

Looking at WASHINGTON

U. S. Generosity Surprising

Since the end of the war, the United States has turned over an estimated \$1,000,000,000 worth of Army goods and equipment, to the German Government, according to a summary prepared by a Military Government official. This does not include appropriations of food and other material, to prevent disease and unrest, or a considerable volume of goods turned over to the Germans at the end of the war.

Those chiefly charged with the distribution of the surpluses, according to a press report, do not believe that the Germans have any understanding of the magnitude of American aid. This includes the distribution of large quantities of supplies scattered about the countryside and freely handed out, when the struggle ended, to prevent disease and unrest and get local industries going.

What has happened in Germany is but a miniature of what the United States has done for the world as a whole. Never in the history has any nation been so generous in spending its money for the benefit of other peoples. Literally billions of dollars have been used to prevent suffering, disease and death and to assist the victims of war devastation to get their economy on stable basis.

Will War Destroy Freedom?

A number of thoughtful Americans have pondered the effect of another war upon the United States, fearing, that our government and our future, as well as our cities and resources, will be demolished in another great struggle.

Skipping for the purpose of this article the effect of another war upon our cities and resources, we address our thoughts to the effect upon our governmental structure. Already there are those who believe that radicals in this country backed our entrance into the last war in hope that the stress and strain would facilitate the development of socialism.

There is a danger, of course, that such a result might follow another great war, especially if the nation finds its economy dislocated, its resources seriously impaired and the national debt enormous. Another viewpoint is that there is danger of centralization, which would just effectively destroy our system of government. This may come as a result of concentrating power to wage war or gradually through undue excitement over international crises, as the present impasse with Soviet Russia.

There is ground for apprehension because the nation finds itself in something of a dilemma. The constitutional form of government, setting up a republic and leaving to the states broad powers, seems to be inadequate to meet the threatening situation in the international field. It has likewise proved somewhat inadequate to restrain the greed of some business leaders or to provide the necessary social services which the people demand.

Much of the propaganda for a strong central government stems from the fact that business corporations used states rights as a defense against necessary regulation. Obviously, forty-eight states, operating independently, could not effectively provide the uniform legislation and regulation which became necessary because of the rapacity, greed and lawlessness of selfish men, operating gigantic and powerful economic enterprises.

In the field of foreign affairs, it is usually observed that the Federal Government, if it is to protect the peace and security of the United States, must have broad powers. This was clearly foreseen in the formation

of the American Republic. The direction of foreign affairs was left in the hands of the Chief Executive.

Apparently fearing that some of the colonies might be overcome by revolutionists, or armed invasion, a section of the Constitution requires the United States to guarantee a republican form of government to every state, protect them against invasion and, in certain cases, against domestic violence.

The President was made Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces and the states, except when invaded or threatened by invasion, were prohibited from keeping troops or ships of war in times of peace or engage in war.

There are other historic reasons behind the gradual enlargement of the powers of the Federal Government. These relate to the distribution of the public land. It includes the use of public funds to provide subsidies for business enterprise, bonuses and pensions for individuals and largesses to the states to encourage certain activity and development.

The Federal Government, through its powers of taxation and especially the use of indirect taxes, was generally able to secure money from the taxpayers with less trouble than the states, which, in the early days, relied heavily upon direct taxes for their revenue.

There is additional explanation for the decline of the power of the states. While the thirteen original colonies were zealous in protecting their rights, no such sentiment developed in the territories which later became states.

The people in these areas looked to the Federal Government for statehood and assistance. In early days of this nation's development, they were unable to help themselves and recognized Washington as the place from which to secure benefits in the way of legislation and cash.

Naturally, a territory, aspiring to statehood and looking to the Federal Government for recognition and financial assistance, was not an area in which one could expect the development of any strong support for the rights of the states.

The present situation in the United States, in which we find many sincere people in all parts of the country questioning the increasing centralization of power in Washington, is an inevitable result inextricably tied up with the history and development of the United States.

The answer, it appears, is not to be found in the position taken by extremists on either side. It is perfectly obvious, for example, that there will be no return to the doctrine of "sovereign states," but there is a growing realization that all power in this Republic must not be centered in the vast Federal structure that is housed in the City of Washington.

It is not easy to outline a compromise solution of the governmental dilemma, so that the Federal Government may be strong where strength is required for the protection of the nation and yet, at the same time, preserve the local autonomy which is the inherent right of free peoples and the background of the strength of any government of the people, whether in the form of a republic or a democracy.

Eventually, as wisdom utilizes past experience, a line will be drawn, more clearly defining the scope of Federal power, in the light of the modern age, and retaining the system of checks and balances which the founders of this Republic utilized to prevent the creation of a full democracy which might easily lead to revolutionary control by what the Communists call the proletariat.

It is essential, in connection with this problem, that the people of the nation understand the difference between a Republic and a democracy. The former, acting through representatives elected by the people, is not designed to give unbridled sway to the power of a majority vote. Its operations rest upon full recognition of the right of local self-government.

This was evident in the early days of the Republic but has given way, in the opinions of many Americans, to the ideal of a nation, governed in its vast details by the will of a popular majority without regard to constitutional provisions which protect the rights of minorities to do things differently if they prefer.

There is another danger, inherent in a government which is controlled by a centralized regime. Such a structure is open to the attack of any violent minority which is able to seize power and willing to disregard principles established in the country that they rule.

