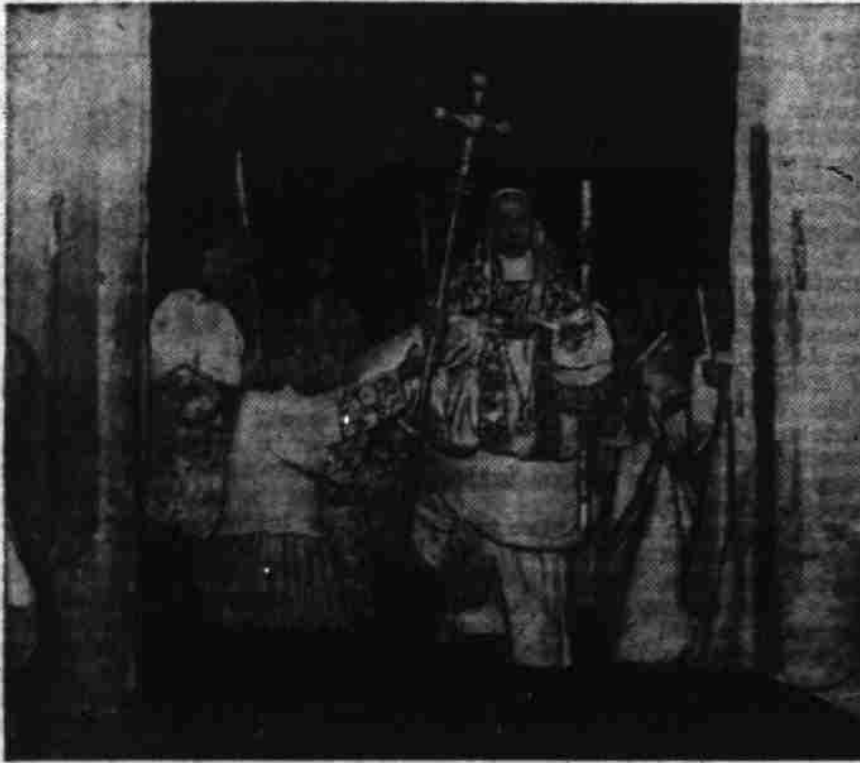


Auto Makers Break Record Set in 1929

The WORLD This WEEK

Atomic Fuel Costs No More Than Coal



HOLY DOOR—Carrying a candle and a cross, Pope Pius XII crosses threshold of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome officially opening the 1950 Holy Year of the Roman Catholic Church.



FREEDOM—Indonesia, with 77,000,000 people, has been granted independence by The Netherlands. President Soekarno (right) is congratulated by Chief Justice Kasuma Atmadja.



YULE AFTERMATH—This is charred debris of Hyndman, Pa., business section after a blazing Christmas tree caused a conflagration that killed one person, did \$500,000 damage.



VISITORS—The Duke and Duchess of Windsor are visiting America. The Duchess was voted one of the ten best dressed women in the world. After a month they will go to Canada.

A Nation On Wheels

ONE reason for current traffic jams was explained last week by the Automobile Manufacturers' Association.

In 1949, the automotive industry broke a 20-year production record, turning out an estimated 6,200,000 cars and trucks. The old record, achieved during the boom year 1929, was 5,358,420 vehicles.

This year, there were 43,900,000 motor vehicles registered in the United States. These include 35,700,000 passenger cars. The totals represent an increase of nearly 3,000,000 over last year and 9,000,000 more than in 1941.

Boom for Key Industry

And what is more, the automotive industry, on which a large part of the national economy rolls, looks for an even better year ahead. Replacement demand for cars and trucks is far greater today than ever before in the automotive industry history, says the manufacturers' association.

In Washington, Secretary of Commerce Sawyer said he expected 1950 to start with a volume of business activity not materially different from the high rate which prevailed in the second half of 1949.

Sawyer reported: "At the end of the year, business activity was moderately below the postwar high reached at the end of 1948.

"Consumer demand continued at the high rates prevailing throughout the year.

"Residential construction, which rebounded from the lows in the early part of the year, was at peak rates.

"Business demand for plant and equipment and foreign demand for U.S. goods, on the other hand, were declining."

Export Is Down

The automobile industry set its production record despite an abnormal export situation. During the past year, many foreign countries tightened restrictions to conserve dollar reserves. Automobile exports in 1949 were only 280,000 units—36 per cent below 1948.

