

LOOKING AT WASHINGTON

by Hugo S. Stone, Washington Correspondent

Rayburn Warns The Nation "Dangerous Trends" Alarm

Speaker Sam Rayburn recently took the floor of the House to discuss "dangerous trends" in public talk about the war and equally dangerous efforts of groups and individuals to profit by it at public expense.

Mr. Rayburn referred to complaints about "supposed sacrifices" the public has to make because of supply shortages caused by the war, expressions of fear about what Britain and Russia may do to American interests when the war is over, and the tendency of some groups to "think more about their post-war position than about winning the war now."

The Texan described as "dangerous propaganda" efforts to create disunity among the United Nations and insisted that "it is a reflection upon the intelligence of American manhood and womanhood to hold that we do not have patriotism and brains enough to sit around a peace table with anybody on the face of the earth."

Production Plans For 1944 War Demands Increasing Wilson Urges Sacrifices

The war production program for 1944 will be higher than that attained in 1943, according to Charles E. Wilson, executive vice chairman of the War Production Board.

Mr. Wilson says that the planning is based upon Army and Navy requirements which in turn are based upon the military experts' belief that there is plenty of fight left in the Germans and Japanese and that a long, hard war is ahead.

Mr. Wilson does not expect any "break" to bring about the early surrender of Germany and says that the war in Europe "seems likely to tax both our capacity for sacrifice and our capacity for industrial production beyond anything we have experienced so far."

Japan, according to Mr. Wilson, is a "tough, dangerous, persistent enemy." He says that officers and men who have come back from the Pacific theaters say that it will take a major effort, a big war, to bring Japan to her knees. Consequently, foolish optimism in this country plays into the hands of Japanese strategists who aim to tire us out in a long war and secure a negotiated peace.

The reader may be interested in figures given by Mr. Wilson, giving production comparisons in percentages of 1942. It will be observed that some programs continue to rise, while others are being reduced. Here is a summary of the production trend:

Munitions—The 1943 output 85 per cent more than 1942; 1944, about 215 per cent higher than 1942.

Aircraft tonnage—1943, 130 per cent higher than 1942; 1944, 325 per cent higher than 1942.

Naval ships—1943, 75 per cent higher than 1942; 1944, about 215 per cent higher.

Ordnance and signal equipment for the ground army—1943, up 60 per cent; 1944, about the same because capital equipment for the army is nearly completed and production will be required only for maintenance.

Construction—1943, less than 70 per cent of 1942; 1944 to drop to about 30 per cent since bulk of building plants, camps, etc., has been finished.

Tanks—1943, 13 per cent higher than 1942; 1944, to be 25 per cent under 1942, reflecting drop in tank requirements set by military authorities.

Trucks—1943 output 20 per cent higher than 1942; 1944, 100 per cent higher.

Small arms and ammunition—1943, 140 per cent more than 1942;

1944, only 60 per cent of 1942.

Artillery ammunition—1943, 70 per cent higher; 1944, 25 per cent higher than 1942.

Ships for Maritime Commission—1943, 100 per cent better than 1942; 1944, about 160 per cent.

Gillette Offers a Remedy Tax to Prevent Land Boom

Calling attention to the disastrous effects of the land boom that pauperized so many people after the first World War, Senator Gillette, of Iowa, suggests a graduated tax on profits of all second transfers of land after November 1, 1943.

The Iowan recalls that, during the earlier boom, land worth \$150 an acre went up to \$500 and farmers mortgaged all that they owned to buy more land. They were wiped out when the boom collapsed and the Senator says he saw more tears at that time than ever before.

Landowners of this county, if they were alive when the first World War ended, know exactly what the Iowan is talking about. There are scores of individuals, in this county, who have never gotten over the financial setbacks that they suffered in that era of boom and collapse.

What does Mr. Gillette suggest? He would permit any land owner to sell his land and keep the profit, but if the buyer sold the acreage within two years he would have to surrender 90 per cent of the profit to the government. The rate of the tax would decrease the longer the second buyer held the land until, after six years, there would be no tax at all.

This tax would eliminate much of the speculation that causes a land boom. It would not interfere with the majority of normal sales. By removing the temptation of speculative profits the tax would tend to stabilize the value of land, to the great advantage of the farmer and home-owner and the detriment of none but the ruthless speculator.

It is not often that we have the pleasure of agreeing with the Iowa Senator, but he has offered the landowners of the country a way to escape the disasters that visited them after the first World War.

O'Daniel Against Long Terms Would Limit Office Tenure Two Sides to the Question

Senator W. Lee O'Daniel of Texas thinks that frequent changes in the personnel of office-holders would be to the advantage of the great majority of the nation's citizens.

Senator O'Daniel would like to have a new president every six years and suggests that it would be "most wholesome" if every Senator and every Representative, after serving six years, would go back home and go to work and try to make a living under the laws which they have passed.

The Texas Senator apparently advocates the six-year limitation in order to prevent the building up of "a ruling dynasty" in Washington, made up of semi-permanent executives and a legislative branch subservient to the patronage power.

