

LOOKING AT WASHINGTON

By HEGG S. SIMS, Washington Correspondent

Conflicting Statistics On Cost of Living

Labor members of the President's Cost-of-Living Committee recently asserted that living costs have risen 48.5 per cent. since January, 1941, instead of 23.4 per cent., as reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor.

The B. L. S. made a study of the cost-of-living, after the labor members filed their report. It found that food costs had gone up forty per cent. since January, 1941, and not 74 per cent., as claimed in the labor report.

The B. L. S. explains that the average increase of 23.4 per cent. in the cost-of-living meant that about one-half of the country's families had experienced greater increases but that a typical family, with a spendable income 23.4 per cent. greater than in January 1941, was probably as well off today in some places as it was three years ago but not in all places.

It is difficult for the average individual to judge the accuracy of statistical reports that are in conflict. In fact, it is impossible for an average American to collect the data connected with a cost-of-living survey, or to form an intelligent conclusion from a study of such figures.

In connection with the matter under discussion, one should realize that the labor members, in drawing their conclusions, were interested in an argument for increased wages. Obviously, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in its study, had no such direct interest, and, presumably, was solely concerned with securing an accurate estimate of the increase in the cost-of-living.

Armed Services Require 700,000 To Reach Quotas
Major-General Lewis B. Hershey, faced with the necessity of adding 700,000 persons to the 10,600,000 in service on February 1st, admits that the country is scraping "the bottom of the manpower barrel."

The Selective Service Director declares that he has leaned over backward in considering the needs of industry and agriculture in making draft-call regulations but now faces the job of getting about 240,000 men a month. This figure is necessary because about 100,000 men are lost every month through discharges, death and rejections of draftees at induction stations.

Some of the men will come from 17-year-olds who enlist but the rest must be secured from fathers, from re-examination of 4-F's, from boys reaching 18 and from cancellation of occupational deferments for men past 22. There are 3,500,000 in 4-F as a result of failing to pass mental and physical tests.

Faced with the fact that there is a 200,000-deficit in Army inductions the President has ordered an immediate review of occupational deferments. Meanwhile, Selective Service has tightened the rule for deferment of agricultural workers and may find it necessary to eliminate industrial deferments for all men under 26.

Of course, there will be a howl from the "defenders" of labor and farmers may not agree with us but we have no idea that men in these groups, in the fighting age and physically fit, expect to be relieved entirely of the defense of their country.

It is perfectly obvious that many of those who now face occupational deferments can be placed in active service without economic loss to the country. Others at home can take their place. Women, older men and younger boys can do what they are doing and, if the war demands it, all of us can get along with less food and fewer manufactured goods.

The Approaching Election Explains Some Legislation
You can understand some of the legislation that proceeds out of the Congress of the United States if you remember that each member is dependent for re-election upon the interests of his particular district.

In some districts, or states, it may be manufacturing interests, in others they are agricultural and nearly everywhere various activities expect consideration from the representatives.

sources indicate a suspicion that Turkish policy is developing along these lines. But the Turks point to the vulnerability of their cities to German air attacks and hint that Allied arms shipments have not been satisfactory.

It is significant that Britain, the United States, and Russia all take the same attitude toward Turkey at this moment. It is expressed with typical hard simplicity in the Russian observation that if the Turks are not going to use the arms they already have to fight the Germans, then future arms shipments should be directed where they will do more good.

The Turks obviously are being put under pressure by the Allies. Though the necessity may be disappointing, there is an element of encouragement in the fact that the Allies feel able to take the political risks involved in pressing for a showdown. There was a time when such tactics might have pushed the Turks into Germany's arms. That time would seem to be past.

tives of the people. When a bill is proposed in Congress these interests are vociferous. They tell their Congressman what they want. Usually, he responds favorably irrespective of national interests.

This is election year. The support of predominant local powers, or interests, is important. Consequently, few Congressmen go out of their way to incur the wrath of these potential vote-getters.

In addition, every elected representative of the people knows that his continuance in public life hangs by a thread which is usually so slender that the organized antagonism of a small minority will be sufficient to retire him to private life.

These facts explain some of the contentions that are performed in political Washington. They spring from our system of electing representatives and to some extent from the failure of a majority of the people in any district to be as alert to reward a good Congressman as they are to punish one who disregards their interests.

Costs of Aerial Warfare Show By 6-Day Period

The magnitude of the air offensive against Germany is apparent when we consider that thirteen major attacks, between February 20th and February 25th cost the Allies 387 heavy bombers and an estimated fifty fighters. Members of the crews to the number of approximately 3,500 were lost. The value of the planes approximated \$100,000,000.

Against this summary of Allied losses, which we give in order that our readers may understand the nature of the war, some 17,000 tons of bombs were poured on targets in Germany. That battering, it is believed, cut German fighter production more than fifty per cent., reducing the Nazi output by 350 planes per month.

The loss of 387 heavy bombers is not considered an extravagant price to pay for the damage upon the enemy. It remains to be seen if the loss will slow down bombing attacks. If the RAF and the U. S. Air Force continue to bomb Germany, with large formations, ten or more times a week, it will mean that our aerial force has reached a strength able to sustain the loss. If not, it will mean otherwise.