Workers prospered along with the automotive manufacturers. The association reported that in 1949 more than 650,000 workers averaging an estimated \$1.70 an hour, earned about \$2,241,000,000. Last year at an average of \$1.61 an hour, they earned \$2,127,500,000. In 1941, 570,000 workers, averaging \$1.04 an hour, received \$1,180,300,000.

Medicine

Atomic Treatment

This spring the government will start to indoctrinate doctors across the nation on how to treat atomic war injuries among civilians.

The Atomic Energy Commission disclosed that a series of one-week courses will be held for selected members of the medical profession, who in turn will instruct physicians, dentists and nurses in local areas.

The program has been prepared by the AEC in cooperation with the National Security Resources Board, chief civil defense planning group, and the General Service Administration, which has the task of blueprinting wartime disaster relief.

The courses will start in March at the Argonne National Laboratory in Chicago; the University of Rochester, N. Y.; and Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland.

Later in the spring, courses will be offered at the University of California at Los Angeles; the University of Utah School of Medicine, Salt Lake City; the University of Alabama School of Medicine, Birmingham; and Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Baltimore.

(All-Right Reserved AP Newsfeatures)

CONGRESS: Outlook for the Next Session

THE 81st Congress will convene its second session next Tuesday.

The first important order of business will be for Congressmen to hear President Truman personally deliver his State of the Union message. In rapid succession after that will come the President's economic report and his annual budget message.

In his State of the Union message, the President will outline his Fair Deal program—that is, what he'd like Congress to enact—in the year 1950. In his economic report, compiled by his Council of Economic Advisors and other government aides, Mr. Truman will review the trend of national economy and explain what he thinks we should do to improve it.

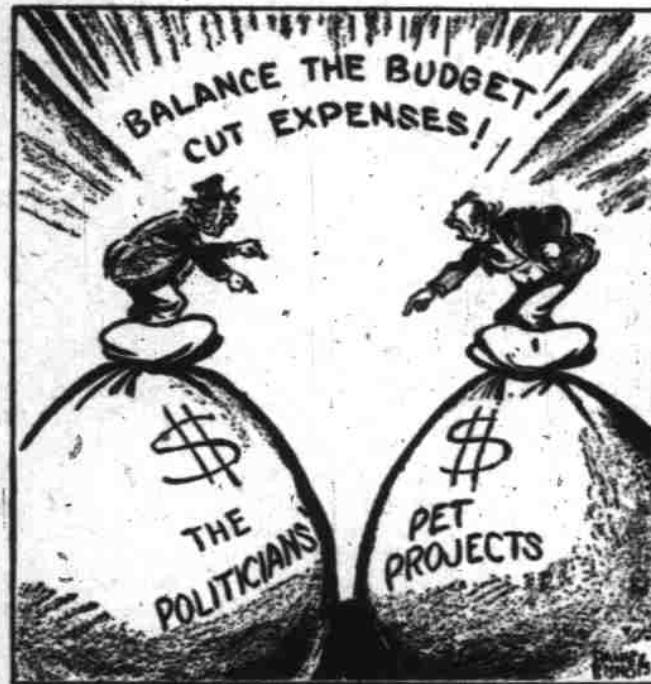
In his budget message, the President will give Congress the bad news on how much he figures the government will need for the fiscal year beginning July 1.

Controversies Ahead

All these messages will be concerned with weighty, portentous issues, certain to provoke controversy.

In his State of the Union address, for instance, Mr. Truman is certain to tell Congress it ought to repeal the Taft-Hartley labor law, enact his civil rights program and set up a national health insurance program.

But 1950 being an election year, observers predict Congress won't do anything drastic about any one of



Bishop, St. Louis Star-Times



Alexander, Philadelphia Bulletin

SO-FAIR INTO THE NIGHT

these vital issues. They expect lots of debate but no votes. What the lawmakers will be doing is laying the groundwork for election campaigns next fall when all of the House members and one-third of the Senate must go before the people.

Taxes, Taxes, Taxes

Taxes in an election year, of course, will be a matter of prime concern. House Republican leader Joseph W.

BUT THE FOREST STILL STANDS

Martin, Jr., has predicted that Congress will reject a "package deal" which he said Mr. Truman is planning to lay before the lawmakers. Martin said this proposal will suggest slashing \$600,000,000 off excise taxes and also call for a multi-billion dollar boost in income taxes.

On this point, Martin said: "It appears Mr. Truman is about to fly a \$600,000,000 kite with a multi-billion dollar tail on it."

