

SCANNING THE WEEK'S NEWS
of Main Street and the WorldKaesong Out As Conference Site;
934 OPS Violations Are Reported

HOUR OF DECISION—For weeks the people in the home towns of the country have held to the hope of peace in Korea through negotiations. This hope all but died last week as Gen. Omar Bradley, chairman of the U.S. joint chiefs of staff, following a conference in Tokyo with Gen. Matthew Ridgway, gave an irrevocable "no" to Communist demands that the United Nations send negotiators back to Kaesong to resume the peace talks.

As an alternative, the UN command offered to meet the Reds at Songhyon in no-man's-land. At the same time, Gen. James Van Fleet, commander of the eighth army, issued a warning that has been interpreted as a thinly veiled threat. He implied, in a statement announcing the opening of an Allied field offensive, that his forces are capable of driving the Reds completely out of North Korea.



History Made

U. S. marines in Korea recently added another chapter to their long record of firsts when, in "operation summit," they landed on a mountain by helicopter.

In his announcement that his forces are capable of driving the Reds from North Korea, Van Fleet said that the Allies inflicted 183,237 casualties on the enemy during the past four months. This is equal to approximately 10 Red divisions.

Since the war began the United Nations forces have inflicted an estimated 1,200,000 casualties on the North Korean and Chinese. United States army officials estimate the Reds now have 400,000 men on the fighting front with another 200,000 in immediate reserve.

NEW DRAFT CALL—More men from the home towns of the nation face a draft call during November and December with the announcement last week that 55,900 men will be called for duty in the army and marine corps.

The latest call will bring to 734,680 the men called since the draft was resumed in 1950. The marines have taken 41,680 of the total.

The 39,000 needed in November is 5,300 more than previously announced. Present strength of the corps is about 211,000 officers and men. Of the total, the marines will take 19,900 men.

TAX BILL—By the time this appears in print the house and senate committee may have finished its work on the new tax increase measure and reported it in final form. The senate version calls for a \$5.4 billion boost in taxes; the house \$7.2 billion. Whatever the final figure, the total tax bill will be one of the largest in the nation's history.

Last week's tax news, however, was not confined to the new tax bill. Of interest was the announcement by Senator George that the new bill "is the last tax-increase bill I will support short of all-out war or a war crisis."

The senator's announcement was of special significance in that he is chairman of the senate finance committee and it is his job to guide tax measures through the senate.

He pointed out that the new tax measure will increase revenues to \$87 or \$88 billion a year in a full year's operation, an all-time high. "That is enough to spend in a year," he said. "It is about \$15 billion more than we should spend even with a stepped-up defense program."

Then he added, "There must be a cut. I know there can be cuts if there is any strong will in the executive department."

Without Senator George's support any future tax measure would have little, if any, chance of getting through the senate.

MEAT-RULE VIOLATIONS—The office of price stabilization made the startling announcement that its agents have found 934 violations of meat regulations, involving 435 slaughterhouses, in raids in every section of the country. Two out of every five of the 1,145 slaughtering plants checked were found violating beef regulations.

Michael V. DiSalle, price stabilizer, made a bitter attack on the meat industry when the violations were announced. He said, "The price of beef is a vital element in the housewife's table budget and it must be held within reason. Surely if the members of the meat industry, who have been putting selfish interest against the nation's economic health, will stop to think of this, they will join with the great mass of people and help us keep the American economy on an even keel."

If found guilty of breaking OPS regulations, violators can be fined damages of three times the amount of price overcharges, and sentenced to a year in jail and a \$10,000 fine, or both.

POPULATION SHIFT—Since 1790 the center of population in the United States has continued to move westward. The new center, established by the 1950 census, is located eight miles northwest of Olney, Ill. It is 42 miles west and 7 1/2 miles south of the 1940 center near Carlisle, Ind.

