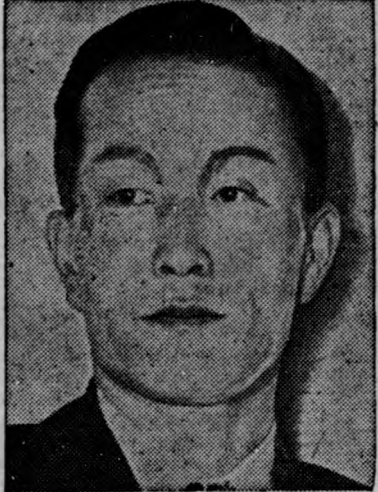


WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Atlantic Pact Called War-Breeder; Truman Decries Economic 'Gloom'; Committee Slashes Funds for ERP

Western Newspaper Union's news analysts and not necessarily of this newspaper. (EDITOR'S NOTE: When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of the writer.)



TOKYO ROSE TRIAL FIGURES . . . These figures gave the trial of Tokyo Rose, accused of treason, a new angle when Mark L. Streeter (left) declared that Shigetatsu Tsuneishi (shown at right) was guilty of war atrocities. Tsuneishi, a prosecution witness, assertedly commanded a prison camp on the outskirts of Tokyo where Streeter was a prisoner.

PEACE PACT:

Avenue to War?

As he did in the Taft-Hartley repeal fight, Sen. Robert Taft (R., Ohio) would lead the opposition to senate ratification of the Atlantic pact. That is the treaty in which America joins its western allies in an agreement that an attack upon any signatory is an attack upon all—and that a signatory nation may take any reprisal steps it deems fit.

IN HIS SPEECH to the senate, Taft declared the pact was "inextricably linked" to the rearming of Europe, insisted this would lead to an armament race and pointed out that "armament races lead to war."

Thus did a highly effective senator most coherently raise the question of whether the pact really means peace or war. Taft was not without support in his conception of the pact's potentialities. Five senators jumped to their feet to applaud his remarks, and some 12 or 15 senators were applauding at the end.

This was construed by some observers as indicating the extent of the opposition.

Taft was not wholly against the pact, despite his ringing denunciation. He asserted that, even now, he would be willing to change his mind if a reservation could be incorporated into ratification making plain that the treaty did not bind America to furnish arms.

Said Taft: "There is no question that the arms program and the treaty were negotiated together. There is no question in my mind that foreign nations which signed the treaty regarded the providing of arms as an essential part of it . . . if we ratify the pact and fail to furnish the military aid, I believe we will at once be accused of repudiation, and the pact will be completely discredited."

Wrong Job?

You may be happy in your work and pleased with your occupational niche, but the fellow at the desk or machine next to you may not be.

It is the opinion of Robert C. Woellner, Chicago university professor, that at least half of all adults definitely are misplaced, or could have been better placed if modern vocational methods had been available during their formative years.

Woellner attributes much of the present social unrest, high divorce rate, and high incidence of mental illness in the United States to the many unfortunate occupational choices of its workers.

U.S. ECONOMY:

Truman Concedes

While there was some measure of contradiction in concept, President Truman, in his message to congress on the economic state of the nation had conceded that recession forces were alive.

However, in a neat bit of linguistic maneuvering, he declared the current situation one in which the national economy was in orderly retreat from a serious inflation. At the same time, however paradoxical the warning might seem, he declared that there could be no "greater economic folly" than an attempt to balance the federal budget in a "declining national economy."

He highlighted the contradiction by adding that such a move would only aggravate the recession forces against which his new policy was directed.

OF CHIEF INTEREST in his report was his abandonment of an earlier plan to demand four billion dollars in additional taxes. He lightly dismissed this former policy with the statement: "No major increase in taxes should be undertaken at this time." Instead, he proposed liberalization of allowances for past losses in computing income taxes and increasing estate and gift taxes.

The President's obvious reversal of policy was held to be little less pronounced than the findings of his council of economic advisors on whose report the President's message was based. They found that since January the forces threatening stability had become predominantly deflationary and that the weakening of markets had become general.

KRUG:

A Denial

Drew Pearson was in hot water again. Generally accused of partial responsibility in the suicidal death of former defense secretary James Forrestal, the newspaper and radio columnist had reported the U. S. interior secretary Krug was very ill with "athlete's heart."

