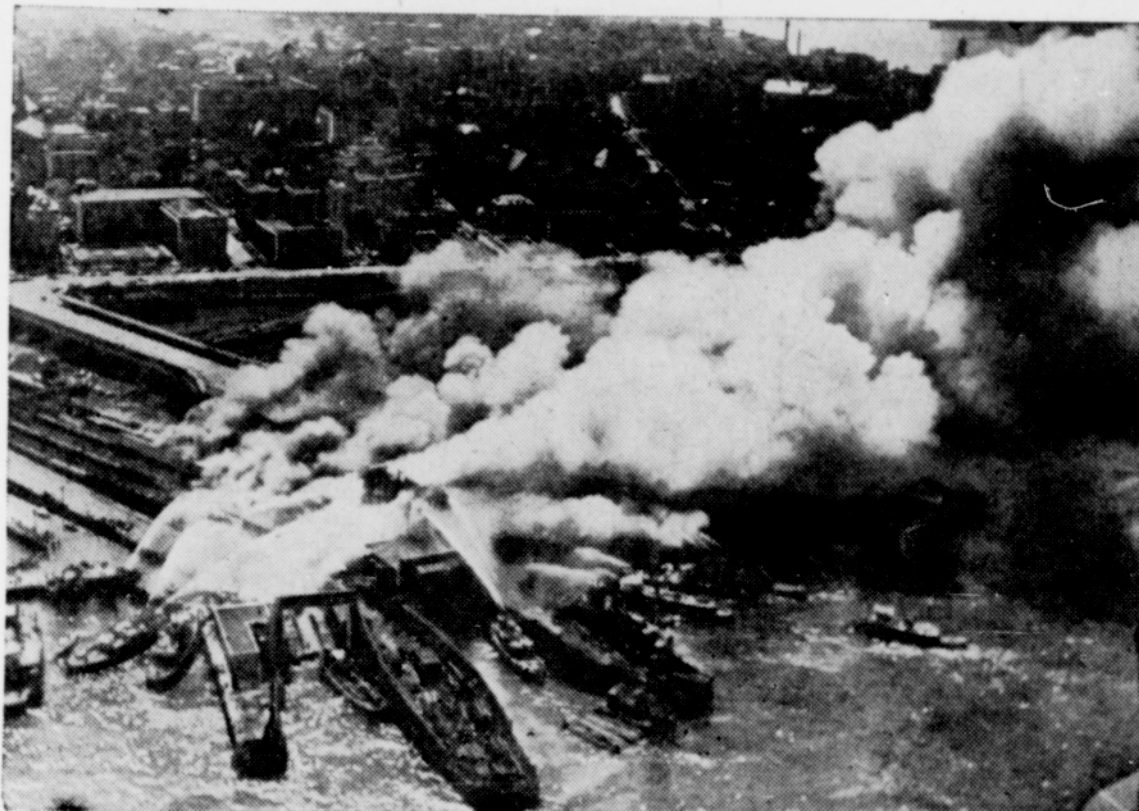




CONGRESSMEN OFF TO PHILIPPINES . . . Seven senators and representatives left Washington airport for a round-the-world tour during which they expect to participate in the celebration at Manila marking Philippine independence. Left to right: Gen. H. L. George; Rep. Karl LeCompte (R., Ia.); Rep. J. W. Robinson (D., Utah); Vernon Moore, secretary, Filipino rehabilitation commission; Sen. Hugh Butler (R., Nebr.); Rep. Fred Crawford (R., Mich.); J. Weldon Jones, President Truman's representative; Sen. Allen Ellender (D., La.); Rep. George Miller (D., Calif.); Sen. Owen Brewster (R., Maine); and Brig. Gen. Carlos Romulo, resident commissioner of the Philippines.



This air view shows tons of water being pumped into the oil-fed fire that blazed in four slips of the St. George ferry terminal on Staten Island. A number of persons were trapped in the buildings. Nine alarms quickly sounded, summoning every piece of apparatus available and three fireboats.



INDIANS SELL OUT . . . The Cleveland Indians baseball team was sold after almost a week of negotiations and offers. Acceptance of an offer by Bill Veeck of Chicago and his associates was made by Alva Bradley, ex-president of the Indians, for his former stockholders. Photo shows, left to right, Joseph Hostetler, attorney for Bradley and now secretary for the new combine; Harry Grabner, new vice president and treasurer, and Bill Veeck, new president of the club.



SPEED RECORD . . . The fastest airmail delivery in the history of the United States was accomplished when a P-80 jet propelled plane carrying mail left Schenectady, N.Y., and arrived in Washington, D.C., in 49 minutes. Capt. Robert Baird, pilot, of Clarksdale, Miss., is handling the pouch and a letter from W. Stuart Symington, assistant secretary of war for air, to Vincent Burke, postmaster at Washington. The plane reached a top speed of 580 miles an hour.



OWNER OF CROWN JEWELS . . . A photo of the Countess Von Hesse, princess of Prussia, as she looked in the days when Hitler and Goering were entertained at her Kronberg castle. It was from this castle that the Hesse-Darmstadt jewels were stolen.



