

"We Kept the Faith, Buddy!"



More Information, Please

Senator Murray of Montana, author of the pending full employment bill, has explained in a letter to the New York Times that this piece of legislation is essentially an affirmation of faith in private enterprise.

But earlier in the same letter Senator Murray has this to say: "Well, private enterprise has been left to its own devices from 1870 to 1930 and the record shows a succession of depressions with resulting unemployment."

It might have been well if he had explained the difference between private enterprise's "own devices" and its "own initiative and ingenuity." He apparently discerns the distinction, but he doesn't say how he is going to curb the depression-causing "devices" while leaving the prosperity-producing "ingenuity and initiative" untouched.

The senator says that his bill "contains no provisions for regimenting or managing private enterprise." Yet one of its purposes is to stimulate increased employment opportunities by private enterprise through promotion of non-federal investments and expenditures.

It would also be interesting to know

how accurately the government could translate the general term, "full employment," into an arbitrary number of persons to be employed, and how accurately it could make long-range forecasts of future unemployment — an estimate on which, apparently, Mr. Murray's whole program rests.

It would be not only interesting, but necessary, to know how this whole proposition can be made to work efficiently without a return to the whoppingly expensive philosophy of deficit spending, without a commitment to permanent inflation, and without opening the door to an expanded government control of business.

Mr. Murry's rich if somewhat contradictory praise of private enterprise doesn't plug all the possible loopholes in his bill through which an administration with a mind to do so could introduce a form of state socialism without the country's direct sanction.

One doesn't need to be an altruist to share Senator Murray's desire for full employment. The eventual prosperity of all of us, rich or poor, requires it. For that very reason this bill which seeks to attain it should have an exhaustive examination. And there should be a clear understanding of further legislation required to put it into practice before the government or the people even think of committing themselves to its program.

Funny Business



"Hey, you frosh! Don't get the idea this is for keeps!"

SO THEY SAY

Nobody wants another WPA, but there is much constructive government work that could be done. There's a lot of difference between building a bridge and raking leaves.

The realization that the new atomic bomb is not only a weapon for use in war, but an unequalled weapon against war, is one of the best reasons for its creation.

Some people go to trouble to get into trouble, and then go to a lot of trouble to get out of trouble so they can get in trouble again.

The men's clothing industry undoubtedly can look forward to a rather long period of unprecedented activity.

Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEANSON

WASHINGTON—The army is determined that returned European war veterans shall no longer appeal to congressmen or newspapermen to hasten their discharge from the army or to protest redeployment to Japan for police duty.

Severe "secret" orders have just been issued to this effect over the signature of Brig. Gen. A. M. Gurney, chief of staff for Lieut. Gen. Lloyd R. Fredendall, commander of the second army. The order, which has been secretly circulated, reads:

"Recently members of a division in the United States scheduled for redeployment to the Pacific area appealed to the press and radio protesting against transfer of the division to the Pacific theater. . . . Action of this nature, if concerted, may subject participants to disciplinary action. . . ."

"Incidents such as noted in paragraph 3 above (the paragraph just quoted)," continued the secret order, "will be dealt with drastically by this headquarters and the commander concerned will be summarily relieved."

The division referred to probably was the 9th, stationed at Camp Shelby, Miss., which sent all sorts of appeals to newspapermen and radio commentators against being transferred from Europe to Japan. Apparently the protests worked, for the order to send the 95th to Japan was rescinded.

Those who traveled with President Truman on his various trips to Washington State and Potsdam found him a delightful and entertaining company. One story they tell about Truman's trip to the northwest was regarding his salmon fishing off the Washington coast.

While the motor boat was chugging back to shore, Truman and his old senatorial friends, Gov. Mon Wallgren and Senator Warren Magnuson of Washington, played poker. The stakes were low, but the thrifty Truman was trying hard to come out ahead. It was agreed that, no matter who was ahead, the game would stop the minute the boat hit shore.

So the president kept up a line of banter to the Norwegian skipper.

"Slow her down, Christiansen," he said. "I'm behind. I need a little extra time to catch up."

Or, again, it was: "Speed her up, Christiansen, I'm ahead now. Let's get to shore

before the governor catches up."

Finally, the motor boat touched shore with the president of the United States a few cents ahead. Skipper Christiansen was just as pleased as Truman.

