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THE NEXT STEP

A great deal of thought is being expended in high quarters, these days, upon what lay behind the timing of Stalin's recent speech. The pro-Wallace boys say, of course, that it was the direct result of his speech before the PAC, and shows that all Russia wants is some assurance of American understanding. On the other side, the pro-Byrnes party say that at last the Secretary of State's policy of firmness is beginning to show results.

The chances are that both are partly right. Stalin's address was delivered so soon after that of Wallace that it is unlikely that his speech had a great deal to do with it. The Soviet government has never shown signs of moving as fast as that and such an important shift of emphasis on their part was probably arrived at only after careful and long consideration. It is probable that the show of American firmness was beginning to affect Russian thought, but also probable that Stalin welcomed, as any adroit politician must have done, the chance to make it appear otherwise: to give the impression that the understanding and cooperative tone of our ex-Secretary of Commerce had brought forth corresponding cooperation on Russia's part. And now, where do we go from here?

Wallace has said he will make no more foreign policy speeches until after the election, but the issue has been brought out into the open, now, and the fat, if not in the fire, is at least sizzling.

It is sizzling and spitting in every direction and we should begin to take note of some of these directions. The Wallace speech, itself, for instance, was booed over and over again. Most of the booing came from the Communists in the audience, and, judging by its vociferousness, there were a great many. Some of the booing came also from anti-British, and of course some from pro-British sympathizers, but of these there were, naturally, in such an audience, far fewer. Then, when the speech was published it won instant support, on certain grounds, from the middle-of-the-roads. These people, and they are far more numerous than any others, applauded the impartiality of Wallace's tone. They approved, deeply, his statement that he was neither anti nor pro-British, anti nor pro-Russian. They liked, at first, his statement that he was hewing to a strictly American line. But at that point many of these people hesitated: they were not too sure about that "strictly American" line. They would have liked Wallace to go on with another phrase. They would have liked him to continue that he was "pro-United Nations," that that was the "strictly American" line, and no other. That phrase was not added by the speaker and, as a result, the cry of "isolationism" and "nationalism" has been raised. This is deeply disturbing to all those middle-of-the-road people, and they will hope, fervently, that when Wallace goes on to make his promised speeches he will clear up this point.

For it is all very well for people to believe with Wallace that the Administration's present policy is not going to succeed, and should be modified. It would be not at all well if a policy of American nationalism, or imperialism were substituted for it. Wallace has made a feeble effort to clarify this point. By referring to his past efforts in behalf of "One World", as evidence of his internationalism, he has tried to erase the impression of isolationism implied by his speech. But the efforts have not, so far, been very successful.

It is, of course, a vastly delicate and difficult operation in which our country is engaged. Our material help is needed

everywhere. We are the strongest country, we are the richest; it is obvious that we are the only nation, at present, with the resources that are so desperately needed to put the devastated countries of the world back on their feet. The temptation to use this vast power as a leverage to get what we want is overwhelming; and we are being accused freely of using our power in just that way. Wallace's theory, which is also the Administration's, that America must help the devastated areas, the sore spots of the world, is bound to have the support of all people of goodwill and intelligence. It is also bound to evoke rousing cheers from all the people who want to make money out of oil, minerals, and all the other tempting prizes of exploitation. These people are numerous and very powerful; there is not a doubt that they welcome this chance to get a strong toe-hold upon the undeveloped riches of the world. It is going to be very difficult to do what must be done by America without seeming to do just what we have in the past accused Britain and Russia of doing.

The only way to do it will be to go one step further than Mr. Wallace and make it very clear that our motive is not America's gain but the world's recovery. Or rather, that we understand that both are synonymous, that only if there is world recovery will America or any other country find prosperity and peace.

HOME COMING SUNDAY

The Homecoming gathering at Old Bethesda, near Aberdeen, on Sunday last, typified uniquely perhaps, the spirit of the Sandhills. For it was Scottish, it was friendly, it was simple and lovely and full of dignity; and its purpose was a good purpose. Whether the people who came there and listened to the sermon and sang the hymns so lustily came to hear the lesson, or to recapture something of the old hardy spirit of their ancestors, or to join in close friendship with old friends, whatever the reason, there was a feeling of goodness in the old church and around the merry table afterwards that was very stirring. There was a look in most people's faces that showed they felt it, and felt that it did them good.

In the days when Bethesda and Union and the other old churches in Moore County were built the church was the center of all community life. Religion and sociability went hand in hand. Roads were few and bad, transport scarce, and life at home demanding; people seldom got together. But always they managed to get to church. There they poured forth their weary spirits in song and listened to words of wisdom and hope and, often, of fiery admonition. And they saw all their friends.

