



BLASTED PLANT—This is a view of the Swift & Co. plant in Sioux City, Iowa, partially demolished by a terrific explosion. Fire Chief Charles Kuhl said the explosion was caused by natural gas. (AP Wirephoto).

Three Missing As 16 Perish In Plant Explosion

SIoux CITY, Ia., Dec. 15. (AP)—Amid a scene of ruin "just like the place had been bombed," workmen and machines today dug through rubble where at least 16 persons perished in a violent explosion yesterday.

As sorrowing families of the 16 identified dead went about funeral preparations the search at the Swift & Co. packing plant continued for three persons still missing.

Nine of some 90 other persons injured remained in critical condition at hospitals.

Leaking gas which hampered search operations was stopped last night.

Workers who labored throughout the night under floodlights used blow torches to melt away twisted girders.

The searchers were able to discard their gas masks after ammonia fumes from the plant's shattered refrigeration system were cut off at their source.

The blast rocked the building shortly before the noon hour yesterday. There were about 1,000 persons in the building.

The front end of the building was hit hardest. The first and second floors which housed the office staff and company restaurant got the brunt of the blast.

There was an almost warlike atmosphere today as trucks and bulldozers moved ahead on the slow job of removing the debris. A veteran of the European front in World War II said he had seen lots of bombed out buildings "but never anything as bad as this."

National Guardsmen still paroled the area around the plant. It is located in the heart of the Sioux City stockyards, one of the nation's major terminal markets.

The explosion was the second worst in Sioux City's history. The worst was the collapse and burning of the Roff Drug store in 1918. Police Chief Charles Kuhl recalled today 39 persons were killed and nearly 100 injured in the 1918 drugstore fire.

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Nation's Cotton Farmers Ballot In Referendum

U. S. Economy May Be Hard Hit If Controls Rejected

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15. (AP)—Cotton farmers decide today whether they want to go back to pre-war production controls to prevent accumulation of an unmarketable surplus of their crop.

Their decision—to be made by ballot in a 25-state referendum—held possible disturbing consequences for the nation's economy.

Rejection of controls proposed by the Agriculture Department could set off a selling wave in the agricultural commodities futures markets. This could bring about price declines that would seriously affect farm buying power.

Failure to approve controls would all but pull a vital prop from under the price of cotton. Crop control law directs that government price supports for cotton be cut from the current rate of 90 per cent of parity to 50 per cent if growers turn down controls. Cotton is down to the support level.

Parity is a legal standard for measuring farm prices, designed to be fair equally to farmers and those who buy his products. In other words, the 1950 crop would be supported at about 15 cents a pound compared with the 1949 crop support of about 28 cents. But this reduction would be reflected immediately in markets where cotton is sold for future delivery.

Any sharp downturn in cotton could be expected to spread to other major commodities, partly because of the implication that farmers as a whole are not in favor of production controls.

Cotton Farmers Vote Here Today

Persons actively interested in cotton production were balloting today on cotton marketing quotas for 1950.

Polls at the PMA office in the old city hall building—opened at 8 a. m. and were to close at 7 p. m.

The voting is on quotas exclusively, and if approved by a two-thirds majority 90 percent parity will ensue for production on all farms that comply with the program.

The county's allotment is 87,927 acres, 86,724 of which have been distributed, with 1,203 reserved for new producers and other adjustments which may be required.

Persons eligible to vote in the election include landlords, tenants and sharecroppers and their respective wives.

City Fire Laddies Need Toy Wheels To Repair Playthings

Local firemen have issued a request for toy wagon and tricycle wheels, needed to complete the repair playthings for distribution to underprivileged Big Spring children Christmas.

The firemen have already combed wagons and tricycles that are in good condition except for wheels. Capt. D. A. Meador said. He asked that residents leave unused and unwanted toys at one of the two fire stations here.

If firemen can't repair the playthings, they may be able to secure parts from them for the repair of others, he said.

The firemen have already completed repairs on several hundred toys that will be distributed here Christmas by the Salvation Army and with Christmas baskets prepared by the Fire department. Additional toys of all kinds are still needed.

Fire department personnel will complete repairs on all toys brought in before giving them new coats of paint in time for Christmas distribution.

City Stores To Close Dec. 26 and Jan. 2

Official closing days for Big Spring businesses during the coming holiday season will be Monday, Dec. 26, and Monday, Jan. 2, chamber of commerce officials have announced.

