

FIRST TIME ON PARADE—A provisional battalion from the recently activated 25th Combat Team at Fort Benning, Georgia, marches down Constitution Avenue in Washington, D. C., in colorful Army Day ceremonies April 6. The only unit of its type in the Army composed of Negro enlisted personnel and white and Negro officers, the organization is being built around the 25th Infantry Regiment which fought in the Pacific as a part of the 8th Army. (U. S. Army Signal Corps photo from Bureau of Public Relations.)

LEADS USO CAMPAIGN



APPOINTED USO NATIONAL CAMPAIGN CHAIRMAN, Carl Whitmore, President of the New York Telephone Company, will head the nation-wide appeal during September and October for \$15,000,000 to carry USO through 1947. Gen. Eisenhower's statement, "I want as much of USO as I can get, for as long as I can get it," was all Mr. Whitmore needed to make up his mind, he said in accepting the job. Mr. Whitmore was chairman of New York City's National War Fund campaign last year and has been identified with much philanthropic work.

power of the Federal government cannot insure practice of justice and democracy in those sections then it is obligatory on the part of the Veterans Administration to build no hospitals or other facilities there. The Veterans Administration instead should transfer these facilities to sections of the country where human decency and opportunity may be given to all Americans irrespective of race.

ation in any form. The overwhelming majority of Negro doctors in the US are members of the medical association. It seems rather strange therefore that General Hawley should continue the jim crow policy and that the official action of NMA should be brushed aside by a few anonymous members of the Negro medical profession who apparently do not have the courage to speak out and resort to the questionable tactics of telling General Hawley in confidence. Walter White stated "We again submit that if the Veterans Administration feels that certain sections of our country are so hopelessly bigoted that even the

a reading of the record it was apparent that the killing was accidental, and to all probability it resulted from a faulty gun. The NAACP pointed out that according to the evidence, the prosecution failed to introduce the gun as court evidence. It was found emphasized that the charge of first degree murder should never have been made, and that the GI, if guilty at all was only guilty of negligence, resulting in the death of a friend. The failure of the prosecution



The Home Town Reporter in WASHINGTON By Walter Sheod WNU Correspondent

Co-Ops Battle to Keep Tax-Exempt Status THE National Council of Farmer Co-operatives, representing approximately 2,300,000 members of local farm co-operatives, is clearing decks for action. A bitter fight in congress is anticipated over the move to tax farm co-operatives on income, along with other so-called tax-exempt organizations.

These would include such tax-exempt financial institutions as mutual savings banks and building and loan associations. According to a recent report of the internal revenue division, total assets reported by tax-exempt groups for 1944 aggregated \$13,438,908,000. Organizations engaged in business such as the mutual banks, and co-operatives, accounted for the bulk of these assets with \$2,034,959,000. The report further showed that the gross income of the tax-free groups exceeds \$3,000,000,000 annually. Of this total income the farm co-operatives are the largest tax-free group with gross income in 1943 of \$2,233,804,000.

Co-Ops Pay Many Taxes. Members of the farm co-operatives received \$117,646,000 in refunds or patronage dividends and other direct disbursements, according to the report. To combat the impression that the farm co-operatives are, in fact, tax-free, the National Council of Farmer Co-operatives, however, has just issued a statement showing that for the year 1943, the 5,233 co-operatives included in the treasury statement paid a total of \$14,822,000 in various kinds of taxes including property tax, social security tax, use taxes and all other taxes paid by other business groups.

"Farmer Co-operatives which are exempt under section 101 (12) operate as non-profit organizations and they pay no federal income tax because they have no income to tax," said John H. Davis, executive secretary of the national council. Davis further pointed out that there are approximately 10,300 co-operative organizations reporting to the Farm Credit Administration, whereas the treasury report only included 5,233 of the farm marketing and purchasing associations or only slightly over 50 per cent of the total. The treasury report, Mr. Davis says, "completely refutes the claims of those who say that farmer co-operatives are avoiding the payment of their fair share of taxes."

Tax League is Spearhead. The National Tax Equality league, supported by large industries in the grain, meat and other industrial fields, is carrying the ball for those seeking to bring the farmer co-operatives into the income tax fold. They are being supported in some instances by organizations of small independent merchants, who are said to feel the greatest burden of competition from the co-operatives. And at this time the smaller business committee of the house is working on a report which is expected to make recommendations on the tax question. Hearings held by the committee occupied several days and representatives of all the major farm organizations testified against the proposed move.