In the old white church were gathered last Sunday, the members of the clans now living in Moore County, Blues, Shaws, Rays, Campbells, Camerons, Stewarts, Buchans, Johnsons, and many others. Across the road, under the cedars, slept their forebears who had built the old church and worshipped there before them. And had picnics, too, probably, and exchanged the news of the Moore County of those early days. It was a comforting and sustaining thought, to feel so strongly the bond of continuity, the deeply flowing river.

Though the speaker of the afternoon waxed eloquent upon the sins of present day America, to glance at the audience intently listening, was to feel a surge of hope. The names of the people sitting in the worn pews were the same as those who slept under the trees, and in their faces was the same strength and directness, the same honesty and earnestness of purpose, and the same spare merriment, as well as had, one instinctively knew, marked the faces of those earlier Scots. As for their courage, their quick, gallant response to a call to action in a good cause, were not the records of their sons, in the last years, evidence enough that time had wrought no weakness in that sound and hardy timber?

Homecoming Sunday at Bethesda was a promise that the good things of the past live again, and always, in the hearts of our people.

When is right wrong? When you are walking on the highway, says the National Safety Council. Always walk on the left-hand side of the road, so you can see approaching cars and get out of their way.

Vets Are Urged To Reinstall Lapsed Service Policies

Act Of Congress Adds Excellent Features

The millions of veterans who have lapsed their National Service Life Insurance policies were urged by Holgar J. Johnson, president of the Institute of Life Insurance, to put their service insurance back in force in view of the changes which have just been made in the Act of Congress governing it.

"The life insurance companies and their agents have long been urging veterans not to drop their service insurance and now, with the new provisions available, they urge all veterans who did drop their policies to put them back in force," Mr. Johnson said.

"Many veterans have indicated that they dropped their service insurance because of the provisions originally in the National Service Life Insurance Act, which prevented a selection of beneficiaries or plan of benefit settlement. Life insurance agents throughout the country, when urging veterans to keep up or reinstate their service policies, have found this to be one of the major reasons why service insurance was dropped.

"Now, under the new provisions of the Act, veterans are given a wide range of selection of benefit settlement and beneficiary arrangements. With these liberalizations, those who discontinued their service insurance because of the former limitations, will be able to put their policies back in force and enjoy this valuable protection. The public, through the Government, makes a substantial contribution to the cost of this insurance."

Many New Features

Among the important features added to National Service Life Insurance policies in the new Act of Congress are the following:

1. Veterans may now name anyone they wish as beneficiary. Previously they were restricted to a specified list of blood relatives.
2. Endowment policies, not previously permissible are now among those to which veterans can convert their permanent insurance.
3. Service policies may now be paid to beneficiaries in a lump sum or under any one of several liberal income plans which permit even small policies to provide a satisfactory income for a limited period. Previously all benefits were paid under standard income provisions which, in the case of small policies, often gave only a few dollars monthly income.
4. Total disability income of \$5 monthly per \$1,000 policy may be added to service policies for an additional premium.

Another of the changes is a liberalization in the reinstatement procedure for a service policy which has lapsed. Mr. Johnson pointed out. Any level premium term insurance which has lapsed may be reinstated within the term, which is in most cases eight years from the date it was purchased, in the others, five years; the only requirement being that it be applied for in writing, that two monthly premiums be paid and that evidence be given of good health, except that disability incurred in active service is not a bar to reinstatement. If reinstatement is requested before February 1, 1947, or within six months of any future lapse of policy, the veteran need only fill in Form 353a, stating that he is in as good health as when the policy was lapsed.

Ex-WACs To Get Posts In Sunny Caribbean

Former members of the Women's Army Corps have an opportunity to get back into uniform for duty in the Caribbean area, Headquarters, Seventh Army announced today.

To qualify they must be experienced in secretarial work, including taking shorthand and typing—(MOS 213 in Army terminology). To successful applicants for re-enlistment, will go assignment to the Caribbean Defense Command. Applications will be received up to October 20 at any Army recruiting station.

Bag Limits, Dates Given For Hunting

Deer In Moore County One Per Day Limit, And Two For Season

Extracts from the 1946-47 hunting regulations have been issued by the North Carolina Division of Game and Inland Fisheries.

Following are the season and bag limits on principal game types hunted in this section.

Deer—A bag limit of one per day and two per season has been placed upon deer this year. October 15 through January 1 will be the season "in and east of a line composed of the following counties: Moore Northampton, Martin, Pitt, Lenoir, Duplin, Sampson, Harnett, Lee, Hoke and Robeson." An exception to this regulation is that in Hoke county, hunting will be allowed on Tuesdays and Saturdays only.

Rabbit—November 28 to January 31, with a daily bag limit of 10 and no season limit.

Opussum and raccoon (with gun and dog)—October 15 to February 15, with no daily or season limit.

Squirrel—October 1 to January 1, with daily bag limit of 10 and no season limit.

