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### Judgeship Restrictions

The Senate-approved restrictions on new District Court judgeships have the desirable objective of insuring representation on that tribunal of judges who have benefited from the actual practice of law. The restrictions also would prevent selection of the three new judges from present or recent employes of the executive establishment. But there is little wisdom in writing into law such limitations on presidential appointive powers.

Under the McCarran amendment, all three nominees for the proposed new District Court vacancies must have been "actively engaged in the private practice of law" and must have been free of any Federal employment for three years preceding their appointment. Two of them must have been engaged in the private practice of law in the District for at least five consecutive years prior to appointment. The restrictions would apply permanently to three District Court judgeships.

Chairman McCarran of the Judiciary Committee told the Senate the provisions are intended to give the District Bar adequate representation on the court and to control a tendency in recent years to give most District Court judgeships to Government attorneys, some of whom have had little or no experience before the bench. But, as Senator McGrath of the District Committee pointed out on the floor, no such standards for other Federal judgeships have been set up by law. There are residence requirements for Federal judgeships outside of the District, but nothing else. Senator McGrath expressed his belief that the President would veto the whole judgeship measure if such a limitation were imposed on him. It would automatkally exclude from presidential consideration men who might be exceptionally well fitted to serve on the District bench, but who lacked a few months of practice to qualify, or who had accepted a call to Government service within the three-year period.

The President should not be handicapped by an inflexible legal provision in seeking the best possible men for the three additional District Court judgeships provided in the pending legislation. No such restrictions would apply in the case of the three new appellate court judgeships. The Senator's action may have a salutary effect, however, in bringing to the attention of the President and the Attorney General the desirability of choosing for these posts lawyers who, in addition to other qualifications, have had the advantages of court experience. And if it will induce the Attorney General, who makes recommendations to the White House, to give more consideration to candidates suggested by the District Bar Association, so much the better. But The Star believes that the prospect of a presidential veto on the vital judgeship legislation as a whole and the questions as to the propriety, if not the constitutionality, of restricting the presidential appointive powers, warrant elimination in conference of the McCarran

# The Belgian Elections

The outcome of the Belgian parliamentary elections has several interesting aspects. The outstanding one is the failure of the Social Christian Party to obtain an outright majority in the next Chamber of Deputies, which would have enabled it to do away with the present coalition arrangement and form a cabinet exclusively its own.

The Social Christians represent the conservative and clerical elements in the population. The party likewise reflects the linguistic and cultural division of Belgium between Flemings and Walloons. The Flemish-speaking part of Belgium is more strongly Roman Catholic, more conservative in outlook, and more rural than the Walloons, who speak French and include the chief urban and industrial areas. Although the two racial elements are approximately equal numerically, the Flemings tend to vote more as a unit, whereas the Walloons tend to divide between the Socialist, Communist and Liberal parties. The result is that the Social Christians have long been the largest single party in parliament, though they have not in recent years been able to transform their plurality

into a majority.

This was their aim in the current election. They were encouraged by the fact that, for the first time, women exercised the franchise, and women slightly outnumber men in Belgium. Since women are traditionally supposed to be more clerically inclined than men, the Social Christians hoped to benefit notably. Their leading plank was the return of King Leopold to the throne in place of his younger brother, Prince Charles, who has been ruling as Regent ever since the end of the war. The King's return is a complex and highly controversial issue, involving his wartime attitude toward the Germans and his morganatic marriage to a lady who comes from a distinguished Flemish and

the other parties being opposed to the

The Social Christians, however, have not won a majority. They will thus have to make a coalition arrangement with one or more of the other parties. The existing coalition was between them and the Socialists. But the election returns indicate that the Socialists barely held their own, whereas the Liberal Party made surprising gains, virtually doubling its existing representation in the Chamber. This indicates middle-class discontent with high taxes, cost of living and Socialistbacked nationalization and welfare projects. A conservative-liberal coalition thus becomes a political possibility, leaving out the Socialists, though the obstacles might

The final aspect of the current elections is the poor showing of the Communists. They have lost approximately one-half of their voting power in the previous election, and will have only a dozen seats in the next Chamber. Since there will be a total of 212 seats, this reduces the Communists' representation to a negligible fraction.

