

WSM, APRIL 21, 1946

Good Morning, Friends:

This has been a week of heated controversies in Washington. In the Senate the debate raged over the proposed loan to Great Britain, ^{mean} while the House of Representatives passed bills extending the draft and the OPA.

The bill extending the Selective Service Act was amended to prevent the drafting of 18 and 19 year old boys; and another amendment was added which prevents the drafting of anyone under the bill until October 15. As this bill was being passed, one fellow remarked that it was the first bill he ever saw repealed before it was passed.

At his Wednesday press conference, President Truman was asked what he thought of the draft bill which passed the House. The President had no comment except to say that he hoped the Senate would pass a bill ^{that} ~~which~~ would work.

It is interesting to note that the bill eliminating the 18 and 19 year old boys from the draft extension was sponsored by Representative May, Chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee; and the draft holiday amendment was sponsored by Representative Winson, Chairman of the House Naval Committee. Throughout the war, Congress has followed these men and supported the war measures which they introduced. ^{Is it any wonder then that} The House also followed them ~~by passing~~ ⁱⁿ

their amendments. The bill is now in the laps of the Senate. What they will ^{this question} ~~do with it remains to be seen.~~

The Office of Price Administration, ^{all} with the restrictions and regimentation which it imposes, has long been and is now one of the most controversial subjects ⁱⁿ ~~of~~ American society. Nearly everybody has a different idea about how things

just about all of us
should be done and a great many people have stories of the hardships which *and none of us like it.*
price controls have imposed upon them. All of this goes to show that freedom
is thoroughly engrained into the American mind and heart, making regimentation
and government control galling and nauseating to all of us.

Many mistakes have been made in exercising wartime controls but one
shatters to think what great hardships people would now be suffering, particularly
people with small incomes, if we had *had no* ~~not had some~~ controls, *whatever.*

The war has been won, but let us not forget that the worst inflation--
the disaster
~~that is~~ the great synthetic boom -- came after World War I instead of during the
war. We now face just that exact danger again. Of course, production is the

only permanent answer to inflation but we can not safely depend upon production
alone *not* until we have had sufficient production to satisfy the acute demand. Some
people have been trying to make us think that very few goods *now* are being produced.

This is *not true* ~~wrong~~; there is overwhelming evidence that production levels are at an

all time high. During the first three months of 1946, America was actually
producing goods at the rate of 154 billion dollars annually. We can better

understand what this figure means by comparing it with previous production

records. It is much higher, for instance, than the peak of 1929 and even

if you
higher than in 1941. The year 1941 was the all time prewar high in civilian

production. We ~~are~~ were then producing not only for ourselves but supplying *as well*

vast orders for our Allies abroad. The actual value of the 1941 production

was 107 billion dollars. So you can see that a production now at the rate of

154 billion dollars is a very high rate of production, *indeed*

Reconversion has progressed admirably because manufacturers have been able to get raw materials at reasonable prices. Without price control, there would have been a mad scramble for scarce materials. Raw materials ^{as well as finished goods} would have been withheld from the market ^{stored in warehouses} in the expectation of daily jumps in prices, thus creating even greater scarcities. We still have shortages. We still have a ^{acute} mammoth demand for both raw materials and finished goods. As long as these

situations obtain, ~~Mr. Speaker~~, we would be plunging our country into economic

^{as I see it, to} chaos ^{right now. Other people} to ~~weaken or abolish price control which has made orderly reconversion~~ ^{see it differently - and in this great free country, everyone is entitled to his own opinion.} ~~possible.~~ Perhaps some people have forgotten the boom and bust after

These are not the high-flown reasonings of academic economists, ~~Mr. Speaker.~~ the other war - bank failures, mortgages, These are the sound conclusions of producers and manufacturers themselves.

~~foreclosures, wrecked homes, bankruptcies~~
The magazine Modern Industry, which is a conservative business man's publication, ~~suicides.~~ Surely those of us who recently presented results of a poll of its subscribers -- all men in managerial ~~lived thru that tormenting depression~~ positions in industry. The poll indicated that 53.8 per cent of those who ~~will have enough sense to~~ answered favored the continuation of price controls for another year. The ~~try to avoid its recurrence.~~ analysis of the poll by management functions of the respondents is particularly ~~And yet that is exactly what~~ significant. 60.5 per cent of the production managers voted for continuation, ~~will happen, in my opinion, if~~ of price controls, and 62 per cent of the sales managers. The sales managers ~~every control was lifted immediately.~~ And that is exactly what we should ~~try and do best to avoid.~~

were reported to predict "absolute chaos" unless price controls are continued longer than June 30. These men are working in industry, Mr. Speaker. They know what they are talking about. They are the men who direct the production and sales operations of industrial plants, large and small. They would not vote for continuation of price control if they thought that the OPA was stifling production.

