

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

Allied Officials Again Expressing Belief Talks On 'Smooth' Footing

HOPEFUL SPECULATION—As the UN and Red Korean negotiators resumed efforts for a cease-fire agenda at Kaesong (without the "protection" of the armed Communist guards), Allied officials expressed the belief that the problem of getting something on the agenda would be quickly solved. There were hints that the talks were going smoother after the lay-off and the situation was more relaxed.

The man on the American streets, however, was not too full of optimism. Those who had followed the criss-cross, tic-tac-toe pattern of the war and the inevitable breakdown of the initial conferences knew that there was no available sounding board to gauge the pattern of events in Korea. Most Main Street citizens approved the action of Admiral C. Turner Joy, senior UN delegate, in refusing to continue the negotiations until certain Allied rights were recognized. The spark of aggressiveness offered hope that, years hence, we might ask one another who won the war in Korea.

LET'S CHECK THE RECORD—Administration forces and Truman backers on Capitol Hill started off the week with an eye to the 1952 elections and a beckoning gesture to the voting public on Main Street.

Realizing the pressure from Republicans and anti-administration forces, the parties-in-power felt it wiser to get everything possible in the way of economic control bills in order to prepare some manner of checklist for the voting public.

The Administration decided to move quickly for final action on the new defense-production measure, in whatever form it could be shuttled through to replace the original law which expired June 30; is currently in force only through Congressional resolution. The law carries powers for wage and price control, materials allocation, and other measures. Party leaders only hoped they would not have to compromise too much and too often to get the results.

REASONABLE CEILINGS—The long-awaited Washington explosion came in the House as the battle over federal authority to roll back prices opened with loud fanfare. The Administration's willingness to compromise went for naught as farm-area congressmen balked like the proverbial mule.

Before the debate got under way, minority leader Martin and Republican Wolcott (Mich.) leveled charges that the Administration hoped to load the pending control bill with pet "socialistic schemes . . . to sneak in the thoroughly discredited Brannan farm plan through a system of so-called production subsidies."

Administration forces sought the compromise by offering an amendment to retain the present 10 per cent rollback on live beef prices, but forego other farm rollbacks. Farm bloc speaker Cooley (D., N.C.) however, suggested a ban on all farm-price rollbacks—including the one already made on beef. Cox (D., Ga.) went further—seeking to bar all price rollbacks; on industrial goods as well as farm products.

The hopes of the Administration thus lay in finding a way to woo the farm-area congressmen and also take advantage of the House Republican leaders' promise to help pass a law that will keep prices "within reason."

UNPROVEN ANGEL—In New York a federal judge gave evidence that life is becoming tough for Communist leaders in the U.S.; for the second time in a week, the Civil Rights Congress was outlawed as a bondsman in federal court.

The dozen-and-two were already out on bond made by CRC, the Red's angel, but Judge Ryan held the Congress had failed to show clear title to bonds; ordered them to find another angel or come back to jail.

MANDATORY SENTENCES—In Washington the House came through with overdue attention to the narcotics problem, voicing approval of a bill requiring mandatory jail sentences for narcotics-law violators.

The measure, Senate-bound, provides for one to five year sentences for first offenders; five to ten years for second offenders; and a 10 to 30 year term for three-time losers. The law would apply to both peddlers and addicts; should be a strong weapon to fight one of the nation's grave problems. Across the country parents, after watching with growing horror the dope probes and hearings, expressed the hope that there was a strong axe to keep the narcotic wolf from the family threshold.

AN EYE FOR AN EYE—The United States lashed back at Hungary for the expulsion of two American envoys from Budapest two weeks ago; ordered that nation to call home two top diplomats, Peter Varkonyi, legation attaché and Lajos Nagy, charge d'affaires. Varkonyi was to leave "immediately." Nagy as soon as new minister Emil Weil could present his credentials.

The move was retaliation for the expulsion of American envoys and other pressure that had caused cessation of U.S. information and educational activities in Hungary. It marked, however, a new low in diplomatic relations between the two countries—relations that had seemed improved recently by the release of American businessman Robert A. Vogler.

AND THE RAINS CAME—As the week began, the most costly flood in the history of the nation moved East from Kansas City along the Missouri river, leaving the gateway to the Southwest strangled with slowly receding waters.

Residents along a 400 mile waterway counted the damages, 75,000 or more had been left homeless, 400,000 more otherwise affected. Losses were estimated close to the billion dollar mark, nearly twice as much as that in the 1937 Ohio and Mississippi rivers floods.