The Chief Executive has not as yet officially disclosed any of his tax plans for the coming fiscal year but he has been quoted as saying he knows of no way to avoid a deficit without higher taxes.

The White House has indicated, however, that it was considering lowering some of the excise taxes levied on such items as furs, jewelry, communications and transportation charges.

Aerial

Whoosh Go the Jets

The Air Force, whose B-47 jet bomber zipped 2,289 miles from coast to coast at an average speed of 487 miles an hour last February, predicts that new engines will increase its range.

The stratojet which made the long flight was equipped with six engines which developed 4,000 pounds of thrust each. At that time, its combat radius was announced as "more than 800 miles."

Last October, new and more powerful jet engines were installed which were reported to develop more than 5,200 pounds of thrust each. Its combat radius was announced as "more than 1,000 miles."

Since then an improved model of the earlier jet engine has been developed which shows greater fuel economy as well as greater output. If flight tests confirm expectations, Air Force sources say, the B-47 combat radius will be pushed farther past the 1,000-mile mark.

While strategists expect the improved B-47 to lead the jet field, they don't expect its increased range to even approach that of the intercontinental bomber, the B-36.

The B-36, which some Navy officers criticized as being inferior to the B-47 at the Washington hearings, has flown more than 10,000 miles with a five-ton bomb load.

The Air Force rates the B-47 as a medium bomber, the B-36 as a heavy. It has advised Congress that the B-36's successor as a long range bomber is now in the design stage.

Quotes

John C. Ansengruber, 29, former Austrian DP now in Philadelphia, who risked his life Christmas Eve by giving a cross-transfusion to an eight-year-old child suffering from blood poisoning in a vain attempt to save her life: "Blood you don't sell."

Senate Secretary Leslie Eiffe, promising annual reports on all Senate expenditures: "I think it should be a matter of public record. I expect to include everything the Senate has spent from the cost of a typewriter to the salaries of office staffs."

Dates

Monday, January 2

New Year's Day (legal holiday).

Football bowl games: ROSE—California vs. Ohio State; COTTON—North Carolina vs. Rice; ORANGE—Santa Clara vs. Kentucky; SUGAR—Oklahoma vs. Louisiana State.

Tuesday, January 3

Anniversary (37th), U.S. Postal Banks.

Wednesday, January 4

Anniversary (second), Burma independence.

Friday, January 6

Old Christmas Day (Epiphany).

Saturday, January 7

Anniversary (161st), first national election.

Sunday, January 8

Anniversary (175th), Battle of New Orleans, legal holiday in La.

Sidelights

● In Berlin, a reader wrote the *Berlin Zeitung*, asking the chemical formula of the jam being sold in the Soviet zone. The letter read: "This stuff makes our teeth dark. If there weren't limits fixed by rationing, one's teeth would probably be black. Is this to force us to take better care of our teeth?"

● Next time you have hiccups—try a horse. That's the advice of Frank Salvaggio of Punxsutawney, Pa., who went horseback riding two hours every day and cured a 21-month case of hiccups.

● In Cincinnati, the Police Department renewed its special holiday service, inaugurated in 1948. Any celebrant who felt he had too much to drink was invited to call the department, turn over his car, and be sent home in a cab. No charge.

● The luxury yacht *Corsair*, built at a cost of millions for J. P. Morgan, Wall Street financier, has been offered for sale on an "as is" basis. The vessel, wrecked on a chartered cruise, lies on the rocks in the harbor of Acapulco, Mexico.

● Six of every ten Germans in the U.S. zone of occupation prefer to leave politics to others, according to a poll by the information service of the U.S. High Commission.

TRIAL: Which One Has Lied?

Test of Veracity

The new year will mean a new beginning for Alger Hiss or Whittaker Chambers—but for which?

One has lied. Both, however, must live out their lives wearing scars of that lie.

It became apparent last week that Hiss' Federal Court trial on charges of perjury will end early next month. But that is about the only obvious factor in the outcome of the case.

The decision of eight women and four men jurors holds the answer to whether the former State Department official will be found guilty or innocent of perjury. He was indicted last December after denying passing secret state documents to Chambers, self-admitted courier for a prewar Soviet spy ring.

Just as unpredictable is the question of whether the jurors may disagree—as did their forerunners in the first Hiss trial which ended last July with eight voting for conviction and four holding out for acquittal.

One Has Lied

The case hinges on whether jurors will believe Hiss or Chambers. It is a test of veracity. Either Chambers has lied and lied prodigiously or Hiss has.

