

By Ruth Taylor

lived as families, each member, adult

or child, contributing his or her share

to the common welfare. All we are

GREEN FINGERS

By Rtuh Taylor Happy indeed are those fortunate being asked to do now is just what people who live close to the land those before us did as a matter of

where they can watch and tend grow- course. ing things. And doubly fortunate are; We must tend our gardens carethose with "green fingers" who have fully this year. But in our gardens, a kinship with the elements of na- both of the soil and of life, we must ture, those at whose touch the earth take care to plant the right seeds. We

My grandmother was one of these. care, not washing out the young plants Give her a plot of ground no bigger with floods of emotion nor letting than a pocket handkerchief and she them damp out under the dank chill started a garden. It was a haphazard of indifference. We must weed out sort of affair, for flowers bordered the false growths, the tares that choke, the vegetables and wherever there the hateful smothering things that was a spare inch of earth, she started suck the nourishment from the growsomething growing. She was a spend-1 ing foods. thrift of time and hospitality but a In our gardens let us study the immiser when it came to buying any- mutable laws of nature fulfilling the thing she could grow. Her garden was destiny of life itself. Let us weed out also her joy and her comfort for she our unreasoning hatreds and prejuused to say if you had a quick tem- dices and throw them on the compost per and an impatient disposition, heap or burn them up. Let us grow there was no cure like a garden-you only those plants which nourish or could watch all of life in it and you give beauty-and let us border our learned to wait patiently for the fruit gardens with the bright pinks of

This year we are again urged to go of understanding, the purple pansies back to the land, to plant and tend of thoughtfulness. and harvest from our own soil the! And let us remember that a garden fruit of the earth so that we may all blooms not for one alone, but for all. him for spite. It was given to him White House. Some of the old-line iess than 50 per cent in world war in the control of the earth so that we may all blooms not for one alone, but for all. be well fed. They did not call them As Henry Van Dyke said, let us make by his old friend, Harry Truman, labor department officials used to tinues to decline in spite of soar-Victory gardens in pioneer days, nor a garden for our kind feelings with because the President believed that, in our grandparents' times. They were the gate ever open to those who pass like Hercules, Schwellenbach could gram went out such as some of

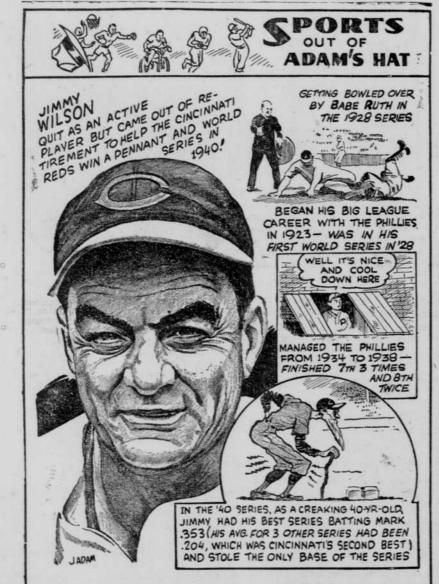
just part of the family task of earning by. a living back in the days when people!

# THE INCOMPREHENSIBLE

One of the incomprehensible traits of our country is its political practice of seeking to hamper or obstruct r even destroy, through governmental action, private industries on which its prosperity and economic well-being depend. Such practices are always disguised by their political proponents as in the interests of the people.

For example, the United States would be as helpless as a bug on its back if its railroad system was crippled. Well knowing this, our law-making bodies for years sanctioned, at public expense, so-called cheap river transport for the avowed purpose of taking business away from the railroads. The only reason the railroads were not hurt seriously was because the public did not want the river transport. It

Commenting on this practice of sinking millions in the rivers for political purposes, Senator Reed of knew Washington, to find out if Kansas, says: "There is little of this river transportation that is justified. It is only cheap because it is more closely together so the head paid for by the taxpayers. . . . If a private company promoted the Missouri River, seeking to induce people to invest money based on the report of the Army engineers, it would be subject to prosecution by the post office department for using the mails to defraud."



# Washington Digest

# Plans Reorganization Of Labor Department

New Secretary Undertakes Task to Knit Activities of Over 20 Agencies; Seeks To Avert Vet-Union Row.

By BAUKHAGE

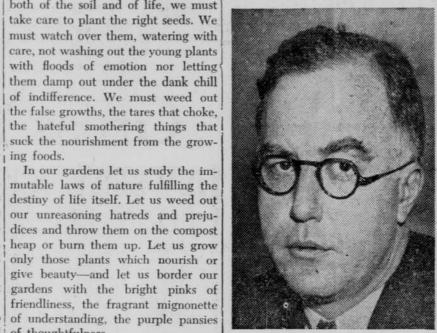
WNU Service, Union Trust Building, man's desk by the first of Septem-Washington, D. C.

