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Committee Told Of 'Pressures' In Purchases

Admiral Says Values On War Goods Lost

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The vice chairman of the Munitions Board testified Tuesday that conflicting government pressures have made it "most difficult" for service purchasing officers to get the best values on war goods.

Rear Adm. Morton L. Ring told a House Armed Services subcommittee that purchasing officers are influenced by "at least 14 major policies" of Congress and the government.

"IF YOU ASK me which one I would follow," he said, "I would say that I would follow the one on which the pressure is the greatest and then duck."

Ring is in charge of supply management of the Munitions Board—the policy making agency for armed services purchasing.

He defended the present supply practices, which have been labelled as "needless and useless waste" by some Congressmen.

"THERE ARE those," he said, "who would use military appropriations to solve social problems."

He listed as examples, policies aimed at placing war contracts in "distress areas" of unemployment; supporting small business, and purchasing military items from European manufacturers.

"I am not trying to philosophize about these programs," he said, but their influence makes it "most difficult" for buyers to "get the greatest value at the lowest cost to the taxpayer."

RING SAID, under questioning, the munitions board will consider Thursday a proposal to turn over the buying of all military clothing and similar articles to one branch of the armed services.

Chairman Hebert, (D-La.), said this program might save "hundreds of millions of dollars or billions."

The Admiral said Munitions Board officials had been studying the possibility of consolidated buying for a year and one half but "we have not yet reached a satisfactory solution."

"How long does it take to make a decision?" Hebert asked. "No wonder the peace talks in Korea are taking so long, if it takes that long to make up your minds."

Reds Ambush Malayan Police

SINGAPORE—(AP)—The British superintendent of Malayan police and two other police were killed Tuesday by a Communist ambush in a remote area of Selangor.

R. H. Jesse, 32, the superintendent, was travelling with a party of European government officials when their semi-armored truck was stopped by a felled tree.

Twenty full armed terrorists lobbed grenades into the truck, killing the police.

A British police lieutenant and a Malayan corporal were wounded seriously.

The attack was similar to the one in which Sir Henry Gurney, British high commissioner, was killed last Oct. 6.

Madras School Drops From Rural District

MADRAS— (AP) —The Madras grade school district voted this week to withdraw from the Jefferson County rural school district. The vote was 73-9 in a district with some 700 eligible voters.

The result means that the Madras district will finance its own operations, receiving no money from the county fund, and not contributing to the county fund, either.

50,000 Americans Existing in Shadows

No Prison Guards in 'Slave-World'

By DON WHITEHEAD
Associated Press Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — (AP) — There is a slave-world in the United States today which is as vile and degrading and brutal as any slave camp behind the Iron Curtain.

At least 50,000 men, women and children are prisoners in this twilight world. It has no morals. There are no laws except the laws of greed and selfishness. It promises nothing except a fleeting pleasure and then the pain and misery and suffering of the damned.

ANYONE MAY enter who wishes. Each year an alarming number of people either wander in or are lured into this other world. Many deliberately choose to go there.

There are no bars. No barbed-wire fences. No guards to prevent escape. Yet few find their way out. They may want to—desperately. But they discovered they have neither the strength nor the will-power to leave once they enter.

It's the slave-world of narcotics which in recent years has become a sinister pied-piper luring more and more young people into the worthless life of a "junkie"—a dope addict.

Right now this slave-world exists in such cities as New York, Chicago, Washington, D. C., Detroit, Cleveland, New Orleans and Philadelphia as possibly the worst examples.

But it has no boundaries. It could become a part of your home town. It could spread into your schools as it has spread into other schools.

It's a world that is built almost entirely on the street-corner sales of stolen or smuggled narcotics which bring in profits making pikers of those who traffic in mink and influence-at-5-per cent.

Heroin is the favorite narcotic of the junkies. It's made from the juice of the poppy seed. A pound of heroin is worth about $300 in Turkey. That same pound is worth from $75,000 to $100,000 on the sidewalks of American cities.

For these profits men will risk prison, steal, kill and commit all manners of crimes. Men, women and children willingly take the same risks to get money with which to buy the stuff to satisfy their craving for more and more narcotics.

Less than three weeks ago Federal Bureau of Narcotics agents staged the biggest crack-down on the slave-world in the nation's history. They rounded up more than 500 suspected peddlers believed to have supplied addicts with more than $18,000,000 worth of illicit dope yearly.

That's a sizeable roundup. But the clean-up job is far from finished.

The average dope addict spends at least $10 a day for narcotics and there are about 50,000 addicts in this country. That means the narcotics underworld takes $500,000 a day or $182,000,000 in tribute annually from the junkie slaves.

Once "hooked," a narcotics addict will do almost anything for the money he needs to buy another shot of dope. Teen-age kids have admitted they needed from $10 to $20 a day for narcotics. And crime is the only employer who will pay that kind of money to a teen-age youngster.