Decision to observe the Mondays following the two holidays was reached at a meeting of merchants with the Retail Trade committee of the chamber last spring. Practically all places of business are expected to be closed.

Deathless Days 736 In Big Spring Traffic

At any rate, the owner's attorneys argued, the house next door, "all hands admit, had nothing to do with the Star Spangled Banner."

11 Transients Perish In Farmhouse Fire

Kerosene Stove May Have Caused Blaze

ROTAN, Dec. 15. (AP)—Eleven transient farm workers—all members of one family—burned to death near here today when fire destroyed their small home at the edge of a cotton field.

The blackened remains of the four-room home on the C. A. Douthitt Farm, eight miles northeast of this West Texas town, were found at 9 o'clock this morning.

Two hours later, 11 skeletons were counted in the charred ruins.

The dead included three generations. Six were children. One of the five adults was a 14-year-old girl, married and pregnant.

The position of the skeletons showed the victims died in their sleep, huddled together on the floors of two bedrooms.

Officers said the cause of the fire was unknown but that evidence pointed to a two-burner kerosene cookstove. The stove was in a "damaged condition," they said.

The dead: Basilio Perez, 75. His son and daughter-in-law, Manuel Perez, 36 and Mrs. Manuel Perez, 40.

The daughter and son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Manuel Perez; Alfredo Castillo, 21, and his 14-year-old wife. Officers said she was pregnant.

Other children of Mr. and Mrs. Manuel Perez: Juanita, 12; Victoria, 10; Monse, 8; Jesus, 6; Manuela, 2; and a baby girl about one-year-old whose name was not known.

The victims were identified by other transient laborers who were working on the farm. While officers investigated workers went about their business of picking cotton nearby.

Pastilo Perez and his family had begun picking cotton only yesterday on the Douthitt Farm. They arrived here from a Brownfield job. Their home was believed to be at Mercedes on the Texas-Mexican border.

Contributions to the Salvation Army Christmas funds campaign totalled \$294.46 Wednesday night, Capt. James A. Harrison, SA officer in charge, reported.

The Salvation Army is conducting the drive for funds to aid local needy through letters of appeal and kettles and wishing well stands on downtown streets. Some 500 letters of appeal have been mailed. SA workers operate booths downtown each day.

The organization has a list of 195 needy Big Spring residents to aid during Christmas, Capt. Harrison stated. The list is expected to grow as the holiday season approaches.

In addition to cash contributions to the Christmas fund, the Salvation Army received approximately \$100 worth of new toys from the Westex Oil company Toys now being repaired by Big Spring firemen will also be distributed to underprivileged children by the organization.

The distribution of toys will begin Dec. 23, Capt. Harrison said, and will probably be continued through most of the night. Baskets of food, clothing, and toys will be taken to needy homes Christmas Eve.

Salvation Army personnel expect to work most of the night before Christmas and on into Christmas day in the distribution of baskets, the officer declared.

DETROIT, Dec. 15. (AP)—Wild gas exploding in flaming fury wrecked five stores and injured six persons here last night.

Quick warnings before the barrage-like blasts let go, police said, saved many lives.

Four firemen, a policeman, and a store employe were hurt.

The explosions shook Northwest Detroit for three miles around a business neighborhood at Wyoming and Schoolcraft Ave.

The Michigan Consolidated Gas Co. said gas from a high pressure main got out of control as a crew of four company employes were installing a regulator on a line leading into one market.

Gas shot into the building. The gas company workers fled, sounded a warning, turned in a fire alarm and called for an emergency crew. A company spokesman said it had not been determined how the gas was ignited but a small spark was all it took.



BURNED SEAMAN BROUGHT TO SHORE—Ewald Biel, in stretcher, is transferred from the Coast Guard plane to a crash boat in Miami, Florida, to be rushed to a hospital. Biel was badly burned in the fire on the Dutch motorship Doros off the coast of Florida last night. Eight survivors of 24 on the Doros were brought ashore. Seven were walking cases. (AP Wirephoto).

Wartime Excise Tax Repeal Is Possible

KEY WEST, Fla., Dec. 15. (AP)—President Truman said today that treasury and congressional staff experts are making studies to determine whether war-time excise taxes can be repealed.

In a surprise vacation news conference, the President declined to say whether he will ask new taxes of Congress.

