time to build up these defenses so that Alaska will be well-defended in the future," Chandler said. "We will see it after the war because it will look like a hot potato, and when I call for strengthening Alaska, I don't mean that I want to slip one over on Red China's coast."

Undersecretary Patterson told the committee that the Army has now decided to send all material which can possibly be adapted from the European front to the Atlantic front, as soon as it is no longer needed to defeat Germany. The Army had originally felt that the shipping job would not warrant immediate reclamation of the material in Europe. Neither Patterson nor Gen. Handy was able to give any accurate estimate of the quantity of munitions which would be found suitable for shipping.

War Shifts

There was a lengthy discussion of how troops on the European front should be handled after the fall of Germany. Around three million American troops are now in Europe (compared with about a quarter million British) and it is estimated that about one-third that number will have to remain in Europe for some time after Germany collapses for "police duty."

About half the rest of the troops in Europe will probably not see duty in the Pacific, coming back to this country for discharge. Patterson and Gen. Handy revealed that the method of discharging these troops in new being worked out and that it will definitely be an individual matter rather than a decision to disband divisions in toto or even smaller units. Length of service, length of service overseas, wounds and family status will be the important determining factors.

Present plans call for the shipment of the major part of those troops destined to the Pacific via this country, where they will be given a 30-day furlough before going on to tangle with the Nips. Chandler, Senator Styles Bridges of New Hampshire and several other members of the Committee were not at all certain of the wisdom of this plan.

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Other members of the Military Affairs Committee agreed with Chandler that even though getting home for a short time might seem highly desirable to the GI and his family, it would be better all around for him not to come home only to leave once again to go into battle against a new foe.

People's Platform

Editors, Tax News:

In your issue of March 8th, the leading editorial captioned "GI's North Carolina" is represented as being close to the bottom of the list of states in respect to average salary-wage in war manufacturing plants and (3) non-war manufacturing plants. "Molter Truck Facts," 1944 edition, issued by the Automobile Manufacturers Association.

We find no fault with your editorial except the statement that North Carolina will be found as "GI's" in any table of the state where comparisons are made.

With respect to transportation, an industry in which the same wages are paid in the South as in other parts of the country, we find that North Carolina is in 22nd place (not 42nd) in point of average salary-wage in war manufacturing plants and in 14th place with respect to population per mile of railroad. These figures indicate a material betwixt North Carolina's position, in comparison with the other states, than is indicated in your editorial with respect to average salary-wage in manufacturing industry, which unfortunately is low due to the great reservoir of unskilled labor in the South, principally colored labor, which has the effect of holding down the average wage. A statement is attached hereto to show North Carolina's relative position.

State	Railroad Miles	Pop. per miles of RR	Rank
Alabama	4,802	11	10
Arizona	2,306	38	226
Arkansas	4,368	24	446
California	4,977	82	1
Colorado	4,438	23	253
Connecticut	875	48	1953
Delaware	208	47	1021
Florida	4,977	20	382
Georgia	6,196	14	304
Idaho	2,306	38	226
Illinois	11,758	2	672
Indiana	6,724	12	310
Iowa	18,686	1	25
Kansas	4,478	3	212
Kentucky	2,853	34	1121
Louisiana	4,247	32	285
Maine	1,336	42	623
Maryland	1,328	41	1371
Massachusetts	1,725	45	2503
Michigan	7,053	10	743
Minnesota	8,346	7	335
Mississippi	3,813	28	374
Missouri	6,913	11	247
Montana	3,098	19	410
Nebraska	3,871	40	260
Nevada	1,628	40	69
New Hampshire	953	44	316
New Jersey	2,053	37	1023
New Mexico	2,113	21	43
New York	7,662	8	1759
North Carolina	4,308	22	277
North Dakota	1,820	17	122
Ohio	8,412	6	821
Oklahoma	6,019	15	388
Oregon	2,244	31	245
Pennsylvania	10,029	3	987
Rhode Island	189	49	3774
South Carolina	2,813	32	374
South Dakota	2,381	27	162
Tennessee	3,507	30	831
Texas	15,680	1	40
Utah	1,884	39	292
Vermont	915	45	393
Virginia	2,813	32	374
Washington	1,253	18	331
West Virginia	3,738	29	300
Wisconsin	6,403	9	728
Wyoming	1,923	34	130
District of Columbia	34	49	10,303

A Dark Anniversary

On March 10, 1920, 25 years ago today, the second and final attempt to take the United States into the League of Nations failed. Ratification of the Treaty of Versailles, establishing the League of Nations, was refused by a Senate vote of 45 yeas to 35 nays, seven votes short of the necessary two-thirds majority.

When President Roosevelt returned to Congress, March 10, on the Crimea Conference, he stressed the necessity of compromise in dealing with the League of Nations. He stated that the League was essential to the peace of the world, and that the United States should join it.

On the first vote, Nov. 19, 1919, 29 Senators favored ratification with reservations, 53 opposed. Ratification without reservation of any kind gained the votes of only 23 Senators with 33 opposed.

Today the German General Staff and the German people are justified in their feelings of triumph and exultation, because they have won the war. They have won the war, because they have won the war, because they have won the war.



"Everything has gone wrong this week! We're out of red stamps and the maid quit—I'll simply have to get out of this house tomorrow and get a new hair-do!"

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While we have a long way to go to catch up with the rest of the country in respect to a number of things economic and otherwise we have, nevertheless, come a long way in North Carolina since the gay nineties when frugal living was a virtue even among the well-to-do.

—W. S. CREIGHTON
Vice-President
Char. Shipyard & Mfg. Assn.

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Mr. WILEY. It is not right to buy it because no supply of it is available. Is not that the case?

Mr. EASTLAND. Our farm labor would not have the money with which to buy it if they were available.

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