

Europeans Still Fail To Carry Their Share Of Load Under Marshall Plan

By PETER EDSON
NEA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—(NEA)—Economic cooperation Administrator Paul Hoffman has asked for next year's Marshall Plan funds. Last year it took Mr. Hoffman from January to August to get his dough. He asked for \$5,800,000,000. What he got was \$4,900,000,000.

This year's ECA budget calls for \$3,100,000,000. There's no telling what he'll get, but the hatchet men were ready and waiting to cut him down.

No one but a demon auto salesman would stick at making his sale the way Mr. Hoffman has. Probably no one but a demon auto salesman could get as much for ECA as he gets, even after the cuts.

The one big thing that Mr. Hoffman and the ECA have been working for is little understood. It is really the preservation of western civilization. That means it is a struggle against world Communism. If Communism wins, western civilization will disappear. In its place will be substituted a semi-barbaric Oriental civilization. That is why this battle has to be fought in western Europe first—not in the Orient.

In the law which Congress passed to get up ECA, two objectives were stated. One was to aid European recovery. The other was to promote European unity.

The first of these objectives has been coming along pretty well. The total output of goods and services in the 18 Marshall Plan countries was valued at \$155,000,000,000 in 1938. In 1947 it was down to \$138,000,000,000. Last year it was \$164,000,000,000. This is an 11 1/2 percent increase in two years, a 6 1/2 percent increase over prewar, with all figures calculated at 1948 prices.

One of the most frequent charges thrown against ECA is that the Europeans are loafing, living lush off of American aid. This may be the impression of congressional junketeers who have the plush carpets rolled out for them, or for American night club tourists who hit the hot spots. What the figures show is that consumption of food, clothing, etc., by private consumers was only \$1,000,000,000 higher in 1949 than the \$14,000,000,000 of 1938, although western Europe's population has increased by more than 10 per cent.

OEEC's new report is not over-



OUT OUR WAY

By J. R. Williams

Rehearsal Set At Jr. High For Camp Fire Story

Participants in the Camp Fire Story, to be presented Saturday, March 24, at 8 p.m. will hold a dress rehearsal Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the junior high school auditorium.

The pageant, to be presented in pantomime with a chorus of some 500 Camp Fire Girls, in the balcony, is scheduled to take about an hour and a half. Charles Ricketts is director of music, with Mrs. Lynn Beckley as accompanist. Curtain time is 8 p.m.

Miss Lois Fitzgibbons is directing the stage production, assisted behind the scenes by Mrs. Dale Sall, Mrs. Charles Leach, Mrs. Oscar Amundson and Mrs. Lloyd Gamble.

Kiwanis club members are having the programs printed for the evening's performance and Boy Scouts will act as ushers.

Tom Pargeter, Kiwanis club member, is heading a stage crew to be composed of Kiwanis club members or other civic club members. R. B. Brand will furnish an operator for the lights and loud speaker.

Two special music numbers are being arranged, one by the Camp Fire Girls from Riversdale school under the direction of Mr. Brownfield, and the second by the Winston Camp Fire Girls.

Properties and scenery are in charge of Mrs. Morris Bowker, Mrs. Albert Fiegel, Mrs. George Niday, Mrs. Tom Lindbloom, Mrs. Ray Lehman, Mrs. Harry Brubaker, Mrs. Robert Gladwell and Mrs. C. O. Russell.

Make-up will be in charge of Mrs. Jack Chapman, Mrs. Harold Hoyt and Mrs. Roy Stein. Mrs. James Conn and Mrs. Stanley Gro-

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shong are the committee on costumes. Miss Fitzgibbons and Mrs. Leonard Gibson are general chairmen for the production.

Attorney Crawls To Car After Skiing Accident

SPOKANE, March 21. — (AP) — United States Attorney Harvey Erickson crawled more than a mile to his car and then drove for help after breaking a leg while skiing Saturday.

Erickson, who was introduced to the sport only a month ago, was skiing alone in the foothills south-

east of here, his assistant, Frank R. Freeman said.

"He told me that he hopped and crawled with the aid of two ski poles for more than a mile to his car," Freeman related.

Starting the car was the hardest part of the self-rescue mission. Erickson had to maneuver himself into such a position that he could press the starter with his hand.

Erickson's leg is badly swollen and it may be several days before a cast can be used, his physician reported.

The sea spider is a remote relative of the crab and lobster.

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optimistic, but western Europe's dollar gap is closing. There was a deficit of \$7,500,000,000 in 1947. It fell to \$5,000,000,000 in 1948 and to an estimated \$4,000,000,000 for 1949. Barring catastrophe, the dollar gap can be cut to between zero and \$2,000,000,000 by the end of the Marshall Plan in 1952.

Where Nations Are Remiss

It is the unification of western Europe that recovery has been most disappointing. OEEC—the 18-nation Organization for European Economic Recovery which corresponds to the ECA in Washington—is given credit for having developed a good technical staff of technicians. It will probably be continued as a subsidiary of the Council of Ministers after the Marshall Plan is all washed up.

But it is this Council of Ministers which is regarded in Washington as making haste too slowly. Paul Hoffman went to Europe last October in an effort to speed them up. He made them a Dutch Uncle speech on what they had to do to promote European economic unity. It was widely hailed, and accepted in Europe on general principles. But it did not bring satisfactory action.

Agreement was made to cut intra-European quantitative restrictions on trade by 50 per cent. But the report on Europe's system of dual pricing was not acted upon. And nothing was done to set up a better exchange system for Euro-

pean currencies.

The appointment of Dr. Dirk Stikker of Holland as political boss or co-ordinator of OEEC with the Council of Ministers was considered a good step. He is known to be devoted to the objectives of greater European economic unity.

Brothers Given Title Of Flying Loggers

Stanley Hatfield, Glide logger who won Lawson's contest for "axe-wielding," has been known as one of Oregon's flying loggers since last October when he and his brother, Leslie, laid claim to that title by flying far up the North Umpqua river each day to work. They flew in Leslie's Piper Cub. The brothers are now working for Associated Plywood and report that they would fly to work there, too, if there were some place to set the plane down.

Latest feat of the Hatfields is tapping trees with a chain saw, which they find quite successful on a limited basis.

One Of State School Escapees Is Located

CENTRALIA, Wash., March 21. — (AP)—Officials at the state school for girls at Grand Mound said Monday afternoon only one of seven inmates who left the institution late Sunday afternoon has been located.

Centralia police said they were told the escapees included two 17-year olds, two 18-year olds, and others 15, 18 and 17. All were wearing cotton print dresses and green jackets.

The one escapee captured was said to be in Tacoma.

The state school for boys at Chehalis also had three runaways—but only momentarily.

One youth on Sunday afternoon got as far as Toledo before the state patrol nabbed him. Early Monday two more went only several miles south of Chehalis before meeting a Lewis county deputy sheriff just leaving his farm home. He returned them to the school.

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