However, he said it was always his aim to balance the budget. Reminded that he had told a news conference in Washington recently that he knew of no way to wipe out a deficit other than by raising taxes, he was asked if he still felt that way.

He said the whole matter was under consideration by a treasury committee of experts and by staff experts for the House Ways and Means Committee. He said they were working harmoniously.

Walking into the press room on the Navy's bachelor officers quarters here, the President suddenly went into a press conference on which he gave no advance warning. Some of the reporters were in their pajamas.

A recent statement by Secretary of Commerce Sawyer suggesting elimination of war-time excise taxes to aid business was called to his attention. Asked if he agreed with Sawyer's proposal, he said the question was under consideration by the experts.

The matter will be covered in the budget message, he said.

There was no doubt about it—Big Spring and Howard county today had a bona fide killing frost.

Clearing skies brought unexpectedly low readings, and the weather bureau, which hastily had revised minimum forecasts late Wednesday, reported a bottom figure of 21 degrees.

The thermometer sank to this level at 4:30 a. m. and rose only to sink again to 21 at 7:30 a. m. It was easily a new low for the season.

Earlier in the week 30-degree readings were reported matching the early "frost" on Oct. 31 when some crops and vegetables were nipped. November, however, had produced no freezing temperature.

As a result, many cotton fields were still foliated. The cold blast today, however, took care of that.

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 15. — Senate investigators called a temporary halt in their probe of the high cost of coffee today with words that "the sky-rocketing of prices has stopped."

Sen. Gillette (D-Iowa) told that to reporters yesterday as he suspended public hearings until Congress meets again early in January.

The senator called attention to Washington grocery advertisements of brand coffee at 56 cents a pound that had been selling for 84 cents. But he held out slight hope for immediate return of "the nickel cup of Java."

Two government officials brought Gillette's Senate agriculture subcommittee some encouraging news about coffee supplies at the final hearing.

Philip M. Hauser, acting director of the census, said a spot check of coffee stocks conducted at the senator's request indicated supplies on hand at the start of this month were about the same as last year.

John K. Havermeyer reported that a state department check through U. S. embassies in Latin America indicates that coffee exports for the next season will be at least as large as those for the present year.

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Historic Banner May Have Been Made In A Brewery

ANNAPOLIS, Md., Dec. 15. (AP)—Was the Star Spangled Banner made in a brewery?

Maryland's court of appeals heard this version of history yesterday in a dispute over the Star Spangled Banner flag house in Baltimore.

It was there that Mary Pickersgill made the flag that flew over Fort Mifflin in 1813 and inspired Francis Scott Key's national anthem, historians generally believe.

She completed the huge banner in the roomier confines of a nearby brewery, argued lawyers for one side in a lawsuit.

This was denied by the Star Spangled Banner Flag House

Assoc., which said the flag was completed in a warehouse.

The state's highest court heard arguments in a condemnation suit by which the city of Baltimore seeks to take over a three-story red-brick rooming house next door to the flag house, now operated by the association as a public shrine.

The property would be converted into office space for the flag association as part of a plan to create a memorial square as "an inspiration" to patriotism.

"Into dates and history will be instilled a soul," said City Solicitor Thomas N. Biddison.

Attorneys for Annis Flacconio, owner of the rooming house, said the city has no right to take over

the property.

Attorneys Hyman Ginsberg and Louis R. Milio cast doubt on the history of the flag house itself by stating it was "supposedly" the house where Mary Pickersgill made the flag which "is reputed" to have inspired Key.

They quoted a Maryland guidebook as stating that the flag was finished in a brewery.

Ginsberg and Milio gave the size of the banner as 42 by 30 feet. Biddison said it was 29 by 26 feet. All agreed it had 15 stripes and 13 stars.

At any rate, the owner's attorneys argued, the house next door, "all hands admit, had nothing to do with the Star Spangled Banner."



Ingrid Meets 'Difficulties' In Job Of Getting Divorce

NEW YORK, Dec. 15. (AP)—The New York Times in a Rome dispatch today said Film Star Ingrid Bergman had told its correspondent "some difficulties" had prevented her getting a divorce from Dr. Peter Lindstrom.

Times Correspondent Camille M. Claiborne wrote that Miss Bergman told him she planned to marry Italian Film Director Roberto Rossellini as soon as she is free, having decided "to give up my actor's career because I now want to live my own life just as any other woman."