Chambers is a short, stout man, who smiles readily, speaks softly and has a mind like a rapier. He admits he lied as an underground agent for

the Communist Party. He admits inconsistencies in his long testimony against Hiss during the past year and a half.

But he says that since quitting the party in 1938 and launching a writing career that led to a \$30,000-a-year senior editorship with *Time Magazine* he has tried to forget those earlier years. And now he has had to remember—dates, places, names, faces.

Hiss is lean and dark, smiles easily and talks softly like Chambers. Before becoming one of the bright young men of the New Deal he made a reputation as an able lawyer. His legal mind works smoothly in court where, seated beside his stoically calm wife, Priscilla, he frequently makes notes and passes them to his defense counsel.

Chambers, who resigned from *Time* many months ago, was to spend the year-end holiday with his wife and children in the seclusion of their farm near Westminster, Md.

Hiss was to observe it with his wife and son in their New York apartment. Neither knows what the new year will bring.

In Short . . .

Born: To Rita Hayworth, wife of Aly Khan, a five-and-one-half pound daughter, Yasmi (Arabic for Jasmine Flower), in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Signed: By Yugoslavia and Britain, a five-year trade pact for a volume of commerce valued at \$616,000,000.

Rejected: By Secretary of Defense Johnson, a suggestion of the federal budget director to discontinue free medical service and reduced hospital rates for dependents of members of the armed forces.

Reported: By Russia, that 11 of 12 Japanese, including four generals, had confessed to planning large scale bacteriological campaigns against the Soviet Union in World War II.

Dropped: For the first time in seven and a half years, the number of federal employees substantially below two million; December totals 1,988,000, lowest since April, 1942.

People

Hale & Hearty

Activities of Prime Minister Stalin during the gala birthday celebrations indicate that the Communist leader at 70 is in good health and spirits. On two consecutive days he made public appearances at festivities in Red Square, staying through long receptions with their numerous speeches.

From all indications, the prime minister is carrying on in his twin capacities as general secretary of the Communist Party and chairman of the Council of Ministers.

Mao and Choi

Meanwhile, as Mao Tze-tung, Communist China's leader, continued his Moscow visit, western observers were increasingly intrigued by the build-up given a Mongol named Marshal Choi Bol-san. For a quarter of a century he has run the Soviet satellite republic of Outer Mongolia.

Only in recent years—when Mao Tze-tung was growing more powerful in China—have the Russians and their propaganda machine found Choi worthy of much comment.

Not much is known in this country about Choi Bol-san. It appears that he has run Outer Mongolia since it split from China in 1924 and declared itself an autonomous republic. It enjoyed de facto protection from Moscow.

Japanese Invasion

He got some publicity in Moscow, in 1939 when the Japanese tried to invade Outer Mongolia. The Russian story was that Choi's hard-riding Mongol cavalry repelled the invaders. Correspondents with the Japanese said they encountered mostly Russian soldiers and very few Mongolians.

The build-up has been intensified lately. Choi Bol-san came to Moscow recently—more than a month ahead of Mao Tze-tung.

No leader of any autonomous Soviet republic has had such a fuss made over him in Moscow, and it must be remembered that Outer Mongolia is not even supposed to be part of the Soviet Union. The obvious supposition is that, as the Kremlin saw Mao Tze-tung's visit approaching, it felt a need to have another Oriental Communist leader in the public eye.

Statistics on cost were given by Dr. John R. Dunning, Columbia University physicist, one of the chief scientists at the wartime Oak Ridge, Tenn., plant which now produces Uranium-235 by a process known as gaseous diffusion.

Although the wartime Oak Ridge plant was the biggest single production structure in the world, the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission has since built a second diffusion plant and is now building a third.

Dr. Dunning predicted scientists will discover better and cheaper ways of producing atomic power. He declared: "When uranium fission converts only one part in a thousand of mass into energy, we certainly have plenty of room for some faith in the future and some new ideas and discoveries."

Russia Plans Electric Power

Also last week, a Soviet scientist declared on Radio Moscow that Russia will use its first atomic power plant to generate electricity.

Gleb Maximilianovich Krzhizhnikov, a member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, said Russia intends to create a single high voltage system to electrify the whole country.



HONEYMOONERS—Clark Gable and his British-born bride, former Lady Stanley, widow of Douglas Fairbanks, Sr., are on a voyage to Hawaii after their marriage in California.