

SCANNING THE WEEK'S NEWS of Main Street and the World

# Reds Agree to Discuss Cease-Fire; Congress Extends Price Controls

**PEACE IS POSSIBLE**—Events of the last few days have created a belief throughout the world that there is a possibility of peace in Korea. The first move for possible peace talks was made by Jacob Malik, Soviet representative at the UN. U.S. Ambassador Alan Kirk later called upon Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko in an attempt to get a clarified version of Malik's bid.

Kirk reported that Gromyko suggested that in the first stage negotiations for a truce should be conducted by military representatives in the field, with political and territorial questions left for second stage disposition. Then, acting on instructions from Washington, Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway, commander of the allied armed forces, broadcast proposals to the Reds for a meeting aboard the Danish hospital ship Jutlandia in Wonsan harbor in North Korea.

After 29 hours of waiting, the Communists answered the broadcasts with a proposal for a meeting at Kaesong, just below the old Korean boundary on the 38th parallel. They suggested the meeting be held between July 10 and 15.

No official reaction to the Communist proposal was immediately available. Most observers, however, believed the delay as proposed by the Reds was a face saving device, so important in the Orient. But the Communist reply was an indication that the Chinese and North Koreans desire peace. The 10 day delay will also permit the Chinese and North Korean leaders to seek further contact with Moscow.

As expected, the Communists made propaganda use of Gen. Ridgway's proposed peace talks. Communist broadcasts began to pound away at the line that the allies asked for peace talks because the "armed aggression of the United Nations forces has ended in failure."

There was one other indication that the talks may not be fruitless. The Communists failed to mention their repeated demands of admission to the United Nations and control of Formosa as a price of peace.

A sincere desire for peace remains uppermost in the minds of every American, from home town to the largest city. Whatever the results of the peace talks, it must be an honorable peace before it will be acceptable to the American people. And it must be made clear to every American that a Korean settlement will not justify a slowdown in this nation's defense program.



Seeking Formula for Peace

Representatives of the United Nations with troops in Korea are shown as they held a "strategy" meeting at the state department to seek a formula for united action on the Russian proposal for a truce in Korea. UN officials reported peace prospects are definitely good.

**A MONTH TO ARGUE**—Congressional action in economic controls last week caused considerable comment in the home towns of the nation.

According to the average American's concept of government, the congress of the United States is supposed to reflect the will and desire of the people. With this basic principle in mind, plus the fact that congress rushed through a bill extending the nation's economic controls for 31 days, but slapping an absolute ban on price rollbacks and most new price ceilings, it began to look like the average man on Main Street approved the high prices that prevail today.

Two main facts caused most of the nation's reporters and analysts to this conclusion: (1) The cost of living for the average family is higher today than ever before, 8.9 per cent above that of June 25, 1950 (see story below); and (2) the refusal of congress to pass a bill to hold back this rising spiral—in fact, specifically forbidding rollbacks and new price ceilings.

The administration charged that the congress had allowed itself to be intimidated by special interests, pointing to the activities of the beef and textile industries, the national association of manufacturers, and the real-estate lobby in recent weeks.

Michael DiSalle, OPS administrator, put it like this: "Enemies of price control magnify errors and twist facts. They urge business-as-usual in unusual times. They deliberately confuse free enterprise with irresponsible license. They misconstrue and misstate OPS action to the point of outright dishonesty."

Presenting the other side of the picture, Senator Taft of Ohio, said: "There is no reason for rationing businessmen outside the defense program," and price rollbacks "are dangerous economically because they upset all normal business relations. They are a step toward socialism..."

The next month will be one of bitter debate on price, wage and rent legislation. What form it will finally take is anyone's guess at the moment. But it is a fantastic supposition that says the average American favors the high prices of today.

**COST OF LIVING**—The fact that this country has already taken the first dangerous step on the ladder of inflation was indicated again by the government's latest cost of living index.