NO SIGNIFICANCE—Navy spokesmen in Washington declared there was "no special significance" in Admiral Forrest Sherman's conferences with Franco in Spain, although sources reported that the U.S. officer sought the use of navy bases in Spain for the U.S. Sixth Mediterranean Fleet.

Britain and France, opposing admission of Spain into the 12-nation Atlantic Pact, came into the open against the U.S.-Franco ties, said only the Communists stood to gain anything. Uncle Sam, however, seemed to be envisioning a limited role for Spain in the future Western defense efforts. Supply and demand: Franco needs arms and ammunition, America wants naval and air bases.



Let Us Search for Peace

General Matthew B. Ridgway (second from right) bids farewell to the five United Nations delegates as they prepare to return to Kaesong cease-fire conferences. From left are Admiral Burke, Maj. Gen. L. C. Craigie, Maj. Gen. Paik Sun Yup, Vice Admiral C. Turner Joy, senior delegate, Ridgway, and Maj. Gen. H. I. Hodges, 8th Army.

SETTING THE GOAL

U. S. Spurs Record Grain Output

WASHINGTON—The Agriculture department set out to spur the nation's farmers to a new record output of wheat and other fall-seeded grains with the release of production goals.

Secretary Charles Brannan set the 1952 goal for both winter and spring wheat at 78,850,000 acres. With normal yields, crop increase would be 100 million bushels.

The increase would not only meet all expected requirements for the marketing year—both domestic and export, but would also provide for some increase in holdover reserve stocks for that fiscal year ending June 30, 1953. As Secretary Brannan pointed out, "The goals for other fall-seeded grains recognize the need to build up feed grain supplies to aid livestock production."

DOING BUSINESS ON MAIN STREET

—A Weekly Newsletter

FEWER OPS ORDERS

● Main Street merchants will be relatively free of orders from the Office of Price Stabilization until August 1. Officials of OPS have said that while they are legally entitled to issue any orders which do not include roll-backs under the congressional 31-day extension of the national production act, they likely will NOT do so until after the new act has been formally passed by congress.

● Such orders as may be issued, will be for "relief" of merchants or manufacturers who may be caught in any squeeze of orders already issued.

● Two factors of interest to coops and others dealing in fertilizer, and to hardware merchants dealing in farm implements have materialized. One is the fact that any shortage of fertilizer is due to such an acute shortage of sulphur, that the international materials conference has unanimously recommended to all governments an allocation of the world supplies of sulphur for the third quarter of 1951. Reason is that sulphur is used in manufacture of more commodities than any other raw material. Other factor is that defense production administration has allocated to manufacturers of farm implements the following scarce raw materials for the third quarter: Copper, 8,619,000 pounds; steel, 673,723 tons and aluminum 6,774,000 pounds. This will mean a slight decrease in manufacture during this quarter. The department of commerce reports that manufacturers' shipments of farm machines and equipment for 1950 amounted to \$1,795,000,000 a decrease slightly under 1949, accounted for by the shortage of tractors, cultivators and weeder.

THE BEEF ISSUE

● Despite exhortations from economists and the experts that weakening of the price control act will result in additional inflation and higher consumer prices, it appears that the "hogs eyes are set" and that congress will remove all agricultural commodities under parity from any price controls, even including beef which is 148 per cent above parity. OPS officials have predicted that if beef with its run-a-way prices cannot be controlled, then the whole price control program may topple.

● After reaching a new peak in the preceding two weeks, retail prices of food remained practically unchanged in the two weeks between May 28 and June 15, bureau of labor statistics reports. Price increases for pork, fish and eggs were offset by decreases in poultry, fruits, vegetables, fats and oils.

● The bureau also reported another decrease in the average primary markets of 0.2 per cent for the week ending July 3 principally because of declines in fats and oils, cattle feed and crude rubber.

— Prepared by the Washington Bureau of WNU Features.

ARMED SERVICES

QUESTION BOX

(Send your questions about the armed forces or any aspect of military service to: Walter Shead, Armed Services Question Box, 1057 National Press Building, Washington 4, D. C. Answers will be given in this column.)

The Navy Department has granted funds to 10 universities and medical schools to carry out a new program of research on "flash" burns which might result from exposure to an atom blast. During World War II a high percentage of shipboard casualties were burns of the flash type, and burns also took a high toll of the victims of the atom bomb blasts in Japan. It is hoped that new means of protecting military and civilian personnel from burn injuries will emerge from this research.