The nation has been shocked in recent months to learn there is a slave-world including a growing army of youngsters less than 20 years old.

A SCHOOL official in New York City has conceded that one out of every 200 junior and senior high school students in the city probably is a user of narcotics. That's about 1,500 youths. And he said another 3,500 teen-agers who are not in school may be using dope.

Chew on that one a while. These youths are on a treadmill which has no end unless they can be cured or denied narcotics.

Mouse Knows Place

PULLMAN —(U.P.)—A Washington State College zoology professor reported Tuesday a rather tame "jumping" mouse built a nest in a laboratory file case.

The mouse's choice: A file labeled "extermination of mammals."

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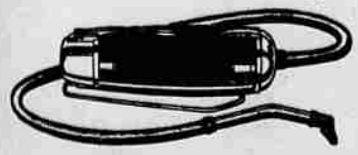

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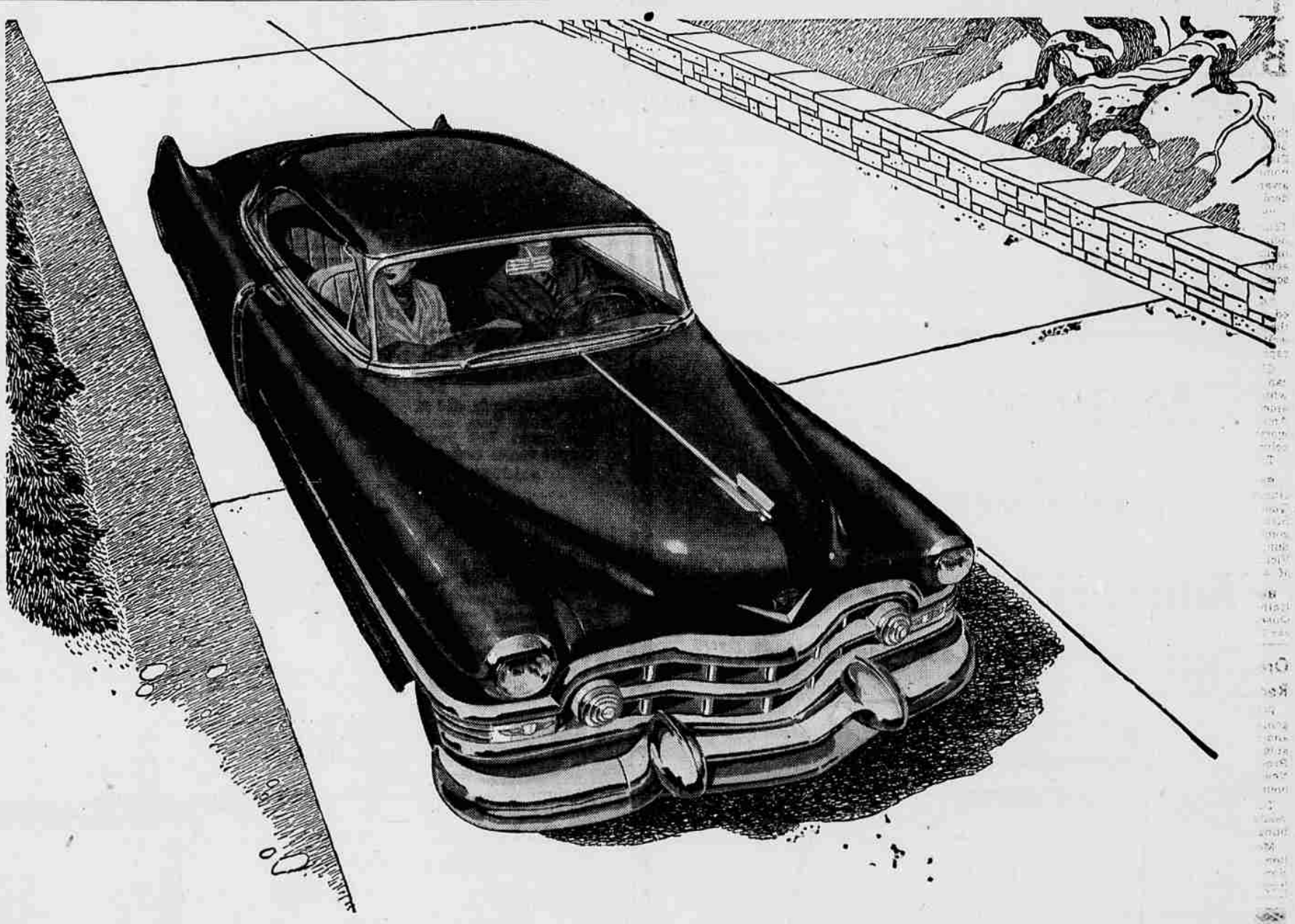

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