

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

Reds Preach Hate Theme at German Youth Festival; Average Income Up

THE HATE THEME—The world press gave more space to the east German youth festival, during which Red leaders preached a theme of hate of western democracy to 2,000,000 German youths, than any other single event in recent history. The demonstration reached its climax with half a million Soviet-zone boys and girls swearing loyalty to Stalin. From the Communist viewpoint, the festival was one of the most successful propaganda stunts in Red history.

But from the viewpoint of the average boy and girl in the home towns of America, viewing the event from afar, the mass hysteria had such a flavor of Nazism it was nauseating. To the American youngsters of high school and college age a football game is of more interest than staged political parades and the wild speeches of fanatics.

American youngsters, however, could not miss the hate theme preached by Red leaders: It was evident in every speech and at every moment during the rally. For the first time many American boys and girls realized there can be only one ending to this build-up—the eventual clash of the free world and Communism.

There was one bright spot in the whole affair. A few of the thousands of Communist youths slipped into the western zone of Berlin for a first-hand look at the "horrible conditions" preached by their leaders. What they found was surprising and revealing. These few learned the truth and may carry it behind the iron curtain to their families and friends.

YOUR INCOME—According to the department of commerce the average income for each man, woman and child in the United States last year was \$1,436, a gain of \$116, or 9 per cent over 1949.

The average home-towner, however, had no reason to feel happy about the report. The cost of living increased 6.5 per cent during the same period and the rise in the tax burden cut down the net gain.

The total income to individuals over the nation was a record \$217,000,000,000, a gain of 11 per cent over 1949. The department said average incomes ranged from \$698 in Mississippi to \$1,909 in Delaware and \$1,986 in the District of Columbia.

DISAGREEMENT—The senate armed services and foreign relations committees last week issued a statement saying that the group would make no report on the eight-week MacArthur hearing. The committee said that formal evidence of disagreement in the senate on far east policy might have had effect on the Korean-truce negotiations and signing of the peace treaty with Japan next month.

That statement had hardly been made public knowledge when eight senators, members of those committees, issued their own conclusions drawn from the long hearings, calling the Truman administration's far east policy a catastrophic failure. They declared that it "represents the most desolate failure in the history of our foreign policy."

These eight senators have made it clear that there is disagreement in the senate. It would seem, therefore, the conclusions of the full committee can no longer be withheld for reasons given and should be made public immediately. There is little likelihood that it will be, however.

Contrary to what these eight senators may say, there is a feeling in Washington these men put their political ambitions above the welfare of their country as expressed by the full committee's vote to withhold its report for the present.

RUSSIAN PROTEST—There is new evidence that trade reprisals against the iron curtain countries for their anti-American actions are beginning to hurt. The latest evidence comes from no less an authority than the Kremlin itself.

In a note delivered to the state department, the Soviet bluntly accused the U. S. of aggravating serious tension between the two countries by canceling the 1937 American-Soviet trade pact.

Congress ordered the canceling of trade concessions to iron curtain countries early in the year. While the cancellation will not bar Soviet goods from this country, it will increase tariffs on them and make it harder for them to compete in the U. S. market.

The Russians would like to continue their campaign of distortion and abuse against the United States, but at the same time enjoy trade concessions offered friendly nations. The Soviet Union is finding, however, it can't have its cake and eat it too.

ARMY NEEDS—The nation's needs in manpower for this fiscal year—June 30 to June 30—was made known last week. It gives the young men in the nation an idea of what the future holds in store for them.

Selective service announced it expected to draft 300,000 men during the year—an average of 25,000 a month. There have also been reports the army may need 430,000 alone to fill gaps caused by discharges.

Some 550,000 men were called up by draft boards between last September and June 30. The defense department already has asked for 35,000 men in August, 34,000 in September and 41,000 in October.

WEST POINT—The first of the 90 cadets involved in West Point's cribbing scandal left the academy last week. Others will be sent home this week and in the near future.

Five days after receiving their orders the men must report to their draft boards. They must either register for the draft or if already registered, advise their boards of a change of status.

Meanwhile, President Truman has ordered a full investigation of the athletic systems at both West Point and Annapolis to determine if the service academies are overemphasizing football and other sports.

TRUCE TALKS—Conflicting reports continue concerning the possibilities of success in the Korean truce talks. One day there are reports that progress is being made, the next that the talks are near collapse.