The index of the bureau of labor statistics rose to 185.4 per cent of the 1935-'39 average. This figure is nearly 9 per cent above June, 1950, when the Korean war began and sets a new record high.

As a result, because of "escalator" clauses in work contracts, well over a million workers in the railroad industry received hourly wage increases.

The increase in cost of living was noted in apparel, house furnishings, rent, and miscellaneous goods and services. Food was the only item that showed a slight decline.

**THE FUTURE**—Assistant Budget Director Elmer B. Staats' prediction that defense-swollen federal spending will level off in 1955 at \$65,000,000,000 a year and remain there indefinitely is an indication of things to come for the home towner. It was an indication that defense spending will continue at a record peak for years and high taxes are almost a certainty.

Staats reported government spending during 1952 fiscal year, which began July 1, will run about \$68,400,000,000. His forecast of a peak of between \$80 and \$90 billion in 1953 was startling.

Meanwhile, the treasury reported it closed its books July 1 about \$6,000,000,000 better off than it had expected.

It had been estimated by the experts that the government would run more than \$2,700,000,000 in the red during the past fiscal year. Actually, the government had the second largest budget surplus in history—more than \$3,000,000,000 in the black.

Government tax receipts totaled approximately \$48 billion between July 1, 1950, and July 1, 1951, the most money ever collected during a single year, outstripping the peak war-tax year of 1944 when revenue totaled \$44,700,000,000.

## FARM PRICES

### New Decline Noted in Farm Prices

The agriculture department reported farm prices dropped about 1.3 per cent from mid-May to mid-June.

It was the fourth-straight month that the prices had declined, bringing them down to about 4 per cent below the record set last February, the department reported.

The department reported the decline reflected lower prices for a

majority of farm products which were only partially offset by modest rise in prices of hogs, veal calves, butterfat, apples and turkeys.

On the other hand, prices paid by farmers for goods used in family living and in farm production held steady. No new farm products rose to levels at which ceiling could be applied, according to the mid-May report.



## Not So Crazy

The old saw "crazy as a goose," has always been ridiculed by hunters of the Canada Goose. This, most famous of the Dominion's wildfowl, is brave, strong and wily—the opposite to crazy. It has probably more sense than any other bird, as anyone who has set out to bag some will testify.

There is probably no better authority on the Canada Goose than Alfred Hole, who operates a mink ranch near Rennie, Manitoba. As a result of an incident back in 1940 he became the friend and protector of a flock of wild geese and since then he has devoted a great deal of time each summer studying their habits and ways.

Workers in the Rennie railway yards in June, 1940, found four goslings not more than three or four days old. Their mother had been killed in some way, evidently, shortly before the railwaymen made the discovery. Not knowing what to do with the youngsters, they took them to Mr. Hole who undertook to raise them.

Sportsmen who thought they knew all about wild geese scoffed at the idea that the goslings could be raised without a natural mother and made a bet of a bottle of Scotch that the goslings would not live six weeks. The bet was accepted and Mr. Hole began a career that even now is in its infancy. Alfred erected a pen on a spot where there was plenty of luscious grass and the raising of the fledgling family started.

The first diet was rolled oats and green stuffs hand fed. But, it was not the fun looking after them that Alfred anticipated. It transpired, goslings get mighty hungry around 3:30 in the morning and the "foster mother" had to rise at that time to do his self-imposed chore.

The babies thrived and survived the difficult six weeks and the bet was paid. Immediately there was another wager that the goslings would not be alive in six weeks and this bet was duly paid.

In the late summer the young geese, now strong and healthy, made attempts to fly and their keeper clipped their wings. Otherwise they were not confined and had the run of the grounds and neighboring water. The geese were kept in this way for two years. The third year they were given full freedom and were soon winging it around the country. In the fall of the third year they "honked" a farewell and took off for their winter home in the south.

## Drift Cards

Several thousand postcards, each sealed in a plastic container, will be dropped into the Gulf of Mexico by United States naval aircraft during 1951 to trace complex gulf currents as well as the distribution and migrations of commercial fishery stocks, including shrimp, the United States department of the interior announces.

