

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

Average Citizen Is Saving More, Sales and Profit Survey Reveals

PEACE TALKS—As home towners had expected, the 30-day provisional cease-fire-line agreement in Korea expired without final agreement between the Communists and the United Nations in their peace talks.

Although progress in the talks has been slow, the over-all picture is encouraging. Results are beginning to show.

First, and possibly most important, is the slackening of fighting, resulting in a great drop in the number of casualties on both sides. This policy is likely to continue as long as the talks are in progress, because, as Gen. James A. Van Fleet told correspondents: "We will not sacrifice our men needlessly. What is the use of thousands of casualties if it is questionable what good they would do?"

Second, the United States and its allies have a general idea, although somewhat inaccurate, of the number of fighting men held by the Communists in their prisoner-of-war camps. United Nations negotiators, however, are still pressing for a full accounting of more than 50,000 unlisted Allied prisoners. The U.S. has asked specifically what has become of 1,058 Americans not on the official Red prisoner-of-war list.

How soon a final agreement can be reached in the talks is anyone's guess, but distrust on the part of both sides will not hasten it. As an example, the Reds charge the lack of agreement due to "extraordinary antics... colossal bungling, criminal negligence, and master-race arrogance" by the Americans.

On the other hand, the Allies charge the "Communists have run true to form... With few exceptions the talks have been marked by the familiar Red pattern of delay, deceit, and diversionary tactics."

PRICE CUTS—Rural and small town families, by far the largest group of mail order patrons in the country, are wondering if the announced price cuts on thousands of items by the firms located in Chicago is an indication of things to come during 1952.

Midwinter sales catalogues of the four biggest mail order houses in the business list lower prices on thousands of items. It is the biggest cut in years.

One firm cut the price on an 11-cubic-foot refrigerator from \$262.72 to \$212.75, a 25 per cent mark down on men's shirts, and price reductions ranging from 80 cents to \$2.30 on tires from last fall's levels. The firm also listed 400 price cuts on both wood and metal furniture.

SALES SAG—The Securities and Exchange Commission and the Federal Trade Commission, in a report of business conditions during the last quarter of 1951, said sales in the nation dropped under the previous quarter's level for the first time since 1949. The report also said the profit sag, which began at the end of 1950, continued with manufacturers returns amounting to 15 per cent before taxes and 23 per cent after taxes. Sales fell off \$2,600,000,000 during the period.

Only four of the 22 industries covered in the report recorded an increase of profits before taxes in the third quarter of last year. They were petroleum, food, tobacco, and apparel and finished textiles.

The commissions did not attempt to interpret the general decline in business. It was obvious, however, that decline was due to a consumer buying lull that started early in 1950, sharp increases in defense taxes, shortages of materials and controls on scarce metals. Most observers believe the trend can be expected to continue during the early part of this year.

THE OLD SOCK—According to Secretary of Commerce Sawyer the average citizen in the home towns of the nation are putting more and more of their money in the old sock and keeping it there. He says savings are greater now than at any time in the last five years.

Sawyer is all for this saving spree of Americans—amounting to an annual rate of \$22,000,000,000—because he believes it has helped turn the tide against rampant inflation. He warned, however, that if Americans spend these savings in a new wave of buying, inflationary pressures will surge up again.

Personal incomes rose from \$225,000,000,000 in 1950 to \$251,000,000,000 in 1951. Now, in the early days of 1952, the rate is about \$260,000,000,000.

GOP CIRCUS—The race of Republicans to secure the GOP presidential nomination is taking on the atmosphere of a circus—so many are joining the show that spectators are going to miss some of the acts. The latest is Harold E. Stassen. Already active as Sen. Robert Taft of Ohio and Gov. Earl Warren of California. Remaining to join the big show is Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, considered by many the white hope of the Republican party.

The other candidates had this to say of Stassen's announcement: "Every American has a right to run for President and it's well that the Republicans should have a wide choice."—Taft. "His (Stassen's) candidacy should stimulate discussion of national issues and he will undoubtedly be an important factor in the Republican convention."—Warren.

