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It's A Cheap Political Trick

THE emasculation of OPA has been underway in Congress for months, but as the June 30 deadline for termination of the present bill approaches details of the behind-the-scenes operation are beginning to leak out. This week the Senate will take up what its Banking Committee left of the bill to extend price controls for another year, and individual Senators have a chance to add a few wrinkles of their own. Then the House will have another crack at it before it goes to the President for approval. Under the present time schedule the bill seems likely to pass. Mr. Truman, only a few days before the old legislation expires, thereby making his veto a guarantee of OPA's death.

This is a deliberate Congressional conspiracy to shift the onus for ending price control to the President. By sending over an unworkable bill at the last minute, the Congress hopes to maintain a record of support for the theory of price control. The various amendments—to take the lid off meats, grain, dairy products, etc.—add to a death warrant for OPA but they are complicated and confusing. It will be most difficult to examine an individual Congressman's voting record and find out exactly where he stood on what Chester Bowles has correctly defined as the main issue—whether OPA is to be continued or not. It is obvious that Congress would never go to such ends to avoid a clear-cut vote.



A Project With Possibilities

A good many organizations in Charlotte, official and otherwise, have discussed the local housing shortage in the past year. None—with the exception of City Council, which has announced its willingness to accept any money the Federal Government cares to spend—has done anything about it. Independence Post of the American Legion now reveals that its members have been busy with housing. And they have even progressed to that point in their conversations where they have evolved a plan. The Post proposes to establish a non-profit corporation to undertake the immediate construction of housing units for veterans.

that ensnarl any effort of City Council to take positive action. It would, perhaps, be able to take advantage of the offer of financial backing made some months ago by Charlotte bankers and others. If it could undertake the construction of really big-scale housing projects it would attract the interest of large contractors, who have been reluctant to turn from commercial building to housing. There are obvious economies to be derived from mass purchasing, and centralized buying, and they make it easier to obtain the rare materials that elude the individual home-builder. Moreover, there is a special sort of energy about private non-profit organizations of the type proposed by the Legion post. The lethargy that sometimes overcomes the Government agent rarely attacks the volunteer worker. Corner-cutting comes naturally to those who have convinced themselves that theirs is a noble and worthy cause. Certainly no cause could be worthier than the one taken up by Independence Post. Housing for veterans, despite the dwindling public interest in it, remains Charlotte's leading social, moral and economic problem. It's good to see a private organization, at leasting it with something more positive than an offer of sympathy for the homeless.

People's Platform

The Revolutionary Scots

WILMINGTON, DEL. Editors, The News: THERE has recently been sent me a clipping from one of your recent issues, probably May 20, of an article by George Davis, special writer, entitled "The Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence signed in Charlotte 171 years ago today." Mr. Davis refers to John McKinnit Alexander, one of the prime movers of this Declaration, as having been born in Pennsylvania. He was the brother of my great, great, great grandfather, Amos Alexander. Both Amos and John McKinnit Alexander were born in Pennsylvania, but in Cecil County, Maryland, where their ancestors had settled before 1700 on a tract of land known as "New Munster." John McKinnit Alexander was related by marriage (brother-in-law, I think), of these Alexander men. The family was Scotch-Irish. The Scotch-Irish were Scotsmen who had moved to Ireland at the desire of the British Government to settle on land which the British had confiscated from the Irish, and who came to Ireland with guarantees of freedom of religious worship and mild or no taxation. As they were Protestant (Presbyterian) in a country almost entirely Catholic, and as the British Government failed to carry out its guarantees, they suffered still further persecution in Ireland. This persecution is doubtless the principal reason that many Scotch-Irish, including many Alexanders, came to America. It is rather easy to understand, therefore, how their descendants in Cecil County and later in Mecklenburg County, realized that revolution would be the only successful way of dealing with the British Government. —WALTER BLACKSON

AA's Power

MITCHELL S. D. Editors, The News: MAY more power be bestowed upon this organization which has not only been based upon love-regard for unfortunate men— The alcoholic slave must first revive his love for himself, regain his self-respect. Just as the sinner must first open his heart and make himself receptive before Christ will enter in. The foundation of Christianity is love and service, not religious sects or creeds; although some religiousists thinking that ritual is the only suitable thread, spin a cocoon around themselves and expect to find eternal life within it. Christ's parable of the man who fell amongst thieves is symbolic. Hatred, indifference breed destruction, but love is constructive. May multitudes of drunkards live who can say "God, I thank thee, Alcoholics Anonymous, saved me from a drunkard's death to be a dear son, —MARVIN BAUER.