It took Hercules just one day to clean the stables where one wealthy but not too sanitary man had kept 10,000 oxen. At least that is the way I heard it at my father's knee. Since

my father pioneered in Washington state in the early '90s, I wish he were here now to witness another Washingtonian doing a Herculean job which he hopes to finish by Sep-I refer to Secretary Schwellen-

bach, whose assignment is to put the department of labor in order. He isn't going to have to do much cleaning out, but he has been tidying up so that he can bring back under his aegis most of a score of prodigal agencies, all having to do with labor, which are scattered all over the District of Columbia and points north and west.

Most of the labors of Hercules were decidedly thankless ones and were given him for spite because his stepmother, Juno, didn't like her husband's extra-curricular children. Schwellenbach's job is thankless enough, but it wasn't given to



Secretary Schwellenbach

deliver. He was a popular, hard- those addressed to John Lewis while working senator. He was a popular, | the coal strike was going on, which hard-working judge. The requests of goddesses and presidents are com- but dictated by the War Labor mands, so the judge laid aside his | board, which labor and management robe, rolled up his sleeves and

The first thing he found out when he reached the palatial "stables" on Constitution avenue was that taking care of administrative matters would keep any labor secretary as busy as Augeas should have been with his 3,000 oxen. No wonder nobody quite dared to try to corral the 20-some agencies, rightly under the authority of the department. To administer them would under the present set-up be an impossible job. And so they grew up with their own public relations departments, their own statistical services and legal advisors, separate entites all going their own sweet, if sometimes

So the first thing that Schwellenbach did was to get together a small travel orders and decide whether other trivia which might better be

This was the first step in preparing the old home to absorb its prodigal children. When the new secretary arrived in his panneled office. he called the staff of the department together and said he knew that everyone agreed that there had to be a reorganization and that each division head also probably agreed that his own group didn't

went ahead. As this is written it is hoped that the report of the crew of investigators and a similar study of the with the impartiality of a court. extra-mural activities will be com- But his chief concern now is to conpleted soon so that a comprehensive | solidate under one head all governreport will be laid on President Tru- ment activities pertaining to labor.

The next step would logically be

#### Reorganization Touchy Problem

an executive order from the President embodying the Schwellenbach report to make the suggested changes. With his war powers, the President wouldn't have to ask the pleasure of congress. But President Fruman doesn't want the changes he makes to be temporary affairs. Like every other president since Grover Cleveland, he has requested powers to reorganize the government and never has congress offered a carte-blanche go-ahead. Such a bill is pending in congress now. However, if the suggestions made by Secretary Schwellenbach were considered reasonable, they might be put into a bill and passed. In any case they will probably be presented before the other measure authorizing wider presidential authority is considered.

In the meantime, labor itself is tending to cloud the atmosphere insofar as acceptance of any efforts to restore full, free, collective bargaining, which the no-strike pledge and various wartime restrictions have virtually suspended. The public is getting very irritated with violations of the no-strike pledge and what many feel to be union demands which, whether or not they appear ment, do not take the consumer into

Much of the antagonism is due to the feeling of the men who resented strikes while they were in the service. Schwellenbach managed to smooth out one of the toughest veterans versus unions troubles the country ever witnessed back in his home state of Washington after the last war. He admits there is no doubt that such antagonism exists "We may as well face it," he says. But he thinks he can handle it.

One habit which Schwellenbach wants to break up, and it is asbreak up, is having labor disputes writhe every time a long, hot telewere signed by President Rooseveit, had snubbed. These old-timers felt that many of the questions could have been settled with the machinery which already existed within the department.

Of course, the War Labor board, which has had all the tasks complicated by the war to perform, will die with V-J Day

#### Vows Impartial Labor Department

Other separate agencies dealing with labor will continue. The United States Employment service and the apprenticeship and training program are now part of the War Manpower commission. Social security is run by the social security board. department of welfare succeeds, this new set-up might conceivably absorb social security and also the bor department.

The National Labor Relations board, which administers its quasiact, now independent, would have its "housekeeping" done by the department-that is, its financing, perunder the secretary of labor.

Since Schwellenbach has been in office he has talked to a whole string management men, too. "I am not a labor official," he

says, "I am a public official." That pretty well sets up his position and, as I said, it makes his job, so far as the lobbies of labor and management go, about as thankless as the labors of Hercules. Congress supposed to look after labor interests and what Judge Schwellenbach is shooting at is to have it operate

# BARBS . . . by Baukhage

A recent photograph mislabeled | Canada expects to get more of talking to a cute brunette was really made in England.