THE SUMMARY—Secretary of State Dean Acheson, whose popularity with the American people has increased since the Japanese peace conference in San Francisco, recently summed up the American foreign policy for 1951. Dividing the global picture into four sections, he had this to say:

Europe and the North Atlantic—The year 1951 was a period of progress and growth... The North Atlantic Treaty organization's military command has gone forward... The important decisions that must be made early in 1952 have to do with the quantity and quality of European military forces, German participation in the defense of Europe, and creation of a European defense community and a European army.

The Near and Middle East—We lost some ground. The Suez waterway and Iranian oil crises offer dangerous opportunities for exploitation by the Kremlin. On the other hand, Greece and Turkey are bright spots.

The Far East—In Korea, the UN must guard against a renewal of Communist treachery, even if an armistice is signed.

The Pacific—The past year was one in which progress was made toward building a structure of peace through a series of treaties with Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines, and Japan.



Officers at the Army post office in Tokyo are pictured as they started sorting some 800 letters from Red held Allied prisoners-of-war in Korea to their families. The letters were flown to the United States and then sent to families in all parts of the nation by airmail-special delivery.

EMPLOYMENT IN 1952

All-Time Peak of 63 Million Seen

Robert C. Goodwin, director of the employment security in the Labor department, has predicted that 63,000,000 Americans will have jobs during 1952, an all-time peak in the nation's history. The record now stands at 62,600,000, set in August, 1951.

Goodwin said 1951 was a year "with full employment, the highest standard of living in history,

and the greatest industrial strength and capacity on record." As for 1952 he forecast employment expansion by mass hiring in heavy industry as many industries with big defense orders complete tooling and designing stag's preparatory to volume production.

He said these demands, plus the demands of agriculture, should cause the peak by midsummer.



Mystery Man

ONE of the most amazing things about "mystery man" Henry Grunewald is the way he has been able to ingratiate himself with those in high places.

Henry is able to slip in to see the Vice President, has a letter of thanks from President Truman for a campaign contribution, drops in to see GOP Senator Brewster of Maine who calls him "Henry," and got GOP Senator Ledges of New Hampshire to help him pull wires on a tax fraud case. He has three limousines, a winter house in Miami Beach, a summer house at Spring Lake, N.J., and uses the Washington hotel apartment of former Secretary of War Harry Woodring.

How he manages all these contacts no one exactly knows, especially in view of the fact that he was unwilling to answer any questions about himself before the King committee.

However, strangest of all connections was with the former alien property custodian, Leo Crowley—despite Crowley's denials. Grunewald had such a close friendship with Crowley that he was actually authorized to speak for him at stockholders' meetings of the big alien corporations in wartime.

Crowley now says: "I don't remember Grunewald." However, at the time he was hired, Crowley's office put a memo in the files showing his astonishing trust in "The Dutchman" by stopping any investigation of Grunewald's past.

Grunewald's Past

"The office of the custodian has investigated Mr. Grunewald," Crowley's office stated on Aug. 23, '42, "and because of the nature of the work to be performed by this man for the custodian, it is requested that the Civil Service Commission refrain from making any investigation of Mr. Grunewald. His record is entirely satisfactory to the custodian."

Perhaps what Crowley wanted to cover up was Grunewald's record as a government prohibition agent. This showed he was demoted from \$4,000 to \$1,800 a year on January 12, 1922, and finally was kicked out of the government on October 3, 1922, after being indicted by a New York grand jury in connection with the "illegal removal and disposition of liquor."

Later, in a job application, Grunewald gave this version of his indictment: "In October, 1922, while I was a general agent assigned to the New York prohibition office, I was indicted by a federal grand jury in the southern district of New York for conspiracy to violate the federal prohibition law. The indictment named a number of individuals, including Mr. Roswell A. Saver and myself. The case against me was dismissed after a verdict was indicated to the jury by Federal Judge Winslow..."

