



**WRECK.** The completely demolished car of Sgt. John "Nick" Pierce of Ahoskie is shown above after it had crashed into a truck owned by Ned Evans of Ahoskie, which was parked beside the road to Powellsville about one mile from Ahoskie, on January 4. Sgt. Pierce, who was uninjured in three major battles was taken to an Army hospital at Camp Butner. His injuries were not serious however. Patrolman John S. Hackett, who with Sgt. A. W. Welch investigate the accident, stated: "It is the worst wrecked car I've seen in this part of the country." The truck, driven by Richard Speller, Negro, had given out of gas about midnight and had been parked on the shoulder until gas could be obtained the next morning. The outer two wheels of the truck were on the hardsurface as the shoulder was not wide enough to permit parking. The truck, a 1944 Ford, half loaded with corn, was not damaged.

—Photo courtesy Sgt. A. W. Welch.



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ELIZABETH CITY, N. C.

*This Week in* **WASHINGTON**

Washington, D. C. (NWNS).—Subject No. 1 in government circles right now is that of determining how to get the million and a half men which army and navy officials say must be drafted this year. Because of the heavy losses in Europe the rate of induction must immediately be accelerated.

The most likely method will be that of drafting all physically fit men between the ages of 18 and 30, even though such a plan would, at least temporarily, seriously impair war production and farm production. The army insists that it must have young men. Spokesmen for the army makes it clear that older men might be trained for war work and for farming, but could not ever do an adequate job on our fighting fronts.

The chances are that certain vitally necessary young men on farms and in war factories will be deferred for a time, but if losses continue at the present rate, and if the end of the war becomes more definite than it is today, practically all young men will be put in uniform before the end of the year.

To meet the situation on the homefront which will develop if the army and navy take all of the young men, it is increasingly probable that congress will approve some form of national service act by which all men, and perhaps women, in nonessential industries can be forced into war jobs. Pressure is already being put on those in nonessential industries, and on 4-Fs, to get in essential work or face the probability of being drafted. This type of pressure will continue—but since the army and navy

don't want the older men or the 4-Fs, the pressure will be of a scare nature and probably only a few of these men will actually be drafted. It seems to be generally agreed that the only way to force enough men into factories and farm work will be through a national service act giving the government authority to draft men for the war work. But it is still doubtful if congress will approve such an act unless the President goes over congress' head to the people and sell the public on demanding such legislation.

It is quite possible that women will be included in such an act, if it is passed since women are already badly needed as nurses and many could do a good job on farms and in factories.

Just what will finally be worked out nobody knows, but it is increasingly apparent that the "all-out war," which the President talked about in 1941, will become an actuality in 1945.

Although many members of congress are eager to take up the question of our country's future foreign policy, they will probably accede to the white House's desire that this discussion be postponed until the President has met with Churchill and Stalin. Many in congress, including members of both political parties, were stirred by Senator Vandenberg's recent speech demanding that we establish a clear, understandable policy which will remove the fear of German and Japanese aggression and the fear of future American isolationism. Pointing out that there seems to be little fear of disunity between England and Russia, and that they

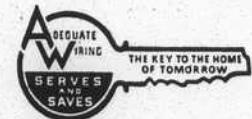
may have different ideas on the peace setup than we have, the senator's speech hit home when he said he refused to accept a conception "that our contribution to unity must be silence, while others say and do what they please and that our only role in this global tragedy is to fight and die and pay."



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