### The Best Way Out

The apparent reluctance of the President to be put in a position where he would have to cut from 5 to 10 per cent out of the funds appropriated for the executive establishment in the next fiscal year is understandable. But it is beginning to look as though this is the best, if not the only, way to avoid a deficit of well over a billion

It is, of course, the responsibility of Congress to appropriate funds, and there is more than a suggestion of politics in the Republican-dominated move to pass the buck to the President. There is one curious aspect of this situation. In former years there has been agitation, indorsed by the White House, to give the President the power of item veto over appropriation bills. In other words, the President would have the power to veto selected items, and the present proposal is very similar to that. A decade ago, however, Congress was strongly opposed to such a plan. Now, it seems, the opposition comes from the other end of Pennsylvania avenue.

Be that as it may, the fact remains that sixty-one Senators have signed a petition directing the President to make the economy cuts, and enough others have signified their support to indicate that a veto of the proposal would be overridden in the

What Majority Leader Lucas will do in this situation is uncertain. His position has wavered, but he seems to be against the plan, presumably in line with the President's wishes. Five weeks ago, however, Senator Lucas said he was opposed to Republican efforts to trim each appropriation bill 5 per cent, and that Republican economy effort collapsed. But at the same time the Majority Leader said he would support a move by Democrats on the Appropriations Committee to work out some formula for economy.

It looks as though Mr. Lucas now has that formula. He does not seem too happy about it, perhaps because of the preponderance of Republican signatures on the petition, but he must know that the choice is between this plan and a deficit. And he must also know that the administration cannot escape the obligation to do its best to avoid a deficit simply because the Congress dodged its responsibility.

# Secrecy Can Hurt

There is nothing particularly new in what Dr. Karl T. Compton has just said about secrecy and security. But it is the sort of thing that needs to be restated and re-emphasized in these days when all too many people seem to have the idea that rigid and wholesale controls on scientific information will automatically promote the safety of the Nation.

Nothing could be less true. Speaking as chairman of the Research and Development Board, our top agency for scientific planning, Dr. Compton has reminded everybody that secrecy and security are far from being synonymous. Of course, in such fields as atomic energy and guided missiles, common sense demands that restrictions be placed on various types of information. But common sense also demands, as Dr. Compton has warned, that those restrictions should not be carried to excess, for if they are, then they are likely

to hurt us much more than they will help. Actually, excessive secrecy can be dangerous. An iron-curtain atmosphere is not conducive to the development of new ideas. In Dr. Compton's words, science flourishes best under conditions that permit free inquiry. Restraints hold it back, put a brake on its progress, handicap it wherever it needs to move without blinders. If in the field of A-weapons, for example, we should allow only twenty-five experts to know about a project that could be handled better if fifty knew about it, some other country conceivably could catch up

with us or outstrip us in the atomic race. Unfortunately, given the kind of world we have, a large measure of secrecy is necessary. As Dr. Compton has said, however, such secrecy is "the negative or defensive aspect of security," and we must be on guard against the danger of carrying it so far that we impede the "continual technological progress" on which we must primarily rely to keep the Nation secure. The point should be mulled over by anybody who supposes that the way to be safe is to place everything in impenetrable darkness.

# Frederic D. McKenney

During more than sixty years Frederic Duncan McKenney exemplified in Washington the conception of De Tocqueville that "the profession of law is the only aristocratic element which can be amalgamated without violence with the natural elements of democracy, and which can be advantageously and permanently combined with them." His view of the work of courts was that it should represent the principle of government by the best qualified in terms of honor and equity. He sought by his own devoted endeavor to strengthen the profession to which by deliberate choice he belonged. None of his contemporaries held the bar in higher esteem or greater affection.

The story of Mr. McKenney's career is

manner as well as the bent of his mind was largely the making of his father. He was graduated from both Princeton and what now is George Washington University. His closest associates included such distinguished practitioners as Samuel F. Phillips and Wayne MacVeagh, both firstrate lawyers. He appeared with success and distinction before the ultimate tribunals here and abroad. His knowledge of international jurisprudence was profound. At home he contributed to American industry and commerce the counsel of a disciplined yet a creative mind.