When Prime Minister Attlee was in

Jap Naval Reserves

The Japanese navy has not yet with respect to manpower reserves. Navy recruiting, U. S. officials say, can still draw on well over 1,500,000 men now engaged in merchant shipping and fishing. The present nonnaval maritime population of Japan includes 115,000 holders of mariners' certificates, 250,000 holders of mariners' service books. In 1937, Japan had 364,260 fishing boats, of which 66,299 had engines. Fishermen "disciplined to the sea" totaled at least

"fraternizing" and showing a G.I. India's trade than the United States because it will keep its price controls on longer than we do.

I had the pleasure of making two San Francisco an old friend he knew philological predictions in the war 1945. Of this \$74,000,000,000 indusin England years ago invited him which came true: the addition to to dinner. There was no maid and readers' and listeners' vocabularies largest single asset, now valued at Attlee helped the wife wash the of the words "infiltrate" in the mili- more than \$50,000,000,000. tarv sense and "redeployment."

Heating Unit Costs

In selecting heating equipment for the home, it should be remembered that there are two costs-original and operating-to be considered. The cheapest heating system from the standpoint of original first cost is very likely to be the most expensive to operate. The few dollars difference between dependable, wellmade equipment, and something which will have to be replaced in a few years is very small when compared with the annual expense of



WNU Washington Bureau 621 Union Trust Building.

### Skyrocketing Land Values

EPARTMENT of agriculture officials and leaders in the farm mortgage credit field are more than a little concerned at the present trend of rapidly increasing farm land values which are skyrocketing in much the same fatal pattern set during and immediately following World War I.

Not only is government alarmed over these soaring values, but private industry is equally concerned to such an extent that the American Bankers Association is urging its country bank members to follow conservative lending policies and to beware of speculators who would boost prices "beyond what bona fide farmers can pay."

As of July 1, the level of farm real estate values had risen to an inan index of 170 in 1920 or a rise of 65 per cent from 1915 to 1920. But the end of this increase is not vet in sight and, with guaranteed farm erans who want farms and relaxation of rationing on farm machinery, these farm values may equal or even exceed the "boom" values which crashed with such devastating effect in 1922 and later.

### Farmers Remember Crash

Many thousands of American farmers well remember that crash, when some 450,000 farms, overcapitalized at high per acre prices, went the foreclosure and forced sale route. Then from 1926 when farm values started to come back until the crash year of 1929 when values fair as between labor and manage- | again hit the toboggan, more than 800,000 farms were sold under the hammer of the foreclosure auctioneer and went into the portfolios of banks and insurance companies.

Will American farmers forget the lesson learned during those years and now, with pockets bulging with money, bid up the prices of farm land to another crash year?

There are some contrasts or saving factors now, which were not present in the last war: (1) in most areas the level of values started from a point about 15 per cent below the base of World War I; (2) there are more sales for cash now. about 55 per cent as compared to less than 50 per cent in World War values, whereas during and after World War I, mortgage debt continued to increase.

In four years farmers have paid off \$1,316,000,000 in farm mortgage debt real estate is \$5,271,000,000 or less than half of the all-time peak of 1923 when the debt reached \$10,786,000,-

### Parity Guarantee Factor Another favorable factor today is

the fact that farm prices are guaranteed by the government at 90 per cent of parity for at least two years following end of the war, a factor not present after World War I.

But in spite of these favorable circumstances, it is pointed out that the large number of resales (one-eighth of all sales) indicates speculation is influencing the farm market . . . that two-fifths of sales during 1944 carried a debt of 75 per cent or more of the purchase price and that in many of these sales involving credit, the farm buyers have assumed a debt greater than the full market value of the land four years ago . . . that in many cases current sales prices are higher than can be justified on the basis of longtime earning capacity.

In South Carolina and Kentucky values are up more than double their 1935 - 1939 average, largely Colorado, 81 per cent in Indiana, Arkansas and Wyoming, 70 per cent in nine other states. Averages are above 1920 levels in one-sixth of the states and equal or above 1919 levels in one-half of the states.

To combat these soaring increases the USDA has named a National Agricultural Credit committee of need to be tampered with. Then he feels that the labor department is governmental leaders and representatives of major lenders in the farm mortgage credit field to meet in Chicago periodically to plan curbs on the inflationary rise in farm values. But the question still remains up to the individual farmer:

> Agriculture, as measured by the true dollar volume of its physical goods has increased from a \$49,000, 000,000 industry to a \$74,000,000,000 industry during the five-year period ended January 1, 1945.