Mr. Royall's Change Of Pace

KENNETH ROYALL, as The Durham Herald remarked not long ago, seems to have been designated by the War Department as Apostle to North Carolina. The Secretary of War speaks frequently around the country, but in his acceptance of invitations he seems to lean toward those originating hereabouts, as is proper and fitting for a Tar Heel born and bred. This is a season of discontent, when the Army is feeling more than its proper share of criticism. Mr. Royall has felt constrained in the past to defend the War Department against some of the more common charges brought against it. Defend, perhaps, is not the proper word. Rather Mr. Royall has attempted to explain to the critics who usually jump off from the base of an isolated instance in their own experience, that the United States Army is a vast and complicated organization which can properly be judged only on the basis of its overall achievements. Here he is on solid ground, for his personal wartime experience was at the top, as a Brigadier General on the General Staff in Wash-

ton. Conceding that the Army worked many a personal injustice in the process, he can argue that the winning of World War II, in the brief time allowed for the task, was the greatest achievement in American history, and that his acceptance of invitations he seems to lean toward those originating hereabouts, as is proper and fitting for a Tar Heel born and bred. This is a season of discontent, when the Army is feeling more than its proper share of criticism. Mr. Royall has felt constrained in the past to defend the War Department against some of the more common charges brought against it. Defend, perhaps, is not the proper word. Rather Mr. Royall has attempted to explain to the critics who usually jump off from the base of an isolated instance in their own experience, that the United States Army is a vast and complicated organization which can properly be judged only on the basis of its overall achievements. Here he is on solid ground, for his personal wartime experience was at the top, as a Brigadier General on the General Staff in Wash-

Upside Down Glory

CHARLOTTE Editors, The News: CHARLOTTE'S citizens are rushing to work this morning some flag with not a glance at the flag that flies above the Mecklenburg County Courthouse. And that flag waves majestically in the breeze—only it is turned upside down to the way it was waving. Don't blame the custodian; maybe he is right and we are wrong. With our wars and strikes, with famines, with hate and prejudices, ... you can say that we are not turned upside down. That is, maybe he is looking down at the way our world from a different angle this morning. —S/SGT. ROBERT L. DENNY.

Quote, Unquote

OUR days will be numbered if we don't spend less time splitting atoms and more time trying to relax and enjoy life.—Paul G. Dally, Chicago Museum of Natural History anthropologist. To move American oil and chemical industries underground would be a task of staggering magnitude and would still leave the industries susceptible to sabotage through atomic bomb strikes.—Oil Division Report, U. S. Strategic Bombing Survey. Be co-operative and have respect for those over and under you and you will find that the law of compensation works and there is no telling how high you will go.—Col. Denby, after resigning as a master sergeant.

'Another Voice

Liquor Dollars And Alcoholism

THERE is a growing advocacy of using a portion of Governmental revenues from alcoholic beverages to combat chronic alcoholism. The latest proposal of the kind comes from Dr. Karl M. Bowman, retiring president of the American Psychiatric Association, who has been particularly deserving of attention. Dr. Bowman suggests that the Federal and local Governments allocate 10 per cent of liquor revenues to research into the problems of alcoholism. The amount of money spent in this country annually for alcoholic beverages is estimated at over \$7,000,000,000, according to Dr. Bowman. In addition, he said, disease, crime and poverty resulting from excessive drinking cost the United States about \$750,000,000 a year. The number of chronic alcoholics is "conservatively" estimated at 750,000. Dr. Bowman predicts that alcoholism will become a more serious problem. Therefore, he favors using some of the revenues derived from liquor to curb this disease. For alcoholism is a disease, and it is becoming increasingly recognized as such.

Dr. Bowman thinks that the major emphasis should be placed upon the treatment of alcoholic as sick persons, rather than upon a moral approach to the problem. The justice and the propriety of devoting part of the liquor revenues to the prevention and cure of alcoholism can hardly be overestimated. It should be difficult for Congress and State Legislatures to agree on that point. It would be harder to obtain agreement on how to put such a program into effect. Should it be a joint Federal-State undertaking, or should the national Government assume the various States make separate provisions? The Federal Government certainly should have a part in it, whether in co-operation with the States or otherwise, since it receives so large a proportion of the revenues from liquor, and since the problem is of national concern. There may be little prospect of early adoption of such a program, but it seems likely that public sentiment for liquor control and for alcoholism will continue to rise, and it should produce results sooner or later.—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

Dr. Pearson's Senators Shrink From Signing Oil Bill

Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON SELDOM has a Senate committee been so loath to put its name to a piece of legislation as the Senate Banking and Currency Committee which finished sabotaging the price-control bill last week. About all that was left of the bill was its name. When it came to signing it, New York's Senator Wagner, chairman of the Banking and Currency Committee, flatly refused. He pointed out to Truman a previous session that he opposed the emasculating amendments and would submit his own minority report. Senator Tamm, who did more than almost anyone to tear the bill to pieces, also hesitated. He said he had his own bill which he wanted to introduce. The role was taken by the Senators' names signed in a circle, so the public could not tell who signed first. "It reminds me," said Kennedy not Allen Barkley, "of the young man who shot his mother and father, then appealed to the court for leniency on the grounds that he was an orphan." Finally, Senator Barkley agreed to report the gutted OPA bill to the Senate, but accompanied by a stinging criticism of the way the OPA had been virtually destroyed.

