A Year Without Roosevelt

who attempted to fix Franklin Roose-versary of his death. The storm of con-troversy that surrounded him in life con-tinues unabated, even though his political heirs have made something of a mockery of his principles and ideals; it will con-tinue, we suspect, until the generation he dominated has passed.

dominated has passed.

But, even if we have to leave it to unborn historians to decide finally whether Franklin Roosevelt, who was certainly something of both, was predominantly politician or statesman, the passing of twelve month has at least given us a new perspective. We begin to see him, not against the background of America moving from depression to war, but against the background of a world in which old political forms were disuntegrating and revolutionary currents were running high.

We know now that ours is the only na-tion to survive the storm with its tradi-tion of free enterprise intact Perhaps we can even see! those of us not blinded by the unreasoning hate Franklin Roosevelt

Twould be a foolhardy prophet indeed somehow engendered, that he always who attempted to fix Franklin Rooseworked within the framework of constitutional limitations. He changed the shape tutional limitations. He changed the shape of the Federal Government to be sure, expanding it to meet the crises that measured his regime, but he never attempted to alter its form. The powers he exercised, some of them never before exercised by a President of the United States, were not usurped, as his critics have insisted, then and now, but freely given by a free people turning to a strong man in a moment of terror.

If we had to make a foolhardy guess it would be that those unborn historians will finally place Franklin Roosevelt as a great conservative whose experiments (they will seem cautious a century from now) were designed not to break trail toward a new way of life but to preserve ancient institutions.

Be that as it may we can think of no finer tribute to Mr. Roosevelt than the conviction of those who believed in him rand, we suspect, of a great many of those who didn't that the dislocations and un-certainties of this moment are the direct result of his death a year ago today.

How Abominable Is The Bill?

CONGRESSMAN BULWINKLE, having CONGRESSMAN BULWINKLE, naving learned in his years of public service that it really isn't necessary, does not reply to editorial criticism. It is, we think, just as well, for at this moment when his Bulwinkle Bill is being worked over by scores of freight-rate-conscious Southern editors. would have time for little else.

He has not, therefore, responded to our recent suggestion that it might be well if he publicly explained his sponsorship of a be publicly explained his sponsorship of a measure that would suspend Pederal antirust laws governing the operation of common carriers by rail, highway and inland
waterway. It is quite true that the background of the Buiwinkie Bill is fully set
forth in a 419-page report on hearings
held before a subcommittee of the House
Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, and that Major Buiwinkie explained
his sponsorship of the measure on the
floor of the House when HR 2556 was first
introduced. But, like so many deathies
words fed into the Congressional Record,
the full explanation has long since been
lost in the outery now raised against the
Bulwinkie Bill.

Major Sulwinkle believes, we gather from a study of the record, that control of common carriers' should rest exclusively with the Interstate Commerce Commission; his bill does not provide a bianket exemption of railroads and other carriers from the anti-trust laws, but suthorizes the foctors suspend those laws if it feels the public interest is being served by agreement among carriers on operating practices, etc.

Recent efforts of the Justice Department under the anti-trust law has brought about a condition which requires and demands an immediate common-sense nedy." Said Major Bulwinkle on the day introduced the bill:

It is a matter of general knowledge that the carriers cannot serve two masters; therefore. It becomes the duty of the Con-gress to say which Government agency, or department, shall have control of the regu-lation of the railroads and other carriers.

lation of the railroads and other carriers.

The bill that has been introduced today seeks to remove the uncertainty and confusion and places the regulation under the agency of Congress, the Interstate Commerce Commission, and makes it entirely clear that the anti-trust laws are not to be applied to common carriers in a way which will prevent or obstruct the carrying out of the will of Congress.

The question, then, comes down to the

fitness of the ICC for the task the Bul-winkle Bill would confer upon it. In the view of Southerners who have led the fight against freight rate discrimination, the ICC has demonstrated a singular un-tioness. Representative Helen Douglas Man-liuress. Representative Helen Douglas Manfitness. Representative Helen Douglas Man-tin summed up their argument when she testified this week before the Senate In-terstate Commerce Committee: "The ICC has become so involved in its own red tape that it is no longer capable of serv-ing the function of an energetic, militant enforcement agency which would be re-quired if the transportation industry were relieved from the operation of the anti-trust laws."

