

THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON

A Resume of Governmental Happenings in the National Capital

Washington, March 12—President Truman, who has lately been accused of giving too much consideration to politics and friendships in making his appointments, gained considerable prestige when he named J. A. Krug to succeed Harold Ickes as secretary of the interior. For Mr. Krug, who did such an admirable job of handling the War Production board, apparently has the respect of Republicans and Democrats alike and was undoubtedly chosen because of his recognized ability. In all circles here it is believed that he will be strong addition to the cabinet—a cabinet which now is such a mixture of political leanings that it can hardly be given a political name. Mr. Ickes' resignation means that the nly full-fledged New Dealer remaining in the cabinet is Henry Wallace, secretary of commerce. Rumor has it that there will be other changes in the cabinet within a short time, although no official recognition is given to these rumors. The most persistent one is that Lewis B. Swellensbach, secretary of labor, may be replaced. There is increasing optimism here over the possibilities of establishing a more friendly relationship with Russia. This optimism was created as a result of speeches made by Secretary of State Byrnes and by Senator Vandenberg. Both of these spokesmen took the attitude that we must get "tougher" with Russia, but both indicated that if we did so we should be able to work out agreements with Russia under which our countries could learn to

live together in mutual understanding. Said Senator Vandenberg, who recently returned from London where he was a delegate to the UNO: "We can live together in reasonable harmony if the United States speaks as plainly upon all occasions as Russia does; if the United States just as vigorously sustains its own purpose and its ideals upon all occasions as Russia does; if we abandon the miserable fiction, often encouraged by our own fellow-travelers, that we somehow jeopardize the peace if our candor is as firm as Russia's always is; and if we assume a moral leadership which we have too frequently allowed to lapse. The situation calls for patience and goodwill; but not for vacillation." Said Secretary Byrnes: "We must make it clear in advance that we do intend to act to prevent aggression, making it clear at the same time that we will not use force for any other purpose. We who had patience and gave confidence to one another in the most trying days of the war must have patience and give confidence to one another now." It is generally felt here that these two speeches cleared the air and may lead to franker discussion with Russia on these subjects which are causing friction between our nations. Perhaps one answer to a lower cost of living will be the "eat less" program which President Truman is now pushing, although it is expected that this will be an entirely voluntary program appealing to our sympathy for the millions of hungry people throughout the world. The guinea pig, not from Guinea, and not a pig, is a South American cavy, distinctly related to the rabbit.

Readjustment Pay to Self-Employed Vets in Agriculture Explained

Veterans coming back to farms from the war who would like to set themselves up as independent farmers, will find that the readjustment allowance program under the G. I. Bill has a special feature designed to help them to get started on their own. These are monthly payments available to self-employed veterans. During February the local USES handled 199 self-employed claims. It works this way: Any veteran who is fully engaged in a business of his own may receive a money payment covering the difference between his net income and \$100 for the previous calendar month. Many farm veterans for the months their crops and livestock bring no returns, receive the whole \$100. The purpose of this bill is to help veterans get established or become re-established in civilian occupations after their armed service. The allowances are of two kinds. Those for veterans who are trying to find the right job, and those for the veterans go to work for themselves, but don't clear as much as \$100 a month at it. A veteran may apply for these any time within two years after his discharge, or two years after the end of the war, whichever is the later date. Of course, each veteran has to decide for himself when he comes home whether he wants to go to work right away and claim allowance till he gets set—either in a job or for himself, or whether he wants to let them stand as reserve against a time he might need them more in months to come.

Wage-Price Policy Explained by Bowles

Washington, March 10—Chester Bowles asserted tonight that progress toward peak production and full prosperity is being delayed by "fear and doubt and blind self-interest." The stabilization director, in a move to smash what he termed "those bottlenecks," issued a policy statement on the new wage-price formula and described it as a "blueprint that can clear the way for the greatest flood of goods this nation has ever seen." "The thing we Americans need more than anything else right now is confidence," Bowles declared. He said he sincerely believes the new wage-price policy "is a practical step toward a future of sustained prosperity" and that "we can make the plan work to get the all-out production needed eventually to lick inflation." Successful operation of the plan, Bowles said, means this: "A good deal of give and take—and perhaps a little sacrifice; . . . a little self control over our selfish interests; a little less scrambling to get ahead of the next fellow who may seem to have some slight, temporary advantage. American Red Cross has provided case work and recreation service on military hospital ships since May 1943.

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EDUCATIONAL EQUIPMENT CO. OPENS OFFICE HERE Of interest to the people in this section, is the fact that there now is an agency in western North Carolina which deals altogether in a line of educational equipment and supplies. Edward T. Coles, formerly of Banner Elk and Winston-Salem, has recently become connected with the J. C. Penney Co., in Winston-Salem. Entering the service in 1942, he served in the air corps until he was discharged in December, 1945. The company he represents handles all types of visual training equipment and he is well qualified to help the schools in this section to select the best equipment to suit their needs. The bread ration in France and Italy is half a loaf per day while two-thirds of the individual's diet is made up of bread.

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