OPA Crackdowns

Just before V-J day, the justice department announced an important drive to crack down on black marketeers and violators of OPA ceilings. Some people are now wondering whether the department's laudable move will fall by the wayside now that the war is over.

Those OPA prosecutions will come largely under the new assistant attorney general in charge of the criminal division, Theron Lamar Caudle.

Mr. Caudle is a charming, likeable gentleman from Wadesboro, N. C., who was U. S. attorney for western North Carolina. Based on previous happenings in his district, it would appear that Mr. Caudle is not energetic in pressing for prosecution of OPA violations.

Last November, the Cox Lumber company in Caudle's home town of Wadesboro was prosecuted by the OPA for violating price regulations. The suit was for \$450,000, and the OPA brought criminal charges.

However, the Cox Lumber company retained very distinguished counsel, Clyde Hoey, former governor of North Carolina, now U. S. senator and a good friend of Mr. Caudle. Mr. Hoey at that time was not actually serving as U. S. senator. He had been nominated, which is equivalent to election, but he had not taken the oath of office. Otherwise he would have violated the law which says a member of congress cannot handle a case against the U. S. government. However, Mr. Hoey, just before he officially became a senator, made some representations to justice department officials.

Suddenly the criminal case against Hoey's clients, the Cox Lumber company, was dropped. There is no evidence that Caudle had anything to do with this. Subsequently, however, Hoey urged that his friend U. S. Attorney Caudle be promoted to the key job of assistant attorney general in Washington in charge of the justice department's criminal division. Caudle got the job. Now he is in charge, not merely of OPA violations in western North Carolina, but of OPA violations throughout the entire United States.

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

A British military critic claims that we will be able to tell from women's styles whether "the future will bring another great upheaval or a return to peaceful stability."

He points out that in tranquil periods women, who are extremely sensitive creatures, go for soft fashions that accentuate their normal outline.

But, says he, when women begin to flatten their figures and wear exaggerated hats, there is trouble brewing.

That is a handy explanation of style trends for women to tuck away in the back of their minds.

It is a perfect answer to the man who wise cracks about the new fashions and claims that women are nothing but a bunch of sheep who would wear anything under the sun if they were persuaded it was high style.

We aren't sheep, Mister. We're just sensitive—sensitive to the events our intuition tells you are cooking up. There's strife and unrest ahead. Okay, we reflect it in the styles you call crazy.

If you want us to wear the kind of clothes that make us look extremely feminine and that really become us, then build us a peaceful, happy world, where a woman isn't faced with the possibility of having to step into some man's shoes.

And if you seuff at this explanation for our fashion trends, then we can say, "Well, I'm just telling it to you for what it is worth. It's not my idea. A man thought it up—and a military expert at that."

"And what's wrong with this hat, anyhow? This high crown is the very latest thing, and besides everybody is wearing crazy rats like this."

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—In spite of the last surrender of Japanese forces, that two days bing in celebration of the end of the fighting, President Truman's V-J day proclamation and various other justifiable causes for rejoicing, the lawyers in government are having a tough time trying to decide whether the war is over and if not, just when it will be. And since there will apparently be no peace conference that the late enemies have anything to say about, it seems probable that congress will have to pass a resolution, setting some arbitrary date, to make end of the war legal.

You may not realize it, but it is really important to know when this war is over, officially. A lot of things depend upon it. For instance, six months after the "termination of the war," it will be illegal to enlist WACS, WAVES, SPARS or Lady Marines. Six months after the "termination of hostilities," however, there can't be any more tax-free distribution of cigarettes to members of the armed forces.

What the difference is between these and other trick phases is something that only lawyers and other congressmen could think up. If congress didn't pass something to make it official, the war might go on forever and you wouldn't know the difference. What this proves is that it is congress which really wins the wars, not armies or navies.

But even an act of congress doesn't end the war adequately. Every individual has his own final V day, and the dates will differ.

For some people the war won't be over till the last tin can be stepped on, the last pound of fat turned in at the butcher's, the last scrap of paper saved.

When you can light a bonfire with your ration book, say along about next Fourth of July, that will be good. When you can get all the beefsteak you want and have it fried in butter, that will be better.

For others,—wives, mothers and best girls—the war won't really be over till a certain very special man in uniform can come home from the armies of occupation in

Germany and Japan. Maybe two, maybe five years from now. The last man out should signify something.