Not everybody knew him intimately. Mr. McKenney was no seeker after personal followers. He would not have lifted a finger in the interest of fame. His objective instead was the quiet satisfaction of adding to peace and order in the world. Above everything else he wanted a balanced, fundamentally equitable civilization. His long years of faithful application to that purpose were constructively spent, so that it might be remarked of him that he was in effect "an architect" as Scott employed the word in "Guy Mannering"a builder of a tolerable society.

### No Cause to Investigate the FBI

It is reassuring, though not surprising, to learn that President Truman has no intention of ordering an investigation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and its methods of operation. He has acted wisely in announcing this fact publicly through a White House spokesman. The announcement should put an end to the clamor by some critics of the FBI-most of it intemperate and ill reasoned-for an "impartial" study of the bureau's investigative, reporting and filing policies.

The demands for an investigation of the investigators came in the wake of the disclosure of confidential FBI files at the Coplon trial. The disclosure was made against the advice and and over the protest of Director Hoover. But the release of the records does not justify the attacks which have been made on Mr. Hoover and his agency by those who were shocked at the publication of "unevaluated information." From all reports, Mr. Hoover, too, was shocked that they were published. The files in question are no different, in the nature of their content, from those in other intelligence organizations. The FBI uses the same questioning techniques, records its findings and holds its reports for future reference in the same way that other investigative agencies in this country and abroad do. There is nothing in its long record under Mr. Hoover to warrant fears of witch-hunt tactics or other abuses of its authority. And until there is some evidence of such tactics or abuses, there is no reason to conduct the proposed

## This and That By Charles E. Tracewell

"ALEXANDRIA, Va..

'Dear Sir: "The American egrets have returned. Last night I saw five wading in the marshes at Four-Mile Run, just south of the National Airport. Last year, I did not see any until August. Perhaps we're going to have even more of these spectacular birds with us this year. I hope you'll devote a column to this very interesting visitor.

"Yours very truly, B. W., jr."

They are truly beautiful birds, these egrets, now making a comeback in the South. The National Capital is glad to have them come here.

They are, however, no prettier than our other birds. They are larger than some of the other water birds, but not particularly more beautiful. Nor are their habits any more interesting.

A nice gull, for instance! There is a good

It is always interesting, more so to some than others, to see something rare. And the egret is a rare one, at least has

been for many years. Since the comeback started dozens of them have been seen along the East Coast, as far as New York and even in lower Massachusetts.

As far as we are concerned, we will take a blue jay, or a cardinal, or a chickadee! These are fine birds, too, and appeal to thousands because they come to their very

There is something especially appealing, these people think, to the dooryard bird. Dooryard is a word once used more than it is today. During the Civil War and thereafter, people often spoke of dooryards. Today we say garden. In the old days, people planted little gardens at doors. They did not have the idea of foundation planting, as we say. Some of the old-fashioned dooryard gardens were filled with annual blossoms. They used well known flowers, the simple things one could "start" from a cutting, or from plants given by a neighbor. The idea of foundation planting came in with modern real estate developments. Folks did not want to wait and do their own planting when they bought a house. They wanted the builder to do it for them. It was the beginning, perhaps, of that essentially modern idea, to permit some one else to do what one ought to do for one's self. In the old days every one had a shotgun and a pistol, and was ready to defend his own home, but now he wants to call the police. Clean people walk along and see trash on the street but they seldom, if ever, stop to pick it up.

That is some one else's job, too. We are very departmentalized. The old days, often sneered at, had many good points. An egret was no rarity, then. There were plenty of them. People hadn't killed them off for their feathers. Farther back, the passenger pigeons gathered by their millions. They, too, were no rarity. They were all killed off. Conservation work has not been thought of, then. Every man was his own killer, in the old days. There was some individuality about it. Nowadays we kill in packs, called regiments.

Watch the egrets, when you get a chance, but do not despise the little plain birds, some of them, that come to our dooryards.

