

# WASHINGTON Calling

A Weekly Sizeup by the Washington Staff of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers

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hard-hitting statement. Also advised sub-marginal cotton producers in the South to diversify crops, not to be victimized by constant boom and bust of the cotton market.

**SENATE NAVAL** affairs committee members will fly to the South Pacific shortly on an inspection tour, like the one now being made by house naval affairs committee.

**SMALL BUSINESS** gets chance to talk next week about policies of treasury procurement in disposing of surplus government property. Chairman Stewart (D. Tenn.) of a senate subcommittee has set Tuesday for hearings, will try to find out whether small buyers are being discriminated against.

**WESTERNERS SAY** manpower shortage in West coast ship yards, airplane plants, could be lessened if administration would guarantee West coast reconversion to peace industry on same basis as East, and sufficient heavy industry after the war to guarantee market a future there.

As it is, they've started scrambling to get back East, nail down permanent jobs.

## FEA Is Doomed

**CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS** have been assured by President Roosevelt that foreign economic administration will be scrapped after the war, with state department restored to full authority over affairs abroad.

Promise is expected to ease passage of bill increasing pay and liberalizing promotions in foreign service.

Influential congressmen had balked at approving measure without pledge that FEA and state department wouldn't become permanent competitors.

**QUESTIONNAIRE BOYS** are sure again.

There'll be super-census next year as part of reconversion program, although regular census doesn't come until 1946.

There'll be a sample census of population (about 4 per cent) and eight others, including regular five-year agriculture survey and studies of manufacturing, business, wages, employment, consumer income and outgo.

**Railroads Expect Defeat**

**RAILROADS EXPECT** turn-down by interstate commerce commission in plea for restoration of 4.7 per cent general freight rate increase granted in 1942 and suspended in May, 1943.

Stabilization officials have registered strong objection.

ICC probably will continue suspension, reopen case when carriers are more in need of relief. Their net incomes for 1944 are more than 20 per cent below 1943.

**VETERANS' APPLICATIONS** for government guaranty of home loans have been far below expectations; only 30 have been

## Times Clothe-A-Child Donors

### CLOTHED DIRECTLY BY DONORS

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Troutman	1
<b>CASH CONTRIBUTORS</b>	
Grapho Products, Inc., Employees	\$ 100.00
Allison Gage Design No. 5	27.00
Service Construction Co.	25.00
Bostitch Products	15.00
H. L. Goodman	10.00
Check No. 412	10.00
Baker Brothers	10.00
For Cadet Nurse, Marebelle Thrush	5.00
A Friend	5.00
Paul S. Welch and Family	5.00
Jackie Rogers	2.00
Mr. and Mrs. William Tedrick	2.00
Phil and Linda Hoop, Shelbyville	2.00
Mrs. Harry Hart	1.00
In Memory of Blanche	1.00
Mrs. Eldora Robbins, Westfield	1.00
Total	\$ 216.00
Previously reported	186.99
Total to date	\$ 3077.99

## 'They're Super,' Girl Says; 317 Get Warm Garments

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esterday were 11 orphans, five children whose father is confined to his bed with tuberculosis and two children of a widow whose son is in the navy.

One child was clothed by a direct donor.

So far, 317 children have been clothed.

Heading the donors' list today is the Grapho Products, Inc., employees with \$100; Allison Gage division No. 5 with \$27 and the Service Construction Co. with \$25.

THESE ARE two ways you can help Clothe-A-Child:

You can send cash contributions to The Indianapolis Times, 214 W. Maryland St. Experienced shoppers will take the children to the stores and provide them

## RASHES

For soothing relief by external means, apply pure, emollient

**CUTICURA**  
SOAP AND OINTMENT

Cuticura is mildly medicated, dependable, world-known. Start using Cuticura today! Buy BOTH at your druggist's

## 2 DIE IN POWDER COMPANY BLAST

At Least 25 Injured in Earth-Shaking Explosion

On West Coast.

HERCULES, Cal., Dec. 9 (U.P.). An earth-shaking explosion in the main nitro powder plant of the Hercules Powder Co. today killed at least two persons.

At least 25 were injured.

Windows were shattered in nearby towns.

The blast was felt as far as 12 miles away.

Flying glass showered the air here and at the nearby towns of Pinole and Rodeo on the northwestern shore of San Francisco bay, causing casualties among plant employees.

**Car Is Jolted**

Red Cross units set up a first aid station in the town's playground and made a house-to-house canvass to treat wounded persons.

Claude Christensen, a United Press reporter, was driving through Pinole, one mile from the plant, when the explosion occurred at 10:30 a.m. (Indianapolis time).

"It jolted my car so heavily I thought a tire had blown out," he said.

Forty minutes after the blast the sheriff's office broadcast to all stations that "conditions at Hercules are under control."

**Bar Entrance to Plant**

Christensen reported police barred entrance to the plant gates immediately after the explosion. He said he saw a blinding flash which was followed by a great roar.

The Hercules plant is a major producer of war explosives and armament materials. It lies approximately 15 miles west of Port Chicago on Suisun bay, scene of one of the war's worst home-front disasters. Last July two ammunition-laden merchant vessels blew up there, killing 323 persons.

## CLUB MEMBERS HEAR MRS. HOBSON

Discussion of local taxicab operation and a proposal to establish a 48-hour week for firemen highlighted last night's meeting of the Indianapolis Federation of Community Civic clubs.

Mrs. Maude G. Hobson, supervisor of the city bureau of weights and measures, and Albert L. Grimes of Red Cab, Inc., spoke on the taxi problem.

