FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1945

Invitation To Inflation

The great outery against President Truman's belated request for legislation fixing price cellings on old and new houses is, of course, simply an extension of the debate that has been raging over price ceilings in general. It is perfectly logical and understandable for the real estate and building organizations to protest such action, for it will, if passed, cost them a fair measure of their potential profits.

Their lobbies in Washination have a God-given right to besience the Congress, and, indeed, they would not be discharging their duty to the businessmen they represent if they didn't. But, as usual, the matter of profit is conspicuously absent from their public statements and they would have us all believe that the President, in his ignorance, is about to undermine the foundations of free enterprise as well as delay the construction of badly-needed housine.

Frank W. Cortwright, a spokesman for the National Association of Home Builders called the scheme "unrealistic and unworkable and a stumbling block to solving the housine problem", a sentiment in which most of the Charlotte builders and realists pronouncements on the subject whave yet heard: "I don't think people will be foolish enough to any rideculous prices for homes. And that means builders won't be able to charge pay ridiculous prices for homes. And that means builders won't be able to charge

them."

The prices being charged in Charlotte for houses are already ridiculous, by any definition. For months now it has been impossible to borrow much more than 50 per cent of the selling price on a dwelling, which means that the most optimistic realized rown't appraise a house at more than 70 per cent of the price has a contract of the price has a contract of the price has a contract or an area of the price has a contract of the price has a contract of the price has a contract or an area of the price has a contract o at more than 70 per cent of the price he's asking for it. And the realtors

themselves have been treated to the awe-inspiring spectacle of values in-

themselves have been treated to the awe-inspiring spectacle of values in-creasing by leaps and bounds, in some cases at the rate of \$1,000 a month on an original investment of \$5,000. There will be an end to this, but it is not yet in sight, and with thousands of returning velerans pouring into the market every day it is bound to get much worse, no matter what sort of freedom

returning veterans pouring into the market every day it is bound to get much worse, no matter what sort of freedom the Government grants. Before the supply of houses is sufficient to guarantee, in itself, a safeguard against ridiculous prices, enough savings will have been state that the savings will have been seen another full-fired programmer and the full-fired programmer and the full-fired programmer and the real estate trades. If a system of price ceilings on real estate in unworkable, as those who oppose it claim, it is because the builders and the realiors have no will to make the work of the saving the

soon come when all production and price controls can be removed. But that day controls can be removed. But that day isn't here now, and any effort to rip them off and let the market find its own level is bound to bring ruin, not only to millions of foolish home-buyers but to thousands of foolish home-sellers. The building industry and the real estate trade should, above all others, remomber from their bitter past that there is no real profit in inflation. And yet, with hardly a dissenting voice, their representatives have stormed Washington to invite just that.

A Publisher's Panacea

The Atlanta Journal and immediate past president of the Southern Newspaper Publishers Association last week offered Publishers Association last week offered the Southern Governors Conference a complete panacea for all their multifari-ous troubles. "All the problems confront-ing the South will be solved when a public school system is installed lifting the average of learning to the eighth grade or better." he said.

It is good to hear a newspaperman from the business side of the profession,

from the business side of the profession, which usually leaves such abstract considerations to the editorial brethren, coming out with such foursquare support for expanded educational opportunities in the South of the probably raised an eyebrow or two among the Governors, but there's a great deal in it. There may be a problem or two left over after we have yanked our educational level up to par, but we will, at least, be on the way to readicating most of those that are purely regional in character.

George C. Biggers, vice-president of of which the South has always had more than its proportionate share, are rooted in ignorance. In this hard world the man who doesn't know doesn't get very far, and to this day we have kept millions of our citizens in the illiterate and

lions of our citizens in the illiterate and semi-literate class, cut off from communication with the world of ideas. Economic isolation for the South ended many years ago, and every Southerner today competes in a very real fashion with a man in Wisconsin, one in New York and another in California, And. of course, a Southerner who is ill-equipped educationally can't expect of come out as well as his competitors in the scramble for the best view of the world of tomorrow.

in the scramble for the best view of the world of tomorrow. We have already, we fear, lost our chance to grab our fair share of the industrial expansion sure to follow in the wake of the war, lost it because there weren't enough skilled hands around to tempt outlanders to locate here. But there will be other great readiustments, less painful ones, we hope, and if we can, in fact, solve our problems as Mr. Biegers suggests, we should be ready when the next great day comes.

Brief, Enchanted Moment

patterns, they brought a fragile mo-

patterns, they brought a fragile mo-ment of enchantment.

The world's work went untended; the town atood at, the window, absorbed, hypnotized. The snow, as it always does, blanked out ugliness, touching familiar and unsightly landmarks with pure beauty, smoothing out harsh lines, moulding tortured angles into sweeping curves.

moulding tortured angles into sweeping curves.

And, briefly, the sentle snow touched the spirit of the town, kinding an inner warmth to offset the cold outside. There was a strangeness about it, a feeling of high adventure, the fellowship of a shared experience. A great, soft curtain came down, shutting out the scarred past and the terrible future, leaving only the morning, an island in the rushing current of time.

current of time.

