

Knocking on Wood

with JOHN H. HARWOOD

TWO PRINCIPLES

Post-war social security ideas sounded in last week's presidential message should not be considered, I believe, without giving due consideration to two principles, one on each side of the fence which inevitably separates our people when social planning is debated.

The conservatives, who, generally speaking, have opposed government excursions into social security, work projects, and further governmental regulation of business, must not overlook this fact:

We are living in a new, highly-complicated machine economy, in which the average worker is helpless unless he can find work. When jobs, he can no longer move on into agriculture or to the frontier as he could in the first 100 years of the nation. Thus, it is up to business and government to make sure that an expanding economy provides jobs for those who need them.

Up until Hoover's administration, prevailing thought held that if Government kept its hands off our economic system would work itself out. The great depression which started in 1929 showed that Government must use its resources to counteract the effects of deflation and business recession. Actual hard times are too dangerous to let entirely alone, for communists—dictators are spawned when people are hungry.

The Other Side On the other hand, the New Dealers and social planners must not forget this fact: The pampering performed by the Roosevelt administration can not go on forever. It is financed by the Government going into debt, and somewhere there is a limit.

The average citizen knows that he cannot indefinitely spend more than he earns, yet that is just what the United States government has been doing since 1933. Unless we are to have reputation and reputation the day must come when the Treasury can discard the red ink bottle.

Between the two points of view, there is a meeting place, and that is what we must strive for. When the war is over, Government must reduce unneeded spending and have the courage to levy the proper taxes, and we who pay taxes must face the fact. Not only that, Gov-

ernmental-development and engineering fields would possess the necessary mathematical background.

Five Birmingham Men at Wooster WOOSTER, Ohio—In quest of the coveted Navy "Wings of Gold," five Birmingham area men are now training to become naval aviators at the Naval Flight Preparatory School located on the campus of Wooster College here.

Now studying Mathematics, navigation, communications, aerology, and the principles of flying, these men are also being put through an intensive physical toughening program. Upon completion of this 12-week course, they will be transferred to one of the five pre-flight schools, whence they will be assigned to primary flight training here.

Birmingham area men in training here are: Thomas B. Williams, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Williams, 615 Kimberley, Lynn St.; Wallace, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Schwallie, 593 Pierce street; John L. MacDonald, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. MacDonald, 179 Cateville, Birmingham; Russell C. Chapman, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Drake, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Drake, Franklin.

Cadet Cunningham Evads Basic Flying Aviation Cadet Earle H. Cunningham, Jr., whose parents live at 608 Bates, has completed his basic training at the Michigan Central Depot. They were already in Custer when the draft board there began to wonder about the missing quartette.

NOW A CADET Fred Kaarberg, formerly of Birmingham and lately of Port Huron, is now an Air Force Cadet at Miami Beach, Fla.

FETED ON DEPARTURE Hiram Cornelius, son of Mr. and Mrs. Forest Cornell, 1649 Villa road, was entertained at a surprise party on Thursday at the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Cornell, before leaving Thursday to begin training as a Naval Aviation Cadet at Ferris Institute, Big Rapids, Mich.

STARTS TRAINING James W. Fox, son of Dr. and Mrs. Charles Fox, of Lake Park Drive, is now at Scott Field, Ill., to begin training in the Army. He was a member of the Enlisted Reserve Corps at the University of Michigan where he was in his freshman year.

KEN BRIDE HOME St. Sgt. Kenneth McBride is leaving Monday for Alhambra, Calif., where he is stationed. He is the youngest anti-aircraft battery after spending a 15-day furlough with his mother, Mrs. Julia McBride, of Maple avenue.

What We Owe Our Government

Native-born Americans seldom stop long enough, in their daily routines, to appreciate the value of their American citizenship.

This is not true of many foreign-born who come to the United States, especially with certain formalities, because citizens of this republic.

The freedoms that we enjoy contrast brightly with the hardships of other countries. The advent of Nazi-domination has made the difference greater than ever.

The other day a judge, in a Federal court, in administering the oath to scores of newly created Americans, declared that those of us at home must do everything to support the government willingly and eagerly in order that enough guns, tanks, engines and ships go to our men who need them.

He was stressing the obligations of citizenship in the midst of war which was currently being fought. At the same time there are obligations of citizenship in years of peace which many native-born Americans overlook.

How many of us have known citizens who sneer at democracy, deride all governmental efforts that they disapprove, and set themselves up as sole custodians of American virtues as if this great nation belonged only to them?

Every citizen has a right to his opinions. He should support the candidates of his choice. After the decision has been made, in democratic fashion, however, the good citizen should support the choice of his country, whether it be in the election of an official or the establishment of a policy.

Joseph E. Davies, multi-millionaire, who went to Russia as the American Ambassador, does not believe in the Soviet economic system but he has profound faith in the integrity of leading Soviet officials.