Claiborne said he interviewed Miss Bergman and Rossellini in her apartment in Rome. The couple's romance began last spring when Rossellini directed the Swedish actress in the film "Stromboli," made on a bleak, volcanic island off Italy's west coast.

According to the Times dispatch, Rossellini said Miss Bergman "explained things quite clearly" to Dr. Lindstrom when they met in Mexico last May, at a time when the Bergman-Rossellini romance was making headlines around the world.

"I want to make it clear," the Times account of Rossellini's remarks continued, "that at that time the relationship between Ingrid and myself was absolutely correct. It is not our fault, it is, if we cannot get married because Ingrid has been unable so far to obtain a divorce."

Concerning published reports that Miss Bergman is going to have a baby in February, the Times quoted Rossellini as saying: "Whether she is or is not is nobody's affair. I think that report deserves neither denial nor confirmation because it is an attempt to pry into the private life of a woman who, to assert her right to her own life, has given up her career—which is what an artist regards as the most important thing in life. Isn't that enough?"

"By making that decision hasn't Ingrid as good as said to both her admirers and detractors: 'Look, I've fallen in love with a man who is not my husband. As an artist I have a certain responsibility toward the public and I may be criticized. All right. If that's the case, I no longer want to be an artist. I want to be a happy wife with the man I love.'"

Miss Bergman said she "repeatedly" had asked her husband for a divorce since last April. Rossellini told the Times correspondent he was sure Miss Bergman and he "would have been spared all the criticism which has been poured on us" had Lindstrom granted his wife's request for a divorce last spring.

Rossellini told the Times correspondent that if Miss Bergman could not obtain a divorce in the United States, she would sever her marriage ties in a European court.

"I know," he was quoted as saying, "that some of the divorces granted on this continent are not recognized in America, but they are recognized in many European countries. If that's the best we can do, that's the best we can do—"

Israel Premier Says New State Standing Alone

JERUSALEM, Dec. 15. (AP)—Israel's defiance of United Nations plan to internationalize Jerusalem has aligned the young Hebrew state "against the whole world," Israeli Premier David Ben-Gurion said last night.

The premier moved his ministry to the Jewish-occupied section of Jerusalem last night. It was the last of seven government departments to transfer to be made from Tel Aviv in a tactic in which Ben-Gurion so far has avoided outright proclamation of the Holy City as Israel's political capital.

Only the ministries of foreign affairs and defense remained in Tel Aviv, to avoid any issue if some foreign ambassadors should refuse to move to Jerusalem.

Accepting the freedom of the city from Jerusalem's Mayor Daniel Auster, Ben-Gurion last night said his nation had "entered upon the greatest political struggle in the history of our people."

"It has only just begun he declared. 'Who knows how it will end

least for the time being."

Rossellini refused to explain the "difficulties" Miss Bergman said had developed in the divorce negotiations with her husband. The Times correspondent said friends of the couple told him Lindstrom had refused to give his wife a divorce because he thought her romance with Rossellini "was only a passing fancy and not real love" and he wanted Miss Bergman to come back to him.

But first, this source told the Times, "he wanted her to finish the picture 'Stromboli' because otherwise many people might lose their jobs." Since then Bergman has been writing to him, confirming her decision to marry Rossellini.

how great the price we may have to pay? Our only weapon is historic justice. It is the same justice on which we have relied throughout the years."

As the Jewish Government commenced operations in the shadow of the old walled city occupied by Hashemite Jordan's Arab troops, Jerusalem's residents appeared to take for granted the government's move here. Most of them always had regarded Tel Aviv as only a temporary capital.

In London, too, a British foreign office spokesman said the transfer "does not surprise" the British Government. But, he said, "we regret that Israel, which is a member of the United Nations, should have thought fit to flout its authority."

Britain and the United States had voted with Israel in the UN Assembly against the international regime for Jerusalem.

Freight Derailed

SWEETWATER, Dec. 15. (AP)—Thirty-seven cars of a Santa Fe freight train were derailed last night near Justiceburg, in Garza County. Today traffic on the Santa Fe main line was still tied up. Trains temporarily stalled here included a Houston - to - California streamliner.

Testimony In Hoskins Murder Trial Resumes

AMARILLO, Dec. 15. (AP)—State testimony was to resume today in the murder trial of Dwight Hoskins, 24. He is accused in the fatal shooting of Charles Lee Freeman, 21, who died before he could name his attacker.

