

Houses At Last?

When economists began pointing out that the greatest housing shortage in American history was certain to follow the end of the war, they were met with a shrug. The business community, and its Congressional bloc, reserves for holders of degrees higher than Bachelor of Business Administration. The professors were demanding Government planning, weren't they? And planning is an American word.

Even after the uncertain peace set in, and the housing crisis became as evident as a veteran on a park bench, every Federal plan for meeting it was rejected on grounds that it was straight to the realtors and the materials manufacturers arrived in Washington with loud promises of immediate action of their own if they were just left alone.

Well, here it is six months later, and no houses. And the veterans are standing in line waiting for a chance at a park bench with a southern exposure. They have become so numerous their collective cry for shelter has almost drowned out the builders and the realtors and the materials manufacturers, but not quite, for Congressional leaders are promising to enact the President's new emergency housing program into law with just one little exception—could

Pluck And Luck

As fond as we are of Horatio Alger, we have a feeling the long arm of coincidence has been strained a little in the success story of George Allen, the Mississippi raconteur. We do not rule out the possibility that it was pluck and luck that sent George's income soaring from \$30,000 a year to \$50,000 in a period of a few years, but there is a peculiar parallel between the steady increase in his Dun & Bradstreet rating and the rising political fortunes of Harry Truman.

When he was an obscure Commissioner of the District of Columbia, George didn't seem to attract much attention in financial circles. But as he emerged as a Truman-before-Chicago man, a poker-playing crony of the Vice-President, and finally an intimate adviser to the President of the United States, his executive capabilities became increasingly obvious. At last, in 1944, when his home office in New York signed him on as a \$28,000-a-year vice-president, and 25 assorted corporations felt honored to place him on their boards of directors. None of these considerable employers seemed to object to George's putting in all his working days at a desk in the White House.

When George appeared before the Senate Banking Committee to discuss his nomination as a director of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation he was quite frank about his rising financial

No More War & Reconversion Set In

Reconversion set in around at the Community Chest office last week. The WAR & was erased from the signs, and for the first time since August, 1942, the agency functions simply as the Community Chest of Charlotte & Mecklenburg County. It's wartime obligation, to channel Mecklenburg's contributions to 19 agencies operating all around the world has terminated, and the Chest will again concentrate on the work of the 16 agencies operating here at home.

The Chest celebrated reconversion with a brief booklet recounting its accomplishments of the war years. It's an impressive record: volunteer workers raised a total of \$1,421,839.41 during the period, combining 88 separate agency campaigns with its own annual drives. Many of those war agencies are now

Let Them Stay A While

Governor Cherry, a Gastonia dispatch reveals, has under consideration the granting of paroles to three Gaston County white men, Fred Hudson, Robert Sellers and Haywood Dellinger, after they had served slightly less than five years on an 18 to 25 years term in State's prison for the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King. The parole was shot down at his home after the trio and a fourth member, Graham Dellinger, who has already been paroled, followed him there after an altercation which began on the highway.

This is the killing man will doubtless recall, which was catalogued as a lynching in at least one generally accepted compilation, but which the Daily News, among others, saw only as a murder and led us to defend the good name of the State and of Gaston County accordingly. The prompt and vigorous manner in which the law moved to mete out justice won wide praise. The quartet of defendants were originally arraigned on first degree murder charges, but the State accepted their pleas of guilty to second degree murder with the subsequent meeting out of stiff prison sentences.

At the time of the trial the Daily News thought that the defendants certainly

Low-Point Men Of The 82nd Come Home

WASHINGTON, (The 82nd Airborne Division) paraded up Fifth Avenue, New York, on Jan. 12, symbolic of the night of the United States Army, the finest in the world. Marching along with the veterans of this famous Division were many low-point men, who were eligible for discharge, who were returned to the United States on the Queen Mary ahead of several thousand high-point GIs in Europe.

In December and early January this column received cables from thousands of protesting GIs with more than 30 months overseas service and eligible for discharge. They wanted to know why low-point men of the 82nd Division were ordered home while they were still in Europe.

The War Department had an immediate answer. It explained that the low-point men were highly trained specialists and would be used for training cadres in the Regular Army, thus justifying their early return.

But here is what really happened. On Jan. 11, just two days after the parade, the Commanding General, Ground Force, issued the following directive: "Report for discharge as surplus upon arrival in this country all enlisted men assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division, who will have completed two and one-half years service as of April 1, 1946, or have an ASD score of 44 . . . no publicity will be given this directive."

These low-point men came to parade in New York, leaving high-point men in Europe; but now, despite the War Department's previous promise, the low-point men are getting out.

The last sentence is significant: no publicity will be given this directive. No wonder the high-point GIs are burned up.

WHITE HOUSE COMEDIES Most delightful individual around the White House is undoubtedly the special, story-telling George Allen, Presidential secretary without portfolio, now managing the important job of Reconstruction Finance Corporation director.

George Allen is the kind of private citizen to have a public life. He never gets irked, keeps every one in a good humor, works day and night, and is attached to the man most other people ignored. Traveling all over the country, he writes his speeches, advised on campaign strategy, and made himself generally useful.

During the 1944 campaign, George Allen was shrewd enough to realize that Franklin Roosevelt probably would not last long in the White House, and he attached himself to the man most other people ignored. Traveling all over the country, he writes his speeches, advised on campaign strategy, and made himself generally useful.