> Financial assets such as currency, deposits and war bonds in creased from an estimated \$5,000. 000,000 on January 1, 1940, to \$13. 000,000,000 January 1, 1944, and to try, real estate is the farmers'

> Many Uses for Wood Wood is used in more than 1.200 items of military equipment and supplies.

Underfed Population Two-thirds of the people of the world are engaged in agriculture, yet two-thirds are underfed.

The eyelids blink from three to six times a minute. This blinking helps to rest the eyes.

Omaha, Nebraska, Saturday, August 18, 1945

# The Omaha Guide

→ A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER ★

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# WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS\_

C. C. Galloway, .... Publisher and Acting Editor

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ations must be in our office not later than 1:00

p. m. Monday for current issue. All Advertising Copy on Paid Articles, not later than Wednesday noon, preceeding date of issue, to insure public-

# Fleets Rake Japan as Big Three Parley Points up Peace Talk; Senate Moves for Global Unity



Frightened by invasion of U.S. marines of island off of Okinawa, Jap women are put at ease by Lt. H. P. Barrand of Stamford, Conn.

the senate.

### PACIFIC: Keep Going

While the nation's capital buzzed with peace talk and Australian newspapers hinted of sensational developments, U. S. and British carrier planes continued to rake the Japanese homeland and the Allied fleets kept up the bombardment of Nippon's sprawling coastline.

Scorched by Allied fire, the Japs still refused to come out and fight. Propagandists were seeking to calm the U.S. and British attacks were designed to feel them out and they would strike at the proper time.

Having joined with the fleet in raking shipping and transport facilities linking the coal-producing island of Hokkaido with Honshu, and pounding factories on Honshu itself, carrier planes swept over Tokyo bay to shoot up combat vessels at anchor. Presumably remnants of the once proud Imperial fleet, the warships were covered by a heavy screen of anti-aircraft fire as U.S. and British airmen closed in.

Peace talk was pointed up by persistent rumors that Marshal Stalin might have brought Japanese peace terms to the Big Three meeting at



President Truman (left) greets Prime Minister Churchill at Berlin.

Berlin and the report that President Truman presented the conferees FOOD: with American surrender conditions drawn up by the war, navy and state

Rumor that Russia's Big Boss might have borne Jap terms was accentuated by a newspaper report from London that a high Soviet official revealed that the Reds would transmit a definite surrender offer to the U.S. if it was forthcoming, and that Moscow would have to give the deepest consideration to entry into the Pacific war in view of the heavy losses suffered against

Reportedly in the possession of Mr. Truman, the American surrender conditions supposedly include the relinquishment of all military equip ment; the disbandment of Jap forces: destruction of war industry; supervision over enemy shipbuilding, manufacture and port facilities, and punishment of war

Rife in the U. S., peace talk was the Sydney Sun editorialized: "The end of the war may come with dramatic suddenness . . . Hirohito is still the god-emperor. By one stroke of a pen he could relieve Japan's terrors and make peace. There is every reason to believe that United States policy is preserving him for

Meanwhile, U. S. military chieftains, sticking to the American maxim that the game is never over until the last batter is out, discounted the peace talk and hewed to the big job

### SENATE: Global Pacts

that part in the drama.'

With public opinion strongly cast

ture warfare, international security fore they were liberated," Wheeler to jobs in other cities would be given and monetary agreements headed | declared.

for comparatively quick passage in

Overwhelmingly approved by the house, the Bretton Woods monetary agreements creating a bank of reconstruction and fund for stabilizing currencies passed the senate, with Taft (Rep., Ohio) leading a losing fight against the measures.

Charging that high pressure tactics have been employed to sell the agreements to the country, Taft sought to amend the \$9,100,000,000 bank and \$8,800,000,000 fund so as rowers drawing upon American contributions of \$3,175,000,000 to the bank and \$2,750,000,000 to the fund.

While proponents of the Bretton Woods agreements declared that the bank was necessary to permit the economic development of foreign nations, and the fund would permit countries to obtain currency at fair levels for international trade, opponents charged that there were no provisions in the plans compelling the members to stabilize their internal conditions to guarantee full redemption of their obligations.

Concurrent with the agreements the senate considered approval of the house - passed increase in the lending authority of the Export-Import bank from \$700,000,000 to \$3. 500,000,000 to finance sales and purchases abroad until the Bretton Woods pacts can be implemented. With only 1 of 22 members of the

senate foreign relations committee in opposition, the United Nations secu rity charter was sent to the upper chamber for speedy passage. Although not promising that the pact would prevent war, the committee declared it provided the basis for peaceful settlement of disputes.