The egret is big, 40 inches of him, with no crest, but with a plume springing from the back and extending beyond the tail. Plumage is entirely white. The bill is

vellow, the feet black. The egret is more picturesque, certainly, and larger—

But a brown creeper is a beauty, too,

though he is but a few inches long. Over the years, the creeper is more valuable to man, because he creeps over our trees and cleans them of harmful insects. He is a pleasant little fellow to have around, one of the sturdy band of home birds that steadfastly refuse to lurk near rivers but are willing to make their homes at

our little places in the suburbs. Let us value them and realize that a

# Letters to The Star

Warns of Danger of Intruding On Avenue Safety Zone

To the Editor of The Star

Is it necessary that some one be killed or seriously injured at the intersection of Thirteenth street and Pennsylvania avenue N.W., before anything can or will be done to eliminate the dangerous practice on the part of motorists who are making left-hand turns from the Avenue into Thirteenth of cutting short through the pedestrian "safety" zone in the center of the Avenue south of the streetcar tracks? Every day many per sons find it necessary to cross the Avenue at this point, and very, very often some of these persons also find it necessary to leap for their lives to get out of the way of such inconsiderate and reckless drivers.

The "walk" light stops pedestrian traffic in the center of the Avenue and the safety zone (outlined with white stripes) is provided (presumably) for the protection of the pedestrians. But it appears that at least threefourths of the drivers making the left-hand turn at this point cut short diagonally across and through the safety zone. The following proof of the prevalence of this practice is offered: Since extensive repairs to the surface of the pavement at this intersection were made last winter, it has been necessary to paint the white lines outlining the safety zone twice (the last time was in April), and it will very soon be necessary to paint these lines again, as they rapidly are being obliterated, not by the shoes of pedestrians, but by the tires of automobiles which should never cross these lines at all.

Seldom is there a traffic officer on duty at this corner, but when one is, he is much too busy blowing his whistle at pedestrians to even notice the motorists "short-cutting" through the safety zone, much less to speak to a motorist or give out a ticket for this offense. Or can it be that there is no law or traffic regulation prohibiting the dangerous practice referred to?

A solution to the problem might be to make the safety zone a raised platform or 'island"; this should prevent most, if not all, of the short-cutting ONE OF THE LEAPING PEDESTRIANS.

# Reappointment of Chairman

Of PUC Protested by Progressives To the Editor of The Star

The article in The Star of June 23 announcing the nomination of James H Flanagan for a third term with the PUC, was read with amazement by those of us who are familiar with his record. The article stated that "Mr. Flanagan continues to preside over the PUC with his usual, quiet, unruffled

During the hearings held last summer. resulting in the latest increase in Capital Transit fares, Mr. Flanagan favored the company by constant arbitrary rulings and by closing the case without permitting the Washington Committee for Consumer Protection a single day's continuance after cross-examination to prepare testimony or secure technical witnesses. The People's Counsel criticized the evidence accepted by Mr. Flanagan's record is one of flagrant

favoritism toward the public utilities and open hostility toward the representatives of the people who have opposed the continuous increases in utility rates granted by the PUC. Between 1942 and 1945 Mr. Flanagan took the lead in delaying rate reduction proceedings against Capital Transit for four years, even though the company was earning \$1.500,000 over and above a 6 per cent return and the CIO had asked for a n

By contrast, when the PUC, in May, 1947, approved an increase in Capital Transit rates it allowed the higher rates to become effective only 63 hours later, even though the law provided a 30-day period for reconsideration. On June 5, 1947, Mr. Flanagan, at the hearings held before the Senate District Committee, admitted that he and PUC had decided in advance when they entered this order to deny any petition for reconsideration which might be filed. Senators Capper, Holland and Sparkman sharply criticized this action.

The Progressive Party of the District of Columbia feels that Mr. Flanagan's record of constant favoritism toward the public utilities and open hostility to representatives of the people show that he is not qualified to serve as chairman of the Public Utilities Commission. We condemn the nomination of Mr. Flanagan and call on the people of the District of Columbia to protest against his reappointment and urge that a person truly representative of the interests of the District be appointed.

It should be pointed out that this situation obtains in the District where we are voteless, and should further stimulate the people to see to it that Home Rule for the District is a must of the 81st Congress-that is, in the House of Representatives, a bill for Home Rule and Reorganization of the District Government having passed the Senate.

GERTRUDE EVANS. Executive Secretary, Progressive Party.