50 Years an Alien

Here are some more things which the mystery man might have told the King committee but didn't:

Grunewald was born May 19, 1892, at Port Elizabeth, South Africa, but neglected to become naturalized as an American citizen until February 3, 1942. This was two months after Pearl Harbor and after he went to work for the alien property custodian.

For years, as an alien, Grunewald worked for various branches of the government. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1909 to 1914, worked as a desk clerk at the Naval Young Men's Christian Association in Brooklyn, got a job in 1915 as a bookkeeper for Western Electric in New York city.

His first job as an investigator came in 1917, when he secured a temporary appointment with the old FBI. In 1919, he served as confidential investigator for the Republican National Committee at \$8,000. In 1921 he got a \$4,000-a-year job with the Commissioner of Prohibition which, ironically, came under the Internal Revenue Bureau. It was his relations with ex-Commissioner Schoeneman and ex-Counsel Olyphant of Internal Revenue which recently brought Grunewald into the limelight.

Grunewald has also developed some interesting contacts in the liquor business, and as late as 1944 he was under investigation by the alcohol tax unit for alleged black-marketing in liquor.

Grunewald also spent from 1928 to 1942 as a personal, confidential investigator for Henry W. Marsh.

Merry-Go-Round

Holiday joke going the rounds at the hard-pressed Bureau of Internal Revenue: First Employee—"What are you giving your wife for Christmas?" Second Employee—"An Oil-phant hide bag with shoes to match..." The volume of Christmas mail this year, including parcel post, set another all-time record, 30 per cent greater than last year. P. O. officials estimated it was enough to fill a string of boxcars from Washington to Chicago.

INDUSTRY

Town Votes \$26 Million For Industry

ELIZABETHTON, Tenn.—The people of the small East Tennessee town of Elizabethton are determined to attract new industry into the community.

Capitalizing on a 1951 state legislative act, Elizabethton voters have approved bond issues totaling \$26,000,000 in three separate referendums. The money will go for construction of industrial plants for lease to private business.

By a vote of 2,087 to 17, the community authorized a \$4,000,000 issue for a nylon plant to be leased to Textron, Inc. Later they approved another \$2,000,000 for the same plant. The vote was 1,457 to 16.

The latest vote was 1,262 to 6 in favor of a \$20,000,000 plant to be occupied by Monadnock Paper Mills, Inc., of Bennington, N. H.

And the community indicates it is not through yet. Proposals for at least three additional plants representing a total of \$25,000,000 are being studied and still other industries have applied for consideration.

Idea Mushrooming

The idea of building plants and leasing them is mushrooming. City officials have the full backing of Elizabethton's residents, but R. C. Turrentine, bank president, summed up local sentiment this way: "We want to be careful not to get any fly-by-night operators."

The first steps in the series of events turning Elizabethton into a boom town came early in 1951 when the state legislature passed an act authorizing cities to issue revenue bonds for industrial buildings.

Such issues must be approved by three-fourths of the voters and the bonds must be retired with rental from the buildings. No tax-supported bonds can be used for the purpose.

Elizabethton has been existing on the strength of a single industry—rayon. Five thousand persons are employed at the two plants in operation in the community.

To Rent Plants

In addition to the fact that Elizabethton is preparing to rent plants to industries, there are other advantages attractive to businessmen: The community, in a mountainous area, has an ample supply of manpower. Electricity is plentiful and cheap. Timber resources are lavish. The water supply is abundant. The climate is desirable.

The future looks bright for Elizabethton, but some of its residents fear they may hit a snag. B. E. Wooten, president of the Chamber of Commerce, says congress may revise the law to prohibit private industry from benefiting from the tax exemptions of cities.

"We want to get all the industries we can before this sort of financing is halted," he said. "We don't believe congress will seek to collect the taxes on these factories already established under this arrangement."

Texas Town Turns Out For Antipolio Cleanup

ODESSA, Texas.—The city of Odessa recently conducted a cleanup campaign that could be a model for hundreds of home towns across the nation.

Residents armed with rakes and disinfectants undertook the campaign in an effort to wipe out an epidemic of polio that had reached a total of 62 cases, nine of them fatal.

