WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS-

Russians Strike for Berlin As Nazis Plan Last-Ditch Defense; New Landings Aid Manila Drive

(EDITOR'S NOTE: When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of Western Newspaper Union's news analysis and not necessarily of this newspaper.)



Members of Fifth division of Third army warm themselves about bonfire in Luxembourg comfortably ensconced in furniture salvaged from the town's debris.

PACIFIC:

maps with aides on Luzon.

talion and Filipino guerrillas made

a surprise attack on a Japanese pris-

on compound behind enemy lines on

Luzon, freeing 486 Americans, 23

British, three Dutchmen and a Nor-

With publication of President

Roosevelt's agreement to the sepa-

powers from the U.S. department

of commerce, the senate passed the

the way for the confirmation of

Henry A. Wallace as the department

Although Wallace's confirmation

was postponed to March 1, it was

considered likely at that time, since

principal objection to his appoint-

ment had been based on the fact

that he would have controlled the

vast resources of the RFC in the

postwar period, with fear of their

use on government projects to pro-

vide full employment. House ap-

proval of the bill to separate the

RFC from the commerce depart-

ment was expected to meet speedy

At the same time, the house

passed, and then sent to a none too

sympathetic senate, a work or fight

bill, under which all men between

18 and 45 would be frozen in essen-

tial occupations or asked to take

jobs designated by their local draft

boards under penalty of induction or

fine and imprisonment in case of re-

On Nation's Honor Roll

considerable trouble, he moved for-

ward into the face of these firing ma-

chine guns on his own initiative.

Edging his way forward with enemy

bullets landing within inches of him,

and in spite of the fact that he had

ney to safety.

secretary.

approval.

chine guns.

CONGRESS:

Busy Session

and Luxembourg in his great De-

cember drive. As the Yanks plowed

through heavy snowdrifts, they met

bitter opposition at Nazi strong

EUROPE:

Berlin Goal

Berlin was their goal as the First White Russian and the First Ukranian armies plunged to the winding ice-packed Oder river on a wide front, with German resistance | Strategic Moves growing stronger as columns of reenforcements rushed to the front and took up their positions in the flaming battle line.

With the two Russian armies drawing up to the Oder on an almost solid front from above Berlin clear down to the Czechoslovakian border, Berlin was imperilled by a powerful outflanking maneuver by Marshal Zhukov from the north and Marshal Konev from the south.

The great thrust on Berlin promised to put the Germans' vaunted Oder river defense line, over two years in the making, to the test, and further strain Nazi strength, already outnumbered by about three to four in the east. In early assaults on the Oder in the Silesian area, German regulars, reenforced by fanatical 16 to 65-year-old home front troops, stubbornly held their ground against the powerhouse attacks of the First Ukranian army, which had been the first to reach the defense line from central Poland.

Finish Fight

Long the hallowed center of Prussianism, Berlin, it appeared, was not to be spared the fate of other great European capitals as the Nazis made strong points of its public buildings and institutions for a des-

Declaring "there is no evidence yet of any rout in the German retreat." Navy Secretary Forrestal said: "They are withdrawing to the great line of defenses on the Oder river . . . where . . . they may fight with the same tenacity and ferocity they have shown in the west, . . . All that will beat Germany is power, sheer, crude power.'

perate stand and prepared to blow up all factories and installations in the district. "Not one stone atop another .

will be left . . . when the Russians enter," proclaimed Propaganda Minister Goebbels.

Meanwhile, as thousands of German refugees streamed into the Reich from the east and Hitler called upon all able-bodied men for a last ditch fight and all others for industry, Nazi leaders threatened ". . cowardly creatures who try to desert the fatherland in its hour of need." Said they: "We shall not permit them to throw a wrench in the works. . . . Germany will fight on no matter where or under what conditions. . . .

Fear Yank Drive

Attacking in snow and slush in strength along an expanding front below Aachen, Yanks put the enemy's vaunted Siegfried defenses to the test again even as Berlin feared an all-out drive to break the deadlock in the west.

