

Wrestling With The Demon

The County Commissioners are deeply and properly concerned with the widespread drunkenness that seems to con-

LABOR SECRETARY LEWIS SCHWELLENBACH still is pinching himself to be sure that his recent confer-

The Labor Secretary was goggling over the young man's answers on labor questions and the current wage-price controversy.

He declared that a new deal had been undertaken in the Ford empire, with many organizational changes planned to make friends with union labor, definitely putting an end to the company's union-baiting of the past.

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NOTE—Story behind the organizational changes in Ford's management is that the union-baiting "machine" of Henry Bennett, former personnel director, has been pretty well cleaned out.

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Company Responsibility In this connection, young Ford said he realized clearly his company's responsibility in holding down further inflationary price trends and, he added, he was ready to play ball on this as well as wage increase.

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bitten Bennett, whose operatives used to guard him when he and his family had come and goings to his father Ford when Henry II got to manhood. Edsel Ford also had put up with Bennett's nagging and belittling him for years.

Treasury Watch-Dogs They received almost no publicity for their work. But Representatives Harry M. Jackson of Washington and U. S. Treasury Secretary Harold G. Dore have been ready to keep up their fight in order to make certain that the Senate doesn't give away the money they have saved.

By a series of three amendments to the Ship Sale Bill, the two Congressmen have contrived to contain colleagues—most of whom were completely unaware of what the bill contained—to write in safeguards which will prevent oil companies and U. S. shipping lines from making additional millions from the sale of the U. S. merchant fleet.

From \$100,000,000 to \$150,000,000 was saved by the Jackson amendment alone. It provides that the Government sell its oil tankers at 100 per cent of cost on the basis of pre-war construction costs—less yearly depreciation. The bill originally called for a price of 75 per cent of the pre-war cost—which would have meant the sale of hundreds of tankers to big oil companies at only about half what they cost to build during the expensive war years.

A second Jackson amendment is expected to save about \$30,000,000 for the Government. It affects oil companies and provides for a provision for price adjustment after the war. The Jackson amendment prevents a shipper from having his price adjusted downward from, for instance, \$2,000,000 to \$1,500,000 unless he returns to the Government the \$500,000 he received as rental from the Government since he bought the ship.

These three amendments caught the shippers unaware. They had been confident that the Ship Sale Bill would zoom through the House just the way they wanted it. But their plans were changed by the spunky young ex-G.I. from Everett, Wash., and the former Secretary to Congressman Lindsay Warren, who is now assistant controller-general, is charged with seeing to it that the Government does not pay out more than it legally should.

Denial of the U. S. had used only 400 of its own ships, roughly 10 per cent of the available total, making only one trip per month, they could have returned every GI in Europe since VE-Day. This would have more than enough ships for (a) the Pacific theater and (b) vital commerce and relief.

The army newspaper Stars and Stripes presents the views of the unemployed shipmen to turn over without taking any sort of service. "High Army and War Department officials have just talked their way out of one crisis over Congressional, civilian and GI indignation concerning redeployment and discharges. And now another crisis—with no excuse whatever. It is a tragedy to the whole nation that top Army planners are not able to realize that the peace-time future of the Army depends on its performance during the post V-J interval.

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Stars and Stripes' VIEW eloquent as are Sgts. Craig and Hyland, however, it would not be fair to the War Department to accept their arguments as fact without hearing what the official Army answer is to their "Seven Points."

It is impossible for us in the ETO directly to ask Gen. Marshall or the War Department to check the condition of the land in Washington state. It is possible for us to ask that some one put the questions to the War Department and that, in any case, newspapermen in Washington seek to find the full answers to them, by mistakes they have made.

The Differential

Every set of figures relative to wages brings home a depressing reminder that the picture along with the other Southern States, is still down in the lower income brackets. We were, for instance, in 46th place in 1944 in the average weekly wage of workers covered by the Federal Labor Statistics.

Another, happier time, the Senator's objection might have been valid. But right now it has a strange, wistful ring. If we pursue Senator Bailey's meaning we will have to bring home to all our occupation forces, scrap all our mutual-assistance treaties, share the atom, and forget the President's request for universal military training.

But we cannot, as Senator Bailey seems to be suggesting, forget the whole thing and let the Jews make of us as best they can. We probably will, as we become more proficient in the practice and theory of power politics, eventually dull the edge of our national conscience. But we haven't done it yet.

New Word

The lawyers and judges we sent abroad to arrange the trial of German war criminals are exploring strange legal territory, and they have found that even the normal judicial vocabulary is inadequate to describe the new legal concepts.

Avoiding Trouble

In this peculiar time, when we are holding an olive branch in one hand and a sword in the other, Senator Bailey comes forward to register a protest against our becoming involved in the routine Palestine problem.

Statesmen At Work

SENATOR MEAD of New York took the floor of the Senate to decry the action of the Executive branch in the American Embassy in Baring Hazel Scott, Negro pianist from Chattanooga, Tenn., in the case of Mr. BILBO, Mr. President. I wish to ask the Senator from New York a question before he takes his seat.

The Right Key Must Be Around Somewhere



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"Ah . . . Snodgrass, we admire your zeal, but we've had complaints about your dramatization of the need for insurance!"

A Look At Reality

A WEEK ago President Truman addressed Congress on the necessity of universal military training in peacetime. Wednesday Secretary of State Byrnes signed the text of the protocol of the United Nations Charter which brought the World Security Organization into being, calling it a "memorable day for the people of all nations."

There is something strangely ironic in this combination of events. On one day it is proposed that the United States should be the main youth for war; on the next the United Nations of the world solemnly covenant to live together in peace.

PEACE-LOVERS? To force its authority over whom? The only nations not counted among the "peace-lovers" are utterly vanquished and unconditionally surrendered. The victors are about to put on trial as criminals those who made a war of aggression.

At such a moment the "peace-lovers" are to be asked to support the President's plan. The President says, "The United States now has a fighting strength greater than any other time in our history. It is greater than any other nation in the world."

LOOK AT REALITY The reality is that at Teheran, Yalta, San Francisco, and Potsdam, our political leaders gave away the power that America had built up in the name of justice, democracy and peace. So today, they must ask for more power.

People's Platform Our Farm Resources By J. R. BAILLIE Charlotte I have been very much interested in the special series of articles which have been appearing in The Charlotte News, written by Burke Davis.