

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1949 '

OUR HAM IN WONDERLAND

THE action of Congressman Hamilton C.

Jones in Joining the Rouse Veterans
Committee stampeds toward

At the risk of shattering our somnoient
solon's illusion, we would remind him that
the risk of the remind him that
the spot amount pension plan he has wotended to the state of water.

Rouse of two terms, suesumbed to that old water. to that old malady. Potomac fever.

It's a baffling sort of disease, faintly akin to hypnosis in that it whisks its victim from the world of reality and sends him floating along through a warm, sunbaked Wonderland where no one has any cares and everyone has plenty, of money to throw around.

He likes it, of course, and wouldn't for the world get well because then he would have to rever to this ugly, hard world where people have to work for a living and, somehow, save enough money from their grocery bills to pay their U. S. taxes.

solon's illusion, we would remind him that the \$80-a-month pension plan he has worked for would, even on the conservative estimate of its proponents who naturally minimize its cost, burden the U. S. taxpayers with a whopping six billion dollars a year, more money than the whole Federal Government cost a few years ago."

But quite apart from the unbearable cost is the completely unsupportable the ory that once a man has done his duty and served his country, he deserves to be sub-sidized the rest of his life by non-service connected disability payments and non-service connected disability payments and non-service connected old age.

'There is every reason to do as much as possible for the man who suffered injury or loss of earning capacity during his period of service, or for the families of such men. But such blankte, indications such as the such as the such thankte, indications and the such as the such such thankte, indications and the such as the such thankter indications are such as the such as the such as the such such thankter indications are such as the So, he rouses from his slumber and nods is head whenever any of his colleagues one up with an idea which will mean nore votes to send him back to his Won-

A TRAGIC REMINDER

IN VIEW of the two terrible tragedies in bone-dry Gaston County recently, it would be wise for North Carolina to stop

the alcohol problem by reverting to Prohibition.

In these two tragedles we have a fresh reminder that Prohibition, per s, does not (1) stop drinking, or (2) eliminate the unfortunate results thereof.

Last September the voters of Gaston County banned wine and beer. The beverages went off the counters two months later. Gaston became one of the new totally dry counties in North Courts, racing to later the problem of the counters of the problem of the counters of the union Road, crashed in 16 the automobile of one of Gastonia's best loved aid most popular citizens, Jim Leventis, killing him, and seriously injuring one of the officers. Both were innocent victims of an attempt to stop something which happened under a Prohibition law.

Monday night five men gathered in a Gastonia residence and began drinking a lethal mixture of bay rum, shelike solvent, and water. One of them was a chronic statement of the solvent, and water. One of them was a chronic statement of the solvent, and water. One of them was a chronic statement of the solvent of the solven

appointing officer who uses political favor-itism would be extended to the entire Fed-

eral system.

NEW U. S. PERSONNEL SYSTEM

THE recent report of the Hoover Com-mission properly concerned itself with the Federal job system for the very simple reason that the huge and complicated Government we have today can not be en-trusted to poorly qualified people. As Commission member Arthur S. Fiem-ing said:

trusted to poorly qualified people.

As Commission member Arthur 8. Pieming said:

These personnel problems must be solved or the other reports of the Commission work or the other reports of the Commission was made and the problems of the Commission will be made for its improvement to carry out the recommendations that have and will be made for its improvement of the commission method of recruiting and employing Federal workers which, according to The Washington Foot, Thas tutterly failed to meet the demands of the Government now that it employs more than 2,000,000 persons.

Continuing, The Foot says:
Continuing, The Foot says:
Continuing, The Foot says:
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Continuing, The Host says:
The Commission would be a supply the right man for the lob. It does not reach out for the most skilled men and the problem of discharging the unit; symmetry continuing the commission would a their of stand-"Graf, but "quoud give the vacious departments more leeway in recruiting and hiring their ong-people. To guard against political pairconage in employment, the present law requiring the dismission of any VA From The Foyetteville Observer

m The Fayetteville Observer

itism would be extended to the entire Federal system. The Hoover Commission goes into the many details of employment—rate of pay, hiring and firing, promotions, treatment of employees, and the like, approaching each with what appears to be eminently wise and sound judgment. But what all the words of the bulky report add up to is a frank, full admission that the U. S. taxpayers have not been getting their money's worth from the salarites paid to Federal Jobhoiders. There are, of course, countless thousands of competent, faithful workers who, if anything their works of the salarites and the salarites paid to Federal Jobhoiders. There are, of course, countless thousands of competent, faithful workers who, if anything others who are not properly qualified or are in the wrong Jobs. No system is any better than the people who administer it. If the Congress should agree that the Hoover Commission has put its finger on the main sore spoks, and adopt such legislation as may be necessary to carry out the recommendations, we will have gone a long way toward restoring order and efficiency to this monstrous government enterprise. There is all sensions, who have more than an academic interest in matters concerning U. S. Jobhoiders, will prefer not to disturb the present situation. If so, it will be up to the people of the country to persuade them to act. LEGAL ENGLISH

oyes." Norman French for "near ye, near ye."

There may be a reason for retaining araha ie and involved legalistic language other than the desire of lawyers to keep their trade secrets a mystery. How mature people could agre louis Carroll's Humpty-Dumpty told alice that "when I use a word it means what I choose it to mean." That may sound whimsical But in our own tay we have a New Deal justice of the U. S. Bupreme Court who spoke to the effect that interpreting a law to mean what the language might commonly be understood to mean may be periniclous over-simplification.

se great documents have been written

LEGAL ENGLISH

The Chio State Legislator who wants to a reform the language of law-making deserves credit for a good try, but it is doubtful that he gets far with his attempt, and the part of the law of the state of the constitution, it is true, has been subjected to twisting and extension, particularly on the control of the control o

In the United States is not a single important labor leader who, were he to take up residence in Russia, would not soon be hanged for a capitalist.—Charleston (S. C.) News & Courier.