Freeman, a physically handicapped youth, was shot to death last Oct. 8 when two men robbed Wornie Kelley's filling station here.

Kelley testified yesterday he hurried to the station when Freeman didn't answer the telephone. He found Freeman lying in the station office.

"I got a pillow and put it under his head and asked him what was the matter," Kelley said. "He said, 'Wornie, I've been shot,' but he died before he could say who did it."

Kelley, first of about 20 state witnesses, said Freeman's pockets were turned inside out and \$3.11 was missing from the cash register.

Hoskins and Pvt. Donald Gene Young, 21, were arrested a few days later. Both were charged with murder. They are being held in jail without bond.

Italian State Employees Strike

ROME, Dec. 15. (AP)—Italian state employees went on 24-hour strike today for higher pay.

The government employs more than a million workers, but it was not known in the strike's early hours how many stayed off the job. Anti-Communist and Communist union leaders handed together in ordering the strike.

A spokesman for the Communist-dominated General Confederation of Labor (CGIL) said it was too early to comment on the strike's effectiveness.

"Inasmuch as all confederations (unions) are compact in this strike," he said, "however, it can be assumed that it will be 98 to 100 per cent effective."

The world's largest crab is the giant spider crab of Japan, which sometimes measures 11 feet from tip to tip.

Fletcher Leads Hawk Scorers

Howard County Junior college's basketball team, winner in three of five games played to date, has maintained a 58-point scoring average, according to figures compiled by Coach Harold Davis.

The opposition has averaged 46 points.

Bill Fletcher has made a brilliant start in his bid to establish a new scoring record for HCJC. The one-time Dallas prep star has scored a total of 81 points in five starts for a healthy 16-point average. Fletcher had connected for 37 field goals and made good on seven of 18 free tosses for his average.

Delmer Turner isn't too far off the pace with 57 points and an 11-point average. Melvin Norris has registered 37 points, Louis Stallings 48, Cain Grigsby 30, B. B. Lee and Leon Blair 14 each, Frank Dunn six, Paul Deatherage five and Ernest Potter two.

In all, the Hawks have tallied a total of 288 points, compared to 224 for the foe.

The Big Springers will get a chance to up their totals this week-end when they take part in the annual Ranger Invitational tournament.

BIG MACHINE HIDES AWAY

SALEM, N. H., Dec. 15. (AP)—The mystery of the missing bulldozer is solved.

It wasn't missing at all—it was hiding.

Contractor Paul Garabedian left the \$14,000 machine at a building site Monday night.

Warm, rainy weather caused the frozen ground to thaw. The next day the bulldozer was gone.

A long search ended last night when someone spied the machine's tall exhaust pipe sticking out of an eight-foot puddle.

A twelve-man crew using three pumps and a tractor pulled the bulldozer out.

Beaumont Seaman Gets Life Sentence

BEAUMONT, Dec. 15. (AP)—Louis F. Bertrand, 25, was found guilty last night of murder in the fatal shooting last Nov. 13 of Homer Clifford Egerly, 28, Port Acres carpenter.

The Port Arthur seaman drew a sentence of life imprisonment. A district court jury returned its verdict at 8:30 o'clock, three hours after it received the case his attorneys said they would appeal.

Bertrand had testified he shot Egerly in self-defense.

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From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

New Hospitals Are "Banks," Tool

Doc Simpson was saying, "Hospitals are building up 'bone banks' that work just like blood banks. When bone is needed, the surgeon takes one from a refrigerator, cuts it to the right shape and simply splices it in."

"You doctors are sure making progress," I says, "but tell me, are any of the patients fuzzy about whose bone they're getting?"

"No sir," replies Doc. "No more than they worry about whose blood they get. No one yet asked for a bone from a man who went to the same school or church he did."

From where I sit, it would be a better world if we were half as willing to accept other people's ideas and tastes, as we seem to be willing to accept their bone and blood. There'll always be differences. Some like buttermilk, others would rather have a sparkling glass of temperate beer. But underneath we're pretty much the same—desiring each other's respect and tolerance!

Joe Marsh

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Shop Penney's Pre-Christmas

CLEAN-UP

GIFTS GALORE AT BETTER-THAN-EVER SAVINGS

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● Chambray ● Broadcloth
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In all sizes with many colors and styles to choose from.