Mr. Davies says the Soviet record, "so far as treaty and business obligations are concerned" is as fine "as any nation of the earth." He points out that Stalin has "publicly given the lie to the suggestion that the Soviets seek to dominate Europe and to profane communism there and here."

Says Mr. Davies: "Among all of the United Nations, not one will be found more staunch or true in its effort to preserve, maintain and protect that great and noble enterprise of establishing a peaceful, decent and free world after the war than the 'great people of the Soviet Union.'"

Bombed 100 Times

The R.A.F. "subjected Hamburg to a devastating fire and the explosive language of an Associated Press correspondent, in London. The fact that Hamburg has been attacked nearly 100 times from the air indicates that the successful destruction of this submarine building center and base is something of an undertaking, even for modern airplanes.

Will the leaders ever take the time to straighten out the time?

What's What About Our Men In Service

Group Classified On Feb. 26

Bennett W. Root, 1-A; Ezra Slater, 1-A; Gardner S. Williams, III, 1-A; Leonard P. Feasler, 1-A; William H. Robertson, 3-A; Lewis E. Knox, 2-A; Leonard P. Rickwood, 1-A; Albert B. Babbitt, Jr., 4-F; Bernard Heffner, 4-F; John H. Roy, 4-F; David H. Blum, 4-F; Henry V. Walton, 1-C; Charles F. McDonald, 1-C; Bruno Niedzwiedz, 1-C. Earl Gandy, 1-C; William O. Ezel, 1-A; Irene Jane Jody, vol. 1-C; Arthur P. King, 1-C; William F. Thomas, 1-C; John E. Brown, 1-C; Douglas H. Ewen, vol. 1-C; Frank Przysocki, vol. 1-C; Donald E. Hoeltzel, Jr., 1-C; William H. Tilston, vol. 1-C; Walter H. Craig, 1-C; Robert M. Mott, 1-C; Howard H. Breimeyer, vol. 1-C; Arthur E. DeWitt, 1-C; Edmund R. Townsend, 1-C; Elmer J. Callow, 1-C; Daren L. Flickinger, 1-C; Harry M. May, vol. 1-C; William H. Joslyn, Jr., vol. 1-C; William R. Boomer, vol. 1-C; Albert E. Hirsch, vol. 1-C; Maynard G. Pickett, vol. 1-C; William E. Pape, vol. 1-C; Jack E. Woodward, vol. 1-C; Willard U. Wernet, Jr., vol. 1-C; William H. Merz, Jr., vol. 1-C; Meeker, Jr.; Robert L. Spencer, Jr.; Harold Geggie, Jr.; Alva O. Willis, Jr.; Arthur B. Frantson, Jr.; Shelly W. Collins, Jr. Clarence B. Robinson, Jr.; Robert J. Lawson, Jr.; William E. Bennett, Jr.; George H. McCann, Jr.; Clifford G. Hawkins, Jr.; Robert D. Evans, Jr.; Thomas E. DeWitt, Jr.; J. P. R. Vid F. Davis, Jr.; Earl Bush, Jr.; Guy P. Griffith, Jr.; Lemuel H. Freeman, Jr.; Edward C. Salmon, Jr.; Thomas W. Bricker, Jr.; Benjamin H. Papp, Jr.; Frank E. Webb, Jr.; Delbert W. Ashwell, Jr. Charles C. Shuler, Jr.; Emmet F. Wilder, Jr.; Arthur F. Young, Jr.; Howard E. Cousins, Jr.; Jesse S. Povey, Jr.; George F. Worden, Jr.

At Great Lakes

W. H. Joslyn, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Joslyn, 2753 Linden street, Birmingham, has donned the blue of a sailor and is undergoing "boot" training at the U. S. Naval Training Station here.

Back At U. of M.

William F. Smith, of John E. Blackburn, Jr.; Ralph A. Harker, Jr.; James H. Grant, Jr.; Robert J. Grieshaber, Jr.; Lawrence F. Dufour, Jr.; Robert B. Kuzor, Jr.; Myrl E. Avery, Jr.

Russell Ingham Called

Russell Ingham, affable young man whom many Eccentric customers will recall as the assistant to Claude Walker, director of printing, has been called to active duty with the Army Air Force as an aviation cadet and reports this week at Fort Rucker.

John Corson Gets Orders

Also going to Decatur this week is John Corson, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Corson, of Birmingham. John continued his work in civil engineering at the University of Michigan, and recently has been given flying instruction at the Detroit City Airport. He will fly for the Army.

In California

Pvt. C. Heth, who is at the Base Quartermaster School, is in charge of a bombardment group of the Army Air Forces now on maneuvers. Lieutenant Heth was in the company with Mrs. Heth's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clay E. Herbeck, of Oxford drive.

Victory Garden

James C. Patton, president of the National Farmers Union, suggests that the government invest one billion dollars in productive facilities for farmers now producing less than capacity because of a lack of capital. He warns that the nation faces acute hunger unless Congress acts quickly to set up a food policy designed to make full use of the "productive facilities of 4,000,000 inefficient farmers."