People smiled for no good reason;
strangers stopped to talk; motorists

The big flakes didn't last long, but swung their doors wide to welcome while they sifted silently over the city, floating earthward in gentle, swirling matterns, they brought a fractile motterns, they brought a fractile motterns. ment the brotherhood of man became

ment the brotherhood of man became a fact.

Sleet, replacing the swirting white trace of the snow with gray diagonals, ended the illusion. Ugliness sprang into sharp focus, enchantment curded into sharp focus, enchantment curded into shroyance. The town withdrew from the window, muttering over a lost morning, brooding over a dwindling coal pile. The long chain of little problems, stretching back into yesterday and forward into tomorrow, settled back into place, binding the town to earth again.

tomorrow, settled back into place, binding the town to earth again.

And now the enchantment of the
morning is lost forever, dispelled by the
red noses, the cold feet, the sore backs,
all the intimations of mortality that
greeted this day. The town is shackled
again, rooted to earth until another
Winter's first snow brings its fleeting release, touching the soul of man with its
ancient, white magic.

From The Louisville Courier-Journal:

The Negro In Kentucky

At first glance, it might be supposed that strident controversy is bound to follow the report of the commission appointed by Governor Willis for study of Negro affairs in Kentucky, now that the Legislative Council has received its recommendations of changes in laws, customs and attitude which touch on the welfare and condition of the 75 per cent of the State's citteens who are colored. This would be, at least, the conventional assumption. Disputing for existence, the chance for improvement and enjoyment of the right of aspiration without limit, economic security and also security against being discussion of the race problem and certainly of proposals to change a status quo.

pointed by Governor Willis for study of Negro affairs in Kentucky, now that the Legislative Council has received its recommendations of changes in laws, customs and attitude which touch on the welfare and condition of the 75 per cent of the State's citizens who are colored. This would be, at least, the conventional assumption on the idea that taboos have long discouraged in States of the Southern tradition any public discussion of the race problem and certainly of proposials to change a status quo.

However, not only is the taboo fadime, as definitions of democracy become clearer, but the report itself is revealed on closer study to be a natural defelopment and expansion by most responsible Kentuckians.

First and last, the recommendations are directed toward equality of opportunity, toward the application of standards of public service which most progressiveness in the area south of the Ohio River.

The Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

O'N July 10, 1838, this column sent out to its subtenible of the subtenible Douglas Aircraft Co. has recently sold its latest flying fortress, the DC-4, to Japan, together with certain blue-prints whereby Japan can duplicate the plane. Carrying four motors, this is plane of the desired of t

stemmand, and the control of autorneys, the stemmand, and the control of the cont

Ultra Secrecy Wanted

Ultra Secrecy Wanted

This writer now has before him the original bill of sale, the cubletarm between Tokyo, New York and Los Auseles, and other correspondence regarding the shipment of the DC-4 by Douglas to Japan—templite Donald Douglas to Japan—templite Donald Douglas denial, but good as a major general in the U. 8. Army. It was obvious, not only from Donald Douglas denial, but from other precautions that Douglas denial, but from other precautions that Donald Douglas denial, but from other precautions that Donald Douglas denial, but from other precautions that the publicated in the American press.

In the first place, the sale was camouffaced as one made to "Japan Airways Ltd." This gave is the outward appearance of a commercial transaction, though, of course, Japan Airways Ltd. was controlled by the be adapted for military purposes.

Doubtless also, Douglas didn't want to be in the public position of selling an important brand new bomber to a potential enemy of the USA, especially at a certain of the Company of the USA, especially at a center civilian in Chin Sen unmortality benduing incompanies of the USA, especially at a center civilian in Chin Sen unmortality benduing land appealed to American plane manufacturers not to sell to Japan.

Pecrosan

license the press had to leak out. Here is the letter showing how pleased the Japa were at the skillful way Douglas handled the news layer earlier than the property of the property

Army-Douglas Cooperation

Army-Douglas Cooperation

--Douglas coulir not, of course, have sold the DC-4
without permission from the U. S. Army or Navy. Not
only was this permission given, but relations between
only was this permission given but relations between
Douglas' daughter later martied the son of Gen. "Rap'
Arnold. Chief of the Air Forces, while the Air Forces
promoted V. E. Bertrandias to be a major general.
When Bertrandias' mane came before the Stenate
When Bertrandias' mane came before the Stenate
Department showed Senators part of the secret file on
his pre-Pearl Harbor activities in an effort to block his
nomination. But Army pressure was too strong. He
was made a nalor general anyway.

Japs Get a Bargain

Jops Gef a Bargain

The Japs beased elevellur about this bargain price,
A Jap paper of Nov, 14, 1939, carries a picture of the
DC-4 under the caption. "Jornerly America" biggest,
now Japania."

The Japania of the paper continued, the chain plane was sold to Japania.

The paper continued, the claim plane was sold to Japania.

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The paper continued, the claim plane was sold to Japania.

Airways for \$750,000, complete with plans for its assembly."

