

# THE ALAMANCE GLEANER

Vol. LXXI

GRAHAM, N. C., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1945

No. 40

## WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

### Congress Fashions 5½ Billion Dollar Tax Reduction for 1946; Ponder Postwar Army Training

Released by Western Newspaper Union  
(EDITOR'S NOTE: When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of Western Newspaper Union's news analysts and not necessarily of this newspaper.)



With freedom of speech assured under Allied orders, former Japanese political prisoner addresses gathering in Tokyo. Under proposed liberalized constitution, all Nipponese elements would be afforded opportunity for recognition in nation's governmental councils.

## TAXES:

### Good News

Though the senate and house had yet to compromise their differences, John Q. Public could look forward to substantial reductions in income taxes in 1946, and American business was assured generous relief for the immediate postwar period.

No less than 2½ billion dollars was expected to be lopped off of individual income taxes as a result of provisions for permitting \$500 exemptions for dependents before payment of the normal 3 per cent levy and the scaling down of surtax rates.

Close to another 8 billion dollars was scheduled to be pared from corporation income taxes through substantial reduction or total elimination of the excess profits assessment; repeal of the declared value excess profits and capital stock levies, and graduated decrease in surtax rates on companies with less than \$60,000 net income.

In addition to income tax reductions, the use tax on automobile and boats was expected to be dropped. Solons were divided on the question of wartime luxury levies, however, with the house for cutting present rates to prewar levels July 1 and the senate against the action.

With reserves well over 6 billion dollars, both houses were unanimous in freezing present social security payroll taxes at 1 per cent on employee and employer alike and forestalling an automatic increase to 2½ per cent apiece January 1.

Under the tax relief bill drawn up by the senate, G.I.s would not be required to pay taxes on service compensation during the war years, and officers would be permitted to spread tax liabilities over a three year period interest free.

## LABOR:

### Setting Pattern

With both Henry Ford II and United Automobile Workers' leaders expressing confidence in settlement of a wage adjustment at the company, government officials held high hopes that an agreement might result in the establishment of a post-war pay pattern and clear the way for speedy reconversion.

Government optimism was a welcome note in the dreary labor picture, pointed up by the deadlock in negotiations between the UAW and General Motors over the CIO union's demands for a 30 per cent wage increase to maintain wartime "take-home" pay and the corporation's resistance to the demands, because of possible effects on prices.

Setting the pattern for other CIO unions, the UAW declared that General Motors was well able to dip into alleged huge wartime profits to carry over any losses accruing from higher wages until future production reached big volume levels. Reflecting industrial sentiment for its own part, General Motors denied exorbitant wartime earnings and declared any withdrawal from reserves would crimp expansion plans.

As the companies and unions clashed, the administration worked on a reconversion wage policy designed to guide negotiations through the troublesome days ahead. Strongly influenced by labor, the government reportedly favored substantial wage boosts to maintain wartime "take-home" pay while freezing prices at prewar levels, except in hardship cases.

Giving both capital and labor its say in the formulation of a reconver-

sion pay program, the government moved slowly in the establishment of policy. Hopes ran high that the forthcoming management-labor parity would result in the voluntary creation of machinery for settlement of important disputes.

## MILITARY TRAINING:

### Await Response

Having received President Truman's recommendation for one year of postwar military training for American youth 17 to 20, congress adopted a cautious attitude on the question, with one ear perked for popular reaction and the other for military argument.

Personal congressional response to the President's request varied, with Senator Revercomb (Rep., W. Va.) declaring "... I am open minded—I want to hear both sides of this..." while Representative Celler (Dem., N. Y.) exclaimed "... We



President Truman asks congress for military training for youth.

want no truck with compulsory military conscription...."

Meanwhile, it was estimated that about 975,000 youth would be called up for training each year under the President's program, with 250,000 rejected for physical or mental deficiencies. Because of weather considerations, the largest number of camps undoubtedly would be located in the south, with regular army officers and non-commissioned officers in charge. Fewer routine tasks, such as kitchen police, would be in store for reservists, military sources said.

## JAPAN:

### Reform Imminent

Her military machine smashed, Japan's highly developed economic monopolies, designed for foreign as well as domestic exploitation, also faced imminent dissolution as part of the Allied program to strip Nippon of her war-making potential and democratize the country.

The losers figured to be the five great financial-industrial families of Japan, which, as the dominant civilian powers, had exercised strong pressure on the nation's foreign policies. Backed both politically and financially by the government, the big five, known as the "zaibatsu," were heavy investors in overseas development.

