

LOOKING AT WASHINGTON

By HUGO S. SIMS, Washington Correspondent

American Offensives Require Vast Output of Munitions
 "Production of arms and equipment needed by our troops is lagging on forty per cent of the programs," declares Lieutenant-General Brehon B. Somervell, Commanding General of the Army Service Forces, who adds that "two-thirds of this forty per cent are the critical items desperately wanted on the fighting fronts."
 The General pointed out that the rapid pace of the advances by American forces has sharply increased the need for many items and that overseas commanders are clamoring for them at once, lest they be compelled to "reduce the force of their offensives."
 He reveals that American troops are firing more artillery ammunition on the Western front than this country is producing, that every

minute they are firing more than two tons of steel at the Germans, that Aachen would have fallen sooner had the troops had more ammunition and that General MacArthur's forces on Leyte are using more artillery ammunition in a month than they used in all of the past sixteen months combined.
 The serious situation can be understood by the statement of the General that he has called for three times as many shells, of certain types as our ordnance plants are turning out and the demand is growing larger rather than smaller. "In the case of eight-inch shells," declares General Somervell, "we are operating eighteen days from the machine tool to the firing line, in comparison to a normal lag of six months between production and use."
 Some additional information along this line was recently provided by Secretary of the Treasury Henry W. Morgenthau, in opening the Sixth War Loan Drive. Mr. Morgenthau pointed out that in Europe "we have embarked upon the final push," and that "it demands a concentration of materials and efforts immeasurably greater than any we have yet brought to bear."
 The Secretary of the Treasury pointed out that the "war has now settled down to a sustained, continuous attack," which is costly in supplies. He said that the last drive in Tunisia took only eighteen days. Tarawa was captured in ten days, Kwajalein in eight, Guam in three weeks and the island of Sicily in a little over a month.
 Referring to some of our campaigns, the Treasury head pointed out that in the whole of the Tunisian battle, we lost 88 mortars. In Sicily,

we lost 47, but in a single month on the German front, "we expended no less than 700 mortars. In four weeks of combat on the German border, we lost 2,400 trucks and jeeps—two and one-half times the rate of loss in other campaigns. In Europe, in June, our 155-mm. Howitzers hurled a quarter of a million high explosive shells at the Germans, but in September, just three months later, they fired a million and a half rounds—six times as much."
 Other examples of the prodigious use of ammunition: In June, we fired 75 rounds of 155-mm. high explosive shells at the German lines but in September about 500,000—over six times as many as in June. On the Western front, the average rate of expenditure for ammunition has been close to 5,000 rounds a minute, every minute, twenty-four hours a day. In some of the intense fighting, like that around Aachen, the rate of expenditure has been many, many times greater than the average.
Wise Plan To Increase Efficiency of Congress
 One of the encouraging developments in Washington is the recent report of a special House committee which recommends, among other things, the creation of a legislative staff service, to be available to both House and Senate.
 What does this mean? Simply that Congress shall establish an expert staff to provide "unbiased and independent" analysis of legislative proposals, many of which originate in executive agencies which possess expert assistants.
 As it works today there comes to the Congress a recommendation from the President, or other executive agency, a bill designed to accomplish certain results. The proponent of a bill submits exhaustive arguments in favor of the measure, prepared by a competent staff of experts.
 The average member of Congress has no satisfactory method of checking the conclusions or the facts submitted. Hence, the average Congressman has to pass judgment upon the bill without an opportunity to subject it to proper study. He does not have the time, as an individual, to delve for facts or to test for realities.
 The House Ways and Means Committee, we understand, has such expert aid. Consequently, when the Treasury Department sends it a bill it can direct its own staff to investigate the effects of the measure and thus put it to independent analysis. Every Congressional committee should have the same service available and the best way to get it is through the establishment of a permanent staff of experts, at the service of Congress.
 The recommendations of the House Committee also includes several additional proposals which, in our opinion, would result in a more efficient legislative system. Here is what the members of the House suggest:

(1) Creation of a joint committee to investigate governmental expenditures with the objective of "economical and efficient administration."
 (2) Creation of permanent legislative agencies to determine whether laws are administered in accordance with the intent of Congress.
 (3) Establishment of a temporary committee to study and determine whether present congressional committees should be reorganized.
 These proposals are far-reaching and, if carried out, would undoubtedly result in better legislation. The Committee admits that Congress has erred grievously in failing to modernize its own work or provide itself with adequate tools to expeditiously perform the greatly increased tasks put upon it.
 The Congressmen candidly admit much of the criticism directed toward Congress in recent years has been legitimate and the result of failure of Congressmen to function effectively, which tends to bring the democratic system into disrepute.
 We are thoroughly in favor of the proposal of the House Committee but it seems to us, that the members have neglected one important area of information which Congressmen should have.
 While suggesting steps to secure economy, the administration of laws in accordance with the intent of Congress and the reorganization of the committee system, there is no suggestion in the press reports of the Committee's work to indicate that the Congressmen think it necessary, in connection with the laws they pass, to determine whether the courts construe them in accordance with the intent and purpose of the Congress.
 This is a very important omission, especially in the light of the power, assumed by our courts, to declare laws unconstitutional. Very often, the interpretation of a legislative act is as important as its passage. The history of this country has been greatly affected by the interpretations which the courts have placed upon the legislative acts. Sometimes they are almost mutilated and, again, they are extended beyond the scope of congressional intent.
Says Reconversion Demands Delay End of the War
 "Demands for reconversion are definitely delaying the end of the war," declares H. G. Batcheller, WPB official, who asks industry, both management and labor, to understand that the war production program is lagging and that demands are not "fanciful figures" but actual figures received from the

the Allegheny Ludlum Steel Corporation, frankly admits that when the war is over, there will be an excess of many articles and products, but he adds, "Who can possibly estimate the needs of an army of over 10,000,000 and a very large navy?"
 There is only one answer, to this query. It is the continued output of every article needed by our fighting men in such quantities that there can be no possibility of a shortage on any front. To do less than this is to hamper the prosecution of the war, endanger the lives of our fighting men and admit to the world that the home-front has failed to support its servicemen as they battle the nation's foes.
ALL CATHOLICS BOYCOTT INDECENT SHOWS, LITERATURE
 Last Sunday, during the Most Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, 20,000,000 members of the National Legion of Decency and the National Organization for Decent Literature, sponsored by the Catholic Church in the U. S. A., solemnly renewed their following annual pledges, inviting all Catholics and non-Catholics throughout the world to repeat them: "In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen. I condemn indecent and immoral pictures and those which glorify crime or criminals. I promise to unite with all who protest against them. I acknowledge my obligation to form a right conscience about pictures."

that are dangerous to my moral life. As a member of the Legion of Decency, I pledge myself to see only good pictures. I promise, further, to stay away altogether from places of amusement which show pictures that can be an occasion of sin.
 "I further promise that recognizing my obligation of conscience I will not buy or read papers, magazines, or books that offend against the virtue of holy purity. Out of love for our Lord, Who loves pure souls, I will prize above all things this beautiful virtue in thought, word and deed. Amen."
 Father McCourt, pastor of St. Ann's Catholic Church, Edenton, further stated that Pope Pius XI urged that the rest of the almost 400,000,000 Catholics throughout the world repeat these pledges annually.
 One Mass every Sunday at 11 a. m., including Sermon (December 17 on "Divorce is Impossible"), Holy Communion, concluding in 45 minutes and followed by brief choir practice, confessions being heard from 10:30 to 10:55 a. m. Everybody invited to St. Ann's every Sunday.