The small business men up and down Main street in the smaller home towns of the nation, the independent grain dealers, hardware and implement dealers and others, are loudest in their demands that the co-operatives pay the federal tax. The treasury department itself, however, could not say what proportion of the dividends or refunds could be classed as taxable income and it is likely that if there is any action either way, it is more likely to be proposed to equalize competition with this private business rather than for the revenue involved. Too Many Votes Involved. Then too, there is always the political angle. This writer is convinced that this congress, which is so sensitive to the political winds, will not take action, since the farm membership so far outnumbers the membership of the small business groups. The political potency of some two million farm members, all allied with one or the other of the three large farm organizations, is something this reactionary congress will not overlook. And so the prospects are that any attempt to extend the federal government's taxing power to include these farm co-operatives will reach an impasse. At least it will be a steep uphill fight, which the co-operatives are most likely to win. At any rate, they are prepared here to go to bat on the question, and they will be aided by other powerful forces included in the tax-free groups, such as the unions, the tax-free financial and lending institutions, and mutual insurance companies. Tied in with this group also are the non-business organizations which also are tax free, such as chambers of commerce, hospitals and social welfare organizations, educational organizations and scientific foundations . . . all of which feel that an inroad into our tax-free group may endanger the others.

to establish malice aforethought a prerequisite to support a conviction of first degree murder, was a claim to constitute grounds of the greatest degree of clemency. The War Department was urged to consider the remitting of the remaining portion of Pvt. Wilson's sentence.

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U. S. DIPLOMACY: Charges Double-Dealing

In one of the most boisterous congressional hearings of recent years, wily, silver-haired Maj. Gen. Patrick Hurley ripped into the state department career men for their alleged interference with his efforts to unify China and establish it as a base for far eastern political stability. Alternately calm and heated, Hurley, recently resigned as ambassador to Chungking, told the senate foreign relations committee that during his discussions with Chinese communists he concluded that certain state department officials had convinced the Reds that his policy for unifying the country under Chiang Kai-shek would be scrapped. Instead, the officials were said to have declared that the U. S. would seek to stabilize Asia with a controlled Japanese empire.

In hitting at the career men, Hurley charged that they sided with imperialist Great Britain, France and the Netherlands for keeping the orient divided to permit the continued exploitation of the subject people.

In alleging underhanded state department workings, Hurley stated that war plans drawn up for the Big Three meet at Yalta and favoring the distribution of Allied arms to Chinese Reds if they were within

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FARM PROBLEM: CED Solutions

Broader vocational training, special types of rural employment services and an accelerated shift of manufacturing into country areas would materially assist in the increased use of surplus farm labor in industry and help solve one of the primary problems of agriculture, the Committee for Economic Development declared in a statement released by Chester Davis, CED vice chairman and president of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

With agriculture destined to look more and more to the co-operative effort of government for assistance in resolving problems arising from heavy mechanized production and pressure on commodity prices, the CED foresaw a need for three types of federal payments within the near future: (1) to enable farmers in depressed regions like the cotton belt to shift to other crops or occupations; (2) to compensate operators for the effect of severe industrial depressions, and (3) to permit realization of the government pledge to support farm prices for two years after the war.

In reference to long-range price policy, CED asked for re-examination of the whole cost system, beginning with a redefinition of parity in relation to existing conditions.

GOP: Map Platform

Making no bones about their conservatism, Republican members of congress drawing up a campaign platform for 1946 called for balancing the budget, economy and reduction of bureaucracy and represented themselves as the counterweight to what they styled Democratic radicalism.

In rounding out their domestic platform, the GOP solons backed collective bargaining with government provision for speeding settlement of disputes, and also stood for government support of farm prices in the readjustment period and agriculture's future fair share of the national income.

In foreign affairs, the Republicans favored the United Nations organization, the right of individual nations to self-government and extension of relief to the needy in war-torn lands abroad to prevent chaos and misery. Advocating a well-trained armed force, the GOP also asked for scientific research to assure the most modern weapons.

Cocky Hermann



Now heading the list of 20 top Nazis being tried for war crimes in Nuremberg, Hermann Goering found diversion in palmier days playing with animals from his military zoo at Karinhall estate. Blandly assuming responsibility for all of his official acts and continuing to swear by national socialism, Goering has been the most aggressive of the Hitlerian big-wigs at the trial, now in its second phase with British prosecution of principals on charges they violated international treaties.

