

The Week in Washington

A Resume of Governmental Happenings in the National Capital

Washington, March 20—The "it's all over but the shouting" outlook toward the European war is back with us again. Washington is alive with rumors about the war's end. To hear some talk, the Germans are likely to give up before this column appears in print. But the big difference between the optimism of today and the optimism of last fall is this—the 1944 optimism was based on predictions of army, navy and government officials, while today's optimism has sprung from the people. The news has been so good that the people can't conceive of the war lasting much longer. But in official circles there is a strange silence, and when officials do talk, they urge action which would indicate the European war is far from won. Best examples of this are the urgent demands of war leaders for enactment of a worthwhile work-or-fight law and for the drafting of nurses. The official attitude is: we must act and plan for a long war until victory is assured. They're not taking any chances.

Congress, however, is not entirely in accord with this attitude. The unwillingness of the senate to approve a work-or-fight bill with any teeth in it makes it clear that congress doesn't intend to disrupt our civilian economy any more than necessary—and the senate apparently isn't sure that it is necessary to draft labor at this late date. When the senate approved a substitute bill, which wouldn't in any way achieve the purpose of the labor draft measure, Senator O'Mahoney, co-author of the substitute measure, expressed the attitude of many senators when he said, "I want to congratulate the senate for using, as it did, reason over emotional appeal."

Supporters of the measure wanted by the President and army and navy heads, however, condemned the substitute measure as useless. Senator Russell said it was no more effective than "a resolution passed by the ladies' sewing circle of Squeunk."

But as long as the war news continues to indicate an early victory in Europe, it looks as though it will be almost impossible to get congress to back the administration's demand for new curbs on home front activities. After the bitter fight over whether Henry Wallace would head the Reconstruction Finance corporation as well as the Department of Commerce, which ended in his getting the secretaryship but not the RFC job, it was a pleasant contrast to hear the unanimous support given to Judge Fred Vinson when named to head the RFC. Not only did both parties in the senate praise the appointment, but both Mr. Wallace and Jesse Jones, former head of the Department of Commerce and the RFC, said Judge Vinson, who has been director of economic stabilization, will be replaced in that post by William H. Davis, chairman of the War Labor board.

These will be two of the most important posts in government from now on. Judge Vinson has control of the expenditure of many billions of dollars which can be used for postwar adjustments, while Mr. Davis will determine when changes should be made regarding wage freezing, price fixing and other stabilization factors. Together they will have a great deal to do with whether we have breadlines or prosperity when peace comes.

More than 90,000 farm boys and girls in North Carolina will man their battle stations during National 4-H Club Week, March 3 to 11, in an all-out effort to help win the war.

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At Robins Field



Pfc. Ernest E. Eggers, who is stationed at Robins Field, Ga. He entered service in November, 1942, and took his basic training at Camp Wheeler, Ga.

SIX-INCH SERMON

REV. ROBERT H. HARPER.

THE LAST WEEK

Lesson for March 25: Matthew 21:6-16.

Though his identity is unknown to this day, the owner who made no objection when he was told the Lord had need of the colt was so worthy that his deed should be preserved in the gospel story. Do you willingly give the Lord what He needs from you?

It is possible that some who hailed Jesus on Palm Sunday joined with His accusers on Good Friday. The professed loyalty of some men will not stand the test of the evil day. All Jerusalem was moved at the coming of Jesus, saying "Who is this?" But alas! many of its people a few days later clamored for His crucifixion.

As King entering the city of His fathers, Jesus went into the great sanctuary, attacked the stronghold of special privilege, of graft in holy things, and swept the temple clean. And even now the temple needs cleansing. When thousands of congregations report not a single convert in a year's time, not one member gained, and losses in their Sunday schools, we may fear that spiritual life is running low. Only a church revived and strengthened within can meet the tremendous problems of the present and of the days when the war is done.

We may well lament the losses in the Sunday schools. It was a beautiful thing that little children were heard singing in the cleansed temple, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" We need to prepare our churches, ourselves, for the full coming and abiding of our Lord, that the children committed to our care may learn to sing the songs of Jesus.

Sequoia Potato in Fight For Top Spot

The Sequoia, an Irish potato bred by the agricultural experiment station at State College, is replacing old established varieties of potatoes in the Florida area and is battling for first place with the Sebago, another variety with an Indian name, say reports from the Sunshine State.

Both are light-skinned potatoes. The skin of the Sebago is clean while the Sequoia has russet patches. The latter potato is more subject to late blight than is the Sebago but the yields of both varieties are good.

The Sequoia has received wide acclaim since it was first introduced just a few years ago in experimental plantings. This variety is now being widely planted in Maine, the Middle West, California, Hawaii, and in Australia.

The Sequoia gives exceptionally high yields and excellent quality potatoes in the mountain and central portions of North Carolina, but the crop develops a little too late in Eastern Carolina to get the potatoes on the early market.

Of first importance in feeding lambs is milk and plenty of it, says Leland Case, extension animal husbandman at State College.

APPALACHIAN HI SCHOOL NEWS

Tenth Grade Girls Win Basketball Intramurals

The girls' intramural basketball tournament came to an end on Friday morning when the tenth grade girls met and defeated the eleventh grade girls. It was a hard-fought game all the way, but the tenth grade held the lead from the beginning of the game. The final score stood 22-12 in favor of the tenth grade.

Mrs. James Called Home
Mrs. James, home economics teacher, was called to her home in Greenville, N. C., last Monday because of the death of her mother. The entire school extends sympathy to Mrs. James in her sorrow.

Much Activity at School Now
The school building fairly hums with activity now that spring is almost here. Along with regular school work comes school parties, athletic banquets, the junior-senior dances and numerous other things. Every minute of the day is filled with those necessary things that must be crowded in.

Students feel that a very vital part of their training comes from those outside activities and more and more are coming to participate in them. Parents are urged first to see that their children come to school every day possible, and second to co-operate in aiding their boys and girls to take part in the various school parties and socials.

Mr. Wey, principal of the local high school, has been appointed to serve on the committee to evaluate high schools making application to enter the Southern association. Dr. Highsmith, state supervisor of secondary education, heads this committee and makes the appointments. Mr. Wey leaves Thursday to meet the remainder of the committee to evaluate Statesville junior high school.

EASTER

ties of spring. Each Easter: M(N) Easter is coming with the beauties of spring;

Each Easter bunny glad tidings bring.

So let us be happy and skip and sing.

For what could be sweeter than Easter and spring?

At Easter the lilies are blooming so gay.

To show us Christ's love, for He arose on that day.

By Peggy Joyce Teague, 4th grade student, Bethel school.

A hen laying 200 eggs puts about 14 times as much calcium into the eggs as is contained in her body. Sound shells call for plenty of calcium, especially near the end of the laying season.

Eggs set by U. S. commercial hatcheries in January were 121 million as compared with 115½ million last year.

Dairy production payments will be continued through June 30, according to a recent announcement. After that, it's up to the congress.

A small seed cleaning plant in Union county recently shipped 300,000 pounds of lespedeza seed to Tennessee.

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A new shipment of Men's Suits; Men's and Boys' Odd Coats and Pants; Men's Reconditioned Stetson Hats, in best grades, including black Columbia Stetsons; Men's and Boys' genuine Chino Army Shirts and Pants—best grade, in perfect condition; Men's and Boys' Army Shoes at close-out prices. Others in extra good quality. New shipment Women's, Misses' and Children's Spring Coats; Women's and Misses' Short Sport Coats, Dresses, Skirts and Blouses

JUST RECEIVED—A new shipment of Men's Army Leather Gloves, also Men's Herringbone Work Jackets.

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