The president of one of Washington's largest department stores said the other day that he hated to think what would happen if effective price control wasn't continued. The end of price ceilings now, he said, would be "disastrous" for him. He said that he was having a hard enough time now getting merchandise for his customers, and that if price controls were lifted, the scramble for ever higher and higher priced goods would leave him with nothing which the vast majority of his customers could afford. He apparently recognizes the fact that higher prices do not automatically produce more goods, that there must be more raw materials, and an expanding labor force to make more clothing for his racks. Remember that he is speaking as a business man.

Civilian production is going ahead now, almost at the peak of our capacity. To scrap price controls now would mean shrinkage of that capacity,

not expansion. The demand for goods is greater than we have ever known before. That demand cannot be met by inflation. It can be met only by production, -- orderly production and price control.

stations in life, rich and poor alike, when the sad word of President Roosevelt's passing came to them. People felt in their hearts and said that it was just as if a member of the family had gone. Could there be a greater tribute?

The ancient Romans, when speaking of a man who had passed on from this life, did not say, "He has died." Instead, they said, "He has lived." Because of the bigness of his concept of national and world affairs, the peoples of all the world, down through generations yet unborn, can truly say with a new spirit of freedom and with gratitude in their souls that Franklin Delano Roosevelt has lived.

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Mississippi [Mr. WHITTINGTON].

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Mr. Speaker, 1 year ago today the entire world was startled as the news flashed over the wires that Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the foremost man in all the earth, had suddenly died at Warm Springs. Less than 3 months before he had been inaugurated as the first and only President elected for a fourth term, and, for that matter, for a third term. The inauguration was unique in at least two other respects. It was the first time that an elected President took the oath of office and delivered his inaugural address at the White House; secondly, the address, while unprecedentedly brief, was a masterpiece.

The inaugural ceremonies occurred on the south portico. The President had been reported to be in bad health. I thought he looked unusually well. He seemed to be in high spirits. The inauguration was scarcely over before the President left Washington for Yalta. The conference and its pronouncements are well known. The President returned by ship. The Yalta address to the Congress on March 1, 1945, was never to be forgotten. The President sat for the first time in personally addressing the Congress. His voice was weak, his hand trembled; a decline in his physique was noticeable. It was evident that the burdens of public service were telling on him and taking a tremendous physical toll.

Franklin D. Roosevelt was a dreamer. He planned for the betterment of all mankind. He proclaimed the four freedoms, freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from want, freedom from fear. He advocated preparedness. He promoted national defense. When he saw that World War II was inevitable, he appealed to Hitler and to Mussolini directly. He appealed directly to the Mikado. He also appealed directly to the Prime Ministers of Great Britain and France. He saw that war would involve the United States. He not only urged preparedness, but he took the longest step toward world unity ever taken by mortal man. He undertook to avoid the experiences of Woodrow Wilson. He was not perfect. No man is. ~~He met Bagehot's definition of a popular and successful leader: "An uncommon man with an understanding of common ideas."~~

Franklin D. Roosevelt was bold. He was courageous. He had friends and

enemies as is always the case with a strong character. He did not know the meaning of fear. He was a great statesman. ~~Like Jefferson, he was an aristocrat~~ but he loved the common people. He was the most consummate politician of his day. A great Democrat, he believed in the Democratic ideal. With Wendell Willkie, he believed that the world was one. He believed in party rule and party government.

He was a man of great personal charm. He possessed a marvelous personality and an unusual memory. He was the most magnetic man I ever met.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt was the President of the greatest nation and the Commander in Chief of the mightiest army in all the tide of time. As he went the way of all the earth, the immediate surrender of Germany was evident. The conquest of Japan was only a matter of a few weeks or months. He was the most influential figure in all the world. Like Moses of old, he was not permitted to see the hour of victory, but, like Moses, he really died amidst the dawn of victory with unconditional surrender. As an advocate of world peace, he will be greater in death than in life.

The lines of the prose poet, John Oxenham, are appropriate:

Lord, when Thou see'st
That my work is done,
Let me not linger here
With failing powers,
A workless worker in a
World of work;
But with a word,
Just bid me home
And I will come,
Right gladly will I come,
Yes—right gladly will I
Come.

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the distinguished gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. COOPER].

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I esteem it a great privilege to join with other Members of the House of Representatives in raising my voice in brief but very sincere tribute to our late distinguished and great President, the Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt.

I think it is quite fitting and appropriate that we should pause during this busy session of the Congress to pay deserved tribute to this great leader on this, the first anniversary of his death.

I believe that when the historian comes to write the history of the period covered by Mr. Roosevelt's leadership he will find more material out of which to fashion history than in any other period of our Nation or the world.

The great heart of this distinguished American beat in tune with the welfare and interest of the masses of the people of our great country and the entire world.

He stands out in bold relief as one of the greatest statesmen ever produced by this country or the world, and his stature will continue to grow throughout the coming ages.

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Illinois [Mr. SABATH].

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great who have served so nobly the cause
of humanity.

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, I
yield to the distinguished gentleman
from Arizona [Mr. MURDOCK].

Mr. MURDOCK. Mr. Speaker, it is
impossible for the human mind at once
properly to assess the deeds of a great
man or the significance of a great event.
The historian must await the passage of
time to get the proper perspective. Even
Herodotus was unable to assess the
events of his day quite adequately.