### Urges Abolition of Segregation In Schools as an Economy Move To the Editor of The Star:

In its lead editorial June 24 The Star quite properly was concerned over several Congressional activities-generous provision for sick leave bills for teachers, increased pension for widows and orphans of policemen and firemen-all of which in the end will cost the taxpayers more money. Inasmuch as no one approves careless spending of public funds. The Star is to be commended for its study of such alleged reck-

less spending. After gagging on such relatively small finance, however, the editorial policy had an about face and strongly supported the \$41,-000,000 school building program. Only question was the method of financing, both methods of course depending on the taxpavers.

Although a third Star editorial no doubt clearly could make these declarations show consistency, the purpose of this letter is not to question editorial logic, not to question whether The Star should oppose what it doesn't like and support what it does in whatever form it sees fit. The purpose of this letter, is to urge a study of this \$41,000,-000 to see whether the taxpayers' money is going down the drain as an effort to maintain an expensive dual school system.

For example, in spite of 3,000 vacant pupil stations in white high schools (estimated to rise to 3,200 in the year 1960), the school building program recommends not one or two but three new high schools for Negro children, who, of course, certainly need more adequate housing both in building quality and sufficient number of pupil stations. A new Cardozo will cost \$3,350,000; yet Central and Roosevelt, two white schools, together have enough vacancies to house the overflow at Cardozo, and the vacancies at Eastern and McKinley, two more white high schools, easily could take care of the basic capacity of Cardozo. Negro high school children come from all of these areas to Cardozo. And to circumvent a predictable several million dollar request for a new administration building. The Star might look into saving that much by the use of Cardozo for the administration headquarters.

The Consolidated Parent Group, led by Gardner C. Bishop, certainly is right in calling for the end of the dual school system and Boke. proposal for a plebiscite on the King's return, the Social Christians would have had to get a majority in parliament, all

Letters for publication must bear the signature and address of the writer, although it is permissible for a writer known to The Star to use a nom de plume. Please be brief.

pavers easily a quarter more than an inte-

grated system. The Star as a leading community and national newspaper is urged to study this dual school system for the cost to the taxpayer in providing duplicate facilities-in building giant high schools while other educational giants are brick ghosts MARY KELSEY COOKE.

## "Humiliation" of Dr. Fishbein Seen

As Prelude to "Relics" and "Tracts."

The recent Atlantic City convention of the American Medical Association was decision day for organized medicine. Our House of Delegates made three crucial decisions purposed to stay the threatened socialization of the healing arts: It sternly rebuked a symbol of alleged reactionary leadership of our unpopular past; it gave a new concept of strategy and leadership a noisy vote of confidence; it settled for any home remedy that could survive local politics despite solemn promises of a truly national solution of our urgent health insurance needs

Dr. Fishbein was made the official scapegoat for all the sins of reactionary leadership in our unpopular past. Muzzled and shackled we delivered him to his many enemies as hostage for our good intentions. If a scapegoat can stay the compelling hungers of all mankind for collective security against bankrupting health hazards, Dr Fishbein is presumed to fill the bill. His severest critics must admit he rose to power and prestige in the void created by spurned leadership. Practicing doctors were too busy or too indifferent to its exhaustive demands to wear its mantle of inevitable power. Dr. Fishbein took that spurned by lesser men and created professional prestige which envy changed to a deadly occupational hazard. This was because nature endowed him with the brilliant mind and aggressive ego inseparable from superior performance. He is one of the few doctors who could retire to a bare, cloistered cell and emerge with every essential of medical science reduced to written authority. He was guilty of assuming his social views were as authoritative as his learned discussions on any phase of medical science. Now he is leveled to the low estate of compulsory silence and the impotence of official emasculation.

### Victory for "New Liberalism."

I frankly confess I was one of those who felt Dr. Fishbein's reactionary views on social science were harming the medical profession. But there was something sickening about the way we masters of healing executed judgment. I saw him on several occasions in Atlantic City. He was a lonely figure who accepted his unaccustomed ostracism with dignity and any act of friendship with touching gratitude. But what sickened me were the cynical remarks made by former admirers after he passed. Dr. Fishbein's public humiliation may have been a triumph for the new liberalism in medicine. But it was a far greater victory for antisemitism. Doctors should remember that pretensions to even-handed justice only are convincing when purged of the malice of envy and revenge.