In a letter to Pearson, Krug's physician, Dr. R. Lyman Sexton, asserted Krug is completely well and able to do twice the work of the average person.

Wherever one stood on the propriety of Pearson's discussion of the health of top government officials, it would be remembered that several of his reports on the condition of Forrestal's health—originally denied by the navy—were later admitted.

ERP FUNDS:

Slash Voted

There appeared to be a change of sentiment regarding aid to Marshall plan countries. The senate appropriations committee had voted to slash 10 per cent from second-year funds asked for the activity.

The committee also tied up 50 million dollars of what was left in order to cut Spain in on the European recovery program should the administration see fit. The program would get something more than 3.75 billions. President Truman had asked approximately 4.20 billions. A committee member disclosed that one group within the membership had attempted to chop 19 per cent off the requested appropriation.

Chairman McKellar (D., Tenn.) estimated that the committee cut approximately 749 million dollars from President Truman's budget estimates for actual appropriations in foreign spending, which includes other programs besides the Marshall plan.

The sum voted for the Marshall plan would be spread over the 12 months ending June 30, 1950. This was nearly 210 million more than the house had voted—but the house bill would have permitted expenditure of the fund in 10½ months if necessary.

A committee aide explained to Washington newsmen that unless the loan is made to Spain, the withheld 50 million dollars could not be used for any other purpose.

RENT CONTROLS

Average 9,300 Units Being Freed Daily

According to recent dispatches out of Washington, rental dwellings have been coming off the control list at an average rate of 9,300 a day since the new rent law went into operation on April first.

Rent officials said, however, that few of the decontrol actions had affected any large metropolitan areas, and that some 14 million units still remained under the con-

REUTHER:

Still on Top

With red-thatched, fiery Walter Reuther still at the helm, the United Auto Workers union, numbering some million members, could be expected to hold firm in any demands made for wage increases or social benefits.

BRUSHING aside token opposition from UAW's left wing elements, Reuther was elected to a third term as UAW president by a top-heavy majority.

The voting which reflected Reuther was a new triumph for the right-wing forces in the union which catapulted him into office in 1946 and rewarded him with control of the other international offices and the board at the 1947 convention. His new term will expire in April, 1951.

UAW DELEGATES moved into the election of top officers after hearing Leon Keyserling, of President Truman's council of economic advisers, tell them that "as a general proposition the kind of wage policy which will help maintain full employment in this country, and which will maintain our economy on stable levels is one which adds to consumer purchasing power from year to year—because we have the capacity to produce more goods from year to year.

The auto workers union's big fight was with Ford motor company which, in opposing proposed wage rates, offered to peg wages at present levels for a given period, regardless of what cost-of-living developments brought about.

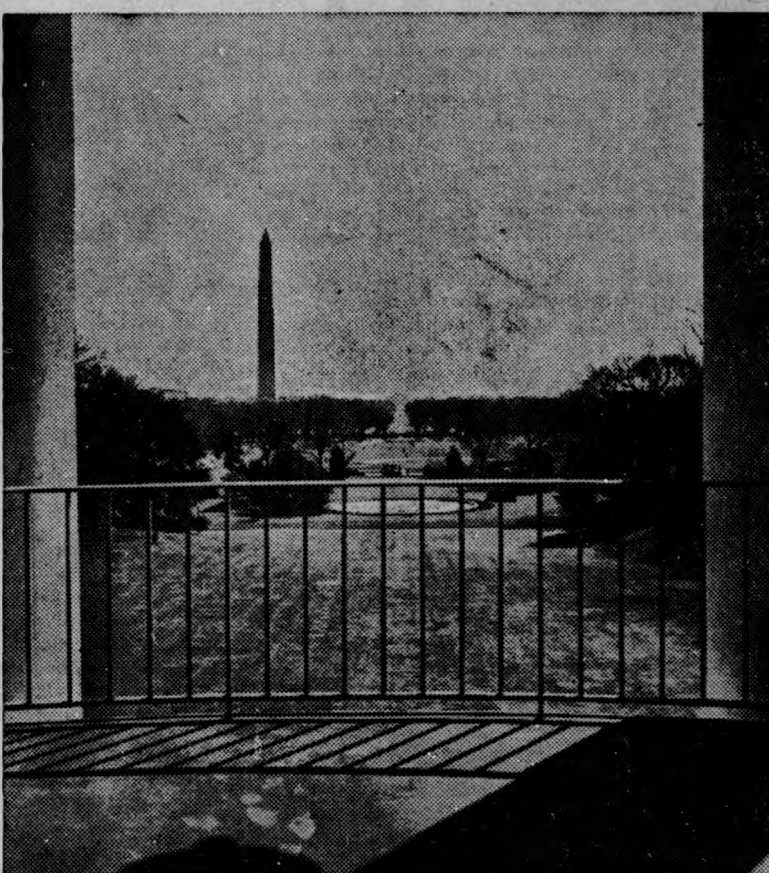
FORD contended the cost of living has gone down and there was no justification for pay raises, basing the argument on the UAW contract which called for pay hikes as the cost-of-living increased. Reuther opposed that line of reasoning, contending that the union's economists have proved, by a survey, that most industries can afford wage increases now.



