

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

Truman's State of Union Speech Termed Friendly, Conciliatory

STATE OF THE UNION—Was it a wiser or politically minded President who delivered the state of the union message to the second session of the 82nd congress? Was his conciliatory and friendly mood dictated by the fact that 1952 is an election year, or was it an effort to consolidate the majority behind the defense program and the nation's foreign policy? These questions have been in the minds of every American since the President's speech.

For the first time in five years, President Truman, who is beginning to show the strain of his years as chief executive, did not go all-out for welfare-state legislation. He made it clear, however, that he was not abandoning any of the things he has advocated since 1946. Rather, he would have the country concentrate its full efforts to defense and keeping economically sound.



PRESIDENT TRUMAN

In this respect he said the stabilization last session and "it will be one of the main tasks before congress to repair the damage and enact a strong anti-inflation law". As for defense, he warned that the situation in Korea remains dangerous and that "the Soviet Union is increasing its armed might." The world still walks in the shadow of another world war, he said.

But his approach to taxation, compulsory health insurance, civil rights, and other controversial issues was so amiable that it left many Republican critics speechless. In fact, Republicans, who obviously were all set for a field day of criticism, found little about which to demonstrate.

The main criticism, when it was all over, was the charge that the speech was just a rehash of past messages. Generally, Democrats praised the message. But from the opposition came such statements as: "The same broken record . . ." "The President's speech could be characterized as follows: spend more, waste more, socialize more, give more away, control more, talk more, and blame the other fellow for all the ills of the United States and the world."

The fire and stubborn fight of the Truman of old was so obviously lacking that it seemed almost apathetic to many home towners who heard the address.

PRODUCTION—Production of civilian goods for the second quarter of 1952 has been cut back sharply. Defense Mobilizer Charles E. Wilson announced the government has ordered home building slashed by 23 per cent for the months of April, May and June. Automobile output was slashed by 7 per cent and other consumer goods using scarce materials were trimmed 10 per cent.

This is the general picture for the second quarter: Construction—Home building, now at a rate of 850,000 a year, will be slashed to a rate of 660,000. Only factories vitally needed for defense production will be built, and little material will be available for office buildings, stores, and other commercial construction.

Autos—The industry will get enough copper and aluminum to make 800,000 cars and enough steel to make 900,000.

Civilian Goods—Most consumer goods, including refrigerators, stoves, washing machines, television sets, and radios, will be cut by about 10 per cent from the first quarter.

Railroad Equipment—Freight car production will be reduced about 14 per cent below the 20,000-car output for the first quarter.

Roads—Only the most urgent road building will be permitted.

Ships—Allotments to the Maritime Administration will be increased.

TAX EVADERS—The Treasury department has launched a new policy that should receive wide approval of the average home town taxpayer. The Treasury will no longer let tax evaders escape criminal prosecution if they voluntarily confess their fraud and pay up.

The department also took steps to speed up its prosecution of tax evaders, including: (1) Reducing the number of conferences with taxpayers about their cases, although taxpayers still will be heard when necessary to develop actual facts; (2) The only persons who can represent taxpayers in these conferences must have duly certified powers of attorney to speak for the taxpayer.

The new policies are expected to reduce the lag in prosecution from an average of 292 days to about 100, it was estimated by the Treasury department.

PEACE TALKS—The Korean peace talks remain deadlocked over the question of whether or not the Communists be allowed to build airfields in North Korea during an armistice. The Reds insist that any ban on rehabilitation of combat airfields would infringe on North Korean sovereignty by interfering in internal affairs. On the other hand, the United Nations says it will not make a peace that gives the Communists the right to build up military forces and installations for further aggression.