Quail—November 28 to January 31, with daily bag limit of eight and season limit of 150. In Hoke, Robeson and Scotland counties, among others, quail hunting will be allowed only on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

Only One Turkey

Lee county is one of 15 counties in the state where turkey may be hunted during the coming season. Lee and eight other counties are open to turkey November 28 through January 31, with a bag limit of one per day and one per season. Other counties under this regulation are Moore, Chatham, Durham, Granville, Hoke, Montgomery, Orange, Person and Richmond.

Turkey may be hunted in five counties with a bag limit of one per day and two per season. They are: Bertie, Halifax, Martin, Northampton and Washington.

Doves are subject to the federal regulations concerning migratory wild fowl, as are ducks, geese and other waterfowl. The dove season is split, running from September 16 to September 30, with a bag limit of ten per day and a possession limit of 10, opening again December 2 to run to January 15. A bag limit of 10 also prevails during the latter part of the split season.

Season on duck, geese and brant runs November 23 to January 6. Bag limit on duck is seven per day and possession limit is 14. On geese and brant, both daily bag and possession limit is two. Possession of one wood duck in daily bag limit or in possession limit is lawful.

Other important provisions of the game laws provide that it is:

- Illegal to hunt upland game birds, squirrels and rabbits with a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells.
- Illegal to sell game birds.
- Illegal to hunt deer at night with an artificial light.
- Illegal to shoot game birds sitting on the ground.
- Illegal to run deer with dogs during closed season.
- Illegal to shoot deer in water above the animal's knees.
- Illegal to hunt on Sunday.

Illegal to bait wild turkeys, quail and other upland birds.

Illegal to have more than two days' bag limit of game animals or birds in possession at any one time.

Illegal to kill doe deer.

The minimum fine for possessing a doe deer is \$50.

The restrictions on hunting migratory wildfowl state that it is illegal to shoot doves, jacksnipe, sora, marsh hen, rail and gallinule prior to one half hour before sunrise or after sunset.

Present population (including overseas Armed Forces) totals more than 140,000,000; females have a lead of 231,469 over the male of the species.

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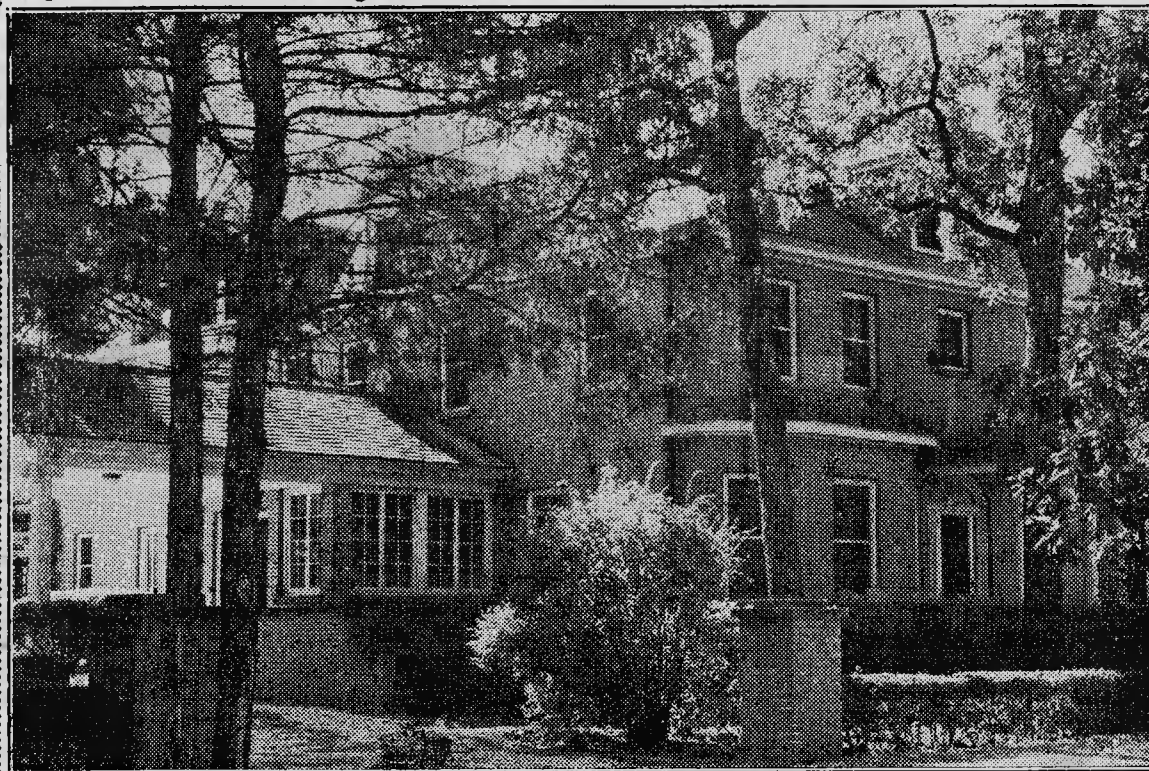
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