Mrs. Mankin went on to recall the rophecy made by Richard B. Olney, Cabi-et officer under Grover Cleveland, who dvised a rallroad president:

dvised a rallroad president:

The (Intertate) Commerce Commission, as its functions have now been limited by the courts is, or can be made, of great use to the railroads. It satisfies the popular clemor for Government supervision of the railroads; at the same time, that supervision is entirely nominal.

Further, the older such commission gets to be, the more inclined it will be found to take the business and railroad view of things. It thus becomes a sort of barrier things, it has becomes a sort of barrier business and the people and a tort of professions and the people and a tort of produced the people and a tort of the people and a tor

The part of wisdom is not to destroy the Commission, but to use it.

Commission, but to use it.

We are inclined to agree with Mrs. Mankin that Oliney's prophecy has largely come
true. The record of the ICC is not impressive, and we see no reason to believe that
the public interest will be well served by
glving that body wittually unlimited authority to promote restrictive agreements
among the carriers.

But, even though we oppose the Bul-winkle Bill, we can find nothing in it to justify the sort of editorial going-over Major Bulwinkle has been receiving lately. The Raleiph Nens & Observer, which pra-motes alcoholic temperance through edi-torial treasures. motes alcoholic temperance through editorial intemperance, has been giving the Major the sort of treatment it usually reserves for ABC Stores. He is customarily referred to as a Quisling, and HR 2556 appears in the $N \in \mathcal{O}$ 0 Stright lexicon as the Bulwinkle Bill of Abominations.

There is ample reason to question Major Bulwinkle's judgment, but we can find no cause to question his motives, as The News & Observer'does by inference.

Post-Mortem On Minimum Wages

TTS sort of a post-mortem, now that Southern Senators have amended the Se-cent minimum wage bill into oblivion. but the North Carolina Unemployment Compensation Commission has come up with figures indicating that, at the moment at least, the proposed Federal legislation wouldn't have made much difference even if it had passed.

A study by Frances T. Hill, of UCC's in-formational service, underlines the fact that low wages in North Carolina are gen-erally concentrated in the intra-state enerally concentrated in the intra-state enterprises which do not come under the provisions of the Federal law. In industries engaged in inter-state commerce, which would have been affected, the average weekly wage is now \$29.16. far enough above the proposed 326 minimum to indicate that no great number of North Carolina workers would have benefitted by the proposed new floor.

Intra-state payrolls, bound by no wage legislation of any sort, present a far different picture. The average wage in retail frade is \$1791. Workers in the service industries (hotels, restaurants, laundries, 96c.), take home an average weekly wage 55 206.2. And Mrs. Hill adds: "Break down of \$20.62, And Mrs. Hill adds: "Break down the pay of teachers into weekly and hourly raies, and most of them too will be found to sam far less than the standard of \$26 announced for factory hands. Also, lucky the trained office cierk or farmer's helper who does that well."

In arguing against the minimum wage ill, a good many Southerners made the det that industrial workers are getting loss above of Federal benefits these that was the excuse for tagging on

the fatal farm price increase amendment. It an interesting principle, and it should follow that somebody should also be concerned over the fate of all those underpaid workers bevond the reach of Federal legislation, whether they be shoe clerks or laundry workers. legislation, wheth

laundry workers.

The Congress, of course, can do nothing about the matter. Only a state minimum wage law can reach workers employed in intra-state commerce, workers Mrs. Hill finds are "really below standard." Cerainly the Legislature should give the matter careful attention, and soom—for existing Federal minimum wage laws have alaready made industrial workers in North Carolina a favored class. And let us hasten to add that the way to end discrimination is to raise the wage level of non-industrial workers, not pull the level of industrial workers down to meet it.

To dictate his memoirs Cousin Winston is going to stay in bed. It is taken for granted the unlighted cigar has passed the underwriters' safety tests.

"Restaurants may cut portions, with no decrease in prices, if patrons don't object." Somewhere in all this we sense a refined "—or else."