Plain Talk

Along with the war, food remained the major item of interest to Americans, with Secretary of Agriculture Anderson warning of tight supplies into 1946 even while the Office of War Information prepared to launch an all-out propaganda drive to convince the U.S. of the necessity of tighten ing its belt to help feed impoverished Europe. Declaring that the present food

shortage was the result of faulty planning last year, Anderson said prior to increased production in 1946 his office would seek to relieve markets, improving distribution and holding army and foreign relief requirements to minimums. Badoglio to the king."

Except for milk, wheat, potatoes and fresh vegetables, most foods will remain in tight supply, Anderson said, with continued scarcities in meats, fats, oils, condensed and evaporated milk and canned fruits equally lively in Australia, where and vegetables. Rice and dry beans also will run short, he revealed. Meanwhile, the OWIs mapped its

propaganda campaign upon orders ing coverage of unemployment comfrom the White House, following the report that the U.S. would have to provide most of the relief shipments to liberated Europe. In addition to the continent, the OWI also will is sue periodic statements on contributions being made by Great Britain, Russia, Canada and other nations. Pertinent to American relief ship

ments abroad, Senator Wheeler (Dem., Mont.) told newspaper men that after having been promised

# WAR PRODUCTION:

### Tapering Off

Having already dropped to an annual rate of 49.9 billion dollars in July from 60.7 billion in March, war production will be further slashed during the rest of the year, reflecting decreased demands for a one-

front conflict. By December, production of aircraft will be down to 800 million dollars from the July figure of 1 billion; ships 500 million from 700 miltion; guns and fire control 100 million from 200 million; combat and motor vehicles 200 million from 300 million: communications and electronic equipment 200 million from 300 million, and other items and supplies 900 million from 1 billion.

Of major munitions, only production of ammunition will hold steady at 600 million dollars, with doubled output of rockets helping to offset reductions in other explosives.

# HARD WORKERS:

# More Meat

In line with its policy of providing extra meat and other foods for persons engaged in hard physical labor, OPA announced that miners would be granted additional meat rations starting in August.

OPA action followed the walkout of 10,000 miners from Illinois pits, climaxing a series of strikes throughout the country. Leaving their jobs after their leaders declared they "can't dig coal on lettuce sandwiches," the Illinois miners demanded an extra meat ration of 50 red points per month.

Though 1,500 foundry workers in neighboring localities joined the striking Illinois miners, OPA action did not include workers in other strenuous occupations in the liberalization of meat rations.

# RECONVERSION:

Old Prices

Working to head off runaway ance with supply, OPA has drawn up an elaborate formula aimed at holding the cost of consumer goods to the 1942 level.

Under the formula, manufacturers doing an annual business of \$200,000 a year or more may add increased labor and material costs to their prices, but may apply only half the industry-wide profit margin of 1936 to 1939 so as to keep the overall selling figure down. Producers in the lower brackets, however, may apply their own profit margins to their prices.

To help speed reconversion, individual manufacturers will be permitted to work out their own prices and submit them to OPA for approval before the government can formulate general industry - wide

Wife Defends Il Duce

Long in the background, Donna Rachele Mussolini emerged briefly to hotly challenge declarations that the late Il Duce was an irresponsible philanderer strongly influ-



propaganda they put out just to ruin him. Donna Rachele was the only one he thought anything of and I was the only woman who though

something of him. Snappily attired, with a silk kerchief embracing her hair-do, Donna Rachele bitterly defended her late husband, be lying the popular impression of her as a mere kitchen wench who had cared for his children. "They blame him for everything," she rasped. "The blame uld be placed on other people, from

### JOBLESS GRANTS: Seek Increase

Seeking to cushion the nation for the full shock of reconversion, Sen ator Kilgore (Dem., W. Va.) introduced a comprehensive bill extendpensation, boosting payments and financing job relocations.

Under Kilgore's measure, federal, maritime and agricultural process coverage of unemployment compen sation, and the benefits also would be extended to employees in firms

of less than eight people. At the same time, the federal gov ence to bring state unemployment compensation payments up to adequate supplies by American au- maximum of \$25 weekly for 26 thorities, Europeans expect this weeks a year. Vets' benefits would country to stand by its word. "Al- be increased to \$25 for single perready in Europe, people are saying sons and \$30 for those with dependfor co-operative effort to prevent fu- that they were treated better be- ents for 52 weeks. Workers referred

