

The Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

WASHINGTON (Great Britain's newest member on the American Combined Staff) Field Marshal Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, had a private chat with Winston Churchill recently in which he gave the up-to-date Russian interest in the war against Japan.

The British Field Marshal defended himself against the charges that he was responsible for the low level of the Italian economy. He stated that the British had personally had written Washington asking that the 100-grain ration for food workers be increased.

The farmers of Italy, Wilson told friends are largely responsible for Italy's economic plight. He charged they withheld food from markets and sell it on the black market because of bigger profits and the doubtful value of Italian money.

Russian Hands Off?

Throughout his talk, Field Marshal Wilson consistently maintained the Russians had not interfered either in Yugoslavia or Greece, but had "played it straight" all the way through.

One important omission Wilson made however, was a hurried-up incident which took place in Italy last June 25th when a Red Army military mission stationed at a British-controlled military field at Bari, took off without a permit, flew straight to a secret airfield in Greece, landing at EAM headquarters there.

This was the first Russian mission to land in Greece before its liberation from the Nazis. A disabused British junior officer was at the airport when the mission landed. The Russians conducted a systematic study of the entire EAM organization, then left to report to Moscow.

Significantly, members of this mission later returned to Greece as formal Russian diplomatic attaches, have become increasingly leary of the way Britain has run the Greek show.

The first warning the British received of incipient Russian criticism came right after the Yalta Conference, when the Moscow radio leveled a blast at the "Quisling Prime Minister of Greece" chosen to combat Communism. This was considered a direct slap at the British.

Big Strick

There's one thing about Senators Russell's and Maybank's bill creating a Savannah River Authority which is both unusual and commendable. They say, quite frankly, that the main idea is electric power. The New Deal when it was first introduced had been intended to accentuate the positive necessity for flood control and navigation, remaining as mum as possible about power production.

Honestly it is the best policy, of course, but it does not follow that Government-owned and operated power plants are the best policy for the country. Yes, we know that the Power Trust for many years abused its public monopoly beyond forgiveness, but only because of its high rates but the fiscal shenanigans which were pulled. So far as the Power Trust is concerned, let it be said that it only got what it had coming.

But in moving to correct these abuses, as has been done through the Federal Power Commission, and the laws of Congress, the Government has gone a good deal further. It has taxed the private power industry to an extent approaching punishment. It has extended to direct competition in the production and sale of power, and when the U. S. Government, with its freedom from taxes of any kind, its unlimited capital and borrowing power, its indifference to profit or loss or even to an accounting—when the U. S. Government connects your competitor, brother, you've got competition!

By this competition the Government, has scared off the private power companies from expanding their facilities to keep pace with the country's present and future electrical needs. They feel lucky to be keeping what they've got. And so, looking around, the Government says, "We need electric power here. Nobody else being interested, we'll have to produce it." Wilson told how he has already been taken for a ride by the Government. He said that it only got what it had coming.

Easing Off

There are signs that the war boom days in North Carolina, such as they are, are drawing to an end. The signs are yet small, but by no means insignificant. A decline has set in, making itself felt—in employment—and wages. During February there was a 12 per cent decrease in the number of workers from the previous year. That in itself may not indicate that we have passed the peak of prosperity, but a kindred figure does. For, with this tiny decrease in the number of workers, total wage earnings fell off 3.8 per cent.

A Dry Peace?

It's not enough to have a just peace, a lasting peace, a safe and sane peace to make the nations of the world into one great family. It must also be a dry peace. The WCTU wants to add liquor control to the fifth freedom, to guarantee to all nations the right to make and enforce laws governing traffic in drugs "including alcohol"—all to be confirmed by treaty.

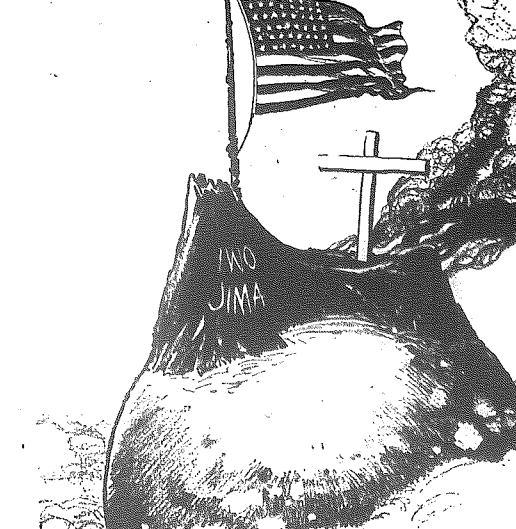
Statesmen At Work

(Serious, facetious and comic excerpts from the Congressional Record.) REP. COOLEY (N. C.) The record of Agriculture needs no defense. During the time that he served as Secretary of Agriculture more legislation which has benefited farmers was enacted into law than during any comparable period of time in all of our history. While he was Secretary of Agriculture he did more to aid the farmers of the Nation than any other distinguished predecessor. If that is not a correct statement I would yield for any member of the House who wishes to challenge its accuracy.