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Seersucker \$1.00
Reduced 2yds.

ALL WOOL MATERIALS

Solids and Plaids \$1.00
Sew and Save, yd.

MEN'S DRESS PANTS

REDUCED
Wool and Rayon
Gabardine
Tan, Brown and Blue

6.00

BETTER DRESSES

Reduced

8.00

● Taffeta ● Crepe ● Velvetton.

A large group of our better dresses reduced to this low price.

Boys' Corduroy Jackets

Zipper Front \$5.00
Full Lined

Boys' Corduroy Coats

Button Front \$8.00
Full Lined

Men's White Dress Shirts

Size 16½ and 17 \$2.00
Reduced

Men's Dress Socks

In Rayon or Cotton \$39¢

DRESSER SETS... \$2.98

LARGE BOX SOAP

12 to Box... WRISLEY 75¢

Cotton House DRESSES

Reduced \$2.00

50 of These to Choose From. Sizes 9 to 18.

It's Oh, So Easy to Buy!

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As Little As

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THE FINEST SILVERPLATE

5 Brilliant Patterns That Are Oh, So Easy to Love!

Inspired artistic fashions every deeply carved pattern... makes "Community" America's choice for the "smartest set" of tables. Their loveliness yours "For Keeps" with extra reinforcement of solid silver at table touch point.

MORNING STAR
LADY HAMILTON
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Beautiful
"VOGUE"
ANTI-TARNISH
CHEST INCLUDED
at NO EXTRA COST.

52-PIECE SERVICE FOR EIGHT

In the Smart VOGUE Chest

\$69.75

Set includes: 16 Teaspoons, 8 Oval Soup Spoons, 8 Knives, 8 Forks, 8 Sided Forks, 8 Serving Spoons, 1 Butter Knife, 1 Sugar Spoon.

Guarantee

To replace or refund of any time any piece of this ware bearing our trade mark COMMUNITY! Not done yet also completely satisfactory service.

DIAMOND IMPORTERS
ZALE'S
Jewelers
PHONE 40

Truman Silent As To Capt. Burke's Future

KEY WEST, Fla., Dec. 15 (AP)—President Truman's staff turned aside today all inquiries as to the future of Capt. Arleigh A. Burke. Presidential Press Secretary Charles G. Ross said the chief executive has taken "no action" on a Navy selection board's recommendations for promotion from captain to rear admiral.

Ross would not discuss specifically a recent New York Herald-Tribune story that recommendations for promotion have been held up and that Burke's name has been excluded, upon White House instructions, from an original promotion list submitted to the White

House around Thanksgiving. Captain Burke was an outstanding figure in the war in the Pacific. The press secretary told reporters that Mr. Truman has an "extremely confidential" list upon which he has taken no action.

Meanwhile, it was disclosed that the President has asked that, wherever possible, men with families be exempted from accompanying him on his Christmas holiday trip to Independence, Mo., Dec. 23. He returns to Washington Dec. 30.

Secret service and transportation executives have been instructed to confine the necessary security force to bachelors and men without children, insofar as this is possible.

The President accepted a portrait of George Washington in memory of a hero of World War II. The acceptance was announced on the 150th anniversary of the death of the first President.

The portrait of Washington, by Gilbert Stuart (1755-1828), was painted for Robert Barry of Baltimore. It was offered the White House by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Shipman Payson of New York City in memory of their son, Daniel Carroll Payson, who died in action.

The President said it will hang in one of the state rooms when renovation of the White House is completed.

Britain Seeks U. S. Help In Aid Program

LONDON, Dec. 15 (AP)—Britain is pressing the United States and Canada to help launch a giant new aid program for the Middle East and southern Asia, a responsible British source reported today. He said the idea has come up "in the most general terms" at top-secret, three-power talks now going on in Washington.

The three-fold aim of such a project was said to be:

1. To save these strategic, potentially rich regions from the spread of Communism.
 2. To help western Europe—mainly Britain—close its debit gap between dollar buying and dollar spending.
 3. To take off Britain some of the load she claims she's carrying in paying off the wartime sterling debts, accumulated by countries like India, Pakistan, Egypt and Iraq.
- The source stressed the Washington talks are still in an exploratory stage. No full-scale, formal British plan has been handed yet to the U. S. or Canada.

Japan Hoping for Early Peace Treaty

TOKYO, Dec. 15 (AP)—Emperor Hirohito told the diet (parliament) at its opening session today that Japan now can hope it soon will be admitted into the international community of nations.