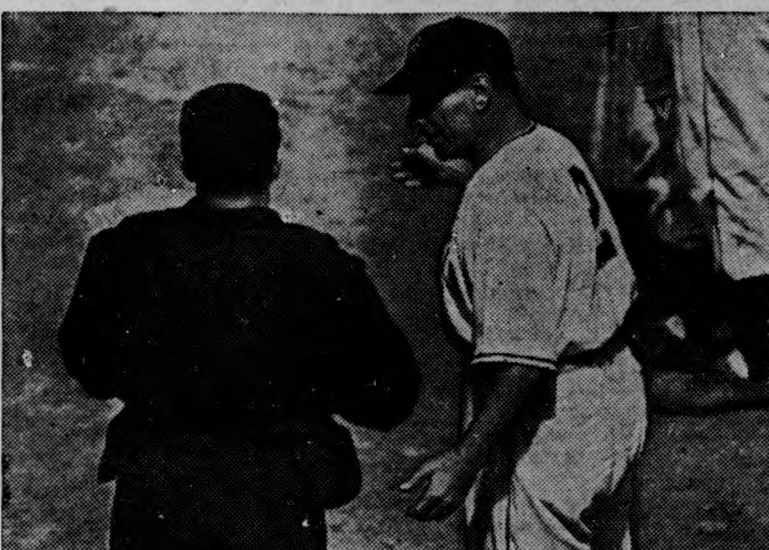
JEWISH DEAD COME HOME . . . A longing experienced all through life was realized by 200,000 Jewish victims of Nazi atrocities after death when their ashes arrived in Israel, their promised land, for burial. The ashes, taken from the common graves of Austrian Jews cremated in various concentration camps, were flown to Israel in 30 urns. Here is a view of the urns, contained in a casket, after arrival at Lydda airport, Jerusalem. Religious Jews from all over the city greeted the cortege and attended the burial.



"CONGRATULATIONS JOE" . . . New York Yankee pitcher Vic Raschi (left) and Yankee catcher Yogi Berra (right) are praising outfielder Joe DiMaggio, off the sick list and going strong. Joe, who missed the first 65 games the Yankees played this season on account of a heel ailment, returned to the lineup and smacked five home runs in four days to lead the Yanks in a winning streak. To top it all, he was named for the all-star game.



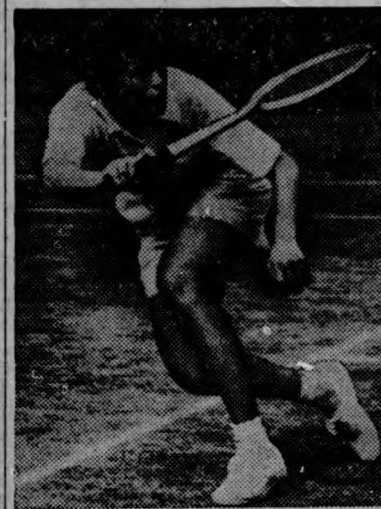
BALCONY PANORAMA . . . The new balcony on the south side of the White House in Washington now is completed and here is what Mr. and Mrs. President will see as they enjoy the evening breezes on the new appendage to the executive mansion. The graceful Washington monument, a slender finger pointing to the sky, dominates the vista.