The new shift reflects the westward and southward migrations that took place during World War II when new industries moved into these areas, census bureau officials reported. The trend is expected to continue as more and more industries move west and south.

On the 18th of this month a marker will be erected in the cornfield on the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Snider where the center is located. Nobody lives within half a mile of the point. Once a farm home stood 200 feet from the point.

The population center's westward movement has totaled 664 miles in the last 160 years. In 1790 the center was 23 miles west of Baltimore.

UNITED DEFENSE FUND—The united defense fund has joined with the national community chest campaign this year in an effort to raise \$18,624,854 to carry on its work. Of the total, \$16,511,854 is being sought through chests and the remainder will be raised in New York city and other non-chest areas. Bulk of the funds—\$13,658,207—will go to USO.

The united defense fund was formed in November, 1940, to raise funds for services to the armed forces through USO and other organizations; to aid defense-impacted communities through united community defense services; and to help process clothing collected by American relief for Korea.

The annual community chest drive was opened September 30 with a nation-wide radio address by President Truman. Community chest officials said their best estimate of the combined total to be raised by individual chests this year is \$250,000,000.

REDS IN U. S.

U. S. Communist Party Falling Apart

According to the latest survey of the Communist party in the United States, the Reds are in a bad way. Authorities on the subject report the party is broke, its leadership done for or demoralized, its "brains" tied up trying to defend court cases, and its rank and file so confused the members are pulling out.

J. Edgar Hoover, F.B.I. chief, reports the party membership has declined to 37,000 compared with a claim of 74,000 in 1947. As for finances, it has been unable to raise funds like it used to and those it gets go to the defense of 67 leaders convicted or facing trial. A drive in April to get \$374,895 realized only \$200,000. The financial picture is unlikely to improve since membership continues to decline rapidly in all parts of the country.

Strip Cropping Helps
Hold Soil in Place
It's Only First Step
In Conservation Plan

Strip cropping, an important part of soil conservation, is a good deal like putting a splint on a broken bone. The splint holds the bone in place, but it doesn't knit it. Strip cropping helps hold the soil in place, but it won't rebuild runoff fertility.

The above picture is a beautiful example of strip cropping, but it was not accomplished by mere contour plowing. It was accomplished by sound soil conservation, based on use and treatment of land with all proven, appropriate measures that are needed to keep it permanently productive while in use.



Strip cropping on a field just north of Neillsville, Wis., is a beautiful example of one step toward soil conservation.

Sound conservation means terracing land that means terracing, contouring, strip cropping, and stubble-mulching the land as needed; along with use of supporting measures of crop rotation, cover and green manure crops and the use of the right commercial fertilizers.

No farmer should undertake a conservation program without expert advice. He should first contact any one of his soil conservation district officers and apply for assistance from his district. If he doesn't know who his officers are, he can locate the address of his district office in the phone book, or he can call his county agent. Districts help only farmers who request their assistance.

Number of U. S. Farms
Lowest Since the 1890s

The number of farms in the United States has continued to decline since the end of World War II with the current total the lowest since before the turn of the century.

The department of agriculture reports there were fewer than 5.4 million farms in the country last year. This figure compares with approximately 5.9 million in 1945, and with the peak number of 6.8 million in 1935.

Thus the number of American farms has declined over 1.4 million, or more than a fifth, in the last decade and a half—a period in which land in farms has continued to increase and in which total agricultural production has likewise shown a spectacular increase in aggregate volume of products raised as well as in total market value.

In 1900 there were some 5.7 million farms in the U. S., approximately 350,000 more than at present. A decade before, in 1890, the number of farms was about 4.6 million.



Poultry raisers can save many a step by a sliding door in poultry houses which can be operated from the outside. A small rope attached to the door by a screw eye runs to the ceiling or roof boards, along the wall, through the side of the chicken house and terminates in a ring. A hook can be attached to the side of the building and thus hold the door open.