'That's A Joke, Son-You Don't Seem To Get It'



People's Platform

OPA's Argument On Cotton

WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE Government's action in establishing higher uniform margin requirements to curb apeculative cotton purchases has resulted in a number of angry statements which tend to becloud the facts. I want tell you briefly why this step had to be 'taken. The present advance in cotton futures prices is a speculative rise that has many harmful aspects. Primarily this rise is dangerous to the public because Primarily this rise is dangerous to the public because of a second production of cotton textiles and low-priced clothing. Early last month OPA had to rake celling prices of almost all cotton textiles and low-priced clothing. Early last month OPA had to rake celling prices of almost all cotton textiles and varns to offset increases in labor and cotton costs. OPA also provided an additional incentive price increase for types of fabrics supportly needed for production of men's cotton decises, work clothing and essential industrial and agricultural purposes.

When these prices were adjusted, Chester Bowles and I jointly pointed out that unless raw cotton prices remained stable the extra allowance to textile manufacturers would be eaten up for a further specified on textile production would be lest.

Paeed by a runaway cotton futures market, however, raw cotton has shot up almost 1 1 2 cents

effect on textile production would be lost.

Paced by a runaway colton futures market, however, raw cotton has shot up almost 1 1 2 cents a
pound further in less than four weeks to the highest
price in 22 years. This rise in cutton prices in the
last month is about equal to the increase which took
place between April 1942 and the end of the war.

brings to a total of 25 per cent the increase since

befuse to total of 25 per cent the increase since V-J Day.

Another compelling reason for stabilizing the price of cotton has now developed. A proposed amendment to the Price Control Act would make OPA base its cotton textile ceilings on current inflatted market prices for cotton. The law presently specifies that our textile ceilings will permit milit to pay partly for cutton. The latest partly price for cotton pound while the average market price is 2700 cents.

that our textile ceilings shoul permit mius to pais to be a competent of the control of the cont

is logically no alternative to the present effort to stabilize cotton prices.

I am in thorough agreement with Chester Bowles who has just stated that this problem must be met-directly and vigorously. I feel that the step we have taken, is justified and is in the best interests of the National welfare.—PAIL A PORTER

-PAUL A. PORTER.
Administrator, Office of Price

County Fire Runs

County Fire Runs

CHARLOTTE

In your issue of April 9th you have an article under
the heading 'Fire Dept. Must Grow', which was
relection, and in that article you mention the fact that
the money is needed for the purchase of additional
fire lighting equipment. County of Mecklenburg 21
is this equipment. County of Mecklenburg 21
in the bonds carry, do the citizens of Mecklenburg 21
in the same ksue you show a photograph of 'the
ancient truck still in use.' Of course that truck is
the Englise from No. 3 station was sent beyond Disle
on a country alarm, the distance of approximately
nine miles from the station.

If was in use the same day, when the Englise from
and approximately twelve miles from the station
and approximately twelve miles from the station
on a country alarm.

If the old truck is 'ancient', why not place it on
runs beyond the City limits'

Palmer states 'If and when the city limits are
extended, then that will have to be taken care of
later'.

The palmer states 'If and when the city limits are
extended, then that will have to be taken care of
later's far as the Fire Department is concerned the
limits have been extended.

later."

As far as the Fire Department is concerned the limits have been extended and they reach from county line to county line to county line.

You can check above with the City Fire Department, and or, the Rural Police.

My name?

Let's have facts, regardless of names, and remember, if that truck had been wrecked at Wither's Bridge and the men killed or fujured, they would have been beyond the compensation distance.

Why?

Why?

NOTE: We break a rule against anonymous letters to tell this remarkably well-informed ob-

WINTE: We break a rule against anonymous letters to tell this remarkably well-informed observer:

(1) That portion of the bond issue providing for expansion of the fire department will be underwritten to the control of the fire department of the control of the fire department of the control of the fire department a flat annual standby fer of \$2,000 pius a fee of \$25 for each run outside the city limits, and each run outside the city limits, and the control of the fire when the control of the fire when the control of the fire were within the twelve-mile limit.—Eds. The Rews.)

The People's Platform is available to any reader whenever to month to communications reader whenever to make the should be test than 200 words possible, and on only one side of the paper. Libel and obscenity will be deleted—otherwise anything ones Each letter must be supend, always to the control of the c

Marquis Childs

The Draft Ouestion

In their deals to put weighting of the President, the Secretary of the President of State and the draft is still uncertain.

That means a great many other things are uncertain, including the discharge of Inudereds of thousand Armites of Occupation is Germany and Japan. The whole structure of our postwar military organizes of Occupation is Germany and Japan. The whole structure of our postwar military organizes of the project of the elections. In the project of the elections of the project of the elections of the project of the elections. The project of the elections of the elections of the project of the elections of th

and early 1930's. One aske 3950's.