A SLIP . . . AND THE "LIP" . . . Disputing a slip of the tongue by Umpire Conlon is New York Giant manager, Leo (the Lip) Durocher, striking a natural pose at a Giant-Cub fracas at the Polo Grounds in New York. Lippy was right. The ump called two balls and a strike on batter Johnny Mize when it should have been three and one. Back on the diamond after five-day's suspension for saying the wrong thing to umpire in Chicago, Durocher is even lippier than ever.



DISSATISFIED . . . Myra Smith, 16-year-old orphan, has filed suit at Wichita, Kas., to change her guardian after charging her present guardian with refusal to allow her to accept music scholarships and other honors and a chance to go to the national camp at Interlochen, Mich.



INTENT . . . Ready for her opponent's service, Mrs. Patricia Todd of La Jolla, Calif., is shown as she advanced to the semi-finals in the Wimbledon (England) tennis championships.



PRETTY COMPETITOR . . . Miss Jacque Mercer, 19, Phoenix college sophomore, named "Miss Phoenix of 1949," will compete for title of "Miss Arizona" and the right to represent the state in the "Miss America" pageant of beauty at Atlantic City, N. J.



TEXAS "GAVELIER" . . . House speaker Sam Rayburn (D., Tex.), calls the house to order as the lower chamber meets in the house ways and means committee room, temporary quarters while the regular chamber was re-roofed and repaired.



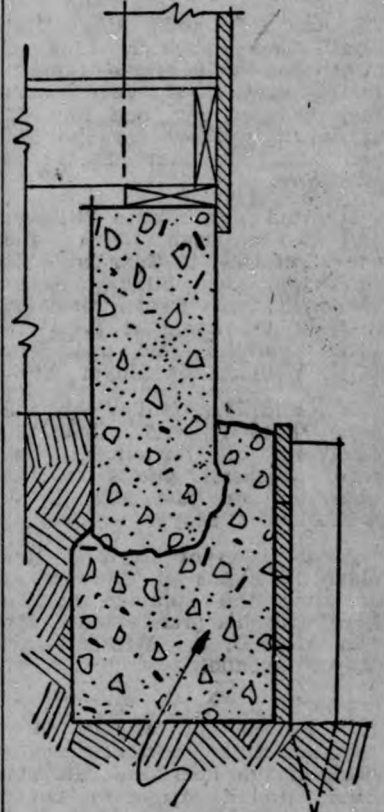
EASE . . . While his Oxonian dad, Malcolm McLane, watches the boat races at Henley, England, six-months-old Robin McLane, reposes on the ground on the greensward and lazily counts his fingers. "Who cares who wins?"



Building Repairs Urged Immediately

Delay Adds Cost, Extends Damages

An unusually severe winter has taken a heavy toll of farm buildings. Winds and snows have torn at roofs. Spring thaws have washed out and weakened foundations. Buildings have settled. Agricultural engineers point out that repairs should be made quickly.



FILL WITH 1:2:5 CONCRETE

To support an undermined foundation, jack up the sill and dig out under the foundation. Fill the excavated area against the wood form with concrete (1 part cement, 2 parts sand, and 5 parts coarse aggregate.)

To delay will only extend the damage and add to the cost of restoring buildings to a sound condition.

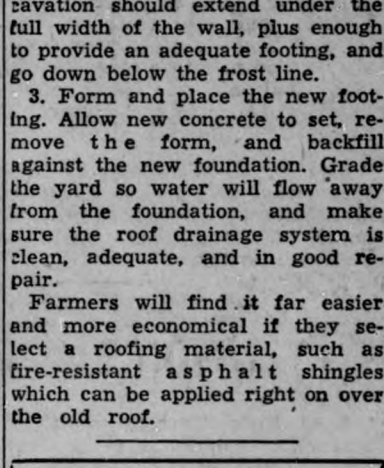
When the foundation does not extend below the frost line, or has been undermined:—

1. Use jacks under the sill every 10 feet and square up the building.
2. Excavate 10 or 12 foot sections at 10 or 12 foot intervals. The excavation should extend under the full width of the wall, plus enough to provide an adequate footing, and go down below the frost line.
3. Form and place the new footing. Allow new concrete to set, remove the form, and backfill against the new foundation. Grade the yard so water will flow away from the foundation, and make sure the roof drainage system is clean, adequate, and in good repair.