Farm Exports Increase
14 Per Cent, Report

The agriculture department reported recently that farm exports increased 14 per cent over the preceding fiscal year. The total was placed at \$3,409,245,000. Cotton exports led the group in 1950-51 with a total of \$935,332,000, the second highest in 26 years. Wheat and wheat flour ranked second in value at \$747,570,000, up 9 per cent over the \$683,229,000 the preceding fiscal year.



No War This Year

THE month of September and early October when the harvest is in is the time when the chancelleries and general staffs of Europe watch closest for signs of war. If Europe can get by this period of dry, mild weather before winter bogs down an attacking army, they figure there will be no danger of war at least until June.

Top U. S. officials, likewise, have made all-important surveys of the war possibility, and it is possible for this column to report what their general conclusions are:

1. Russia will not launch World War III this year. However, Russia is expected to continue pressing war by satellites.

2. China, not Russia, has been more eager for a truce. The U. S. war study indicates that Russia came out with the truce proposal chiefly for propaganda purposes; perhaps to stall for time in order to get new arms to Korea.

3. Next step in Communist aggression is likely to be Burma, Thailand, and Indo-China. This area is all-important to the Kremlin if the millions of China are to have rice. Moscow would probably gamble on starting World War III in these countries, though she doesn't actually want it.

4. In Iran the Russians will probably march into the northern province of Azerbaijan and take it by force—if the British go into southern Iran to protect their oil refinery. Here again the Russians are willing to gamble that the west will not go to war over Iran.

5. In Germany, the U. S. analysis does not anticipate a Russian military move, but does foresee a continual army build-up.

Behind Iron Curtain

Increasing evidence is coming back from inside the iron curtain to show that the freedom-friendship balloons and other activities of the crusade for freedom have really got under the Kremlin's skin.

In east Bohemia, for instance, fields were declared "off-limits" to farm workers by security sections of the national Communist committee. In another section of Bohemia, Communist officials offered rewards to the teams of youth brigades who collected the largest number of friendship leaflets.

Near the Czech-Austrian border, a patrol of border police reported "voluminous flying objects" which might be enemy paratroopers. When Prague got the report, it dispatched tank units amid great excitement.

The flying objects, however, turned out to be pillow balloons with the word "Svoboda"—"freedom"—written on them in large letters. They were bouncing along the ground in the early morning twilight like miniature flying saucers. Inside of them, of course, were friendship messages from the American people to the people of Czechoslovakia.

Weeding Out Bureaucrats

It hasn't received any publicity, but President Truman has ordered a drastic housecleaning to sweep the drones from federal government. An ultimatum has already gone out to all agencies to clean house or face budgetary and personnel cuts.

The present emergency has caused great demands on the manpower resources of our country with shortages of manpower in certain special areas already being felt. The federal government, as the largest single employer in the country, should set the example. Therefore, I expect the head of each executive department and agency to bring about maximum effectiveness and economy in the utilization of personnel," the President wrote in identical letters to civil service chairman Robert Ramspeck and budget director Frederick Lawton.

Truman ordered them to "request reports from all departments and agencies and conduct regular inspections and surveys so that reports can be made to me on progress in conserving manpower."

"This manpower conservation program should be given top priority throughout the executive branch," the President added.

As a result, Ramspeck and Lawton sent a joint ultimatum to all agencies to "take steps to assure the most effective and economical use" of manpower.

Washington Pipeline

Though she stands aces with new Secretary of Defense Lovett, defense Assistant Secretary Anna Rosenberg may resign. She was brought in by George Marshall to cut the waste out of armed services' manpower and has nearly accomplished her mission. In a swift week-end operation, Michigan's Sen. Blair Moody and Walter Reuther, of the auto workers, talked defense mobilizer Charley Wilson out of \$800,000 in contracts.



Better Shells

Paper in today's shotgun shells can withstand far more abuse than those of a decade ago thanks to a World War II discovery revealed today by Western-Winchester officials.