At the same time, the Germans began to slowly break ground in Alsace to the south, where mixed U. S. and French forces increased heavy pressure on their huge pocket below Strasbourg and threatened the enemy's escape roads eastward to the Rhine.

No less than 100,000 U. S. troops reportedly burrowed their way into the outer defenses of the Siegfried line along the sector from which Von Rundstedt had burst into Belgium

ARMY PURCHASES

The army quartermaster corps in 1944 placed more than 65 per cent of its prime contracts, representing 46 per cent of the dollar value of all QMC depot contracts, with smaller business organizations, the war department said.

Total purchases of subsistence and other supplies for the army and military services by the quartermaster corps amounted to \$6,03%,- MEAT:

U. S. to Take More

With smaller slaughter in federally inspected plants reducing allocations of meat for military and lendlease purposes, the government moved to channel more stock into these packing houses from non-federally inspected establishments.

To trim slaughter at the 27,000 non-federally inspected plants, whose entire output goes to civilians, the government reported that they will receive cattle subsidies ranging from 50 cents to \$2 per hundredweight only for the same amount of stock that they butchered a year ago. while payments of \$1.50 per hundredweight on hogs will be made on only 70 per cent of the volume of 1944.

Effect of the regulation will be to make less meat available for civilians in centers served by non-federally inspected plants, but only slightly more for consumers supplied by federally inspected houses. Present government acquisition of half of the beef and 45 per cent of the pork output of federally inspected plants will be increased, it was said.

FARM MACHINERY:

Pinch to Persist

war continues, farmers will not be able to buy as much new farm ma- taken in the battle over the national chinery as they need," the Office of service bill which developed into a War Information said that the pro- fight against the fair employment duction of equipment for the year practices policy and the closed ending July 1 will fall short of heavy shop. Behind both these moves demand despite the fact that it there was a play of forces which should approximate peak prewar marks the beginning of a struggle

Although expecting quotas to be generally met despite a slow start in production, OWI warned ". . . no rakes, combines or other haying and harvesting machinery will be available during . . . 1945 . . . than were available during . . . 1944."

Strategist and tactician, Gen. Indicating that farmers will have Douglas MacArthur scored two to fall back on the same methods more landings in Luzon, directly this year to meet food goals, OWI aiding his triumphant march on said that 1944's high production reward in bitter hand-to-hand fighting, er, greater acreage and harder work which threatened to cut the island and longer hours, with output per overran the Subic Bay area, which farmers between 18 and 25 for the use and supply of American forces plicate the already pressing manabove Manila, while the other land- power problem, OWI said.

ACCIDENTS: High Toll

9,750,000 injured and material losses would agree to put a "safe" man of \$4,850,000,000—that was the na- in to administer the government whole as illustrated in both the To rid the chimney of soot, burn tional Safety council revealed.

equalled one year's production of General MacArthur (right) studies 1,000,000 workers, it was pointed out, exists between liberal and conserva- as ever and keen observers predict or the manufacture of 29,000 heavy ing Yanks stepped ashore below

the Philippine capital itself, threat-Although the death toll showed a ening any enemy effort to bring drop of 5,000 over the previous year, Democrats hope to pare down the up reenforcements from the south. with the greatest reduction shown in As long as MacArthur still appeared home accidents, authorities were to be holding back some of his alarmed by the increasing fatalities between the southern Democrats Capitol hill that when he replaced strength, Jap commanders were re- among children. More than 1,000 luctant to commit sizeable forces toddlers under five were killed, more into the battle in the Manila region. than in 1941, the Safety council said, In one of the most dramatic epi- while accidental deaths of young- To Bryan sodes of the Philippine invasion, sters from 5 to 14 in the home were picked men of the 6th Ranger bat- high.