Farmers will find it far easier and more economical if they select a roofing material, such as fire-resistant asphalt shingles which can be applied right on over the old roof.

Mighty Mite

The mighty mite weighs four tons and takes stone up to 12 inches in size. It operates with whirling impellers which catch incoming stone and keep the pieces smashing against breaker bars until they are the right size desired. The impellers in the machine weigh a half-ton each.



Poultry Flock Care Calls for Sanitation

Good care of the poultry flock calls for sanitation, declares John Weeks, of the Auburn polytechnic institute extension service poultry division. He says it is the best way to prevent poultry diseases.

Another important thing to remember, he points out, is that the amount of heat required depends upon kind of house, kind of brooder, and age of chicks. Chicks should be kept comfortable.



Lobby Gadget

LATEST GADGET The American Medical association lobby is using in the pressure campaign against federal health insurance is a post card, distributed from doctors' offices, which threatens vote retaliations against members of congress who support the health program.

The card reads: "As for myself and family, which consists of — votes, we are unalterably opposed to compulsory health insurance or any other legislation which tends to regiment our population and socialize our government."

The sender fills in the blank with the number of votes in his family. Sen. Claude Pepper of Florida, a leading sponsor of health insurance, reports he has received hundreds of the stereotyped cards. Some also have been mailed to President Truman.

One sender, whose wife recently underwent an operation, wrote Pepper that he was "compelled" by the doctor performing the operation to fill out and sign the card. Another reported that he feared he would "antagonize my doctor and nurse" if he didn't comply with their wishes.

Old Soldiers

Five hundred forgotten soldiers, who survived past wars but are victims of old age, are waiting to get into the National Soldiers' Home at Washington, D.C.

But there's no room.

Those on the inside would like to make room by building new quarters. They have plenty of money—\$3 million dollars, every cent contributed through the years by enlisted men. But the money is held in trust by the treasury department, and the ex-soldier, can't get it out without an act of congress.

Though this money belongs to the soldiers and not the taxpayers, the budget bureau has turned down a request to release 16 million 700,000 dollars to expand the soldiers' home.

The bureau's recommendation has influenced congress to refuse use of the funds—despite the fact that the soldiers' home hasn't been expanded since 1911.

Meanwhile, the waiting list of aged, lonely ex-soldiers is growing longer.

Threat to Airlift

The public was never told how the Bendix strike at South Bend, Ind., involving fewer than 6,000 workers, came closer to grounding the Berlin airlift than the Russians ever did. That was the reason the air force urgently summoned both sides to the Pentagon last week to settle the strike at a dramatic, all-night session.

Here, for the first time, is the inside story:

After negotiations broke down at South Bend, Secretary of the Air Force Stuart Symington personally invited Bendix-boss Malcolm Ferguson to Washington. Simultaneously he sent an air force plane to Detroit to pick up Walter Reuther, chief of the United Auto Workers.

The two men were brought in to see Symington separately. The secretary of the air force warned both that plane production would be crippled, the Berlin lift forced down for lack of key parts if the strike continued.

It was Reuther who suggested they sit down on the spot and settle the strike.

"With all this talent from both labor and management," he declared, "if we can't settle this strike, then it just plain can't be settled. And I'm willing to sweat it out."

Ferguson was brought in, and the two men met face to face.

"I am convinced that by using the democratic processes," Reuther offered, "we can settle this strike, and by doing it in that way, we will enable the air force to continue to defend the democratic processes we are using."

Ferguson promptly agreed.

Assistant Secretary of Labor John Gibson also was called in, offered to serve as arbitrator.

For several hours the two sides haggled behind closed doors, took time out only for quick snacks. Symington kept a Pentagon kitchen open all night to accommodate them.

By 3 A.M. the negotiators were still deadlocked. Finally Reuther blurted out: "The thing that bewilders me is how a situation that has dragged out 10 weeks and should have been settled at the outset, yet has been handled with good faith and good will and intelligence, could have gotten so 'snarled' up as it is tonight."

Reuther used one word that caused the tense, solemn group to burst into laughter. This broke the ice and started the negotiators on the road to settlement.