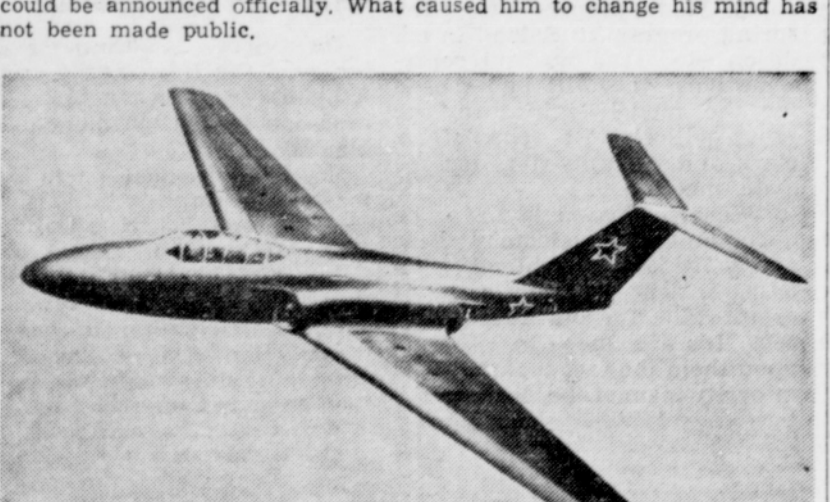
At home, Gen. Omar Bradley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, reports he is hopeful for a workable truce in Korea, but there is one price we won't pay—appeasement.

CLEANUP—President Truman's long awaited plan to clean up graft in government is under way, although it drew considerable fire from Republican critics.

The President dropped his plan for a special commission and handed the job to Attorney General McGrath. Republicans immediately began their criticism. The general charge was that "a whitewash is coming".

The President did not indicate how extensive the clean-up measures will go. A number of administration leaders are known to want action which would remove the corruption in government issue as far as possible from the approaching presidential election campaign.

Truman first asked Federal Judge Thomas F. Murphy of New York to head a cleanup commission. Murphy withdrew before his appointment could be announced officially. What caused him to change his mind has not been made public.



One of Russia's newest twin jet planes is depicted in this drawing, re-least by Aviation Age. The trade and technical magazine said it was either a twin jet fighter, night fighter, or ground attack aircraft, recently developed by the Red Air force. Its exact designation is not known.

THE NATION'S SCHOOLS Rearing Brakes U.S. School Gains

The nation's schools are again facing a serious crisis, brought on by four major factors: increased enrollments, inflationary costs, lack of building materials and an acute teacher shortage.

Educators, however, contend that the nation's economy is strong enough to support the defense program and the schools. And they insist that schools are the first line

of our defense. A recent survey revealed that 3,500,000 elementary and high school children—one out of eight pupils in the public schools—are suffering an impaired education because of inadequate facilities. An estimated 400,000 boys and girls are not getting a full school day—some are attending school on triple-session schedules.



Aerial Crop-Control Is Booming Industry Treated in U.S. in '51

A midwest wheat tract was so overrun with weeds that the farmer was about to plow it under. He decided, however, to try treating it with 2,4-D and hired an aerial crop-control specialist to apply the chemical at a cost of \$2 an acre. The result: a yield of 20 bushels of grain per acre.

Other instances: Aerial spraying of weed-killing chemicals enabled a southern cotton planter to cut hoeing costs from \$14 to \$6.50 an acre while a California citrus grower improved his lemon crop by spraying his orchards from the air.

Agricultural aviation is a booming new industry that is enabling the farmer to substantially increase



The above photograph shows aerial dusting of an orchard. This method of insect control is becoming more popular with farmers throughout the country.

crop acreage, I. J. Beemel, agricultural research director for the Freeport Sulphur Company, reports.

Beemel pointed out that more than 25,000,000 acres of U.S. crop, range and forest land were treated last year with chemicals sprayed or dusted by airplane.

Some 6,000 pilots are engaged in the aerial battle against insect pests, weeds and plant diseases. And they are doing the job faster, more efficiently and in many instances at lower cost than ground distribution of insecticides, fungicides and herbicides.

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Store Unused Tractors Under Shelter in Winter

If you want to ruin your tractor in a hurry, just let it sit outdoors, exposed to the weather, this winter.