CONGRATULATIONS . . . Superintendent of schools, Vierling Kersey, presents Gus Johnson Jr., North Hollywood (Calif.) high school graduate, his diploma, as the youth, paralyzed from waist down, reclines on a stretcher.

NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS

By PAUL MALLON

Released by Western Newspaper Union.

SHIFT OF VINSON TO COURT WEAKENS TREASURY POLICY

WASHINGTON — Senate reluctance about the Vinson-Snyder shift at the top of government is somewhat difficult to explain, but it has symptoms of soundness behind it.

Mr. Truman had been searching for the best available legal mind in the judiciary to straighten out the complete tangle in the Supreme court. He embarked upon this course in resistance to pressure at the death of Republican Chief Justice Stone that he elevate one of the sitting justices, all of whom are involved in factions in the strife which has confused court decisions. He had plenty of time as the court is finishing now until fall. Then suddenly, within 24 hours apparently, he decided to name one of the best men from his own cabinet, Mr. Vinson, and push his old friend from Missouri, Mr. Snyder, into the treasury post thus left vacant.

Why he stopped searching for judicial talent has not been made clear. He could have afforded to appoint a nonpartisan or even a Republican as chief justice. The court was already 7 to 1 Democratic, Justice Burton being the lone Republican left.

The best politics, indeed, might have called for a Republican to replace a Republican, as an appearance of one party unanimity makes the court look somewhat like a Russian election in this respect. It weakens the judicial front of the court, by increasing its political one-sidedness, and thus delays the purpose of unity or stability of law which Mr. Truman apparently is striving for.

FINANCIAL POLICY PERILED

But he weakened himself more, by this effort to furnish the court leadership for reformation. An attack upon his treasury department is being conducted by former Treasury Secretary Morgenthau. Quite evidently the associates of Mr. Morgenthau are attempting to break Truman policy in the department, which is of utmost importance in the presence of inflationary threats.

Mr. Snyder has not previously sought to distinguish himself by standing up against attack. As the first Truman appointee from Missouri, Snyder is a loyal, sincere and earnest friend, but in the reconversion his economic leadership has not been especially clear. What is needed in treasury is someone of experience with the "know-how" of politics, economics and finance, to stand against inflation.

Now Mr. Truman no doubt figured he would send his best available experienced man (next to State Secretary Byrnes) upstairs to try to straighten out the court, and run the treasury himself through an old friend—but what he may have done is to open up the financial policies which were being rather carefully established, to new pressures and possibilities of change.

What to do about it? Don't ask me. The above is only a report of the factors, difficult to explain precisely, which have animated the senate's reluctance to confirm the hasty step. Chairman McCarran of the senate judiciary committee immediately announced consideration of appointments would follow the usual course and be held over a week in order to give interested witnesses due notice and opportunity to be heard. Certainly the senate will hardly choose to let the appointments slip through without any analysis of the deeper and greater policy possibilities behind the change. By at least going into them, knowing them and considering them, the Democratic leaders of the legislative branch will be able to raise some bulwark representing their own viewpoint, and prepare their own pressure for future use.

MIDWEST WELL FED, PROSPEROUS

While the East hears so much of, and pays such great attention to the CIO, the Midwest numerically, politically and economically is still the small town village of the dirt farmer, whose first concern is the amount of moisture distributed through this area by unprecedented rains. He is watching the clouds for corn growing weather, and has seen his son come back from the war. What State Secretary Byrnes is doing in Paris or the CIO in Detroit is of only incidental concern to him. He wants to raise food for man and beast, and get his help back.

The food situation is easy in Chicago, but harder up through Wisconsin and down into central Illinois. In those latter two places it is more like the East. You stand in line for nearly everything, excepting in the smaller towns, and when you get up to the counter you will more than likely find it gone, and you will take what they have or let it go.

In Chicago they still have corned roastbeef, and occasionally a steak which is not likely to be corned. There the hotels are crowded, and so also are the trains, which are searier on time than during the war.

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AROUND THE HOUSE

When game is on the menu, avoid handling before cooking by flouring this way: Put a small amount of flour in a paper sack, pour in the pieces of meat and shake the bag until each piece is well coated with flour.

To soften putty for removal from window panes, draw a hot soldering iron over the material, being careful to keep the heat away from the glass. Most putty, however, when it needs to be replaced, can be removed with a small screwdriver.

A basket equipped with such items as soap, polishes, short-handled brushes, sponge, clean and lintless dustcloths, and the like will save time in cleaning as you go from room to room.

If you prefer to close up the shelves where your canned goods are stored, try this trick. Fasten worn out window shades, still on rollers, to the top shelves and pull down to desired length.

Record the guests who have dined at your table by having them autograph the tablecloth. Then, before the next dinner, you can embroider each signature in outline stitch.

If you're planning to paint your house this summer and intend to do the work yourself, remember it is smart to let the first coat dry ten days before applying the second.

In building a casement window in the kitchen remember that it should open out, not in. And the base should be at least a foot above the sink.

"One meat ball" will go just a bit farther if you will only remember to add a little cooked macaroni to the meat mixture when serving with tomato sauce.

The oyster shell is good for something. Put it in the bottom of the tea kettle and it will prevent formation of hard-water scale.



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