The Rouse Milks of the Milks of th proce of 70 squadrons.

DRAFT NECESSARY

The evidence shows that this minimum force cannot be sustained without the draft. How much the shortage would be with only voluntary enlistments, no one can say for sure. Eisenhower and his planners believe it would be close to 460,000.

close to 400,000.

That is the hurdle Congress is so reluctant to take in an election year. What a number of Congressmen are doing just now is trying to find ways and means to get around the barrier. These range from the wistfully hopeful to the foolishly fantastic.

is so reluctant to take in an election year. What a number of
Congressmen are soling just one
Congressmen are soling way
Congressmen are soling
Congressmen
Congress

DRASTIC CUT

Samuel Grafton

FDR: One Year After

NEW YORK
A S to what he would have done
had he lived during this year
it is, of course, impossible to any
and he was very litted toward the
end. It is easier to speculate as
to what might not have been done,
what might not have been done,
what might not have happened, had
he not died. Offmand, one thinks
at once that Mr. Churchili would so large a speech; no, not with him in the White House. And so the first point is that a kind of imbalance has followed the death.

imbalance has followed the death, that all sorts and conditions of men have been able to play new roles because he is gene. It is because he is dead that Mr. Bevin has pecome the strategic cils of the world, and the unignited Mr. Vandenberg has become one of our chief founts of authority on foreign affairs, and the devoted Mr. Byrnes has had to try to change that of triess servant to that of maker of policy.

WENT ON BEFENSIVE.

WEST ON DEFENSIVE

in fair surroundings, amid fine surfaces of wood and porceidin.

The surfaces of wood and porceiding the surfaces of wood and porceiding the surface of the

which he worked, is to become very with as a man whose lifetime was generated. Sa begular, as a man whose lifetime was spent in deadled, far from the gas sea man whose lifetime was spent when the year.

I was to see the toys and agagets with which he played, and a room in which he worked, is to become very concelous of him as the artistoreria, as a man whose lifetime was spent.

Drew Pearson's What If Wallace Had Been President? Merry-Go-Round •

WASHINGTON

Would History Have Been Different?

SOME changes, of course, would have been certain. Sumon reflections of the polar state of the polar state for spread of the polar state of the polar state for spread of the polar state of the polar state for spread of the polar state of the polar state of the polar state photographers; would have had more professors instead of Missouri were wolven around him; would have had just as much labor trouble, though might have been better at solving it.

Not so will rorman. He witcher we ended if any Cabinet meetings were long and islaurely sometimes issuing two hours, with everyone given plenty of quently monopolized the conversation, loved to tell stories of the past. But no Gabinet meetings were long and islaurely sometimes issuing two hours, with everyone given plenty of quently monopolized the conversation, loved to tell stories of peak. But no Gabinet meetings were long and islaurely sometimes issuing two hours, with everyone given plenty of quently monopolized the conversation, loved to tell stories of peak. But no Gabinet meetings were long and islaurely sometimes issuing two hours, with everyone given plenty of quently monopolized the conversation, loved to tell stories of peak. But no Gabinet meetings were long and islaurely sometimes issuing two hours, with everyone given plenty of quently monopolized the conversation, loved to tell stories of peak. But no Gabinet meetings were long and islaurely sometimes issuing two hours, with everyone given plenty of quently monopolized the conversation, loved to tell stories of peak and the pea

eight years in the Cabinet himself. Wallace is recognized even by his enemies as one of the best administrators in Government.

even by his enemies as one of the best administrators in Governmenia, under the best periodic of the control of

Truman's Cabinet Meetings

Net result, however, is that Cabinet debates are brief and to the point. Important policy matters are not deeply dead to the point important policy matters are not deeply delicities. The property of the pro

Lonely FDR

LURICLY FUR.

O'NE evening while Roosevelt was living. Ed McGrady came
O'net to the residence part of the White House to center
with the President on a troublesome strike problem. It was
after 11 P. M. He walked along the thick carpeted corridor
outside the Lincoin study. The President did not hear him.
As McGrady came to the door, which was open, he glanced
inside.

inside.

The room was dark except for one lamp on Roosevelt's deak which illuminated his face as if in a stage setting. The President hat there, gasting off into space. Me was not set the setting of th