At the moment there seems to be little reason to expect a settlement. Red China is reported to have said: "If the American side stubbornly adheres to its unreasonable demand for plunder and rejects the just and reasonable proposal of our side, an agreement will be impossible."

In other words, the Communists are unwilling to compromise on an armistice line. The Allies have indicated they will compromise, but will not accept the 38th parallel.

Meanwhile, the Reds have increased their propaganda campaign with a "people's funeral" for a soldier reportedly killed by Allied troops in the Kaesong neutral zone. It begins to look like the build-up for a break in the truce talks.



Second Term for Bradley

Gen. Omar N. Bradley, (left), is sworn in for his second two-year term as chairman of the joint chiefs of staff at a Pentagon ceremony by Maj. Gen. Wm. E. Gergin, U.S. army adjutant general.

FLOOD RELIEF

Kansas-Missouri Relief Funds Asked

President Truman has asked Congress to appropriate \$400,000,000 for rehabilitation and relief of sufferers from recent floods in Kansas, Missouri and nearby areas. The President told Congress the area is of such importance to the nation that its speedy recovery is vital.

Under the President's plan some of the funds would be used to pay

rehabilitation grants to victims of the floods. A part of it would be used for loans, but many in the area lost everything and now have nothing to put up as security. These persons would have to be aided with outright grants.

To speed action on the measure, Vice-President Barkley referred it to the senate public works and appropriations committees.

DOING BUSINESS ON MAIN STREET

—A Weekly Newsletter

● Business men up and down Main Streets and small factories concerned with consumer goods and commodities, are operating in a twilight of uncertainty over price controls.

● Price control officials are stuck with control laws they don't think will work and are loathe to put provisions of the new act into effect. Everyone, even proponents of new control law enacted by Congress, agrees prices are bound to go up . . . prices may be stabilized, but on higher level than at present. OPS officials reason consumers will blame them if prices go up as they WILL go up, hence they will wait until last minute, or until they are convinced this Congress will not vote amendments before placing new regulations into effect.

CONGRESS MAY CONSIDER SLAUGHTER CONTROLS

● There is some talk Congress might consider going back to slaughter controls on meat animals, but there is little indication there will be further basic amendments. Look for another message from President Truman seeking to tighten up present act.

● So, for business, there is period of confusion and uncertainty ahead. For retailers and wholesalers there is a status quo, for new customary margin mark-ups apply to future regulations and NOT to those now in effect, so prices must be based on present rules.

● Within next few weeks, look for OPS crack-down on ceilings violators by enforcement division; look for department of justice arrests for violations of installment credit controls regulations, and expect arrests for cheating on inventories above limitations fixed by national production authority.

BUSINESS FIRMS FEEL RENT PINCH

● Business firms are beginning to feel bludgeon of increased rent demands, in some instances more than they can afford to pay, for commercial rent controls were left out of new controls act.

● Retailers from throughout country report more than seasonal pick-up in clothing sales, in many instances due to bargain sales to whittle down inventories. Even fall clothes are beginning to sell and NOT at bargain prices. Early pick-up is predicted in sales of shoes, hosiery and children's wear, the latter a seasonal increase due to start of school term in September.

● Of interest to merchants who buy and sell cotton textiles and to merchants in cotton producing areas, bumper crop of 17,266,000 bales is forecast by federal crop reporting board. Bumper crop prompted Secretary of Agriculture Brannan to set aside limitations on exports which was placed into effect last fall.

● BUT UNLESS THE COTTON INDUSTRY ITSELF FINDS MORE END USES FOR COTTON, NOW BEING OUT-STRIPPED BY SYNTHETIC FIBRES, IT LOOKS LIKE UNCLE SAM WILL BE INDUSTRY'S BEST CUSTOMER.

— 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 Shear, Armed Services Question Box, 1057 National Press Building, Washington 4, D. C. Answers will be given in this column.)

GOVERNMENT life insurance term policies held by veterans and those in service may now be renewed at the expiration of any term period for a successive period of five years without physical examination, the veterans administration has said. Formerly, renewal was authorized by Congress for one additional five year period at a time. New legislation permits such renewals indefinitely.

● The air force will reconduct and modify World War II B-25 Mitchell bombers as the first operation of its reactivated Birmingham modification center, the air material command has announced. Still in storage since the last war, the old B-25's after modification will become TB-25's and will be used for twin-engine pilot training.