The O'Daniel idea is not new, although his remarks carry interesting implications at the present time. There has always existed a strong sentiment in the United States for "rotation in office" which is another way of suggesting limitation upon terms of office. The political history of the United States abounds with renunciations of the "town hall gang," the "court house ring," the "State House group," and the "White House dynasty."

While criticism of existing political cliques is often inspired by nothing more than a desire on the part of candidates to get the officeholder's job, there is a deep and fundamental objection to excessively prolonged tenure in office. The American people have a distinct dis-

trust of a permanent ruling class and strenuously protest against assumption that management of governmental affairs belongs to any particular group.

We think it well for the people to consider the views espoused by Senator O'Daniel and, at the same time, take cognizance of adverse arguments which apparently persuaded the founders of our government not to set definite limits upon terms in office.

It is elementary, of course, that frequent changes in personnel weakens the efficiency of any organization, including the political entity that is referred to as the government. It is usually advisable for every large organization to take advantage of the experience and wisdom gained by those who have served long enough to know what it is all about.

There is another argument against the arbitrary limitation of terms of office. It recognizes the fundamental right of the people of a democracy to elect officials of their own choice and to keep them in office as long as the majority of the voters think they should serve. This argument presumes that the people have sense enough to select public officials and that their judgment will not be corrupted by patronage, profits or profiteering.

The present theory of democratic government rests upon the belief that the people, as a whole, possess and are entitled to exercise complete power. This political philosophy precludes the imposition of restrictions which prevent the people from giving positive expression to prevailing popular opinion.

80,000 Landing Ships Needed For Invasions

American fighting men, tanks and other equipment will be put ashore all over the world in 1944 in landing craft which are now being built in 77 shipyards. Highest priority has been given the program and it is expected that eventually more than 20,000 sub-contractors will be engaged in producing this type of boat.

Rear Admiral Edward L. Cochrane, chief of the Navy's Bureau of Ships, reports that 20,000 landing craft, ranging from the 400-foot dock ships to the amphibian tractor, or Alligator, have been produced at a cost of \$1,500,000,000 exclusive of ordnance.

Some 25,000 additional craft are on order and 35,000 additional will bring the cost of the program to \$5,000,000,000.

The Admiral points out that 300 destroyer escorts were constructed this year at a cost of \$1,000,000,000, exclusive of ordnance, and that the program is still less than half finished. Owing to the improved situ-

ation in the Atlantic, the demand is less urgent but it is expected that many of the destroyer escort type will be required in the Pacific.

Landing craft have been used in the operations in Africa, Sicily and at Salerno and in Pacific landings beginning at Guadalcanal in August, 1942, and extending down to the recent campaign in the Gilbert Islands.

Of the 15 types of landing craft, the most spectacular is the LVC, or "Alligator," which can take swamps, rivers and anything else in their stride. The "Alligators" were particularly successful in climbing the coral reefs at Tarawa and continuing across the shore into the island. Their excellent performance prevented far worse times in the fight for Tarawa.

Cross Marks The Spot
Mother—Well, Jimmy, do you think your teacher likes you?
Jimmy—I guess she does; she puts a big kiss on all my sums.

AT FIRST SIGN OF A
COLD
USE 666
666 TABLETS. SAME. NOSE DROPS



American Christmas

Your friendship and patronage are indeed worthy of the most hearty and sincere thanks. May your American Christmas be happy and your New Year prosperous.

Pender's

Old Glory



Old Glory waves over American homes at Christmas time. The Stars and Stripes are symbolic of the true meaning of an American Christmas. It represents a freedom of doing the things we want to do—of being happy, with loved ones and friends.

Although the Yuletide is celebrated throughout the world there is no place where people are more privileged to enjoy this festive occasion as happily as those within the boundaries of this nation.

This is our heritage—to participate in the freedom made possible by our courageous forefathers who founded this nation on the basis of Liberty and Justice. It is our moral obligation to carry on the traditions of Christmas as a definite part of the American way of life. This is what we mean when we say we wish you a merry American Christmas.

Cannon's Pressing Club

HERTFORD, N. C.

Christmas 25

ANY YEAR	DECEMBER							ANY YEAR
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
28	29	30	31					

IT'S THE BIG DAY OF THE YEAR!

It's here! The BIG DAY! That one day of the year to which each of us look with eager anticipation. It is the day when all of us, at least for the moment, can relax and enjoy the fellowship of loved ones and friends.

We enjoy our friends all through the year, it's true, but there's something about Christmas that makes it stand out as the one day of the year when the cares of the morrow are forgotten in

the spirit of cheerfulness that is evidenced at Christmastime.

And so, as we gather with our loved ones, our neighbors and friends, let's receive comfort and happiness from the thoughts of courtesies and friendly acts of kindness which we have enjoyed during the past year. And on this BIG DAY of the year, please accept our sincere good wishes for the days of next year.

Hertford Hardware & Supply Co.

HERTFORD, N. C.

Merry Christmas

To You, and You!



It's our privilege to celebrate Christmas in the good old American way! Let's be thankful for this privilege.

Darden Brothers

HERTFORD, N. C.