The rise of the Hitlerites in Germany and the tactics of the Communists in many countries of Europe reveal what might happen in this country if a strong-willed, ruthless minority use force and violence to control an all-powerful, centralized government.

Vets' Question Box

Q—As the widow of a World War I veteran, I desire to file my application for a widow's pension. Must I file it in the city where my late husband died?

A—No. The application may be filed at your nearest regional office of the Veterans Administration, or may be mailed to the Dependents Claims Service in VA's Central Office in Washington.

Q—I am a World War I veteran and was married in 1947. Will my wife be entitled to a pension at my death?

A—No. The law provides that the widow of a World War I veteran may be paid a pension only if married to a veteran before December 15, 1944.

3 WAYS TO BEAT HIGH PRICES

- 1 Use our Custom Butchering Service to provide your meat.
- 2 Rent and use one of our Freezer Lockers to store excess foods for use later.
- 3 Acquaint yourself with the economical advantages of having a freezer locker at your command.

CALL US TODAY FOR DETAILS
PHONE 2786

Hertford Locker & Packing Company
HERTFORD, N. C.

Vision of a modern girl: Her lips are kissproof, her skin waterproof, and her breath—86 proof.—Quonset Scout, U. S. Naval Air Station, Quonset Point, R. I.

Uncle Natchel's FERTILIZER TALK



Farmers in our section always puts mixed fertiliz' under their cotton and side-dresses with natchel Chilean soda. Three years ago, they couldn't get no soda and had to leave off the side-dress. That year for the first time we had plenty of rust.



Next year, we got our soda again and done like we always done before. And we didn't get no rust at all! Somebody say the soda in natchel nitrate acts jes like potash on rust. Maybe that's how come we got rust when we didn't get to use no soda.

NATURAL CHILEAN NITRATE SODA

No others compete when you compare!

Compare Features!

No other line of trucks in its price range has all these features!
4-Speed Synchro-Mesh Transmission • Splined Rear Axle Hub Connection • Foot-Operated Parking Brake • Steering Column Gear-shift • The Cab That "Breathes"* • Full-floating Hypoid Rear Axle • Articulated Brake-Shoe Linkage.

Compare Quality!

There's an extra measure of massive strength and durability in Chevrolet trucks. They're built to take rough going in every feature of body, cab, engine and chassis.

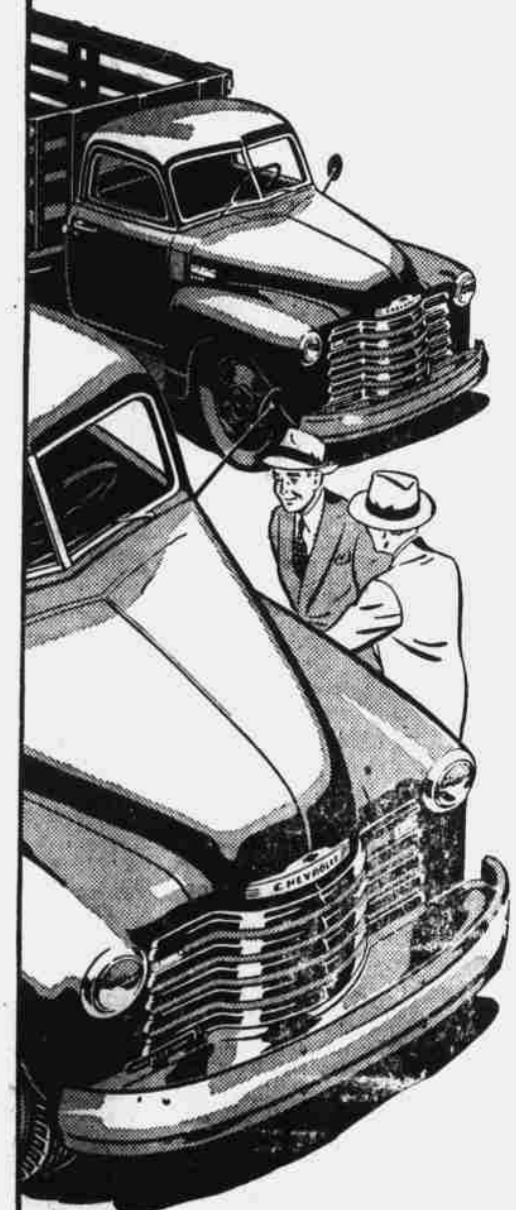
Compare Performance!

There's more power with economy in the Thrift-Master and Load-Master Valve-In-Head engines—Chevrolet's twin champions for low-cost operation, low-cost upkeep.

at the lowest list PRICES in the entire truck field

CHEVROLET TRUCKS

*Heating and ventilating system optional at extra cost.



THERE'S A CHEVROLET TRUCK FOR EVERY JOB... with capacities from 4,000 lbs. to 16,000 lbs. G. V. W.!



MORE CHEVROLET TRUCKS IN USE THAN ANY OTHER MAKE!

Hollowell Chevrolet Company
Phone 2151
Hertford, N. C.

The Best Paint

MADE IS
SHERWIN-WILLIAMS
PAINT

We Sell S-W Paint
"Special Winter Discounts"

DUNSTAN SUPPLY COMPANY

Next Door To Cotton Mills
ELIZABETH CITY, N. C.
Bricks - Cement - Roofing - Insulation Shingles