The proposed legislation for a 48-hour week for firemen was discussed by George Gaughan, representative of Local No. 416 of the International Fire Fighters' association (A. F. of L.).

A report on the proposals will be given at a meeting Jan. 26.

## FOUNDRYMAN UNIT PLANS STAG PARTY

The Central Indiana chapter of the American Foundrymen's association will hold its annual Christmas stag party at 6:30 p.m. today at the Athenaeum.

Emil Schmidt Jr., founder superintendent of the International Harvester Co., is chairman of the party. He will be assisted by A. E. Murphy of Hickman Williams & Co.

About 300 persons are expected to attend.

**LOOK FOR** a new censorship code to appear before long. It's in the works now.

**THERE'LL BE** fewer illiterates after the war. Out of 150,000 drafted in the last year, 133,000 received basic education in special training units, learned enough to make them competent soldiers and better citizens later.

**PROGRAM FOR STATE IS MAPPED BY GOP**

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public health services in every city and county in the state.

**FIVE** The first general recreation program for children ever attempted by this state government as a part of new legislation designed to curb juvenile crime.

**SIX** Possible creation of a state commission to handle the affairs of returning war veterans under special laws setting up aid for the servicemen in Indiana.

**SEVEN** Authority for the state government to purchase surplus war properties from the federal government.

**Surplus War Property**

EIGHT Extension of the research in state universities to include new uses for farm products.

Proponents are those who do not like the direct primary system as it gives the party bosses too much control.

Voting machines would give the convention delegates a chance to vote their individual wishes without fear of retaliation from county or district chairmen.

State police would guard the machines and certified public accountants would tally the vote for the children yourself. All you have to do is call RI ley 551 and ask for Clothe-A-Child. Specify the day and hour you wish to shop and The Times will have the child (or children if you wish to clothe more than one) at the Clothe-A-Child office, corner W. Washington and Senate at the appointed time. The child's parents will remain at the office while you go to the store, any one you prefer — and make the purchases.

Office or factory groups, clubs, sororities and other organizations may take children in groups, as many as they wish.

**HEADQUARTERS FOR** Clothe-A-Child are at 301 W. Washington St., the southwest corner of West Washington and Senate Ave. The office space has been furnished through the courtesy of the Metal Auto Parts Co. Inc., and is now occupied jointly by Clothe-A-Child and the downtown employment office of Metal Auto Parts.

**A CORRECTION**

Our advertisement in The Times of Dec. 7, did not mention the fact that the prices published were subject to the 20% Federal Tax. It has been our policy not to include this tax in our prices in order that the customer should know the definite amount of the price and the tax. This was an oversight and we hope no one was confused thereby.

**REDACTED**

For soothings relief by external means, apply pure, emollient

**CUTICURA**  
SOAP AND OINTMENT

Cuticura is mildly medicated, dependable, world-known. Start using Cuticura today! Buy BOTH at your druggist's

## THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

### Clock Marks Bond Progress



## BIG SUCCESSES WON IN PACIFIC

Jap Navy Seen as Target in New B-29 Raid; Ormoc Totters.

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described jurisdiction over Elk Hills, to the President and was transmitted to Biddle, who in turn sent it to Littell as head of the lands division.

"Before I wrote the opinion," Biddle said, "the newspapers began to carry oil stories. Shortly after that, Mr. Littell testified before the lands committee of the house and termed the contract another Teapot Dome."

Asks for Evidence

"I sent for Littell and said to him, 'I think this is a grossly unfair statement. It points corruption to the secretary of the navy (the late Frank Knox) and his associates. Have you any evidence?'"

"Mr. Littell said he had none, but the legal aspect seemed to him similar to Teapot Dome."

"It told him it was most unfair. The navy was wild about it, and Frank Knox was deeply hurt, and I told him so. The President then cancelled the contract. That was the beginning and end of any influence I exerted on Mr. Littell in the Elk Hills case."

**GREEK LEFTISTS ARE REINFORCED**

British Report Opposition

Gaining More Strength

In Athens Area.

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however, by strong rebel positions in buildings and on high ground, which required low level machine gun support from planes.

E. L. A. S. forces established road blocks on the highway between Athens and the nearby port of Piraeus last night. The barricades were cleared today.

Authorities estimated that the anti-government forces in Athens numbered about 10,000. Another 10,000 are in the region around the capital. The position and strength of the latter group, however, were obscure.

**Artillery Being Used**

At scattered points the E. L. A. S. forces had brought their own field artillery into play as the battle of Athens rounded out a full week.

Authorities reported that a situation strikingly parallel to the early phases of the Athens crisis was building up at Salonic, big port in northern Greece. There a general strike was called and tension mounted.

Helmetta E. L. A. S. patrols entered Salonic unlimped, officials said.

One spokesman bluntly described the situation there as "a powder keg."

British Beaufighters swooped over the main street of Athens and sped out over Kolone hill in northern Athens where they shot up an anti-government stronghold.

"You were served with a subpoena, weren't you?" demanded Ferguson.

"I decided to return it," Biddle began.

"You didn't decide until after you got the subpoena, as the record shows," Ferguson said. "Did you?"

"I was subpoenaed, yes," Biddle replied.

**German Losses Heavy on W. Front**

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all along the line. The 3d army hit deeper into the vital Saar region.

One big iron and steel works

already has been seized by the Americans at Dillingen.

On the 3d army's eastern flank,

Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's

American 7th army swung north

two miles to within six and a half

miles of the German border.

Gambach, on the Rhine river

nine miles northeast of Strasbourg, also fell to the 7th army.

Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' 1st

army captured high ground 5½

miles southwest of Duren. A small German counter-attack southeast of Bergstein, three miles below Grosshau, was repulsed.