Luckiest Man

In rear base hospital, in Pacific re-

wegian. Although over 100 were so covering from frost weak from malnutrition, disease and bite, Sgt. James B. old battlewounds that they had to Krantz of Hickory be carried off on husky Ranger Point, Tenn., might backs or in carabao carts, only two well consider himself the luckiest man in failed to survive the 25-mile jourthe world. Blown from gunnery

in waist of B-29 during raid over Japan, ration of the Reconstruction Finance | dangled in the air at corporation with its vast loaning

one of Krantz's legs was miraculously held by a safety strap while

the rest of his body SGT. KRANTZ 29,000 feet before buddies pulled him

George bill authorizing the action GRAIN MARKETS:

by a 74 to 12 vote and thereby paved Get Boost

With brokers interpreting the senate banking committee's approval of a bill increasing the Commodity Credit corporation's borrowing power from 3 to 41/2 billion dollars as a means of maintaining major farm prices at 90 per cent of parity for two years after the war, grain prices firmed.

Also adding to the market's strength was the expectation of an increase in the government subsidy to wheat millers, and reports of CCC purchases in Minneapolis, Minn., with CCC acknowledgments it had given large quantities of high protein wheat to millers in exchange

for inferior grades. In approving the increase in the CCC's borrowing power, the senate banking committee limited food subsidy expenditures to \$845,000,000 for the year beginning next July 1, and also permitted sale of more than 1,500,000 bales of cotton a year from CCC stocks.

FARM FORECLOSURES To Pvt. John Hartman of Exeter, Calif., went the Silver Star for gal-

With more and more farmers recovering from the drouth years. lantry in action. During a fierce ene- and with present high incomes makmy counterattack in Italy, seeing that ing it possible to reduce debts, farm two machine guns 200 yards to the foreclosures totalled 5,800 in 1943 front and right front were causing compared with 11,000 in 1942 and 65,000 during 1934, the Farm Credit administration reported. These figures are equivalent to 2.7 foreclosures for every 1,000 farms mortgaged in 1943, 5.3 in 1942 and 30.3 he fired till he had silenceb oth ma- at a low ebb, the FCA said.

Washington Digest

Political Trend Points Return to Conservatism

Wallace-Jones Fight Indicates Movement In Congress: 'Regular' Democrats Vie With 'Leftists' in Party.

> By BAUKHAGE News Analyst and Commentator.

WNU Service, Union Trust Building, | GOP Stays Washington, D. C.

As we contemplate the second month of the political calendar one thing is clear and that is the strong conservative trend in the congress as a whole and within the structure of the two major parties as well.

Many straws show clearly the way the prevailing winds have been blowing. One was the Jones-Wallace controversy which soon became a Stating that ". . . as long as the senate versus Wallace - Roosevelt controversy. Another was the turn which will make the biggest postwar story on the domestic front.

The opposition to Wallace had many and complicated ramifications more new tractors, side delivery but it revealed the conservative trend both in congress as a whole and within the Democratic party.

Within the party it was a struggle between the "regulars" and the CIO political action committee adherants, something which is being reflected in the conduct of the party organization, too. When Democratic Manila, while far to the north, U. S. sulted from intensive use of existing National Chairman Hannegan was forces continued to drive to the east- machinery, increased use of fertiliz- questioned as to whether he was going to work with the CIO-PAC he answered that he would welcome hand 28 per cent above 1940. Re- their assistance, but in the same In one of the landings, U. S. troops processing of some 365,000 young breath added: "and other independent organizations." The inference opened up a big harbor for naval draft, however, may further com- drawn by the reporters was that the two groups would pursue their separate ways. It is reported that Wallace was offered a deal by which his confirmation as secretary perhaps RFC powers left under the Ninety-four thousand people killed, department of commerce, if he tion's accident toll in 1944, the Na- lending. This would have meant | Wallace and the national service | potato peelings or the tops from breaking with his CIO-PAC follow-As a result of mishaps, lost time ing and Wallace naturally refused.

party. It is also whispered that a campaign has begun by which the in the future. influence of the CIO-PAC. The scheme is to build a strong coalition and the northern big city bosses.