The Department of the Army has announced that the 28th Infantry Division, known as the Keystone Division, Pennsylvania, and the 43rd Division, a National Guard division composed principally of personnel from Rhode Island, Connecticut, and Vermont, have been alerted for movement to the European command in the fall.

The Air Force clothing sales freeze which has limited airmen to about 70 per cent of their clothing allotment and banned sales to officers has been lifted on men's clothing but will continue on WAF clothing, the Air Force has said. Removal of the limitations on male clothing will permit both officers and airmen to buy all their required clothing items.

Q. May I, under the GI Bill,

NSLI Considers Disability Income Coverage

Disability income coverage may now be added to National Service or U.S. Government Life Insurance policies, Carl R. Gray, Jr., administrator of veterans affairs has announced. The recent enactment of the Servicemen's Indemnity and Insurance acts of 1951 does not bar the right to apply for addition of the disability income provision to existing government policies.

The Douglas Skyrocket, the

take institutional on-arm training on a part-time basis, such as one day a week? B. W. G., Cairo, Ga.

A. No. One of the provisions of the law which set up the program is that the training must be of such a nature that it takes up the full time of the veteran-trainee.

Q. Is there a time limit for filing claims for funeral expenses for a deceased veteran who served after the outbreak of the Korean hostilities? N.C.M., Ackerman, Miss.

A. Yes. Claims must be filed with the VA within two years from the date of permanent burial.

Q. I was just discharged from service, having served in World War II and remained on active duty afterwards. Am I eligible for readjustment allowances for unemployment, or has that GI Bill benefit already expired? J.A.H., Deerfield, Ill.

A. For most veterans, no payments may be made for any week which begins later than July 25, 1952. However, you may still be eligible for unemployment allowances if you are available for suitable work, are able to work, and register with a public employment office and meet other requirements as to service and discharge.

Q. May I renew my NSLI term policy for an additional term period, at my attained age, or does the new "free insurance" law prevent me from doing so? W.G.S., Seaside, N. Dak.

A. The insurance may be renewed for an additional term period provided you do so before your insurance expires. Once it expires, it may not be renewed.



NATIONAL GUARDSMEN FIGHT RIOTERS . . . Five hundred national guardsmen, their clips loaded and bayonets fixed, took on a mob of 8,000 civilians recently at an apartment building in Cicero, Ill., into which a negro war veteran had sought to move his family. Bricks, bottles and magnesium flares flew through the air. Although no shots were fired, 18 persons were injured and required medical care. Here, crowd surges in on national guardsmen as one soldier grapples to get back bayoneted rifle and companion in jeep radios for help. Cicero is a white section of Chicago, until now uninhabited by other than whites.



HAVE A LIGHT? . . . Unidentified American soldier (left) leans over to offer light to North Korean soldier, perched atop his Russian-built vehicle. The pair were waiting outside the peace-talk building in Kaesong, Korea, while North Korean and Communist officers discussed matters concerning a possible armistice in Korea. This was before the talks were broken off, after the Reds refused to allow allied newsmen to visit Kaesong and surrounded the U.N. delegation with armed guards. However, the Reds later called off the guards and agreed to admit newsmen to the peace-talk area in Kaesong but not to actual talks.



WHOA! . . . Speech by Rep. Louis C. Rabaut (D., Mich.), in which he warned that if congress does not pass the price rollback law and cut the price of beef, the 82nd congress will become known as the "horsemeat congress," prompted Washington restaurant proprietor Samuel W. Rosenberg, being assisted by Louis Smith, to place the above sign in the window of his restaurant. It is not known whether any congressmen have taken advantage of the offer or not.



VET RETURNS . . . Sgt. 1st Class Theodora Durinski, 26, one of the 250 WAC reservists undergoing field drills at Pine Camp, N.Y. She's a member of elite reserve intelligence corps. She enlisted in 1945, was discharged a year later. A clerical error caused her to be assigned to a male unit in Randolph, Texas. When an attempt was made to transfer her, 500 air corps trainees protested so strongly that she was allowed to remain the lone female in camp.



USING THEIR HEADS . . . Bald members of the crew of the U.S.S. Boxer, aircraft carrier, know how to use their heads. Here they snell out the name of the ship on which they serve. The ship was in Korean waters.



"AN ITEM" . . . Columnists are putting two and two together and getting "an item" from companion-ship of Robert Preston, actor, and Peggy Lee, singer, at Stork Club in New York. He is in Broadway hit, "Twentieth Century."