

Current News Of Little Cheer To Average American

By PETER EDSON
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WASHINGTON — John Jones, average citizen, riding home from work on a crowded bus after the usual day's grind, was tired and a little worried.

The headlines he had glanced at in the evening paper were all bad news. What was the matter with everybody, anyway? As if it wasn't enough trouble just keeping soul and body together, paying for three square meals a day for himself and family and a roof over their heads. All these people had to go and make it a lot worse. Those Russians. What wouldn't they do next? And Congress and the President and Henry Wallace and John L. Lewis.

This coal strike didn't make sense. It had already cut down work on the railroads. Pretty soon his own place would be closing down for lack of coal and steel. Then try to find a new job or go back on unemployment compensation again. Trying to live on that at today's prices was murder. Well, he might not have to buy much meat because the packing house strike was shutting that off.

But his rent would probably be hiked unless those guys down there in Congress came to their senses at the last minute. And where was more rent money coming from?

There was really only one bit of cheering news in the whole paper, outside the funnies and the sports page. Congress was going to cut his income taxes. It wasn't enough to pay for a rent raise, but every little bit helped. Must be a catch in it somewhere. Oh, sure. As soon as election was over they'd have to put the tax rate back up again to pay for all this new draft and UMT.

More Dark Clouds
Well, if buying some more airplanes would head off another war, he would pay gladly. That went for this Marshall Plan, too. Looked like we'd have to help Europe some more, also China. If only these Commies would quit agitatin'.

But it looked like there was going to be another war. Didn't see how they could keep out of it. Some fellow like Hitler or Mussolini, or Stalin or Tito or this Gottwald was always gettin' too big for his breeches, and startin' things he couldn't stop. When would these Europeans ever grow up and learn to run their own countries without going to war, like the Swiss and the Swedes?

The Russians were just bluffing when they said they had the atomic bomb. They probably didn't have very long-range



DELEGATES TO MOSCOW CONFER WITH FINNISH PRESIDENT—Finnish delegates, who will negotiate pact with Russia in Moscow, confer with President Paasikivi in Helsinki. Left to right (seated) Premier Mauno Pekkala, chairman; President Paasikivi, Carl Enckel, foreign minister, and Reinhold Svento, deputy foreign minister. Left to right (standing) Urho Kekkonen, deputy speaker of parliament; Onni Peltonen, chairman of parliament's foreign affairs committee, and J. O. Soderhjelm, member of Swedish Peoples' Party. (AP Wirephoto via radio from London.)

bombers. Rockets and buzz bombs couldn't reach all the way from Siberia or Europe, certainly. This germ warfare they talked about sounded pretty bad. Spies could throw germs in all the reservoirs.

ifs and Maybes

If the Russians could sneak any raids over, they'd hit at the Northeast and the Northwest. Where could a man go to get his family out of it? Get out of town. Take to the hills. Some place in the Ozarks. Could he get a job there? Could he make enough to keep his family? He could live in a shack.

He didn't know the first thing about farming. He had spaded up a Victory garden. It had given him a stiff back. Besides, he was getting along in years. And he didn't have enough saved up. He still hoped to buy or build a place of his own some day. But not at these prices. Why didn't Congress do something about housing?

The bus made a sudden stop and Citizen John Jones lurched forward. It shook him out of this bad day dream. What had he been thinking of? Running away from this thing? Nuts. Bring 'em on. We'll show 'em. We've still got the bomb, haven't we? We should have used it right after V-E Day, while we still had a big army in Europe to finish the job. We should have used it right then, right where it would do the most good.

We should still do that. Well, maybe not right away. This country was still too damn decent. Always waited for the other fellow to hit us first. But let these red so-and-so's get funny just once more, and Bingo! That was where Citizen John Jones got off.

Planning Trip On Alaska Highway? Here's Some Tips

Word that permits no longer are required to travel the Alaska Highway has brought a flood of inquiries from Oregonians concerning travel along this new route, according to the Oregon State Motor Association.

The association reported many vacationists were planning trips to Alaska this summer, now that the trip may be made in reasonable comfort.

"Due to danger from floods during the spring break-up, however, travelers are advised not to start the trip before the month of June," the association said. "The highway is clear the year around, but sudden floods may make certain sections of the highway impassable for indefinite periods."

The association issued these travel tips for persons planning to drive the Alaska route this

summer:

1. Make complete arrangements for accommodations before starting. There are very limited resources for the accommodation of motorists along the route from Dawson Creek, B. C., to Fairbanks, Alaska.

2. Be prepared to camp. Camp sites, with cooking and dining shelters, have been provided by the Canadian government. Travelers should carry their own food and supplies.

3. U. S. citizens going through Canada to Alaska do not need passports. They should, however, carry some form of identification.

4. Rifles and shotguns may be taken along. They must be registered with the provincial police, however.

5. Dogs or other pets must be accompanied by a certificate, signed by a veterinary inspector of the U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry, or by a licensed veterinarian of the state of origin, stating the animal is free of contagious disease.