By smashing the "zaibatsu," the Allies planned to loosen their grip over Japanese politics and permit more liberal and democratic elements to exert influence over government direction. At the same time, destruction of the great combines promised freer opportunity for economic development in the country.

As steps were taken for the dissolution of the "zaibatsu," the political transformation of Japan slowly gained ground with new parties in the development stage and more liberal political institutions impending in the rewriting of the national constitution.

## AGRICULTURE:

### Global Pact

First permanent body of the United Nations, the Food and Agriculture organization (FAO) came into existence in the grand ballroom of the Chateau Frontenac in Quebec, Canada, with 30 nations formally signing its constitution.

Though possessing no executive powers over member nations, FAO seeks, through voluntary interchange of information and effort, to improve agricultural production, raise nutritional standards and better the living conditions of rural populations. Indicative of the big job FAO has on its hands, two-thirds of the world's population is estimated to be ill-fed, with many facing periodic starvation.

Signatories to the FAO constitution include Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, France, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Iraq, Liberia, Luxembourg, Czechoslovakia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Peru, Union of South Africa, Philippines, England, United States and Venezuela.

## FRANCE:

### Left Swing

With their fundamental platforms at variance, France's three great political parties—the Communists, Socialists and Popular Republican movement—prepared for the establishment of a new constitution as demanded in the recent election.

As the three major parties and a smattering of smaller organizations moved to write a new political charter for the country, the Popular Republican movement, backed by General De Gaulle, loomed as a counterweight between the Communists and Socialists. Known as a Catholic Liberal party, and led by Foreign Minister Bidault, the PRM's surprising demonstration of strength in the elections was indicative of the quick defense thrown up by moderate elements against the threat of extreme radicalism.

The new alignment found France's political picture characteristically mixed, with the Socialists joined with the PRM for a western bloc of European nations against Communist opposition; the Communists committed to a swift program of nationalization of industries; the Socialists favoring more study of such an undertaking and the PRM for a moderate course.

## FIRE RAIDS:

### U. S. Vulnerable

Back from a tour of war-ravaged Europe, Anthony J. Mullaney, chief fire marshal of Chicago, Ill., and a noted authority on fires, declared that investigations showed that no great city could withstand concentrated explosive and incendiary raids and domination of the skies overhead was the only assurance of safety.

In making his disclosure, Mullaney cited the obliteration of Hamburg, Germany, where all walls were of brick, numerous firebreaks existed, no skyscrapers reared up and an efficient fire department operated. In a contrast indicative of the vulnerability of American cities, Mullaney cited localities dotted with frame buildings, wood lathe and plaster construction, tall buildings, and few empty spaces for allowing a sweeping fire to peter out.

In burning out Hamburg, Mullaney said, great squads of Allied bombers first dropped explosives to rip up structures, with incendiaries then being loosed upon the open wreckage. Towering flames licked up the oxygen to create a vacuum into which air from surrounding areas then rushed in, creating fierce "fire storms." With instruments recording temperatures of 1,400 degrees F., over 40,000 persons were said to have died from the flames, heat inhalation or asphyxiation.

## NAVY:

### Speed Releases

With nearly 300,000 enlisted men and officers already released since V-J Day, the navy planned for the demobilization of an additional 800,000 by the first of next year through a reduction in discharge scores.

Following establishment of lower scores November 1, the navy contemplated an even further cut December 1, with male officers' point requirements pared to 44; enlisted male personnel to 39; WAVE officers to 30, and enlisted WAVE personnel 24.

In cutting its discharge scores, the navy left its point computation unaltered, with one-half point for each year of age; one-half point for each full month of service; 10 points for dependents regardless of number, and one-fourth point for each month of service outside of the U.S., since September 1, 1939.



Notes of a New Yorker:

Here is a sane way to handle men. ... They tell it around the Pentagon Bldg. in Washington. ... A soldier was talking to a diplomat. Said the soldier: "In peace times, I personally handled one W.P.A. project. I made it a point to ask each man about his job and its objective. I found the accomplishment charts soaring—with no other incentive than interest and appreciation of effort. I believe that to be the backbone, not only of discipline, but of an army's combat spirit." ... The soldier was Gen. George Marshall, Chief of Staff, U. S. Army. ... The diplomat was Adolph A. Berle, Jr.

At Judge Clark's wedding President Truman wore a new suit which everybody admired. After the ceremony Clark went up to the President and remarked: "You know, Harry, a suit like that would cost \$500 in France."

"That so?" chirped the chief executive. "With or without a vest?"

