

Looking at WASHINGTON

Federal Powers Increased By Distribution Of Funds

Governor Edward Martin of Pennsylvania, speaking to the Governors' Conference in Oklahoma, urged the States to take care of "their own financial burdens," asserting that by doing this "they can aid in the decentralization of the Government."

There is no doubt of the truth of the Governor's statement. The centralization of Government in the United States has resulted largely from the failure of State governments to provide themselves with the financial resources necessary to meet the

demands of modern times. It is much easier for State governments and their people to run to the Federal Government, which seems to have a more abundant source of revenue, and ask for the passage of a national law, with allocation of appropriations to the respective States. This represents a form of painless taxation to the voters of the commonwealth, but it inevitably adds to the power of the Federal Government.

The centralization which many people decry is not due entirely to the financial resources of the Federal Government. There has grown up in the United States a widespread tendency on the part of the people of the nation to insist upon uniformity of law. This has been coupled with a decided tendency on the part of national associations to project themselves into affairs which properly relate to the respective States.

Among the suggestions made by Governor Martin is one whereby certain taxes can be earmarked for each level of government. We think there is considerable merit in the suggestion but, in view of the demand for social services which many States cannot afford, it will be necessary, we believe, for the Federal Government to continue the process of distributing available revenue to the various sections in order to equalize economic, social and educational opportunities.

We are not in favor of the present system, whereby the Federal Government appropriates certain sums for

various enterprises, dividing the total among the various States with provisions and restrictions. It would be much better for local self-government and probably for the United States as a whole, if the Federal Government, whenever it has money in excess of its own legitimate activities, distributed appropriate sums to the various States for general purposes, leaving to the State governments most of the details connected with the particular enterprises.

"Four Freedoms" Were Not Objectives Of Our Recent Wars
Our total military victory "has achieved none of the great purposes for which we were told" the war was being fought, declares Norman Thomas, veteran Socialist.

Mr. Thomas is interested, of course, in discrediting the "capitalistic" government of the United States but since there are others who give utterance to thoughts very similar to that expressed by him it might be a good idea to look into it a bit.

The first question that we should ask is: Why did the United States go to war? The answer to this query ought to clear the thinking of muddled-headed people who have become confused. It will not affect the thinking or the talking of those who are determined to create discontent in the hope of making political capital out of national confusion.

This nation went to war solely because it was attacked by the Japanese at Pearl Harbor and when it undertook to defend itself against the Japanese the German and Italian governments promptly declared war. We had no choice to make; we were attacked by the Japs and the aggressor nations of Europe joined the orientals immediately by declaring war.

During the war that ensued, and prior to it, in an effort to explain the underlying differences between the civilization of free people and that of the three aggressors the President of the United States, together with other allied leaders, joined in various declarations relating to what are generally termed the "Four Freedoms." Not one of these was a war objective and there was no popular demand in the United States that we go to war for the purpose of establishing, extending or defending them in any other land.

The declarations about the Four Freedoms were valuable in that they directed attention to the fruits of Anglo-American civilization and gave the world an idea of what might be expected if the Western Democracies became all-powerful in the world as a result of the defeat of the Axis nations. Thus, they undoubtedly served a valuable purpose in areas where Axis propaganda attempted to persuade people that an Axis victory would lead to their betterment.

The "Four Freedoms" express the underlying political philosophy of the people of the United States and should serve as a guide in relationship with other nations, or peoples. At the same time we have never heard any responsible leader in this coun-

try suggest that the way to attain these goals is warfare, that the United States should use its power to conquer nations with different ideals or that they can be attained by force of arms.

The cause of our war was the aggression of the three nations that formed an evil alliance, designed to give them world control. The difference in the civilizations of the western democracies and the Axis powers, as expressed under the domination of their dictator-leaders, made a clash almost inevitable but it took a long time for the people of this country to remotely understand the nature of the peril that confronted them. Up to the day of Pearl Harbor there was doubt whether our people had been sufficiently alarmed to assure complete support to a government which dared defend this country in the absence of an overt attack by the enemy powers.

The war against Germany, Italy and Japan was a war of self-defense. The defeat of these nations, and the collapse of their aggressive designs, accomplished the full purpose of our war effort. When this nation went to war there was danger that free institutions, as we understand them, and liberty, as we understand it, would disappear in this nation unless the enemy powers were defeated. With their defeat the peril to our civilization ended. Our war effort and the sacrifice of our fighting men were completely justified, regardless of what happened thereafter.

Much has undoubtedly happened to mar the completeness of our victory. Because of squabbling among the Big Three, the demoralizing demobilization of American armies and the reluctance of our people to accept the responsibilities of world leadership, which entail onerous duties, there is danger that the threat to our civilization may be only temporarily eliminated. Even so, the war effort achieved its purpose and is today abundantly justified.

War Profits Investigation May Prevent Future Evils

The suggestion has been made that Congress look into the profits made by business enterprises out of war contracts, not so much for the purpose of putting anybody in jail as for the acquisition of information upon methods used which permitted the making of huge profits out of the war.

After the first World War there were nasty revelations about war profits, which helped the pacifists and isolationists in their work of propaganda. The sentiment of the people of the nation then, as now, was to take the profits out of war. Something was done along the line but not enough and the Congressional investigators want to find out what amendments should be put into existing

laws. Higher taxes have tended to reduce exorbitant profits but enough has become known to create the suspicion that many operators of war plants under contracts managed to evade the payment of taxes, or amassed such large sums as profits that they had considerable fortunes left in their possession. Even the re-negotiation of contract prices did not end the bonanza for some war contractors.

We have no objection to any business making a fair profit, even in time of war, but we join with millions of Americans in protest against those who stayed at home and made a fortune, out of helping their government win the war, while other men went overseas to risk their lives, without receiving much compensation. Many of the fighters left their businesses at home and found, upon their return, that conditions were not the same insofar as making a living is concerned.

We have seen some speculation about war profits that intimate that several large corporations have made an amazing sum out of operations largely conducted at the expense of the government. Others have operated without much investment, except those that they made out of profits from the war operation. Fair

profit is one thing but exorbitant gains, under such circumstances, is another.

Loans To Foreign Governments To Stabilize World Trade
By the end of 1946, the United States will have committed itself to about \$10,000,000,000 worth of foreign credits if the British loan is approved.
(Continued on Page Four)

Cooked A Fine Dinner Then Threw It To Dog

One lady recently stated that she used to throw her own dinner to the dog most of the time. It made her sick just to look at anything to eat. She was swollen with gas, full of bloot, had headaches, felt worn out and was badly constipated. Finally she got INNER-AID and says she now eats everything in sight and digests it perfectly. Bowels are regular and normal. She is enjoying life once more and feels like "some other woman" since taking this New Compound.

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Sunday, July 28—

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Wednesday, July 31—

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also

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