TAYLOR THEATRE
 EDENTON, NORTH CAROLINA
 WE HAVE THE SHOWS

Friday, Dec. 15—
 Cary Grant in Frank Capra's "ARSENIC-AND OLD LACE" With Raymond Massey, Jack Carson and Peter Lorre

Saturday, Dec. 16—
 Eddie Dew and Fuzzy Knight in "TRAIL TO GUNSLIGHT" "Zorro's Black Whip" No. 8 Comedy — Cartoon

Sunday, Dec. 17—
 Jeanne Crain and Frank Latimore in "IN THE MEANTIME, DARLING" Also Sport — Cartoon

Monday-Tuesday, Dec. 18-19—
 Carmen Miranda, Michael O'Shea and Vivian Blaine in "SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS" In Technicolor Latest News - Act - Orchestra

Wednesday, Dec. 20—
 Mary Lee, Ruth Terry and Cheryl Walker in "THREE LITTLE SISTERS" "Great Alaskan Mystery" No. 8 Film Vodvil

Coming Thursday and Friday, December 20-21—
 Paul Henreid and Hedy Lamarr in "THE CONSPIRATORS" Buy More War Bonds At This Theatre

Sentinels of Health
 Don't Neglect Them!
 Nature designed the kidneys to do a near-closed job. They keep the flowing blood free of an excess of toxic materials. The act of living—life itself—constantly producing waste makes the kidneys must remove from the blood if good health is to endure.
 When the kidneys fail to function as Nature intended, there is retention of waste that may cause body-wide distress. One may suffer nagging backache, persistent headache, attacks of dizziness, getting up nights, swelling, puffiness under the eyes—feel tired, nervous, all worn out.
 Frequent, scanty or burning passages are sometimes further evidence of kidney or bladder disturbance.
 The recognized and proper treatment is a diuretic medicine to help the kidneys get rid of excess poisonous body waste. **Doan's Pills**. They have had more than forty years of public approval. Are endorsed the country over. Insist on Doan's. Sold at all drug stores.

DOAN'S PILLS

Notice To Christmas Shoppers

Our Store Will Be Open All Day Wednesday, December 20 and December 27 for your convenience. Thereafter we will be closed every Wednesday afternoon until further notice.

We have a nice selection of gifts for the home. Come in and look them over. They will please you and the ones you want to please. We thank you for the splendid patronage you have given us this year, and want you to know we appreciate it.

EFFECTIVE AT ONCE OUR STORE HOURS ARE:
 Open Daily at 8 A. M. and Close at 5:45 P. M.
 Open Saturday at 8 A. M. and Close 9 P. M.
 On Saturday, December 23 and 30, we will close at 10 P. M.

W. M. MORGAN
 "THE FURNITURE MAN"
 HERTFORD, N. C.

Auction Sale
 Thursday, December 28, 1944
 STARTS AT 10:00 O'CLOCK

- 1 General Tractor
- 1 Tractor Disc
- 1 Set Cultivators
- 1 Set Planters
- 1 Set Fertilizer Attachments
- 1 Tractor Weeder
- 1 Tractor Hole Digger
- 1 Set Row Markers
- 1 Farm Mule
- 1 Cart
- 1 Wagon
- 1 Horse Drawn Cultivator
- 1 Horse Drawn Disc

Turn Plows, Planters, Cotton Plows, Hoes, Forks, etc.

W. N. White
 Towe Farm — Old Neck Road
 HERTFORD, N. C.

AT FIRST SIGN OF A
COLD
 USE 666
 Cold Preparations as directed

BUY WAR BONDS!

SELIG'S

Christmas time IS ALWAYS **BULOVA** WATCH TIME

Give a watch you know you can trust... **BULOVA!**

GODDESS OF TIME 17 jewels \$42.50

CONRAD 17 jewels \$42.50

\$50.00

SINCE 1882
LOUIS SELIG
 Elizabeth City's Leading Jeweler

Choose Your Gifts At Rose's

We have a large selection of made-up Gifts for Men, Women and Children. These are wrapped in Gift Boxes ready for you to place under the Tree.

WE WILL BE GLAD TO WRAP ANY GIFT FOR MAILING OR PRESENTING

Beginning December 16, We Will Be Open Evenings Until Christmas

MAKE OUR STORE YOUR HEADQUARTERS FOR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

ROSE'S 5-10-25c STORE
 HERTFORD, N. C.