

### Brick By Brick

The other day in Charlotte building permits a dding up to \$291,500 were granted. Non-residential building, including a factory, an automobile showroom, and an ice cream parlor, accounted for most of them. It is the Division of Building Inspection, of course, and a building permit is a long way from a completed structure. But the figures underline the fact that building materials, scarce though they may be, can still be obtained when a man with money wants them.

There are many modifying factors. It is possible that the builders who obtained these permits have scoured the market and paid exorbitant prices to get the materials they need. Perhaps the business that will equip the new structures have accepted inflation for what it is and have decided to pay a tariff that would be prohibitive to a private home-builder.

And, we presume, there is more profit to be made in building a factory than in building a series of small houses or an apartment building. We have no doubt that certain critical shortages, such as plumbing fixtures, hamper residential building with affecting industrial construction.

### The Old Plaint

The controversy over amending Georgia's new constitution to permit the reelection of Governor Arnall has brought on a journalistic barrage reminiscent of the days when red-galvanized Gene Talmadge occupied the Governor's mansion. The Atlanta Journal has reached the front page editorial stage, an advanced position in political argument indicative of an overwrought state of mind. The Journal, along with the rest of the Georgia press, is currently concentrating its drumfire on Speaker Roy Harris, who, it is charged, is deliberately blocking consideration of a bill that would permit the people of Georgia to vote on removing the present one-term gubernatorial limit. Mr. Harris is charged with being undemocratic; he also is charged with desiring to run for the Governorship himself.

At one point in the controversy the Speaker issued a statement in his own defense in which he explained his failure to recall the bill from committee by saying that the present Legislative session has been "too hormonal to risk

### They Can't Go Home

In early November Alfredo Raffaele, 24, a former soldier of the Italian King, escaped from an American prison camp in Tunisia and made his way to Casablanca, where he sneaked aboard the Liberty ship, *Theodore Bland*. He was discovered by the crew after the ship was at sea en route to the United States, and when the *Bland* docked in Baltimore he was handed over to American immigration officials. They refused to let Alfredo Raffaele land.

When the *Bland* sailed again, this time for Antwerp, Alfredo Raffaele was still aboard. After the *Bland* made port an effort was made to hand him over to Belgian officials. Again he was refused refuge. When the *Bland* sailed on January 1st for New York with a boatload of American troops Alfredo Raffaele was on the passenger list. Last week at St. Paul he was again ordered to remain aboard ship, and when the *Bland* put out for an undisclosed destination, but not Casablanca, Alfredo Raffaele went along, bound by law and international convention, to stay aboard until the little vessel touched the West African coast, or until her rusty bottom is taken out of service.

Because he has been trapped by a sea-going fate, and because his plight is dramatic, Alfredo Raffaele has come to the attention of the American people, and it may be that he will be released. But he is only one of the nameless mil-

### Light For The Farmers

Although many said it couldn't be done except on a financially sound basis, something more than 100,000 of the State's 290,000 farms now are serviced by electrical power companies through the administration of REA co-operatives, according to W. J. Rideout Jr., agricultural engineer of the State College Extension Service.

This means that many farm people have light today who would otherwise be reading by a kerosene lamp but the State program is less than 45 per cent completed. All of which is good news to more than 100,000 farmers who are still without electricity.

THIS is a column I have been wanting to write for a long time. It's about my old partner, Bob Allen.

During the war, Bob Allen's name was mentioned in the column, and he was right. It pointed the finger of suspicion on him as a possible news source for things I published, which he certainly was not.

But now that the war is over, I hope he won't get too tired if he is given a ride on the Merry-Go-Round.

Bob Allen is back now, a little older, a little thinner, a little grayer, several rows of battle ribbons across his chest, and an empty right sleeve—the testimony of what he gave for his country. He is back from his most costly battle. The first time I ever met Bob, he was battling. It was at a press conference in the State Department and Bob Allen, headed, young, peppery, was shooting questions at Frank B. Kellogg regarding the Marines in Nicaragua. It was a baptism of sarcasm given me by the press, poured on me by another Secretary of State.