It is said that a great institution is but
the lengthening shadow of a great man.
Twentieth century American democracy
is a great institution. In the main it
is the lengthening shadow of this great
American, Franklin D. Roosevelt. He has
left his impress for all time upon our
thought and institutions.

His most powerful opponent in the
world was the arch enemy of liberty and
individual equality, Hitler. It was Hitler
who thought that by his forces he could
determine the direction of history for at
least a millennium, but he was defeated.
We hope and believe that our victory un-
der the leadership of Franklin D. Roose-
velt means a victory that will be signifi-
cant for the next thousand years.
Therefore, we may henceforth speak not
only of the century of the common man
which he did so much to determine but
of the millennium of the common people
which he helped to usher in.

Reference has been made by colleagues
who have preceded me to President
Roosevelt's solicitude for our veterans.
I can gladly and positively confirm that
fact. Among my most prized possessions
is the original of a letter, which I think
was the last communication which our
honored and departed President sent to
any group in Congress. This letter is a
plea for congressional action affording
right and generous treatment for our re-
turning veterans. This letter was re-
ceived at my office and read before the
Committee on Irrigation and Reclama-
tion on the morning of April 12, a year
ago today, and is a part of the records
of that committee. My secretary, who
is an ardent admirer of President Roose-
velt, was saddened that day some hours
before she knew of the President's death
by the sight of an unsteady hand as
shown by that signature. The point to
note is that his heart and spirit were
strong, in the advocacy of a great pur-
pose, even as the working tools of life
fell from his faltering hand.

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, I
yield to the distinguished gentleman
from Texas, our beloved Speaker [Mr.
RAYBURN].

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from
Kentucky [Mr. BATES] will kindly take
the Chair.

Mr. BATES of Kentucky assumed the
Chair as Speaker pro tempore.

~~Mr. RAYBURN.~~ Mr. Speaker, a short
year ago the foremost man of all the
earth passed from action. ~~He was not~~
~~only the foremost man of this earth;~~ he
was the leader of the greatest and most
powerful nation that has existed since
the dawn of civilization. He had no
small part in keeping the Nation that he
found great and making it greater.

He was the greatest imaginative leader this country has produced since Jefferson. He was the most dynamic and virile leader this country has seen since Andrew Jackson.

When tempers cool and reason reigns again the historians in the quiet places will record him as one of the greatest leaders of all time. When he said in his fireside chats "My friends," the people believed their friend was speaking to them. They believed it to the extent that he broke a precedent that no one living in 1932 ever thought would be broken. ~~I did not think at that time that any man would ever be elected President of the United States three times, much less four times.~~

Some people thought there were some things unlovely in his personality; some people thought there were some things unlovely about the way he approached certain problems; but, be that as it may, I have held office continuously since I was 24 years of age. I have looked into the faces of many men and women. On the floor of this House I have looked into the faces of more than 2,000 men and women in the thirty-odd years I have had the honor to be a Member. I think I know people, and I know that the assertion of Franklin D. Roosevelt that he was a friend to the plain man was true.

I have watched him under stress and strain, when the fate of this Nation depended on his leadership and our action in carrying out his recommendations. Jefferson, in my opinion, was the greatest democrat—and I mean that in the proper sense—who ever lived. He believed in the capacity of the people under proper leadership to govern themselves. That leadership of Jefferson was asserted and followed for a half century, from 1776 until 1826, when he came to the end of the road.

Franklin D. Roosevelt will go down in impartial history standing alongside of Washington, Jefferson, Jackson, Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, Cleveland, and Wilson. There are mountain peaks, there are valleys, and there are hills in the history of every country and of every age. Franklin D. Roosevelt will be known as one of the mountain peaks of the United States of America and of the civilized world as long as history is recorded. Peace to his ashes, and may the things that he believed in influence us throughout the unending years of the life of this the greatest of all governments ever instituted by man.

MR. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have five legislative days in which to extend their remarks in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

Mr. STEFAN asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD and include an address delivered by Hon. Paul McNutt, High Commissioner of the Philippine Islands.

Mr. NORBLAD asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD and include an editorial.

Mr. HOPE asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD and include an editorial.

Mr. LEFEVER asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD and include an editorial.

Mr. MUNDT asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD and include an editorial.

Mr. WADSWORTH asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD and include an editorial.

Mr. TALBOT asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD and include an editorial.

Mr. REED asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD and include an editorial.

Mr. H. CARLSON asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD and include an editorial.

Mr. SCRIVNER asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD and include an editorial.

Mr. ANDREW asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD and include an editorial.

Mr. GREEN asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD and include an editorial.

Mr. ROWAN asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD and include an editorial.

Mr. GAMBLER asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD and include an editorial.

Mr. HENRY asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD and include an editorial.

Mr. CASE asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD and include an editorial.

Mr. MILLER asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD and include an editorial.

SPECIAL

Mr. MICHEN asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD and include an editorial.

The SPEAKER asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD and include an editorial.