BRITISH LOAN: Trade Help

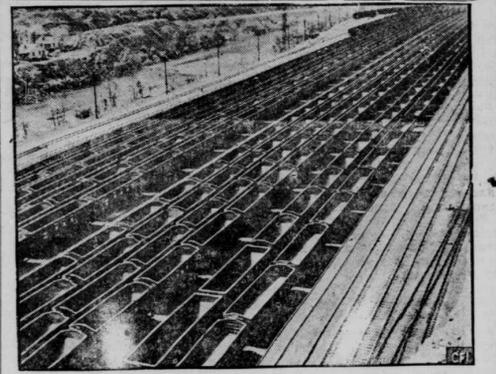
In what the British termed "a magna carta for world trade," the Truman administration replied to their appeal for a loan to permit an orderly resumption of their foreign commerce by agreeing to an advance of 4.4 billion dollars subject to congressional approval. Flatly turning down British proposals for an outright grant on the strength of arguments that their early stand had prevented a Nazi victory, the administration agreed to spread the loan over a 50-year period at a 2 per cent interest rate, first payable in 1951.

As a result of the loan, Britain will be able to pay off wartime debts by shipment of finished goods to creditor nations, while still importing material to maintain an adequate living standard. The two countries also pledged to work for a reduction in tariffs and the elimination of quotas and other restrictions on world trade.

TROOP TRANSPORT:

Thirty-two American troop transports with a combined capacity of 83,000 men have been ordered transferred from the Atlantic to the Pacific and will move through the Panama canal by the end of December on their way to Japan or the Philippines, the army said. Seventeen of the vessels are fast troopships, including the West Point—formerly the America—largest U. S. passenger liner afloat. The other 15 are converted Victory ships.

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EMPTY COAL CARS AWAIT END OF STRIKE

WILLIAMSON, W. VA., Sound photo—Some three thousand coal cars—all empty—await termination of coal strike at Williamson, West Virginia, center of one of nation's richest bituminous coal fields. Loaded these cars would hold approximately 150,000 tons of coal. Converting US industry used

1,000,000 tons of bituminous coal daily before strike.

NAACP PETITIONS WAR DEPT CLEMENCY IN COURTS—MARTIAL VICTIM

New York—The NAACP, thru the assistance of special counsel, submitted on April 26 to the Secretary of War a petition of clemency in behalf of general prisoner Willie Wilson. Private Wilson had been tried by General Court Martial in the South Pacific in July, 1945, for an alleged violation of the 92nd Article of War, involving first degree murder. The GI was found guilty as charged and sentenced to be confined at hard labor the rest of his natural life. The petition pointed that from

ADMIRAL LASHED BY PRES. SAYS NO COMMENT



WASHINGTON, D. C.—Navy Photo-Soundphoto—Rear Admiral Aaron S. Merrill, Commandant of the 8th Naval District at New Orleans, who was publicly condemned by the President for opposing the merger of the Army and Navy, photographed at the Navy Department where he is attending a routine meeting of District Commanders. He told Washington reporters there is not a thing in the World I can say.

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"I have a natural filial regard for my mother."—Gloria Vanderbilt Stokowski, after cutting off mama's \$21,000 annual allowance.

"I'm afraid I've outgrown the bobby-sox state."—Lena Pearl Lindsey, 14, of Memphis, Tenn., granted a divorce.

"I'm a marbles man myself!"—Rep. Manasco, of Alabama, on President Truman's proposed horseshoe court at White House.

"Price increases no more cause inflation than wet streets cause rain."—Pres. J. Howard Pew, Sun Oil Co.

"Price de-control must become effective in a simple, automatic way if we are ever to arrive at free markets."—Lawrence Fertig, economist.

"I've lost my pucker."—Elnathan Daniels, Stamford, Conn., on his inability to play the trombone at 92.

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Points Up Lack of Modern U. S. Roadways

Only 6 per cent of the 333,000 miles of primary rural highways in the United States have more than two traffic lanes, Charles M. Upham, engineer-director of the American Road Builders' association, revealed. "It will surprise many that in 1943 we had only 20,879 miles of roads with more than two lanes, of which 14,661 were three-lanes," he said. "America's mileage in more than two-lane highways is far more limited than most people realize and much of it is not of a high type surface," Mr. Upham went on. "Only five states—Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska, New York and Texas—have in excess of 1,000 miles each, and the predominance of this is of the three-lane variety. In fact, deducting the three-lane mileage, Kansas has only 93 miles of four-lane or more, Minnesota 233, Nebraska 31, New York 567 and Texas 617."