Best Texas hobby we know about is collecting productive oil wells. —Dallas (Tex.)
Morning News.

Another sure sign the holiday season is over: The train has started Tunning on time. — Early County (Ga.) News."

FLOODS IN EASTERN EUROPE



Sumner Welles

The Scandinavian Crisis

THE pressure which the Kremlin has been bringing to bear upon one or another of the Scandinavian countries since 1945 has now culminated in its threat to Norway. The present crists emphasizes our direct, interest in the preservation of Scandinavian independence and of Scandinavian unity.

There has been a general tendency to think of Finland as merely another Soviet satellite. We are recreating that, although they are in the shadow of Leningard and subject to the onerous provisions of the Thinks of the transition of the Community of the Pinnas in their national election last Spring dared to purge their government of its Communist members. They are resisting Russiand ofmination under Stalin as courageously as they resisted Russian tyranny under the Cara.

It is significant that the Soviet propagands of this past week which charges Finland with "ma-chinations" for the creation of a Scandinavian al-liance has been timed to coincide with the demands made on Norway.

PAST FINNISH POLICY

Until now the Politiour has sought to control the Finnish sovernment by having its Communist stooges join in the establishment of popular front cabinets. It is the same stratery as that which has so successfully been employed in other Eastern European states.

of all of Finland's democratic parties.

The Pagerholm cabinet has checked inflation.
Because of its social legitation it has the support of industrial labor. As a result of its legislation of bute handling of the Communist strikes it has the backing of the conservative parties. Its immediate farm orices and to satisfy the demands of the rural towards. The conservative parties of the propular towards of the propular towards of the propular towards of the propular towards. The propular towards of the propu

What is quite as significant as the present So-viet propaganda offensive against Finland's social-democratic government is the fact that the secret plans of the Finnish Communists demand a total party reorganization by April 1.

party reorganisation by April I.

Should Moscow's attempt to gain control of the Finnish government fail, however, there is unfortunately
no question that the Red armise can overnm Finland
and reach the Finnish-Swedish frontier within 40 hours
and the Dance as well as the Swedish armore deflicted. It is hardly surprising that Swedish public
online unquestionably supports Swedish public
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Yet the Soviet threat to Norway may prove to be a costly blunder. Even the more ilmorous of the Scandinavians have not forgotten Hitleric cynical Scandinavians have not forgotten Hitleric cynical lavishly offered the smaller countries of Western Europe. They are even less likely to forget the way in which the Kremlin flagrantly disregarded its non-aggression pact with Carcholovakia a few months

Our own plipomacy, however, has rarely been less skilled than in the preliminary negotiation of the North Alanke does not be a second of the preliminary negotiation of the control of the preliminary negotiation of the preliminary and our failure to take into account the exposed position in which each Secondinavian sate must find fleat, until a comprehensive North Atlanke estimate fleat, until the present of the Secondinavian peoples. Our own policy has done much to offset the resentiment created by Soriel pressure.

resentment created by Sortet pressure.

A granula defense pact of the Western European national has become essential to the survival of the United Nations and to the security of the Western democracies. But it would be the height of folly or the United States to persist in a course that can promote Seandinass on countries to increased Sortet pressure before the countries to increased Sortet pressure before the American Congress has taken the action required to enable the American Executive to assure our partners in an Atlantic regional pact that this Covernment is ready and prepared to made adequate military aid in the event of aggression.

Marquis Childs

Questionable Act

One method is the prevald, group medical care plan. Familiar formed in voluntary groups each pay a manufacture property of the property of the

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Joseph Alsop

Vulnerable Flanks

Vulnerable Flanks

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Legal Processes Cool Atlantic Pact Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINOTON
T. WAS kept hush-hush, but Novestian Portin Minther Hawsh and way similar Portin Minther Hawsh and way similar Portin Minther Hawsh and way similar Portin Minson with a group of Concressional leaders in House Speaker
Sam Rayburn's office just before he returned to Oalo.

At the luncheon, the Norwegian diplomat shrewdy let
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process.

He estimated it might be five months before American dereched verway in quantity. It was this large distribution of the content of

dissects the mistakes of the press in the late campaign.

"It you hearth wittout his book. If have written it myself." Truman total Ernal, when the latter called at the While
flowes the other day. "It just had to be done."

Truman indicated he had read every word of the book
and thoroughly enjoyed the way the press and the predictor
were laten space.

"emarked Truman, "told me he had
handed out autographs all he lighe but never asked for one.
But I'm one Predictat who is going to sak for an autograph.
I want your."
I want your."

HERE is the Inside story on why Franco Spain attern with the State Department's Confession attended to state weight, health and results for size, weight, health and results of size of the state of the

He estimated it might be five months before American aid reached Norway in quantity. It was this lag, the Foreign Minister aid, that was causing the Norweystans someth conserns.

The man behind this loan is Paul Culbertson. American Conserns the Conserns of Massachusetts both expressed the conviction that America would would back Norway to the hilk. But the Conserns would would back Norway to the hilk. But the Norwer, the second would be the Norway to the hilk. But the Norway the Norway

Austrian Treaty Kaput

SAM REYBER, the American representative at the dis-cusions for an Austrian peace treaty, wants to some back that the conference only three days old, it's already quite clear the Russians have no intention whatsoever of coming to an arreement on Austria.