The news dispatches tell us that the Germans lost 644 planes in the thirteen assaults. The enemy loss cannot be compared with our own because most of the Nazi planes were fighters. This means fewer airmen lost.

From a material point of view, the German aircraft loss is lighter but in view of the necessity to rely upon fighters for defense against our bombing attacks, the strategic consequences of the German loss may be greater than our own losses.

There is nothing to be gained by comparing Germany's heaviest week's loss over Britain several years ago with the number of German planes lost last week. The Associated Press places the highest weekly loss for the Nazis over Britain at 491 planes, most of which were undoubtedly bombers.

This figure should be compared with our loss of 387 bombers during the week under discussion. Obviously, we have inflicted far greater damage upon Germany than the Germans have been able to inflict upon Britain.

Resume Of Veto Message That Upset The Congress
Because so much publicity has been given to the political ramifications of the dramatic resignation of Senator Barkley and so little publicity given to the text of the President's message to Congress, it is advisable to consider what the President actually said.

After expressing regret that he felt compelled to veto the measure "in the midst of this great war . . . in what I regard as the public interest," the President says that the tax bill "is wholly ineffective" and that its "net results will enrich the Treasury by less than one billion dollars."

Referring to the elimination of the automatic increases in the Social Security Law, which "are required to meet the claims that are being built up" against the fund, the President writes: "Such a postponement does not seem wise."

Referring to the clause relating to renegotiation of war contracts, the President said: "This seems unwise at this time because no person can at present determine what renegotiation time limit should be. More experience is needed."

It is true that the President attacked the bill as affording "indefensible special privileges to favored groups" and setting "dangerous precedents for the future." He termed it a "tax bill providing relief not for the needy, but for the greedy." Moreover, he listed five special privileges to which he objected but stated that certain unobjectionable tax increases could be accomplished by a simple joint resolution which he would "be glad to approve."

"would fall the American taxpayers" in "another most important respect." He then said that the taxpayers are disappointed, confused and bewildered over the practical results of last year's tax bill, denied that the Ruml Plan was the product of the Administration and bluntly stated that the complex income tax forms are "squarely the fault of the Congress of the United States in using language in drafting the law which not even a dictionary or a thesaurus can make clear."

The President asserted that the bill did not make good the promise to simplify tax laws and returns and objected to its failure to eliminate the "clumsy Victory tax," although granting "extensive concessions to many special interest groups." Expressing hope that Congress would act quickly to simplify the tax laws and the "forms and computations now demanded of the individual taxpayers," the President asserted that they "are not in a mood to study higher mathematics."

In conclusion, he reminded Congress of its responsibility to "supply the Government as stabilization program, to hold firm against time needs, to provide fiscal support for the stabilization program, to hold firm against the tide of special privileges and to achieve simplicity for millions of small income taxpayers."

HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUB MEETS AT BELVIDERE

The Belvidere Home Demonstration Club met Friday afternoon at the Community House with the president, Mrs. L. C. Winslow, presiding. The meeting was opened by singing "Come, Thou Almighty King." At roll call the members answered by naming a new vegetable they wished to plant. A book report was given by Mrs. L. C. Winslow.

The garden leader, Mrs. H. P. White, was in charge of the program, with Mrs. W. L. White and Mrs. L. J. Winslow taking part.

A demonstration on "Gardening" was given by Miss Maness, and booklets on "Small Fruits for Home Use" were given out.

The recreation leader, Mrs. M. D. Lane, presented a very interesting

BABY CHICKS

Barred Rocks and New Hampshire hatched every Tuesday.

Superior Hatchery
U. S. 17, Two Miles West of Edenton



THIS YEAR I'M USING SCO-CO FERTILIZERS

With our armies fighting for VICTORY THIS YEAR, I know we farmers must produce the greatest crop ever . . . to provide the food for our boys and Allies, as well as to supply home needs. We must get the biggest yields from our fields.

That's why I am buying and using SCO-CO FERTILIZERS this year. It contains only quality ingredients cured right and mixed right. SCO-CO is best for our soil, for it is made right here at home by folks who know our soil.

For BIGGER YIELDS from your fields . . . call on your SCO-CO Agent today and give him your order. You will be assured of best results if you will use SCO-CO. Manufactured by THE SOUTHERN COTTON OIL COMPANY — a neighborly institution serving Southern Farmers since 1887.

The SOUTHERN COTTON OIL CO.

HERTFORD, N. C. PHONE 2131

IF YOU'RE SICK OF A COLD USE 666

666 TABLETS, SALVE, NOSE DROPS

When Your Back Hurts

And Your Strength and Energy Is Below Par

It may be caused by disorder of kidney function that permits poisonous waste to accumulate. For truly many people feel tired, weak and miserable when the kidneys fail to remove excess acids and other waste matter from the blood.

You may suffer nagging backache, rheumatic pains, headaches, dizziness, getting up nights, leg pains, swelling. Sometimes frequent and scanty urination with smarting and burning is another sign that something is wrong with the kidneys or bladder.