New Secretary Of The Treasury

INSIDE fact is that all Truman's strongest Cabinet members—including Jimmy Byrnes, Judge Vinson and Bob Hannegan—were opposed to John Snyder's appointment as Secretary of the Treasury, though they were given no chance to express themselves. Inside fact also is that John Snyder himself was the strongest advocate of Fred Vinson's appointment as Chief Justice. Snyder kept urging Truman to promote Vinson out of the Treasury Department to the Supreme Court. There was no question as to what was in the back of Snyder's mind. He wanted Vinson's job and a closed-door session that he opposed the emasculating amendments and would submit his own minority report. Senator Tamm, who did more than almost anyone to tear the bill to pieces, also hesitated. He said he had his own bill which he wanted to introduce. The role was taken by the Senators' names signed in a circle, so the public could not tell who signed first. "It reminds me," said Kennedy not Allen Barkley, "of the young man who shot his mother and father, then appealed to the court for leniency on the grounds that he was an orphan." Finally, Senator Barkley agreed to report the gutted OPA bill to the Senate, but accompanied by a stinging criticism of the way the OPA had been virtually destroyed.

Surrender To Famine

WASHINGTON Secretary of Agriculture Clinton Anderson sends a great deal of time these days explaining that the United States is doing everything possible to help relieve the world's hunger. His assistants and staffers likewise produce miles of statistics to show what a tremendous volume of food America has supplied to the world. It is a tremendous. The statistics are impressive. Another country has to beg to approach our contribution. But even so, you have the uneasy feeling that Anderson and his men are doing too much protesting. Are we doing as much as we can? That is the question that matters. Anderson says yes. Other officials in the Government whose expert knowledge is greater than Anderson's say no. They have put together a set of figures which show that an increase of perhaps 20 per cent in the production of foods of high nutrition value is immediately necessary.

shutting down the orchance plants capable of making nitrogenous fertilizers. We would instead be concerned as rapidly as possible to furnish a new fertilizer supply. Of course, the fertilizer industry would like to see the price of fertilizer for millions. The same technicians estimate that five or six million people could be fed from our production of fertilizer. Production of all major food crops would be increased. The sad fact is that those who think in terms of a world of scarcity are influenced by the numbers—or some of them—have a touch of propriety and they are fearful of the possibility of surpluses and tumbling markets. When Secretary Anderson says we're doing all we can, he means we are doing all we can in a world of normalcy. It is a true statement if you are not concerned with scarcity and restriction again. If you ignore the fact (and what a fact it is) that the world is almost entirely illiterate and the techniques to produce enough food so that hunger is almost no one need go hungry. It is not a true statement if it means that the world is a place of scarcities and the possibilities. Those possibilities and potentialities could be made available to the world by the application of the techniques to produce enough food so that hunger is almost no one need go hungry. It is not a true statement if it means that the world is a place of scarcities and the possibilities. Those possibilities and potentialities could be made available to the world by the application of the techniques to produce enough food so that hunger is almost no one need go hungry. It is not a true statement if it means that the world is a place of scarcities and the possibilities. Those possibilities and potentialities could be made available to the world by the application of the techniques to produce enough food so that hunger is almost no one need go hungry.

Samuel Grafton

Fiasco In California

LOS ANGELES CALIFORNIA'S Democrats do not know what hit them. They can see it sooner and shall see it sooner as they walk down the street. Nobody has any excuse for the fiasco of the primary election in California. There is something wrong with the party. But Rogers will have to run in the Fall with no lead to keep them afloat. The California primaries do not represent an auspice; they are much more in the nature of a collapse. So it is perhaps wrong to say that the party is in a slump. The Democratic Party here in California: there has, rather, been a crumbling from within. The voters have fallen away in blocks and chunks, because there was so little to keep them afloat. The California primaries do not represent an auspice; they are much more in the nature of a collapse. So it is perhaps wrong to say that the party is in a slump. The Democratic Party here in California: there has, rather, been a crumbling from within. 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