I was present as a visitor in our House of Delegates when our new leadership was introduced and given a noisy vote of con- sufficient, Maj. Gen. George P. Hayes, the fidence. The top-strategy planners for our survival as a free profession are not doctors. | spondents, to build up a reserve for the We who revolted at politicians invading the Nation's sickroom now have a husband-andwife publicity team directing our strategy. Miss Baxter is going to stop the socialization of medicine with a holy relic: By keeping politics out of Sir Luke Feldes' picture of "The Doctor." she seriously proposes to satisfy our growing hunger for solvent social security within the framework of true democracy.

Miss Baxter's husband, Clem Whitaker, is the atomic task force of our new public relations. With the fervor of an evangelist, he exhorted us about things done and to be done. If he missed a single suffocating cliche, it was not for lack of time. An eloquent and persuasive spokesman for British doctors grudgingly was given five minutes to tell his story and he gave socialized medicine the most effective debunking I have ever heard by reciting chapter and verse of its greatest failure. Mr. Whitaker took much longer to say infinitely less. When he was through we gathered that Oscar Ewing would never socialize medicine as long as Whitaker and Baxter had \$3,000,000 to spend on tracts, holy relics and stamps. As a family doctor I have never been much for cure by testimonial. Whitaker and Baxter did not change my Local Dissidents Given Power.

We always have preached a "national" solution of our health security problems. The term "national" implied equal social justice and security for all under an im-

partial rule of law. Our House of Delegates substituted a rule of men for our professed ideal of a "national" rule of law. It gave local dissidents with their prejudices and hates the power to veto any plan they disapproved. Instead of courageously prescribing one national remedy efficacious for all, our AMA repudiated our profession's most sacred quest: That is, a specific remedy for any disease! This has been our ideal because we know a specific remedy will heal everybody, any place. Likewise, every doctor knows that a multiplicity of alleged remedies is a frank confession that we

have none The AMA has lent its prestige and authority to a gun-shot prescription for healing a serious disease. That prescription changes its healing standards as it crosses each State line. The miserable and helpless are left more hopeless than ever! Instead of courageously assuming leadership in healing this Nation's wounds, our AMA has aban-

doned all pretense of wanting it. As Dr. Fishbein was the repudiated symbol of our old reactionary leadership, Whitaker and Baxter are symbols of the new. have turned healing over to publicity experts. In the future if you are sick, listen to your radio and don't forget to open your morning mail! "Doctors" Whitaker and Baxter may be sending you a sacred relic or a magic tract!

THOMAS E. MATTINGLY, M. D.

### Yes, Some University Teachers Are Not Conspicuously Anti-Red To the Editor of The Star:

A number of our universities are refusing to circulate anti-Communist oaths. This is not surprising. It seems that to be a professor nowadays you must have a pink com-ANDY LARMAN.

### Says Mr. Straus Failed To Answer Accusations To the Bditer of The Star;

I had a good deal of sympathy with Messrs. Straus and Boke of the Interior Department in their controversy with Congress until I read the statement of Mr. Bow. former counsel of the House Committee. and of Mr. Straus in The Star of June 26. Mr. Bow cited certain definite findings of

the committee with respect to Messrs. Straus

# Berlin, Once Ghost City, Shows Notable Changes

Traditional German Thoroughness Shown in Efforts to Rebuild

By Thomas R. Henry

BERLIN, By Mail -Berlin, under a thin veil of cobweb clouds, is a jumbled red-andbrown desert with black shadows in fantaxtic outlines denoting both green parks

and blocks of charred ruin

But as the army bus goes through the straight streets of empty shells which once were office buildings and apartment houses, it is quite evident that even in this chost of a great city there has been a notable change since that cold, dismal July morning four years ago when Americans made their first entry into the pleasant residential district . of Lahlendorf

Several of the war correspondents who were with that party are here on a tour of war areas conducted by American Overseas Airlines. Those were the days when all the official buildings were wide open for looting and when the first signs of friction with the hitherto friendly Red army were becoming

### Everybody Hard at Work

There are no shell holes and no rubble in the streets any more. Apparently, there has been little rebuilding and that of a quite temporary character. But everybody hard at work. The traditional German thoroughness is apparent in the American and British sectors. The rubble has been sorted and the bricks arranged in neat piles. ready for use as soon as it becomes possible to rebuild. The gaunt look of dispair and hunger is gone from the faces of the people, They do not seem too badly dressed although certainly most of their clothing is at least six years old and it is necessary to use odd assortments

Zahlendorf seems in fact almost a normal better class residential section of a great city. The contrast is not so marked in the Russian sector, through a few blocks of which the bus goes on its way from the great Templehof air field. This includes the Reichchancellorie and the air-raid shelter where Hitler and his bride are supposed to have killed themselves just before the entry of Russian troops.

