



REPORT TO THE PEOPLE
Last week, as you know, President Truman ordered that the steel mills be seized and operated by the government. This was a very serious and a very questionable move by Mr. Truman. It involves the fundamental question of the right of the President to seize private property.

Most Senators are of the opinion that the President does not have the right, either inherently or by statutory enactment, to seize private property and operate it for the advantage of one group over another—which is certainly the case now.

If he can seize steel mills, then he can seize flour mills, for example, to get flour for the armed forces. That leads to the question of whether he also has the right to seize the farmers' land on which the grain is grown.

So, you see, this is an important situation. If the President's act is upheld he could, if he desired, move on and on until we find ourselves completely socialistic and perhaps even communistic.

Of course everyone hopes that the present crisis can be eliminated without harming our established institutions and form of government. And naturally you will see great joy in this move by the President, on the part of those inclined to be socialistic in their thinking. They seem to yearn for the day when they can put into effect in America a totalitarian regime.

No Authority

The President did not cite any authority for his action in seizing the steel plants. And he refused to use the Taft-Hartley Act, which—if the President had utilized it—would have taken care of the situation. Mr. Truman has never found the Taft-Hartley Act very palatable. He perhaps likes it even less now that one of its authors is a candidate for the Presidency.

Budget Committee

Last week the Senate passed, and sent to the House, a bill sponsored by Senators McClellan and Hoey, among others, which would set up a joint House-Senate committee to investigate the requests made by government officials for large sums of money.

The department heads of our government can always give detailed reasons why they need more and more



It should be safe now to plant most warm-season vegetable crops anywhere in the State east of the mountains. It is true that I have had tomato plants killed by frost in Wake County as late as April 25, but that is unusual. Also, if the plants have been well hardened a light frost will usually not harm them. Tomato, pepper, and eggplant plants should be hardened by withholding their water supply—that is, by keeping them on the dry side. Cabbage and lettuce plants are hardened by subjecting them to cool temperatures for a few days before setting.

Try some of the new bean varieties in the garden this year. Contender, Ware, and Topcrop are all excellent. Tax money, and seldom is any protest raised. This committee, if approved by the House, would protect the taxpayers. I hope it is a step in the right direction to reduce government spending. The committee would be bi-partisan.

War Powers Act

The extraordinary powers granted President Truman to cope with situations arising during the recent war were extended reluctantly last week by the Senate. The House had voted to extend them to July 1, but the Senate insisted that the deadline should be June 1.

The President does not seem to recognize, however, that a state of war exists in Korea. He calls it a "police action." Everybody else up here knows that a war is still going on. And it seems to be an increasingly unpopular war as far as the people are concerned.

Dr. Sockman's Visit

Last week I had the pleasure of entertaining at lunch, in the Senate Restaurant, Dr. Ralph W. Sockman. He is a very famous Methodist minister of New York, who has broadcast for many years over a nationwide radio network.

His radio sermons have meant so much to those unable to attend his services in person.

Dr. Sockman saw many of his old friends while he was here, including Dr. Frederick Brown Harris, chaplain of the Senate. Dr. Sockman has visited North Carolina many times, and particularly Duke University. He is one of the greatest preachers of the world and I was very glad to spend a short while with him.

varieties and they are almost immune to mosaic, which sometimes reduces the production of Tendergreen considerably. Improved Stringless Blue Lake is an excellent pole bean, especially for canning and freezing, and it is absolutely stringless. For real flavor though, its hard to beat Kentucky Wonder even if it is sometimes stringy and is very susceptible to bean rust disease.

The perennial argument now comes up about the advisability of planting cucumbers and squash next to muskmelons. Some folks still believe they will cross and give the muskmelons a cucumber taste or flavor. That is not true. Cucumbers will not cross with muskmelons in the field nor will either of these crops cross with pumpkins or squash. However, one variety of cucumber will cross with another variety of cucumber. The same would be true of different varieties of muskmelons or watermelons. But even so, there would be no effect on the variety this season. If you saved the seed and planted it next year, the effect of cross-pollination would show then.

The only vegetable crop in which you see results of the cross during the current year is sweet corn. White and yellow sweet corn planted side by side will give you ears a mixture of white and yellow kernels this year.

Fire Destroyed Home Near Winfall Thursday

A fire of undetermined origin completely destroyed the home of Herbert Boyce, Negro, near Winfall, on Thursday morning of last week. When discovered the fire had gained considerable headway. The Hertford Fire Department was called to the scene but on arriving were unable to extinguish the blaze, which by that time could be seen from Hertford.

Loss from the fire was estimated around \$7,000. It was reported a large part of the loss was covered by insurance.

ON HONOR LIST

Rosser Bunch, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Bunch of Tyner, won recognition as an honor student at the University of North Carolina for the last school quarter. He was congratulated by C. P. Spruill, Dean, for his scholastic achievement.

SENIOR CLUB MEETS
The Bethel Home Demonstration Club held its regular monthly meeting on April 11, at the Community House with Mrs. E. L. Goodwin and Miss Blanche Goodwin as joint-ho-

proved. The roll was called with 11 members present.
Mrs. Nina B. White, Home Agent, gave an interesting demonstration on "Floor Finishes."
Mrs. E. L. Goodwin, Poultry Leader, gave a report.
Mrs. E. T. Phillips was in charge of an interesting quiz with Mrs. J. P. Ward winning the prize.
The meeting closed by repeating the Club Collect, after which delicious refreshments of bottled drinks, sand-

wiches and mint were served.
Others present, but already mentioned, were Mesdames S. M. Long, Edgar Long, J. C. Hobbs, L. A. Proctor, Ernest Long and W. P. Long.
CARD OF THANKS
I wish to express my sincere thanks to my friends and neighbors for the lovely flowers, cards, toys, prayers and all other acts of kindness shown me while I was a patient in the Albenarle Hospital.
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