Compare Wallace

The Democratic "regulars" claim

they have no fear of Wallace as a successful contender for the presidential nomination in 1948, although they admit that he is the one man in public life, now that Willkie is gone, whose leadership would be most likely to unite both liberal and radical support. But they claim he is another William Jennings Bryan, to starboard this session." much more intellectual but with the same fate in store for him: often a bridesmaid, never a bride.

The Wallace supporters talk quite differently. They say any man who could rally 4291/2 votes last summer at Chicago could get enough of the necessary additional 1051/2 by 1948 and that every time bad, big business assaults him as it did through the friends of Jesse Jones, his stock with the "common man" and "little business" whom and which he con-

stantly champions, will go higher. In other words, the louder the Wall street "wolf-pack" howls the more the CIO "pack" grins. This reasoning is based on those two somewhat paradoxical observations 'we love him for the enemies he makes" and "every knock a boost." That is the "leftist" reasoning, and whether or not the "regulars" think consideration. In any case the opposition to Wallace on both sides of both houses of congress shows the

As to the party organizations, they have indicated that they intend to same day (January 23) both Republican and Democratic national chairmen announced that their respective political machines would start running on a full-time basis.

As I said, Mr. Hannegan revealed would paddle their own canoes.

To Right

There was a significant development at the Republican committee to Mr. Brownell dealt with the question of thunder from the left and it apparently fell on entirely deaf ears. The one unfriendly voice at the meeting came from a supporter of Harold Stassen of Minnesota, the prospective liberal candidate for the Republican presidential nomination. The revolter arose to charge that Mr. Brownell had alienated the labor vote because of his connection with a law firm which handled the business of large corporations. Nobody in the committee denied the soft impeachment publicly.

It is whispered that the Republicans are not worrying about an appeal to labor for they have a theory that they can attract the vote of the returned soldier because they say he will lean to the right. This is the way one of the "regulars" expressed it to me!

"There is something about a uniform," he said, "that makes a man patriotic and conservative. He is anxious to settle down and raise a family. He wants to have property of his own. He's tired of being housed and fed and clothed on government issue. Also he is through taking chances; over there he thought of America as home and home means something solid, sane and safe. The Republican party is the natural place for him," the bigwig concluded.

I am not saying that the reasoning of either party is correct but I am reporting what appears to be the general atmosphere, both on of commerce would be assured and | Capitol hill and elsewhere, where affairs.

As to the temper of congress as a controversies we can see that the former southern Democrat-Republi- Keep the damper open while That illustrates what rivalry there | can coalition is working as smoothly | cleaning. tive elements within the Democratic | that its hand will be shown whenever similar questions are at issue

Just where the President stands is not yet discernible. But there again, there is a strong feeling on "Dr. New Deal" with "Dr. Win-the-War." as he himself put it, he had no intention of placing the country under the care of the former medico when peace returned. This is the way one old timer who has supported the administration on most issues for the last 12 years put it to me:

"The President says he is still steering a little left of center. He may think so. But I can tell you that whether he knows it or not the old ship of state is going to nose

And that would seem to be what is happening if we judge from the first leg of the voyage. In any case there is going to be a fight to keep a conservative hand on the old ship's

SHANGRI-LA IN PACIFIC

The army air force has discovered a new nation, a tiny little community, high up in the mountains of New Guinea. No white man is known to have visited it before, and not even neighboring natives had been there. Surrounded on two sides by mountains rising to the height of 15 or 16 thousand feet, the third side by an impassable swamp, the valley is cut off on the fourth side by a jungle-like forest several miles wide. The river runs through the valley, which is about 5 by 20 miles, and then disappears, apparently it is sound, they have to take it into into the earth. The lost tribe living in the valley has developed an extensive irrigation system, army observers report. At first they were conservative color of the legislative | frightened by planes - now they wave at our airmen, who come quite low and are able to report that the native clothing consists entirely of put their faith in works. On the strings of beads worn around the

Because the land is so extensively cultivated, there is no large stretch suitable for a landing, and the air force has enough to do these days to prevent it from landing troops his attitude toward the left-wingers by parachutes. But ethnologists and of his party by implying that other scientists will make a bee-Messrs. Hillman, Murray, et al line for New Guinea as soon as the war is over.