Allen vs. Borah. Bob was always putting burrs under sleepy Senators. He would ask them their offices, point out they get out on the Senate floor and fight. He has seen him call the late Senator Borah of Idaho more names—half-serious, half-in-jest—until he had provided Borah with going into the White House to tell Roosevelt off regarding the aid his State Department was giving fascist Spain.

There was no battle, no matter how big or how tough, that ever fazed Bob Allen.

But his first battle—and his latest—were with Hitler. The first one was during the 1923 putsch. And it didn't succeed, and most people didn't see it off at all. But he was there, Bob Allen. He filed dispatches telling his papers of the implications behind the scenes. He cracked-up in the Brown House in Munich.

And, having been in on the first, he was certain to be in the second. Bob was itching—ever before Pearl Harbor—when the Germans started. Finally he wangled a promise out of the boys in the Pentagon. He had never before not been kept in a swivel chair in Washington, but could get into it now.

At first, Bob had hard luck. He spent more than a year in grueling military maneuvers in the swamps of Louisiana and the hot plains of Texas. He helped train units, and he had to be shipped overseas while he stayed home.

MacARTHUR SAYS NO. At one time he was scheduled to go with Gen. Walter Krueger to the Southwest Pacific. But General MacArthur, with an elephant's ear, had having never forgotten Bob's criticism of the General's Bonus Army officer, crossed Bob's name off the list of Krueger's staff officers.



From The Christian Science Monitor:

### The Gallant Nisei Come Home

LOS ANGELES. A SMALL headline on an inside page of a local newspaper says, "Nisei Veterans Entertained." Scrutinized a little more closely and expanded to its background facts, the headline tells a story more colorful than most that are cooked up in near-by Hollywood.

The short news article under this particular headline is not in the least sensational. It tells only that 129 young soldiers came in from Camp Haan, near Riverside, and from Fort Ord, at San Pedro, and spent a happy evening at Evergreen Playhouse, on the East Side, as guests of the community. There was dancing and a general good time.

But these soldiers are members of the 442d Infantry Regiment, United States Army, and they fought through four campaigns—Rome-Arno, Po Valley, Southern France, and Northern Apennines. The 442d, as a combat team, suffered 5,323 casualties in Europe; 569 of its men were killed.

GLORIOUS EXPLOITS. The exploits of the 442d are a glorious saga, all themselves, but that is not the significance being the little headline. That significance can best be shown by contrast. Here are some other headlines from a period just about three months before the men of the 442d were entertained here.

"Two held in Nisei Schooling."

"Burning Nisei Home Called 'Bolshevik Act.'"

"Alameda Nisei Homes Targeted."



From The Christian Science Monitor:

### The Gallant Nisei Come Home

ing thought may yet be stirred in rare instances to violence. In general, the public is more than willing to greet the returning Japanese racials, and to give their returning war heroes an extra hearty "well done!"

How was the wave of tragic incidents so quickly controlled, when certain conspicuous prophets had forecast sanguinary battles, rioting and burnings? There are two points to the answer: First, the war record of the 442d, of Americans of Japanese parentage, as it came to be revealed little by little, was convincing beyond any doubt of the loyalty of that section of the population, to the country of their birth. This war record could not be turned earlier for reasons of security.

Stories of the almost unbelievable courage and heroism of the 442d combat team, including the "most decorated" 100th Infantry Battalion, trickled back slowly from the front, but they did finally get around, attested as they were by the United States Army. Photographs depicted the awarding of many citations for group and individual bravery.

HEROISM DISCLOSED. "Doubters said, 'That was in Italy.' It could not be told until the Japanese Army and Navy had surrendered here, extensively and how bravely Nisei and even Kibei (American-born Japanese educated in Japan) had given full service with the American armed forces in the Pacific. The doubters had hinted that they might not be trustworthy if put to fighting the forces of Japan."

Then, when it was safe to give away the secret of how Japanese-Americans had served in vitally important posts in the Allied front lines in the Pacific, public opinion and California officialdom put real pressure on the headlines also called by that time "native feelings"—and the headlines telling of violence against Nisei began to lessen.

Soon after the wars in Europe and the Pacific ended, Army officers who had commanded Nisei troops in both major war theaters returned to tell Californians of the fine, gallant service their young Nisei neighbors had given.