Nazis Kept Busy

Wilson, who was former British commander in the Mediterranean, also disclosed that a total of 50 Nazi divisions were kept busy by the early fighting of the Allies in Italy and by Tito's Partisans in Yugoslavia. Britain had in trying to deal with Gen. Mikhailovich, the right-wing Serb leader who was dumped by the Allies in favor of Tito. Wilson told how he had personally commanded Mikhailovich to bomb the Salonika-Belgrade railroad to prevent a Nazi retreat, but that Mikhailovich had refused. Mikhailovich even tried to

Its Place In World History



The Light Comes Back In Cologne

By Marquis Childs

WHEN officers of the Allied Military Government took over this ruined city, they had to start from scratch. There was no electric light, no water, no heat, no communications of any sort. But there was one task they put before everything else. That was to release the prisoners. The first to be freed were the political prisoners abandoned by the fleeing Germans.

Men and women of every age and every nationality had been locked in their cells when their jailers and torturers escaped across the Rhine. For five days, they had had nothing to eat or drink. Those most endeared by the horrors of the Gestapo lay motionless in their cells. Seven were found dead. In several instances, the living were locked up with the dead.

The sight of these people as they stepped for the first time into the light of day was something I shall never forget. In their starved, hony faces was a look of wonder and disbelief. They had dreamed of this for so long. They had abandoned hope. Now they could not believe it was true. Many went—men as well as women. Others laughed. Almost without exception, they looked up at the dark red ink of the prison, which they had entered from the outside. Again they had entered it, they saw from the outside. Again they had entered it, they saw from the outside. Again they had entered it, they saw from the outside.

COLOGNE

One of the walls to come out of the prison was a young girl who walked with a cane and was supported by an older man. She was beautiful, but in no ordinary sense. In her face, particularly in her large eyes, was an indefinable look that was courage and somehow triumphant.

They were Odette, nineteen years old, who had spent nearly twenty months in prison for helping French prisoners to escape from Paris, where she was living when the Gestapo seized her. Her home was in Charleroi, Belgium. They were Odette, nineteen years old, who had spent nearly twenty months in prison for helping French prisoners to escape from Paris, where she was living when the Gestapo seized her.

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The People's Platform

showing more courtesy to our servicemen than some of the editors of the busy, busy Charlotte who are doing about it. It is not for my sake or any of the busy, busy Charlotte who are doing about it. It is not for my sake or any of the busy, busy Charlotte who are doing about it.

Plan For Europe

By Dorothy Thompson

SEVENTEEN distinguished Europeans, or Americans of European background, most of them scholars, from ten European countries have addressed a declaration and appeal to the United Nations and Congress, asking support for a European confederation.

The idea is not new. It has been advocated for years by the Pan-European movement headed by Richard Goodenough-Kalergi. It has had the support in Britain of eminent publicists, such as Sir Walter Layton. It is believed that Mr. Churchill supports it, and edged to Congress, asking support for a European confederation.

As the Great Power world emerges, the problem of postwar Europe becomes more and more urgent. Will Europe fall into social and political anarchy? Are all the petty and anarchic states to be restored? Has not this war demonstrated the essential weakness of all the European states? And has it not proved that this weakness is a temptation to direct aggression, to indirect interpenetration, spheres of influence, and all the other power games which led to this war?

Above all, the United States out of her own wonderful experience of the union of the states, should support the European confederation. Victory must be translated into new life, and that means a modern political, social, and economic system. The Confederation plan is, again, the only plan which will permit a break-up of the European Power Structure, and a re-integration without fulfilling Hitler's prophecy that Germany will pull all Europe with her into the abyss. And it is certainly not our business nor our aim to make any part of Hitler's program and plans come true.

Fat Uncle Sam

By Samuel Grafton

IT IS perhaps hard for us to realize that to the rest of the world we are a very fat man. We are a very fat man. We are a very fat man. We are a very fat man. We are a very fat man.

There are times when it is not good to be so fat. There are times when it is not good to be so fat. There are times when it is not good to be so fat. There are times when it is not good to be so fat.

Yet we should try to think it through. The President made it clear last Friday that he wants to help the hungry nations. We can't do it if we are people who don't understand the need. It is time we helped. We have 200,000 tons of surplus food. We have 200,000 tons of surplus food. We have 200,000 tons of surplus food.



"After planning the garden all Winter, don't you dare throw up your hands and say the ground is too hard like you did last Spring!"