Farm machinery specialists say no amount of tough use will wear out your tractor as fast as leaving it out in the rain and snow.

Tractors are fairly expensive and may be hard to get. So, if you're not going to use your machine this winter, it will pay you well to find storage space for it in some building.

Clean the machine thoroughly, especially the motor, and then store it in a dry protected place.

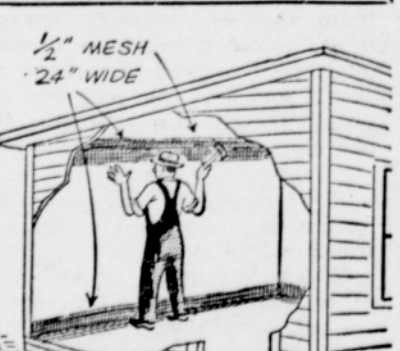
Block up the tractor to take the weight off the tires. Then drain the radiator, block, gas tank, fuel lines and carburetor. Put fresh oil in the crankcase and add a rust inhibitor.

Most important of all, remove the spark plugs and pour one-fourth cup of light oil or kerosene in each cylinder. Then turn the crank a few times to work the oil around the rings and pistons, and replace plugs. Cover the exhaust pipe and crankcase breather pipe with old rags to keep out dirt and moisture.

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Rodent Proof



If wire mesh is applied to joining sections of a poultry house, it will help keep the building free of rodents. The mesh is applied at the floor and ceiling line as shown in the above illustration and should be well nailed.

Farmers Are Advised To Store Fertilizer

Farmers are still being advised to buy and store sufficient chemical fertilizer to meet their needs during the next 12 months. The supply is expected to be somewhat limited.

Be sure it is stored in a dry place where there is little temperature variation, don't pile it any higher than five or six bags, and never pile it on the ground or even a concrete floor—the ideal storage place is an elevated wooden platform.

Washington Pipeline

Stanton Griffis is retiring as ambassador to Spain chiefly because of ulcers. Also he has written a book which Cass Canfield of Harper's is crazy about. It's the Griffis Memoirs, beginning with the days when he sold snake oil at country fairs. . . Colonel Benjamin Thurston, who says he helped organize Eisenhower's headquarters in Paris, has been making speeches in Maine critical of NATO waste.



U.S. Isolation

MOST disturbing development in the U.S.A. to members of the Churchill party has been the growth of isolationism in certain sections. British observers who see the United States during periodic visits may have an advantage in diagnosing popular changes between those visits. At any rate they compare public sentiment today to that just before Pearl Harbor when the United States also was torn between isolation and international participation.

This, incidentally, appears to be borne out by the Washington Merry-Go-Round poll of Republican candidates. At the start of this poll, Taft chalked up his greatest strength in the traditionally isolationist midwest; Eisenhower his greatest strength in New England, the South and the Pacific Coast.

The poll, which is still continuing, also continues to show Taft strong in these areas. In fact, the voting runs almost constant in regard to Taft strength in the midwest, Eisenhower strength in other areas.

RFC Chairman

Harry McDonald, to be the first Republican head of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation in 19 years of Democratic rule, can be counted on to carry on the forthright policies of Stuart Symington.

As head of the securities and exchange commission, McDonald vigorously advised GOP members of the RFC not to O.K. the controversial Texmass loan, warned them that his SEC had not given Texmass a clean bill of health.

McDonald, who believes the public is entitled to know all the facts about big financial deals, used to run a Detroit dairy, was supreme potentate of the Michigan Shrine, got to know Truman because they are fellow shrimers, and took a mild shine to Rita Hayworth when she visited in Washington. He is a bachelor.

Atomic Artillery

Though President Truman has been opposed to exchanging atomic information with England, one so-called atomic secret, which the Churchill party has been told, is that our much-ballyhooped atomic artillery is not going to work miracles on the battlefield as some had expected.