A plastic compound, melamine formaldehyde, added to pulp in the manufacturing process results in a paper that withstands dampness and friction when shells are carried on scores of trips during bad weather in the pocket of a sportsman's coat.

High wet-strength paper originally was used in 40,000,000 wartime maps and as a packaging material. It was developed to meet military demands for a paper retaining maximum strength when wet.

Affected Fitting

Before this plastic treated paper entered the sporting ammunition picture, scuffing and dampness



The abrasion test: After 30 turns on the abradant, the paper disc is removed.

sometimes prevented a shell from fitting into the chamber of a gun.

A mechanical "hunter's pocket" was devised by Western-Winchester ballisticians to determine the value of high wet-strength paper in shotshells over previously used shell cases. Both new and old shells were subjected during the experiments to friction and dampness many times more severe than they would receive over a long period of time when carried loose by a hunter.

After they had been soaked in warm water for half an hour, both types of shells were given a 15-minute drubbing in the machine. No perceptible damage resulted to shells made with high wet-strength paper. The older types were scuffed so severely that chambering was difficult and often impossible.

Used Emery Wheel
Another test made by researchers for the sporting arms and ammunition concern involved holding ordinary shotshell paper and high wet-strength paper to a slowly revolving emery wheel. Where the latter type was scratched, the other paper virtually burst apart after 20 revolutions.

Search for a "perfect" paper has been a major project of sporting ammunition manufacturers since the advent of paper shotshells half a century ago. Excellent results under normal conditions came when hulls were made of four layers of four-ply paper impregnated with



paraffin. Because excessive wear and wet weather frequently damaged such hulls beyond use, research efforts continued.

War-time developments of high wet-strength paper were viewed as the possible answer to the problem. Sample maps of this paper did not show "noticeable effects" when they were soaked in water wrung out, smeared with grease, daubed with paint, gasoline and mud, walked over by an entire regiment and, finally, rolled over by a tank.

When this paper was made available for civilian use, Western-Winchester began its tests of the paper for shotshell purposes. These led to adoption of high wet-strength paper in making a tougher, more waterproof hull.

Try It

There are two schools of thought among bass fishermen about whether noise or sight of an angler will frighten this species. One school says that Mr. Bass is so game, so pugnacious, that he isn't afraid of anything, particularly noise or the most formidable appearing angler in the land. The other school maintains that quiet stalking of Mr. Bass is as important as it is when attempting to reel Mr. Trout. We suggest the quiet method.

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Too Mushy

"And after he kissed you three times, then what?"
"Well—then he began to get sentimental."

A Poet

At a formal dance a sophomore discovered that he was standing on his lady friend's rain. He had the presence of mind to remark: "Though I may not have the power to draw an angel from the skies, I have pinned one to the earth."
She excused him.

Oh, Her!

Harry—"She sure gave you a dirty look."
Pete—"Who?"
Harry—"Mother Nature."

No Apology
Jane—"Would you be insulted if that good looking stranger offered you some champagne?"
Joan—"Yes, but I'd probably swallow the insult."

Not Too Fresh
Co-ed—"I'd like to see the captain of this ship."
Sailor—"He's forward, Miss."
Co-ed—"That's all right. This is a pleasure trip."

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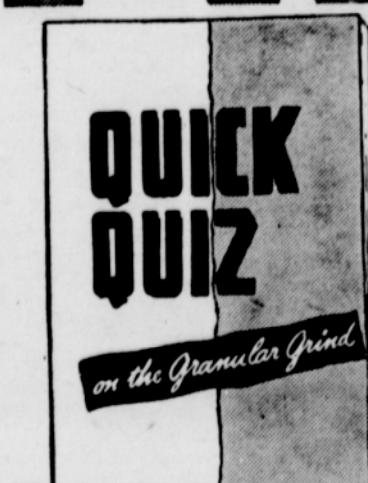
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