Bankers, lawyers, clergymen, and doctors were among the thousands who put on work clothes. Both banks and many business houses closed. Other firms operated with skeleton crews of women.

A clothes gaver away 840 pairs of work gloves. A grocery donated a barrel of rakes and shovels. Neighboring towns sent 120 trucks and drivers. Oil companies provided mobile units, used in cleaning oil wells, to spray alleys with live steam.

Debris from yards, vacant lots, and streets was piled high and burned in a special dump established north of the city. Five hundred truckloads of trash were hauled to the dump. Housewives served hot coffee and food to the workers.

The city was divided into four zones, with 25 sectors in each. Workers were directed by 10 radio cars and three radio stations.

Minnesota Town Has Fire Prevention Day

SHAKOPEE, Minn.—The small community of Shakopee recently held one of the most successful Fire Prevention Days in the history of a Minnesota community. Before the day was over 20 trained fire inspectors had visited every business establishment in the town and informed each of conditions that could be a fire hazard.

Fire Chief H. J. Pass said the program was designed to let each merchant know just what fire hazards there might be on his premises. The inspectors were aided by the local Boy Scout troop.

As a part of the program, the school in the community held fire drills and showed fire prevention movies. The day was climaxed with a banquet during which speakers summarized the days events and the lesson learned by the entire community.

SPORTSCOPE By Joe Mahoney

JOHNNY KARRAS UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS FLEET-FOOTED HALFBACK, SAID BY MANY TO BE THE CLOSEST THING TO RED GRANGE THE ILLINI HAVE SEEN, REALLY LOWERED THE BOOM ON INDIANA IN THEIR 1951 BIG 10 CONTEST. HE NOT ONLY SCORED ALL THREE T-D'S IN THE 21-0 VICTORY BUT RAN 88 YARDS FOR A SCORE, SETTING A NEW WESTERN CONFERENCE RECORD FOR THE LONGEST TOUCHDOWN PLAY FROM SCRIMMAGE.

QUICK CORNER WHAT ATHLETIC TROPHY WAS RECENTLY WON FOR THE 5th CONSECUTIVE TIME BY A U.S. WOMEN'S TENNIS TEAM? (D)C NVMLHSHM 3HL

BLACK HAWK CAPTAIN COLLECTED 21 STITCHES IN THE FIRST 3 WEEKS OF THE 1951 SEASON, THAT BROUGHT HIS TOTAL TO 256!

SPORTLIGHT College Football Full of Variety

COLLEGE football in the badly mixed up U.S.A., will be one of the most scrambled sports on any map for 1952.

It was known in advance that the Ivy League had no connection whatsoever with the Southeastern and Southwestern Conferences. The wide split concerned athletic scholarships, student work, bowl games and almost everything else.

Now it seems that the Southern Conference, the Big Seven, the Big Ten, the Missouri Valley and the Pacific Coast Conference are heading for Ivy League standards. At least a good part of the way.

Each conference is entitled to make its own choice. It is apparently the choice of the Southeastern and the Southwestern Conferences to go out for even bigger and better football—athletic scholarships, plus bowl games, freshmen playing and what else do you want?

There are certain to be wide, sweeping changes over most of the football map. But there will still be football every bit as interesting in other sections as the Southeastern's and Southwestern's untrammelled conferences can put on.

The main point is that the Southeastern and Southwestern leagues can supply enough teams for most of the bowls, since the Big Ten and West Coast take care of the Rose Bowl's destiny. For how long no one can say.

Certainly the two Conferences from Georgia through Texas can see that the Sugar, Cotton, Orange and Gator Bowls are all supplied with Bowl teams. They may need some help, however, from stray wanderers such as Holy Cross, Fordham, Miami, Virginia and one or two others who are not in a Conference.

The various college presidents have gone farther, in the main, than anyone suspected they would. This doesn't mean the Southeast or the Southwest where coaches and athletic directors still have control, which is the way those two sections want it.

Different Football Teams that play with almost unlimited athletic scholarships attached have terrific advantages over those with limited or with no scholarships at all to dole out.