Another Japanese newspaper account significantly
stated: "Japan Airways has not yet deteld what in do
with its flying bargain." However, it didn't take them
the state of the state of the state of the most
most updated by the state of the most of the
most plane were completed last Summer before
the moral embargo' on aircraft shipments to Japan
was announced by Secretary of State Hull.

In that same Summer, July 10, 1938, that this columnist
attempted to reveal the sale of the DC-4, but was lide
to by Donald Douglas. It was on June 11, 1938, that
Cordell Hull asked U. S. aircraft manufacturers to stop
shipments to Japan—a plet that he repeated on July 1.

Shipped, airu simplam emandacture who really wanted
to could have called off the deal.

"Well, Boys, What Do You Want Me To Bring You?"



The President's Recruiting Problem

By Marquis Childs

AS Secretary Byrnes sets out for Moscow, our hopes rise a little. This means another chance to come together on the questions that have created barriers of ington on one hand and Moscow on the other.

It's not practical rare a wiscome to leave home at the beginning of the holiday season to fit in redd and storm five thousand miles to a gloomy, war-worn complete the season to fit in redd and storm five thousand miles to a gloomy, war-worn complete the season to fit the season to fit the season to fit the redd and storm five thousand miles to a gloomy, war-worn complete the season to fit the season to

conusans miles to a gloomy, war-worn expital.

Recently Byrnes has been subjected to the kind of going over that we generously accord our public office
holders. Not only have runours been,
here have been editorial demands for
his resignation.

The Hurley tempest in a teapot took time and great
deal of natience. Byrnes handled it with just the right
Shortly after he had initiated the coming conference
of Foreign Ministers. President. Truman made his arthand remark about no more Big Three meetings. This
touched off a new uproar over State Department policy
and required a lot of explaining.

Impossible Perfection

Impossible Perfection

We sprais so much time berating our public men and clamering for su impossible perfection that it's not surprising that my the perfect of the problem of the problem of the necessary jobs. The surprising that the problem of the messary jobs. The surprising that the problem of the surprising that the surprisi

Matter of Pay

One reason for the reluctance to take Government jobs in this boom time is of course the matter of pay. Many men feel they served their Government apprending to the pay of the pay of

Potience Would Help
President Truman is keenly aware of the recruiting problem he faces. He does not, however, know quite what to do about ii. He has suggested an upward revision of Government salaries but that in itself will not be enough.

vision of Government salaries but that in itself will not be enough.

A little patience from all of us would probably help; a little less readiness to assess blame and a little more will be a little less readiness to assess blame and a little more will little less readiness to assess blame and a little more will little lit



"Frankly, we prefer someone with no army or navy expe-rience—this firm has only a couple of million to spend!"

Error Compounded

By Dorothy Thompson

NEW YORK SECRETARY BYRNES'S state-

CONSPIRACY OF SILENCE

As for contents and humaneprocedures—on this objective is a
conspiracy of silence in the
american press. There is no such
conspiracy in the British.

Those who want to know what
is really happening in Central Eucountin the December 30th issue
of the New Leader New York;
and Sir Arthur Saliers in the
cuttern Contemporary Review
countries to the Contemporary Review
druge countries from many above

EARLY FAILURES

Quote, Unquote

DURING the confusion of war, relating under conditions was being the emperor of Japann was relating under conditions to use him to facilitate the Jap surrender. Now that the war is over, retention of the emperor is sown in seeds of fouture disaster.

—Sunz Fo, President, Chingking the condition of the things Americang due to the condition of the emperor is sown in seeds of fouture disaster.

—Sunz Fo, President, Chingking the condition of the c

The Pearl Harbor of the future might, well be Chicago or Detroit or Pitishurch or even Washington, D. C. As top dog. America has become target No. 1.

-Gen. Carl Spaatz, chief, U. S. Army Alf Forces.

Just as sure as the sun rises to-morrow, when more controls are put on labor, you can be sure it won't be long before more con-trols are put on management, too. —R. J. Thomas, president, United Auto Workers union.

If we want to keep America the kind of country it is, we must awaken to the menace of pressure minorities which use powerful weapons and use them mercilessly.

—Olympia, Wash, Olympia,

As soon as we all get around to it, we'll get rid of a lot of crack-pot notions we've collected about the veteran "problem".

—Columbus, O., Citizen.

The whole history of warfare has been built around the development of new weapons. Man-kind has never yet devised an instrument of offense against which there has been no defense.

People don't take the trouble to bing out complex problems, but nev invent a devil and say he is really to blame. The Jews are a vorrite scapegost: capitalism and iternational finance is another. Hans Kohn, professor of history, Smith College.

emin Coiege.

Lets keep America American until we see how one of the new socialistic dictatorships turns out. Just because they are not of German origin won't make them any sweeter in the long run than under Hitler.

would be impossible to exag-ate the importance of the an organization for intellec-and spiritual co-operation t assume in the creation of a must assume in the created peaceful world.

—Leon Blum, former premier of France.

I do not for a moment believe there is any intention on the part of the United States to as-sume direct control over the ad-ministration of our government —President Osmeno of the Philip-plnes.