This project is sponsored by the fish and wildlife service of the department, with the co-operation of the Gulf States marine fisheries commission, the Texas game fish and oyster commission, the department of oceanography of Texas A&M college, and the navy department's office of naval research.

The postcards are expected to drift about in the gulf currents, and to be cast up eventually on beaches, where many of them will be found and returned to the Gulf States marine fisheries commission at New Orleans, La. Then they will be routed to scientists who will deduce from the returns the paths which the cards must have followed in the sea.

## Hunting Dog Types

The oldest type of hunting dog known to man is the trail hound, the dog that helped prehistoric man keep the wolf from the door in more ways than one. That first dog was little more than a tamed wolf. He found the scent trail left by the quarry and followed it, baying all the while. His master followed until the hound had put the game up a tree or driven it into a den. It was then up to the man to get his meat, although the dog was often in at the kill.

As the centuries went by, man saved the best of his hunting dogs for breeding purposes, destroying all those that failed to meet the standards of the hunt. In this way, man was unwittingly practicing selective breeding, aimed at producing a better dog with a superior nose, greater stamina, courage and tenacity on the trail.

Pursuit of different kinds of game required widely varying abilities. It was the search for different hunting abilities that led to the development of the many breeds—all known as hounds.

The slim, stately Greyhound, the Irish Wolfhound, and the long-legged, elegant Borzoi are all hounds. So are the little Beagles, the Shorter Bassets and the shortest Dachshunds. The sad-visaged, long-eared, slow moving Bloodhound and the speedy Walker are merely cousins, many times removed, in the big family of hounds.



## False Security

WHILE MAKING a survey of Europe last winter several top diplomats expressed the following idea about peace or war with Soviet Russia:

"The worst blunder Moscow ever made was to invade Korea. It created unity among the United Nations. It aroused the American people; and it put your mobilization program in high gear.

"And the smartest thing the Kremlin could do now," these diplomats continued, "would be to make a dramatic peace bid. It would throw discord into the United Nations. It would pull the stops out of your mobilization program. And it would ease the American people into a false sense of security.

"The peace bid wouldn't mean anything in the long run," these diplomats believed. "For as long as Russia maintains a huge land army the world cannot be safe. But a false sense of security is just what Moscow wants."

This may be what is happening today. It is interesting that Malik's speech came just as the price control bill was nearing a vote and just as congress was about to adopt the biggest tax bill in peacetime history.

## McCarthy Demands Reward

Republican leaders did some fancy, backstage wirepulling to keep Senator McCarthy off the important GOP policy committee. Here is the inside story of what happened.

McCarthy had demanded the policy committee seat as his reward for smearing the Democrats and carrying five states for Republican senators last November—Maryland, Utah, California, Indiana and Illinois. He was supported in this claim by such Republicans as Senator Ferguson of Michigan, who argued that McCarthy's name-calling was worth ten to twenty thousand votes in each state; but he was opposed by Senator Millikin of Colorado, the senate chairman, who flatly refused to appoint McCarthy to the policy committee.

Even McCarthy's close friend, Senator Taft, remarked privately that he would vote against McCarthy. They feared that, if McCarthy got on the policy committee, it would look as if the Republican party endorsed his tactics.

However, two of McCarthy's more vociferous friends, Senators Welker of Idaho and Jenner of Indiana, drew up a petition to force a show-down vote, and secured the signatures of Senators Wherry of Nebraska, Schoeppel of Kansas and Williams of Delaware. What they proposed was to add another member to the policy committee in order to create a vacancy for McCarthy.

Under the rules, this petition forced Millikin to call a meeting of all Republican senators, which he did.