BARBS . . . by Baukhage

A headline says the Japanese Im- ! But where will they get the rice?

German Volkssturm troops are now wearing museum uniforms.

There is a shortage of telephone to the aid of the party line.

A man has to be a pretty flat tire perial Diet is to be strengthened. if his girl doesn't even wave her hair when he leaves.

The political tots wha' hae wi' Wallace bled at the Democratic national convention in Chicago, seem to be growing up rapidly and they operators at the capitol. The time | are still loyal to him. "Better to be received a serious wound in his arm, in 1934, when farm activity still was has come for all good men to come the head o' the commons than the tail o' the gentry."

Making That Problem Window Fit Perfectly Into the Room Setting

By Ruth Wyeth Spears



THE smart plaid curtains shown herewith match the window seat and several slip covers, and the wooden curtain pole, rings and draw cord match the dominant meeting, too. The single challenge color in the plaid repeating the color of small cushions and lamp base. The window lets in the maximum of light and you would never guess that originally it looked like a postage stamp in the middle of a blank wall. At first it seemed impossible to curtain it because fixtures could not be screwed to metal casements or the plaster.

> The built-in book shelves helped that. A space a foot wide was allowed at each side of the window so that the curtains could hang over the wall, and the painted wooden pole was then screwed to the sides of the shelves. The diagram shows this and how the draw cord was knotted so that the curtains could be pulled back and forth.

NOTE: These curtains are from the 32-page booklet "Make Your Own Cur-



A temperature of from 60 to 65 degrees F. is suitable for most plants.

To prevent corks from sticking in bottles containing glue or polishes, coat the cork with vaseline.

To flatten rug corners that curl and slip on the floor, cut out Lshaped pieces of cardboard, and the politicians gather to mull over glue to the underside of the rug

> Put a few rubber bands around the handle of your bath brush to

mason jars or other bits of zinc.

insure a firm grip upon it. A few drops of lemon juice gives added flavor and also helps tenderize ground beef.

Keep your household sponges fresh by soaking them in cold salt water.

To prevent your piano vires from rusting, tack a small bag of unslacked lime just inside. This will absorb the moisture.

Cover the top of your bedspring with oil cloth. This will be a good protection for your mattress and will make it easier to turn your mattress.

tains" which Mrs. Spears has prepared for readers. To get a copy send 15 cents with name and address direct to: MRS. RUTH WYETH SPEARS

Enclose 15 cents for booklet "Make Your Own Curtains,"



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comes as you breathe in the steaming



The first use of motor trucks — and that means rubber tires — by the U. S. Army In active campaigns occurred during the Punitive Expedition Into Mexico In 1916. About 800 motor vehicles were In use on the Mexican border.

B. F. Goodrich's latest analysis of the rubber situation shows that after the war annual potential rubber production of the world should be 2,800,000 long tons. This is more than twice the amount of rubber used by the entire world in 1941, the record year, when consumption totaled 1,300,000 long

In war or peace B.F. Goodrich FIRST IN RUBBER

MART **BRONCHIAL IRRITATIONS** -of colds quickly relieved by Penetro - Grandma's old-time mutton suet idea developed by modern science into a counterirritant, vaporizing salve. Only

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MONEY BACK-IF SORETONE DOESN'T SATISFY

"and McKesson makes it"

SORE MUSCLES MINOR SPRAINS

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OR BACKACHE

due to fatigue or exposure

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