There should be no doubt that prompt treatment is wiser than neglect. Use Doan's Pills. It is better to rely on a medicine that has won countrywide approval than on something less favorably known. Doan's have been tried and tested many years. Are at all drug stores. Get Doan's today.

DOAN'S PILLS

Substitute For Cash
Contentment is better
Than riches, they say.
Oh would that our grocer
Would take it as pay.

TAYLOR THEATRE

EDENTON, N. C.
"WE HAVE THE SHOWS"

Friday, March 10—
Red Skelton and Eleanor Powell in
"I DOOD IT"

Saturday, March 11—
Johnny Mack Brown and
Raymond Hatton in
"SIX GUN GOSPEL"

Sunday, March 12—
Matinee 2:30 - 4:15. Night 9:15
Kay Kyser and Joan Davis in
"AROUND THE WORLD"

Monday and Tuesday, March 13-14
Lucille Ball and Harry James in
"BEST FOOT FORWARD"

Wednesday, March 15—
Bargain Day 11c and 25c
Mable Paige and John Craven in
"SOMEONE TO REMEMBER"
Also "Batman" No. 11

Thursday-Friday, March 16-17—
Roddy McDowell and
Edmund Gwenn in
"LASSIE COME HOME"

Conserve Your Car

FOR VICTORY

An important step in caring for your car is to care for your tires . . . let Joe and Bill's inspect your tires often.

When in need of tires . . . and if you have the proper certificate . . . come to Joe and Bill's for your new tires. We have a large stock of tires . . . all sizes.

GOODYEAR and U. S. ROYAL
TIRES and TUBES

JOE AND BILL'S SERVICE STATION

"Where Service Is A Pleasure"

BILL WHITE, Prop. PHONE 8601

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Published every Friday by The Perquimans Weekly, a partnership consisting of Joseph G. Campbell and Max E. Campbell, of Hertford, N. C.

MAX CAMPBELL, Editor

Entered as second class matter November 15, 1934, at postoffice at Hertford, North Carolina, under the Act of March, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Year \$1.50
Months .75

Cards of thanks, obituaries, resolutions of respect, etc. will be charged for at regular advertising rates.

Advertising rates furnished by request.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 1944

CALMNESS IN IMMENSITY:
Look unto the heavens and see; and hold the clouds which are higher in thou.—Job 35:5.

Tremendous Aid to Russia From U. S.

Shipment of Lend-Lease supplies to Soviet Union in 1944 doubled as compared with 1942, but losses in ships making deliveries fell from five to one per cent., according to T. Crowley, Foreign Economics administrator.

Up to January 1st of this year, the United States sent to the Soviet Union more than 7,800 planes. Two-thirds were sent in 1943 and at least 600 were ferried all the way by air. Early all of them were combat types. Other supplies that have been sent include the assistance of the Red Army include 4,700 tanks and tank-destroyers, more than 170,000 trucks, 33,000 jeeps, 25,000 other military motor vehicles, 6,000,000 pairs of army shoes, 3,250,000 tons of food, 9,000 tons of seeds, 177,000 tons of explosives, 1,350,000 tons of steel, 384,000 tons of aluminum, copper and other metals, 740,000 tons of aviation gasoline, \$400,000,000 worth of industrial equipment, machinery and tools for producing artillery, tanks, planes and other war weapons, 145,000 tons of tinery equipment to produce war materials and machinery to produce at least one million military truck tires annually from synthetic and natural rubber supplies.

Disposing Of Surplus Goods

The Congress of the United States has inclined to set up machinery to dispose of the surplus material which will be in the possession of the Government when the war ends.

Nobody knows exactly what the fate of the huge stocks will be but estimates run from fifty to one hundred billion dollars by the end of the war.

In accordance with the Baruch report, William L. Clayton has been appointed Surplus War Properties Administrator, although James F. Byrnes, Director of War Mobilization, says his appointment does not qualify him for the general thesis that ultimate disposal programs should be based on legislation by Congress.

We have no particular preference as to who directs the tremendous task of disposing of surplus war materials but it is very important to the people of the United States that it be handled with an eye single to the general welfare. Improper disposition of goods and properties might easily result in a national scandal.

In this connection, it is important to recognize that business, which operates frankly for profits, has made handsome profit on the sale of surplus goods and properties to the Government. Alert businessmen will be ready to make another generous profit on the purchase of these goods and properties from the Government.

If some care is not exercised by the Government, the people of this country are apt to be disgusted with the process when they understand exactly how they have been hoodwinked.

Too Neutral Turkey

The no-work-no-eat dictum is now being applied to Turkey in the no-fight-no-arms policy of the Allies. Evidently the Turks still prefer the safety of neutrality to the risks of war.

This is understandable since neutrality has so far yielded dividends in trade with Germany as well as the Allies while making Turkey daily more secure against German encroachments. Moreover, the risks of war have been somewhat magnified by Allied failures in the Aegean Islands and by the slowness of the Allied campaign in Italy.

If Turkey is not moved by an irresistible moral attraction in the Allied Nations' cause, the Turks will naturally gauge their self-interest by such material considerations as the possibility of getting into the war at the sure finish and with the arms still on hand to exact heavy reparations for Turkish points of view.