The wonder of 1950 and 1951 was that Princeton, with no athletic scholarships, had a team that matched Tennessee, Maryland and Michigan State.

How to Fix It BY HAROLD ARNETT

ROTATE RADIO TILL CRACKLE IS LOUDEST.

ABOUT 500 FT. APART

LOCATE THE SOURCE OF ANNOYING STATIC INTERRUPTING YOUR RADIO ENJOYMENT BY SWITCHING ON A PORTABLE RADIO AND ROTATING IT UNTIL STATIC IS AT ITS LOUDEST. SOURCE OF STATIC IS SOMEWHERE ALONG THE LATERAL AXIS OF THE RADIO. MOVE ABOUT 500 FT. AND AGAIN ROTATE THE RADIO TO OBTAIN LOUDEST STATIC. THE POINT AT WHICH THE LATERAL AXES CROSS IS THE SOURCE OF THE STATIC.

Spitzbergen Coal Mined By Russians

The coldest crossroads of the cold war are Norway's jagged Spitzbergen islands, where polar bears nose inquisitively into the only mining settlements operated by Soviet Russia on the free side of the Iron Curtain.

Svalbard — "land of the cold coast"—is the ancient Norse name for this Arctic archipelago which became part of the Kingdom of Norway a quarter of a century ago. Once an international no man's land, Svalbard has recently become a strategic power mark.

It straddles potential polar air routes between Europe and North America. But under a 1920 treaty, the islands cannot be fortified, and signing nations (United States, Great Britain and its Dominions, France, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, and Russia) are guaranteed continued access to any economic interests they might hold there.

Today both Norway and Russia mine Spitzbergen coal. Norway is a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization; Russia is not. Svalbard's status is somewhere between.

POPS SO EASY AND TASTES SO GOOD JOLLY TIME POP CORN

GOT A COLD TAKE for fast symptomatic RELIEF 666

EAT ANYTHING WITH FALSE TEETH! If you have trouble with plates that slip, rock, cause sore gums—try Brimms Plasti-Liner. One application makes plates fit snugly without powder or putty, because Brimms Plasti-Liner hardens permanently to your plate. Relines and retires loose plates in a way no powder or paste can do. Even on old rubber plates you get good results six months to a year or longer. YOU CAN EAT ANYTHING! Simply lay a soft strip of Plasti-Liner on troublesome upper or lower. Bite and it molds perfectly. Easy to use, tasteless, odorless, harmless to you and your plates. Removable as directed. Money back if not completely satisfied. Ask your druggist!

BRIMMS PLASTI-LINER THE PERMANENT DENTURE RELINER

Economical Cough Relief! Try This Home Mixture

No Cooking. Makes Big Saving. To get quick and satisfying relief from coughs due to colds, mix this recipe in your kitchen. First, make a syrup with 2 cups granulated sugar and one cup of water. No cooking needed. Or you can use corn syrup or liquid honey, instead of sugar syrup. Then get 2 1/2 ounces of Pinex from any druggist. This is a special compound of proven ingredients, in concentrated form, well-known for its quick action on throat and bronchial irritations. Put Pinex into a pint bottle, and fill up with your syrup. Thus you make a full pint of splendid medicine—about four times as much for your money. It never spoils, and tastes fine. And for quick, blessed relief, it is surprising. You can feel it take hold in a way that means business. It loosens phlegm, soothes irritated membranes, eases soreness. Makes breathing easy, and lets you get restful sleep. Just try it, and if not pleased, your money will be refunded. FOR EXTRA CONVENIENCE GET NEW READY-MIXED, READY-TO-USE PINEX!

For a QUICK and TASTY MEAL

Van Camp's PORK AND BEANS

Van Camp's Pork and Beans in Tomato Sauce

Choice, plump, whole beans... a secret savory tomato sauce... sweet tender pork... with flavor through and through. Only Van Camp's... originator of canned pork and beans... gives you so much good eating at such little cost of money and effort.

Heat Eat Enjoy