When the last displaced war-plant worker finds a peace-time job, when the last bit of surplus war property is disposed of, when the last record of WPB, WLB and all other alphabetical war agencies is bound in red tape and shipped to the Archives building, when the last war-criminal is tried and sentenced, when the last war refugee gets his belly full of food and finds a new home, when the last ruin is reconstructed, when the last reparations is paid, when the unknown soldiers of World War II whisper, "Move over, Buddy," to the unknown soldiers of World War I, and are properly enshrined.

When the new United Nations organization succeeds in stopping the next war—any next war—that will be something to celebrate. It will signify that this war to end all wars was not a phoney war to end wars, like the last one. If and when Germany and Japan are admitted to this new united nations organization as repentant, reconstituted, peace-loving nations, that should call for a holiday. When all the nations of the world are so well behaved they can call for disarmament, it should rate another double holiday, with triple pay and a half this time for the essential drones who have to work to keep the world wagging.

When the last war savings bond is cashed in, some time in 1956, it should be spent for whoopee.

As the veterans' bureau was recently reported still paying a pension to a descendant of a veteran of the war of 1812, which was fought 133 years ago, it is reasonable to assume that the veterans' bureau will be paying benefits to the descendants of this war, 133 years hence. That would put the end of the war in the year 2078.

With luck and good management the trillion-dollar cost of this war might be written off and the books closed in the year 2100. The point of all this is that wars really never end. Silly things, aren't they?



"So you say I'm cocky because I'm making too much money—well, there's nothing to stop you from taking out a hack license yourself and making what I do!"

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

By WILLIAM E. MCKENNEY America's Card Authority

ASK BID WITH FOUR NO TRUMP

Today's hand in my opinion is the most interesting of the recent national tournament. It came up in the finals of the Masters tournament.

A bridge hand diagram showing the cards held by Hymes and Schenken. Hymes has ♠KQ1065, ♥107, ♦K8642, ♣6. Schenken has ♠None, ♥J952, ♦Q1073, ♣87532. The dealer is West. The hand is dealt with a duplicate N-S vul. The opening is ♠A.

gin of 390 points.

The bidding shown occurred at the table at which Schenken and Hymes played. Schenken's bid of four no trump requested his partner to select a suit. After South's double, Hymes' pass said, "Partner, you select the suit." Schenken then bid his longest suit, which was promptly doubled.

Schenken double finessed the clubs and lost only a heart and a diamond trick. The interesting point of the hand is that North and South can make five spades, even though West opens a spade and leads another when he gets in with a heart. It can be made either by establishing the fifth diamond or by end-playing West after stripping his hand of spades and hearts.

IN FORMER YEARS

Thirty Years Ago

Spud crops throughout eastern Oregon and southern Idaho, are badly damaged by two potato diseases, and in some counties, particularly Malheur, there will not be enough for home consumption. Union county will produce just about enough to keep her own people supplied with potatoes.

Fifteen Years Ago

The Payette - Cooperative creamery to be located in this county, will be erected at Union, a group from the Grande Ronde was assured at a meeting held today at Baker.

The Natural Gas Corporation of Oregon, which is to establish a gas plant and mains in La Grande during this fall and winter, has purchased a two and a half-acre lot in the east section of the city.

Huey Long was elected governor of Louisiana.

Ten Years Ago

Gunshot wound was fatal to Senator Huey Long. Maj. Walter A. Bean of La Grande has received blue prints of the proposed La Grande national guard armory, for which a request for more than \$52,000 in WPA funds has been made.

This Curious World

A large advertisement for 'Whooping Cranes' featuring a drawing of a crane and text that says 'WANTED, ALIVE... MORE OF THESE GREAT BIRDS! WHOOPING CRANES ONCE FILLED THE AIR WITH THEIR NOISY SCREAMING FLIGHTS, BUT TODAY THEY STAND ON THE VERY BRINK OF EXTINCTION! LESS THAN 100 BIRDS MAY BE IN EXISTENCE AT THIS VERY MOMENT.' It also includes a testimonial from 'Private Elmer P.' and the 'Where's Elmer?' logo.

ANSWER: In the northwest corner of New Mexico. NEXT: The world's most thickly populated land.