This is not exactly a secret, for the American public will be told the news later—namely, that atomic artillery, while by no means a dud, has been a military disappointment. In other words, while a lot more powerful and deadly than conventional artillery, the new atomic shells will not wipe out armies overnight.

Most significant result of the recent Nevada blasts was that animals staked behind near-by shelters easily survived atomic artillery and baby A-bombs dropped from fighter planes. This convinced U.S. observers that troops in trenches or behind clumps likewise could withstand an atomic raid. Thus, in rugged terrain, atomic artillery would be no more effective against troops than heavy artillery now in use.

This means that the atomic bomb could not stop the Chinese Communists in Korea. By holding up in caves or lying low behind rocks and ridges, they could take terrific atomic punishment.

Shell for shell, however, atomic artillery would pack 100 times the wallop of TNT, would sweep clean any military targets sticking above ground.

The new A-bombs also would be most effective in retarding a Russian invasion of western Europe by bombing troop concentrations and transportation centers along the invasion route. Both B-29s and fighter-bombers are already being diverted from the Air Force's tactical and strategic commands for a special atomic air arm called retardation command.

Atomic raiding along the invasion route would be most effective against air bases. One atomic bomb could wipe out an air base, flatten parked planes, and level operations buildings.

Note—Our most powerful atomic bombs will probably be used to blast factories and military bases. It has been computed that one such bomb packs more explosive power than all the ordinary bombs so far dropped in a year and a half of Korean fighting.

SPORTSCOPE

By Joe MAHONEY



BILL EZINICKI

SLAM-BANG RIGHT-WINGER OF THE BOSTON BRUINS, WHO HOLDS THE "DISTINCTION" OF THE MOST PENALIZED PLAYER ON ICE TODAY, WHO HAS HAD 64 STITCHES DURING HIS HOCKEY CAREER, DOES A COMPLETE SWITCH OF CHARACTER IN THE OFF-SEASON. HE'S GOLF PRO AT THE COLONIAL COUNTRY CLUB IN LYNNFIELD, MASS., AND IS A PICTURE OF DIGNITY AND DECORUM ON THE LINKS.

ED "MIGHTY MO" MODZELEWSKI MARYLAND'S ALL-AMERICAN FULL-BACK GAINED 834 YARDS IN THE 1951 SEASON, 154 YARDS MORE THAN ALL THE TERRAPIN'S OPPONENTS COMBINED!

FRANK CHANCE WAS HIT BY PITCHED BALLS 5 TIMES IN ONE DAY, 3 TIMES IN THE FIRST GAME AND TWICE IN THE SECOND OF A 1904 DOUBLE-HEADER!

SPORTLIGHT

Lippy Looks to Coming Season

By GRANTLAND RICE

WHEN big Don Newcombe was officially announced as definitely heading for the army, we ran into Leo Durocher.

"Naturally," Leo said, "losing a pitcher with Newcombe's stuff isn't going to help any team. It wouldn't help us to lose Maglie, Jansen or Hearn. But this isn't going to break the Dodgers, either. They have too good a ball club to have any one man wreck them. But Chuck Dressen must rust the himself a pretty fair pitching staff. He has a good starter in Preacher Roe. There's a pitcher—a great one."

Durocher didn't care to comment on how Branca, King, Labine, Erskine, Podbielan and the others would make out.

Certainly Newcombe's absence gives the Giants a much better chance to win. Newcombe has never quite worked to his potential ability as his career under the hot stretch proved late last summer. But he could be good and might have found himself this year.

"What about Willie Mays?" I asked Leo.

"Not a word about him," the Giant manager said. "But we'll have a good ball club." He said, "You were right in saying our ball club was in fine condition when we left St. Pete. I never had a ball club in better shape. We were rearing to go on the side. Our pitchers were all set. I was dead sure we'd get away flying. And then we drop 11 straight and almost fall out of the league. How can a ball club drop 11 straight in April and May and then win about 80 per cent of its games to come from behind in August and September? When you see things like that happen you get afraid to make any predictions."