Peter Donald was talking to Tommy Lyman in Jimmy Ryan's when one of the phonies (who fought harder to stay out of the service than he did in uniform) strolled into the club in civilian clothes. Donald cracked: "He fought the war guarding a coal-pile in Brooklyn. Do you think he got out on points?"

"No," Lyman replied. "Angles!"

What is perhaps the best piece of political oratory was being discussed by a group of politicians the other night in the Zanzibar. They began by tracing the early speeches of our leading politicians. Finally, Jimmy Walker said that the best piece of political oratory he had ever heard came from Maj. Gen. Claire Chennault, who (finding himself being considered for the governorship of Louisiana) deadpanned: "I'm an honest man; I know nothing about politics."

The war-isn't-over-yet item: The London Evening Standard's litree critic used this simile to describe a tome: "It rasps the nerves like a Brooklyn accent." ... Normalcy note: Sponsors are dropping some newscasters. At the same time they are waiting in line for an opportunity to broadcast football games.

When President Harding was once queried about American foreign policy, he said that foreign countries were frequently confused by the fact that the U. S. had two foreign policies. ... "What are they?" he was asked.

"The Sec'y of State's," he said, "and Nicholas Murray Butler's!"

Hobby Lobby of famous men: Paul Revere, of course, would live as a great silversmith; Thomas Jefferson as a great architect; Winston Churchill as a most competent bricklayer. ... In the last war—Great Britain's Chief Army Commander, Field Marshal Haig, was an excellent leather worker.

A returning GI was anxious to bring back a Luger pistol as a souvenir from overseas. ... As the transport neared the dock the fellow became more and more nervous. ... Finally, in desperation he confessed his fears to a pal. ... The kindly pal offered to trade packs and assume all responsibility. ... The GI was vastly relieved and the switch was effected. ... The luggage was not searched upon debarkation. ... A few minutes later the two met on shore. ... The GI was exceedingly grateful. ... "By the way," he said as they switched packs, "you must have a lot of things in your pack. It's awful heavy."

"Yes," said the pal. "I have TWELVE cats in mine."

Then there's the Colonel from Kentucky who was charged \$50 for a quart of bourbon in Paris. ... His buddy observed that it was an exorbitant price to pay.

"Not in my estimation, suh," said the Colonel. "It's th' fust time I evuh had th' privilege of payin' somevuh neah th' aggr I always considered it wuth."

The Statue of Liberty, whose right hand holds a torch, but few are aware the left hand grasps a tablet representing the Declaration of Independence, inscribed "July 4, 1776." ... Harlem's "hot-beds" serving three shifts of sleepers daily. However, not all of Harlem is a slum area. It also contains many lavish penthouse apartments. ... Music lovers waiting in line for balcony seats at the Metopera, although you can see only half the stage from the side seats.

## CHANGING WORLD

### Supreme Court Visits President



Pictured when the Supreme court justices paid annual visit to the President. Front row, l. to r.: Chief Justice Stone, President Truman, Justice Black, Justice Frankfurter. Second row: Justice Reed, Justice Burton, Justice Rutledge, Justice Murphy. Top row: Justice Douglas, C. E. Cropley, court clerk; J. H. McGrath, E. Waggaman and Tom C. Clark.

### MacArthur Reforms Japan's Cabinet



In more ways than one General MacArthur has reformed the Japanese cabinet. He removed most of the personnel and those he let stay, he reformed. They are shown as they were formally inducted into office on the grounds of the prime minister's residence in Tokyo. General MacArthur says they shall stay in office only so long as they co-operate.

### Promises Defense Against the Atom



The Crosby Research foundation has announced that they have a solution for the atomic bomb. They need not know where the bomb is coming from. Their defense will prevent its arrival. Shown in the picture is one of the Crosby brothers and helper examining model jet automobile, one of the new products of the Crosby Research foundation, which aided atomic experiments.

### DeGaulle Stays In



Gen. Charles de Gaulle is shown just before he was retained head of the French government, at the first election of the Fourth Republic. His party did not fare as well as the general.

### Navy's Izaak Walton



"Skip" Parker, one of the experts at the navy's Seagate hospital, near New York's Coney Island, lends a helping hand—and teeth—to "Crip" Groves in preparing his tackle. "Crip" is an expert caster, even though he has to do it from crutches.

### Canine Vet Uses Head



"Lucky" demonstrates why he was successful in helping his master, Roy Newman, of Chicago, instruct other canines in the art of war. "Lucky" understands more than 100 different commands and can and does carry all of them out when given.