He adds up to the wisdom of planting your own Victory Garden. If there results a shortage of food supplies, as many farm leaders forecast, the family that has grown something to eat in 1943 will be sitting pretty.

Much for All To Learn

The church leaders of the nation have heard repeatedly that soldiers and sailors, in the face of death in the service of their country, have bravely turned to God, seeking aid from their Creator in the hour of agonizing death.

Many of these men have not been actively connected with church organizations. Obviously, so far as they were concerned, the church meant little or nothing. Apparently, there is an opportunity for church leaders to do a little thinking on their own.

Men and women, as a rule, believe in God. They have certain fundamental religious which are deeply imbedded in their beings. It is the business of church organizations to give them full opportunity to express and develop this religious faith.

Why should an individual have to face death and suffering by expiring the feel of religion? Plainly, because nobody has made known to him, or her, the full meaning of religion as a source of constant power in every day living.

Men are possible, but while these fighting men are turning to God and seeking religious understanding the good people of various faiths might develop a deeper understanding of human nature and thus seek to intelligently instruct the unenlightened in the way of truth.

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Cadet Don Fouracre Completes Basic

WARREN, MICH., April 1—Aviation Cadets of Class 43-E have just graduated this week from the U. S. Naval Training School at Baldwin High School in Baldwin, Mich., according to Lt. Col. Wallace S. Ford, Commanding officer of that flight.

Class 43-E is the fifth class to have been trained at this base. Composed not only of American Cadets, but also of a detachment of the United States Marine Corps from China for flying instruction, the class has completed its schooling on schedule and will be sent to various Army and Navy flying schools for advanced and flight training before receiving the coveted silver wings of the flight officer in the U. S. Army Air Corps.

Among the graduates was Aviation Cadet Donald C. Fouracre, 291 Townsend, Birmingham, Mich., son of Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Fouracre. Before entering the Air Corps, Cadet Fouracre was employed by the Yellow Coach & Truck Co., Pontiac, Mich.

Four Together

Four Birmingham boys are training together at Camp Parkland, near Houston, Tex. They are Ernest Gray, Bill Hulbert, and Paul Kelley. They are taking an advanced course in clerical work and upon graduation they hope to receive corporal stripes and will be sent to various Army and Navy flying schools for advanced and flight training before receiving the coveted silver wings of the flight officer in the U. S. Army Air Corps.

Reports For Duty

Pvt. James H. Herbst of the Enlisted Reserve Corps, Army of the United States, received orders to report to Fort Custer on March 16 for active duty. Pvt. Herbst was completing his training at Baldwin High School in January, 1940, and completed his flight year at Oberlin College.

What Code Means

The "H" code, as set forth in the "H" code manual, is a physical code in Detroit. It is already in service with the Army Air Corps. The "H" code is a physical code in Detroit. It is already in service with the Army Air Corps. The "H" code is a physical code in Detroit. It is already in service with the Army Air Corps.

TWO OF A KIND

MAKE BELIEVE YOU DON'T SEE HIM.



Thomas F. Neal Gets Commission

FORT BENNING, Ga.—Thomas F. Neal, son of Dr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Neal of 559 Woodmont drive, was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Army of the United States today upon successful completion of the officer candidate course at the infantry school at Fort Benning. Neal is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Neal of 559 Woodmont drive.

The new lieutenant entered the Army on July 9, 1942 and served with the 82nd Airborne, 17th Training Regiment before going to officer candidate school three months ago. He held the rank of corporal before being commissioned. He is a graduate of Baldwin High School and the University of Virginia at Charlottesville, Va.

Seek Electrical Men

Qualified men are being sought for commissions in the Air Corps Warning Service of the Signal Corps. It was announced today by Major General H. S. Avarand, commanding the Sixth Service Command with headquarters in Chicago.

Sets New Record

HOWA CRULL JR., aviation cadet of the U. S. Navy, of Birmingham, this week was credited with a new record for aviation cadets in training at the U. S. Navy Pre-Flight School. His mark of 105 right-side support left lefts was the best ever returned in by cadets in the pre-flight school's gymnastic program. Gymnastics is a compulsory feature of the pre-flight program, where competitive sports are used to develop stamina, skill and combat spirit deemed essential to a fighting pilot.

Howard Crull Jr.

Howard D. Crull, Jr., son of the former school superintendent here, has been assigned to the U. S. Navy Pre-Flight School, Keesler Field, Miss. He was in the ERC at D'Paw University.

Letter From Hendricks

Editor, The Eccentric: I have been getting The Eccentric regularly and it is really swell. After spending 24 weeks at the Pier 1, I am glad to see you are back in business. I hope you will continue to be as good as you are.

Need Teachers

Men with math and physics training are needed most urgently by the Navy for official instructors at specialized Navy training schools. High school and college math and physics teachers are especially needed, but training as a teacher is not necessary. College graduates with experience in industrial, sci-