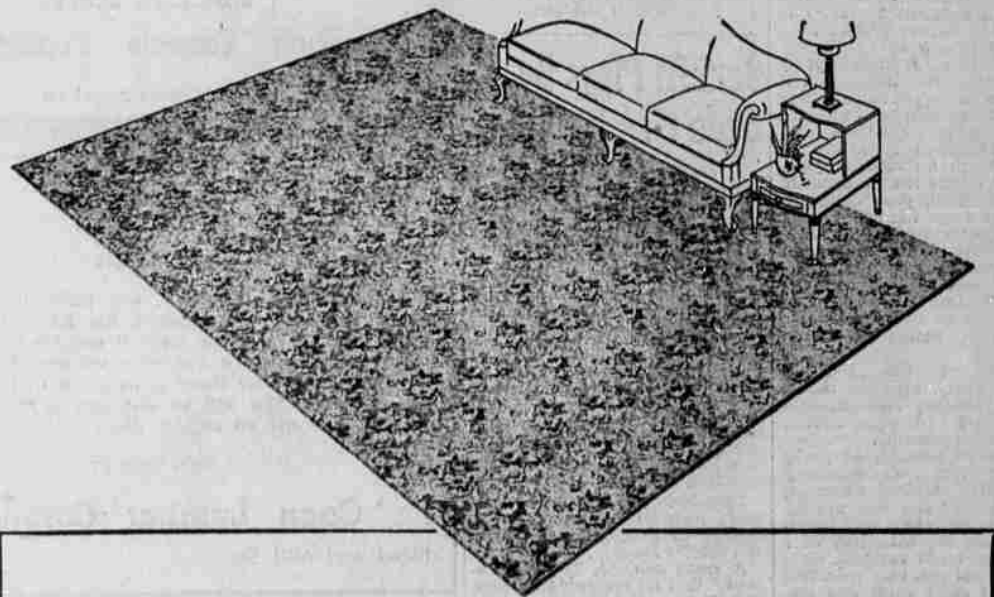
6. Most personal belongings may be taken free of duty. For cameras, there is a limit of six rolls of film. On tobacco, there is a limit of 50 cigars, 200 cigarettes, two pounds of manufactured tobacco. There is no limit on the amount of money one may carry.

7. Make sure automotive equipment is in top condition, since maintenance and repair service will be difficult to find along the highway.

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ROSEBURG, OREGON

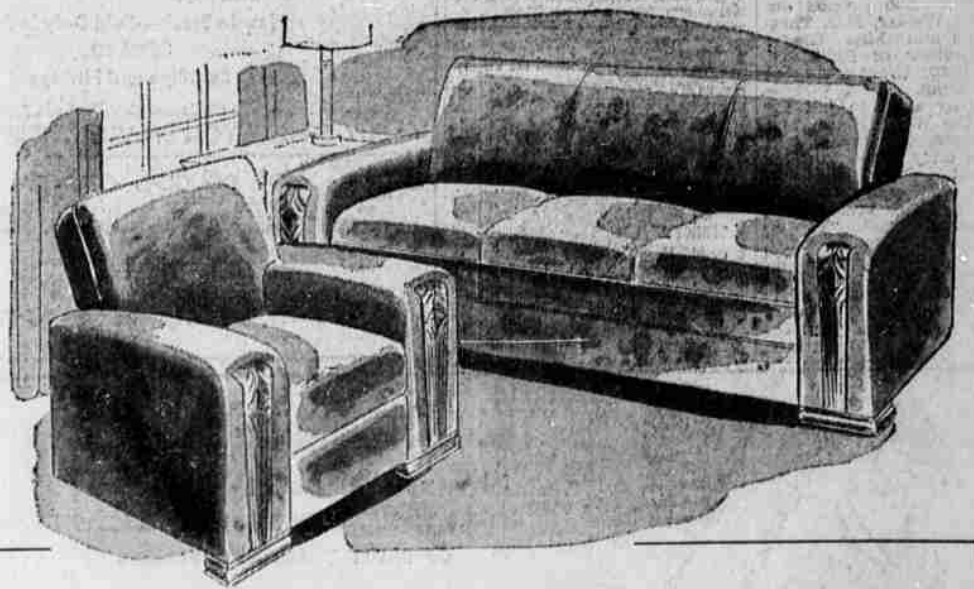
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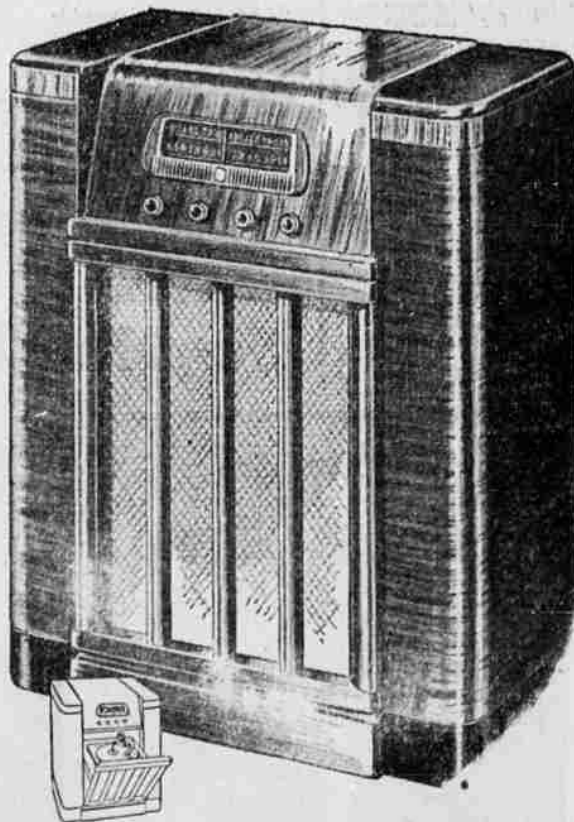
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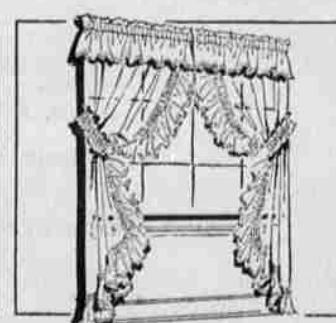
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