On the surface there is little evidence of Russian occupation. No Red soldiers are seen in the streets where they swarmed four years ago. Only after entering the British sector does the Red flag appear in front of an elaborate monument to Russian war dead which was erected before the present some limits were decided. Armed Red sentries keep watch over it night and day.

A noticeable feature of this little patch of the Russian sector is the number of German women working with picks in the rubble piles. The enormous job of sorting out the bricks, blocks of marble, and iron for salvage seems hardly to have gotten underway, Airlift Planes Roar.

All night long the airlift planes roar overhead. It is impressive to watch them landing and taking off from Templehof with a mathematical precision of movement that represents the height of air transport efficiency. In the American and British sectors there can be no question that the airlift has done its job. It probably represents the difference between the appearance of these areas and the area under Russian occupation

With the end of the blockade a steady inflow of approximately 10,500 tons a day is being maintained-7,000 by air, 1,000 by canal barge and 2,500 by highway. It is acting military governor tells the correcoming winter. This, however, is not accumulating as fast as was hoped when the blockade was lifted, and at present there is little prospect of any material reductions in the airlift activity. From 700 to 1,000 trips a day continue to be necessary.

Generally among both military and civilian personnel in the American sector the "cold war." as it has gone on for the past year, is nearing its end and the prospects of its development into a "hot war" are more remote today than at any time in the past three years.

# Questions and Answers

A reader can get the answer to any question of fact by writing The Washington Evening Star In-formation Bureau, 31d Eye street N.E. Washing-ton 2. D. C. Flease Inclose three (3) cents for return postage.

# By THE HASKIN SERVICE

Q. Who originated the musical slogan of the three great B's? O. P. B. A. It was Baron Hans von Bulow (1830-94) noted violinist and conductor and sonin-law of Liszt, who coined the slogan of

Q. How much edible meat can be obtained

the three great B's, Bach, Beethoven and

from a whale? G. T. S. A. There are approximately 21/2 tons of prime cuts in a whale. In Japan and Norway, whale meat has long been an article of food.

Q. What does the name "Thailand" mean? How many times has this country changed

A. Thailand means "Land of the Free" and is the present name of the country, having been restored May 1, 1949 by the Premier. Formerly known as Biam, the country became Thalland during World War II, but changed back to Siam afterwards for purposes of foreign relations.

Q. What are the three kinds of gloves used in a baseball game? T. A. L. A. Three kinds of gloves used in a baseball game are, the first baseman't mitt, the catcher's mitt and the fielder's gloves.

Q. To what extent does smoke reduce the sunshine in New York City? L. A. S. A. Smoke reduces the sunshine of an average bright day by 37 per cent in the early morning and 14 per cent at noon

Q. What is the Negro strength of the Army? D. McM.

A. Current Negro strength of the Army is 1.173 officers and 71.189 enlisted men, as compared with 5 officers and approximately 4,500 enlisted men in 1939.

Q. What is the origin of Aboy!, the traditional hail on shipboard? K. McB. A. Ahoy was once the battle cry of the

Q. Does the law provide a greater penalty than usual for striking a person who is wearing glasses? L. I. F.

A. As a rule the law does not specifically make such a provision but in all probability a judge in passing sentence would take into consideration the fact that a person wearing spectacles would be more likely to be injured by a blow in the face than one not

### wearing them. Lines to An Overgrown Hobby

How sad I am, my hobby horse, To see you overgrown To such extent that you assume This arrogance of tone. While I, who once discovered you Unnoticed on the shelf,

Have worked so hard to make you thrive I've near consumed myself. Now harassed by you how I sigh, Who should be warm with pride,

HELEN HOWLAND PROMMEL