Meanwhile, however, GOP leaders moved fast. They shifted committee assignments around to create a vacancy on the powerful senate rules committee, then in order to pacify McCarthy, offered the rules post to him. This was too much of a temptation for McCarthy to resist, and he accepted. For it put him in a position to block the senate report on the Maryland elections, where he is up to his neck in this scandal and anxious for a whitewash.

For example, the Maryland investigation has already discovered that McCarthy's assistant, Don Surine, perjured himself before a senate committee and was kicked out of the FBI for fraternizing with a white slavery prostitute he was supposed to be investigating.

So McCarthy accepted the rules committee post. After attaining this, however, he refused to be satisfied and continued his campaign to get on the policy committee.

## Forgotten Speeches

The last time congress had a major debate on price controls was in 1946, at which time a lot of interesting speeches were made, some of which certain congressmen would like to forget. Significantly, it's some of the same solons who are promising reduced prices if controls once again are relaxed.

**SENATOR WHERRY (NEB. REP.)**—"Mr. Bowles has said that if price controls were eliminated, the price of meat would go up 50 per cent. Mr. Bowles is trying to scare us. My prediction is that without price control meat will cost less than today." (Meat is now up in some cases more than 100 per cent.)

**SENATOR TAFT (OHIO REP.)**—"The President's figures on possible increases are a wild guess and for the most part dead wrong."

**CONGRESSMAN MILLER (NEB. REP.)**—"The agency (OPA) has put out so much propaganda and false statements that the people no longer heed their cry of 'wolf! wolf!'"

**CONGRESSMAN HOFFMAN (MICH. REP.)**—"OPA and its operator Chester Bowles are responsible in part for the fact that the cost of living has gone up."



YOUTH WILL BE SERVED . . . Tete-a-tete here are probably the youngest platoon leader and the youngest regimental commander in Korea. They are Sgt. 1st Class Joseph R. Nelson (left), 18, of Washington, Ohio, who found himself in charge of a platoon when casualties took the senior officers, and Col. Charles M. Mount, College Park, Ga., who at 35 commands the 32nd regiment of the seventh division. Col. Mount is a West Point graduate and a veteran of World War II. His wife and two children live in Tokyo. Both he and Sgt. Nelson made their first visit to Korea in the Inchon invasion last September.



YANKEES TEASE WHITE SOX . . . In Chicago, the world champion New York Yankees bow in mock reverence to a Chicago White Sox relief pitcher as he is taxied from the bull pen to the mound in a system designed to speed up the game. The Yankees preferred to walk back and forth to the mound, and each time a White Sox pitcher was knocked out of the box, his relief would be greeted with loud taunts as he drove by the Yankee dugout. At the time of this byplay, the White Sox were leading the American League, and the Yanks were hard pressed to keep up with them.



WITH NOSE FOR COMMIES . . . PFC Bobby Chobania, of Cleveland, Ohio, made himself a loyal buddy when he picked up this Korean dog and adopted him. Now the dog goes on all patrols with Chobania and has developed an extra-sensitive nose for smelling out Chinese, whom he dislikes. Chobania hopes he can pull the necessary strings to bring the dog back home when he comes. Meanwhile the canine is mascot of Chobania's company.



ON TRIAL . . . Dr. Alajos Pongraz, former employee of the U.S. legation in Budapest, is shown facing trial on charges of conspiring to overthrow Hungarian Communist regime by espionage. He is one of eight co-defendants.



HOLDING THAT LINE . . . It looks very peaceful, and it is at the moment, but violence could erupt any second at the spot where these three GI's are guarding a reservoir in Korea. The enemies are across the body of water. Soldiers are Corp. P. Ramirez, PFC W. Ferrie and PFC E. L. Masterson. Ramirez has glasses trained on opposite shore while Masterson keeps fingers close to trigger of machine gun, ready to open fire instantly.



HERE I AM . . . Most picturesque arrival at Idlewild airport for some time was Mrs. Pauline Wilsdorf, said to be 105 years old. The Polish widow will settle near Buffalo with a 50-year-old son, daughter-in-law and their adopted child.