Came April 12, 1945, when Truman moved into the White House, and George Allen moved in too. However, while still close to the President of the United States, Allen also reports two of the biggest income-generating buildings in the nation—Tom Girdler of Republic and Victor Gumpel of American Aviation, Consolidated Vultee Station WLV at Cincinnati, and a dozen other powerful interests.

BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE This some people have wondered why George Allen, who has been in the White House for so long, is giving advice to Truman as the agent of Republican agencies that concentrated on assistance for Holland, Czechoslovakia, France, Italy, Norway, Lithuania, Poland, Luxembourg, Greece, and all the other nations that disappeared beneath the tide of Nazi conquest and reappeared again in the wake of victorious Allied armies.

There were four campaigns for funds during the period—two headed by James R. Bryan and two by Henry C. Dockery. To these gentlemen, to Executive Director Fred Huffman and his permanent staff, and to all the thousands of volunteer workers, the community owes a vote of thanks. We're delighted to pass it along.

Not more than was coming to them, and we can say for nothing or no reason for the granting of paroles to three Gaston County white men, Fred Hudson, Robert Sellers and Haywood Dellinger, after they had served slightly less than five years on an 18 to 25 years term in State's prison for the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King. The parole was shot down at his home after the trio and a fourth member, Graham Dellinger, who has already been paroled, followed him there after an altercation which began on the highway.

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GI Attitudes Are Shifting

RECENTLY several commentators have referred to the results of a poll taken by the Army among American occupying troops in Germany. The poll was said to show a startling deterioration in the morale of the influence the Germans have exerted over the American troops.

A great deal depended, as in every poll, on the phrasing of the question. The question was phrased as follows: "Leaving aside for the moment the fact that they are our enemies or allies, do you think the Germans are better people?" The question then listed the French, the Germans and the English. The replies were: French, 28 per cent; Germans, 28 per cent; and English 50 per cent. Eleven per cent of those questioned made no choice.

More significant were the replies to questions which sought to show the extent of soldier agreement with the German argument justifying the Nazi course of action. Fifty-one per cent of the soldiers surveyed thought that, although Hitler was wrong in leading the Germans into war, the did of Germany a lot of good before the war.

Twenty-eight per cent of the soldiers, who reported that Germans had tried to tell them the German side of why Germany fought the war, said that they felt themselves in some agreement with the German-made statements. Twenty-four per cent of the soldiers said that they had a good or fairly good argument when they said that, since Germany was the most efficient country in Europe, she had a right to be taken into consideration.

It is important to remember that this poll was taken last September, when the occupation was scarcely begun. The attitudes had already begun to shift somewhat in favor of the German viewpoint, which was not surprising, considering that it was probably some greater percentage of Americans under the influence of the Germans.

URGENT DEBATE That is one reason why the future of our country is being debated in detail behind the scenes. Secretary of State Burnes has told Gen. Eisenhower that the State Department will not take over the administration of Germany.

The War Department had expected that. But the State Department has not. It is assuming the responsibility. If Congress does not continue the draft, we cannot maintain an army of occupation in Germany. It is impossible even if the draft is continued.

One of the most interesting suggestion thrown out is for a United Nations Administration over all of Germany. It is a suggestion that would be a very real occupation force that would be dispatched against the propaganda of the vanquished Germans.

"This Is America"

WHITVILLE With reference to the article in your good paper January 12, 1946 under the heading "American Under the Smile" by Mr. J. W. Davis of Boonville, Pa., I gather from the Editor's note that your paper does not concur with the author's view. I am not a member of the Jewish race neither do I favor the Communists yet at the same time I believe neither do we have no real point in them will not serve to a good purpose. Therefore I thought I would let you know just what my humble thinking is about this.

The reason this man did not get elected to the office he was seeking is very obvious and it could be answered in a few words. This is America. The Platform in months has aroused such an immediate and

NOTE: A few weeks ago the Platform in months has aroused such an immediate and

Because Mr. Davis' letter moved citizens like Mr. Braxton this lettered Braxton's letter to express their own faith in a free and democratic America, we feel that the letter should be published and justified—Eds. The News.

It's Nice to Have The Symphony, But—

CHARLOTTE My husband, a veteran of World War I, received his discharge last year.

Yes it is nice for the people of Charlotte to have the Philadelphia Orchestra here and it would be wonderful to house them also. But don't you think before the people of Charlotte are asked to contribute to the support of their own people?

Otherwise the surplus will happen in America without happening in the world. There are some of us of course who like that way, who want to make of America a sealed chamber, in which a story takes place that has no relation to the world.

WHAT PRICE SELFISHNESS? What price national selfishness which produces these odd and obscure offshoots? And there are no odd and obscure, and the world is round, and it is one and all the hills are porous, and the destiny of mankind is a common destiny, and it is not, we will say, a little more than a coat of convincing the world for 50 years to come, that we refused to think about before we adopted the policy of hiding our cake and bringing ourselves in to enjoy it.

Quote, Unquote
"THE church's business is not only to proclaim spiritual laws, but to deal with the lawbreaker—the other thing is the interest that he may be cured."
—Canon Thomas A. Sparks, pastor of St. John's in the Divine, New York City.

"This younger generation, Bah!—In my day we had sit down strikes—and it certainly saved a man's feet!"