OFFICERS LAUD NISEI. These officers volunteered for this information service out of a sense of justice to their comrades-in-arms.

OF the chronic gripes of old during the war was his privileges and prerogatives enjoyed by officers as contrasted with those of the ordinary soldier. He got the finer rations, he got the liquor, they monopolized the time of the Red Cross girls.

This was the familiar complaint in every corner, which gave way to new privileges and prerogatives to be enjoyed. Now comes the news that the Army and Navy are to do this inequity extended to demobilization.

Officers of both the Army and Navy are entitled to terminal leave. This terminal leave, accumulated—four months is the maximum—they can take time, on full pay with allowances to look around, as a job they begin the process of readjustment to civilian life.

But the men in the two services do not have the same privilege. They must go to a separation center and there wait out the process of final discharge.

As Dr. Howard Ruesch pointed out in a recent article in the New York Times, this gives an officer a great advantage over the enlisted man. It tends to make the process of adjustment much easier for the officer, and the man who, as a colonel in the Army Air Force, received the Army Forces' splendid rehabilitation program.

NO MEDICAL CARE. Today the civilian enlistment man goes directly to a separation center. He is discharged as rapidly as possible and, when he gets his final discharge papers, he is out of the Army.

The man who, as a colonel in the Army Air Force, received the Army Forces' splendid rehabilitation program.

CONGRESS IS SENSITIVE. In spite of all this, there seems to be a sensitive to GI grievances—a Congress unwilling to grant terminal leave to all service men and women, officers and enlisted personnel alike.

For some months Congress has been hammering away at this inequity. There must be a dozen bills which have been introduced in the House alone. The War Department was asking to submit figures on the cost of extending the privilege of terminal leave to enlisted men as well as officers.

The War Department's recommendations were submitted to the Bureau of the Budget, which has not yet passed on them. The cost at the staggering figure of \$2,788,000,000, which would cover both officers and men.

### Russia Joins The Faculty

THE world is shocked by the action of the Soviet Union and the United States in bringing Great Britain up on charges before the Security Council which have been described as "unfair."

That is not the way it was supposed to go at all. It is a school where the headmaster and in open chapel. For the west has set its face against the Soviet Union, and the morality toward the United Nations, as mentor and acceptor of the charges, is a tacit assumption.

rarely questioned internally in the press of either of the two great Western Nations. The form of the United Nations Organization may have on paper, in the minds of many, of us it has been a school where the headmaster and in open chapel.

For what we have a recalcitrant schoolboy, but with a proud and angry man. Russia has been allowed to be built up concerning the nature and purpose of the United Nations. It is a school where the headmaster and in open chapel.

LIFE IS REAL. United Nations life is, or can be, real life. It is the only life that is real life, as life in our Congress; a setting in which he who judges, is judged, and in which the man who is judged has upon all casual assumptions of special virtue.

### The People's Platform

#### "Two-Room Anything"

1121 Kenilworth Ave. Charlotte. And a funny gate half gone.

A lazy dog and a thin old horse in the back yard seem content. I would like to see the cow in her hand a pall half bent.

A pig and two in a turnip patch are loose to eat and roam. You'd know by the way they hang their heads.

Yes I envy them all in their smug content. They don't have to scramble about. They've got all I have of earthly goods.

### Strange Things In The Paper

I have been a reader of The News ever since there has been a newspaper in this town. I don't like it, but I do find some strange things in the paper now and then.

For instance, the editor said in an editorial a few days ago that a worker who was on a strike for one hour's work, and the editor comes out and says that he prays that he may see the worker again for one hour's work.

Then over on the back toilet says all business places (stores and shops) should remain closed until Monday noon so all workers in these places could go shopping Monday.

All this shows that it is going to be mighty hard to please everybody.

"I don't see how we could have endured four years of war without government control, Sedgwick! There wouldn't have been any black market!"

### By O. J. Coffin

OUR sins of pride and greed in the year of victory, along with our sins of omission and commission among groups within the nation, may prove to be our undoing unless there is a genuine nationwide repentance.

Stand back, Seabees. The boys on the housing commissions, boards and bureaus will now build two or three million homes, and without getting up on the chair.