I asked Leo which of the Giants he expected to have a big year.

"Just about all of them," Durocher said. "I mean by that they'll play up to their ability. We have a real hustling club. You don't have to hustle them. I know Maglie, Jansen and Hearn will have good years. I expect to have two more good working pitchers to help out. We'll miss Eddie Stanky, but we'll have a good man in his place. The rest of my infield is pennant material. So is our outfield. Watch Monte Irvin. There's one of the best."

The Modern Ballplayer In the course of a fanning bee Durocher brought out one important

point. It concerned handling ball-players—the ballplayers of today. "The old-time rough-riding managers couldn't have gotten away with their stuff," he said. "They would very soon have run into mutinies and near riots with the bunch today."

"In the old days managers were handling ballplayers getting from \$2,000 to \$4,500 a year. Lajoie jumped the Phillies when he asked for a raise from \$2,500 to \$3,000. Joe Jackson and Ed Walsh, two of the greatest, got \$4,000 or \$4,500. But the good average player was far cheaper. You could bowl those fellows out—or give them a ride.

"You can't do that with fellows getting from \$15,000 to \$75,000 or \$90,000. How is a \$40,000 manager going to ride a \$90,000 ballplayer? These fellows today, many of them, are well fixed with comfortable homes, an automobile, nice clothes and various luxury items. And the ballplayer today is also a higher type. Many of them are college graduates. Few old rough-necks break in any more."

"I only wish they did," I suggested. "So do I," Leo said. "But not too many of them. I could stand a few like Waddell, Sherry Magee, Mike Donlin, etc. But this is a different bunch today. Just a few years back and you could see Al Dark scoring touchdowns for L.S. U.; Allie Reynolds doing the same for Oklahoma A. & M.; or Kluszewski for Indiana. Ballplayers today are serious minded, working hard at their jobs. You can't handle them like galley slaves. Maybe they live better than you do."

Who said 'Over'? "Now that the football season is over," a writer starts his piece. Over for how long in many places? About three weeks and then "spring practice" will be under way again. It's not over.

We have never felt that spring practice, held under correct supervision, is wrong in any way. It is the overindulgence in this part of football that cuts in too heavily on a student's time.

Spring practice wouldn't be harmful if limited to 20 or 24 days, with each practice session held to an hour and a half. But in many places it runs on for two or three months and often uses up three hours of an afternoon.

From 20 to 24 days, held to an hour and a half, could produce no damage. It is the only part of football that isn't overpublicized. The average young college player can use this spring instruction to certain advantages. Naturally the coaches want it. But there are times when everyone wants too much.

How to Fix It

By HAROLD ARNETT



CLEAR SHELLAC PAINTED ON THE INDEX TABS OF DICTIONARIES AND SIMILAR BOOKS WILL MAKE THE TABS WASHABLE. IN ADDITION, THIS WILL MAKE THE TABS ALMOST WEARPROOF.

Inflation

Experience is a thing that keeps right on going up in price.

What Counts Turning over a new leaf doesn't count so much as the writing done on it.

Good Rule Keep your tires up and your speed down.

No Cash Value Self conceit is one of the things you can't get a mortgage on.



A FAMILY FAVORITE! JOLLY TIME POP CORN POPS SO MUCH! TASTES SO GOOD!

COLD DEMONS! CATCH BABS!

WHAT A TIME TO CATCH COLD! AFTER BILL FINALLY ASKED YOU FOR A DATE!

BILL MAY BE SKATING CHAMP! HERE'S A JOB FOR MENTHOLATUM! BOON!

MENTHOLATUM RELIEVED HER HEAD-COLD MISERY. ACHIEVE CHEST MUSCLES... COUGHING!

MENTHOLATUM SWELL FOR COLDS... CHAPPED SKIN... MANY USES!

WE'D MAKE A PERFECT TEAM!

THANKS, MENTHOLATUM!

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