● The navy is now seeking 189 volunteers for immediate active duty from among the pool of "Priority I" dentists; those deferred from service during World War II to complete an army or navy sponsored, professional education and who had less than 90 days of active service following completion of their studies.

● During my service in the navy, I received two service-connected disabilities—one during peacetime and the other during

World War II. Now that I have been discharged, could I get two separate disability compensation checks from VA, one for each disability? M.R., Crossville, Tenn.

A. No. Only one compensation award may be paid to an individual veteran. However, if VA approves your claim, payment for your combined disabilities will be made at wartime rates, even though one occurred during peacetime.

Q. Does a veteran with a dishonorable discharge have the right to file a claim for a TV benefit? G.B.R., Savage, Minn.

A. It is always the privilege of any veteran to file a claim with VA. However, in order to establish eligibility for VA benefits he must prove he was insane at the time he committed the act for which he was dishonorably discharged.

Q. Are the widower and children of a woman veteran entitled to a pension at her death? C.E.W., Loudon, W.Va.

A. Under present laws, the widower is not entitled. Surviving children may be entitled if eligibility requirements are met.

Q. I signed a statement before my discharge that my disability existed before I entered service. Will this render me ineligible for disability compensation? M.R.S., Sandy Springs, Ga.

A. No. One provision of the GI bill nullifies any such statements made at the time of discharge. Compensation may be awarded for service-aggravated disabilities which existed prior to service. The decision as to whether this is the case will be made by VA.

Army Plans Development of Flying Jeep

Plans now before the army's research and development officials call for an amphibian—a jeep capable of operating in the air as a plane or on the ground as a wheeled vehicle. The flying jeep may be called an airmobile or an autoplane, but the name most likely to become a part of army lingo is "fleep." The army's version of the fleep would be in line with a continuous search for means of making ground combat forces more mobile.

Nearly 3,600 seriously disabled veterans have established their right to federal grants for "wheel-chair homes", the veterans administration reports. Originally, only paralyzed veterans could receive the grant, but an amended law makes eligible all veterans of war or peacetime service since 1898, whose service connected disabilities result in the loss, or loss of use, of both legs.



FLOWERS AND WARNING . . . Richard Stokes, head of Britain's oil mission in Iran, is handed flowers and a warning by Persian priest, Seyed Abolghasem Kashani, during a friendly meeting in Teheran. The priest, reported to be the man behind the terrorists who shot Iranian Premier Razmara five months ago, warned Mr. Stokes "to tell the British government that if Premier Mossadegh deviates in the slightest from oil nationalization laws, the people will send him where Razmara was sent." Latest developments in the talks are that agreements are possible.



IKE HAS CHOW IN THE FIELD . . . General Dwight D. Eisenhower, commander-in-chief of S.H.A.P.E., partakes of chow with American officers in the field during his visit with units of the fourth division at Baumholden, Germany. Left to right are Major General Harlan N. Hartness; General Thomas T. Handy, commander-in-chief of EUCOM; General Eisenhower; and Colonel Thomas N. Griffin. General Eisenhower interrupted his vacation to tour and inspect the United States troop elements in the French and the United States occupied zones. He and his wife then returned to Bavaria where they resumed their vacation.



BAPTISMAL IN KOREA . . . Hospital corpsman third class, Theodore M. Hopkins, of Lansing, Mich., is conducting a baptismal service in Korea for Corporal Curtiss Caldwell (right) at a river near a marine command post. In center is Lt. Commander John E. Hollingsworth, chaplain, who is supervising the ceremony. Hopkins is a theological student, who, in addition to his regular duties, is assistant to the chaplain at the marine command post near the battle line.



ABDICATES . . . Marie Aber, Miss Colorado, abdicated her title after returning from a trip to New Mexico during which she was reported missing. She failed to appear at a Jaycees luncheon in Denver to claim \$500 wardrobe prize.



JUNIOR GESTAPO . . . West Berlin police arrest some 31 members of the "Junior Gestapo" of the Communist youth festival in Berlin who were seizing other Communist youths returning from forbidden visits to the western sector. The young informers, shown in uniform, were arrested when the truck in which they were returning to their quarters was driven by mistake into the U.S. sector of Berlin. They had been stationed along the boundary pointing out wandering comrades.



ROCKS ON ROXANNE . . . New York model Roxanne wears \$3 million worth of jewels from collection of Harry Winston: tiara, \$1 million, Hope diamond, \$15 million, star of the east, \$450,000; marquis diamond, \$250,000.