His reference to hopes for an early peace treaty were contained in a brief message which he read at a joint session in the upper house. The diet is embarking on its seventh regular session since the end of the war.

The emperor urged the lawmakers to complete as early as possible the establishment of a democratic and peaceful country.

Tired Kidneys Often Bring Sleepless Nights

When disorder of kidney function permits poisonous matter to remain in your blood, it may cause aching backache, rheumatic pains, leg pains, loss of pep and energy, getting up nights, swelling, puffiness under the eyes, headaches and dizziness. Frequent or scanty passages with a burning and stinging sensation shows there is something wrong with your kidneys of bladder.

Don't wait! Ask your druggist for Doan's Pills, a stimulant diuretic, used successfully by millions for over 50 years. Doan's give happy relief and will help the 15 miles of kidney tubes flush out poisonous waste from your blood. Get Doan's Pills.

Religious Rites
of all faiths faithfully observed.

Eberley
FUNERAL HOME
1511 Scurry - Phone 2304 - Big Spring

HONEYMOON IS BELATED

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 15 (AP)—A 71-year-old woman was honeymooning today with the man she walked out on almost a half century ago.

Martha Marie Ballard and Noah Paddack were married last night. He is 71 also.

Forty nine years ago Miss Ballard left her home the night before she was to marry Paddack. She went to Denver and got a job. Paddack didn't see her again until 1938 when she returned to Kansas City. Last August they patched up differences and then decided to get married.

"It was a misunderstanding," Paddack said yesterday. "I understand and don't hold it against her. We both have more sense now."

Arthritis Patients Unhurt by Cortisone

CHICAGO, Dec. 15 (AP)—Arthritis patients will suffer no lasting ill effects from treatment with the new hormone Cortisone, says the Arthritis and Rheumatism Foundation.

The foundation's medical advisory committee, in answer to what it said were "recent reports of unfavorable and even dangerous results from use of the drug," said in a statement:

"Once the new drugs become available in sufficient amounts, there is no known reason for withholding them from any arthritis patient because of dangers associated with their administration."

The foundation's conclusions were reached, the statement said, from "published and verbal reports and unpublished observation of the qualified medical and research scientists who have worked extensively with the new drugs in recognized research centers in Chicago."

Elephant Remembers Former Circus Man

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP)—Elephants have long memories — for Richard Pokrass, anyway.

"Why," said Mrs. Pokrass, "one time Richard took me to a circus in Richmond and an elephant reached right out and grabbed both of us with his trunk. I was petrified."

Reason for this is that Pokrass, clothing buyer for a department store here, used to travel with a circus and everytime Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey comes to town, he takes the day off and works with the elephants.

The 1948 winning U. S. Open golf score of 276 recorded by Ben Hogan is the lowest score ever posted in that tourney.



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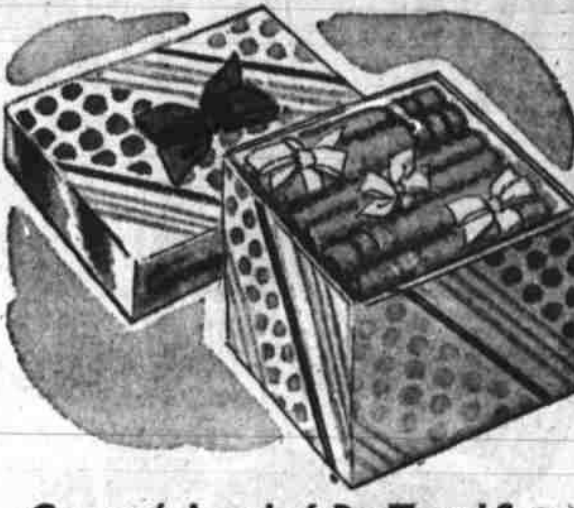
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HEY! YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME—Sinned 18-month-old gorilla at Lincoln Park Zoo, Chicago, Ill., looks with distrust at Roy Hoff (left), keeper, and struggles with Hoff. Dr. Lester Fisher, veterinarian, and R. Martin Perkins (right), zoo director. The occasion was the visit of a mobile X-ray unit to the zoo—and Sinned had to be first in line to have his chest X-rayed for tuberculosis. With all the struggling, Sinned came through with a clean bill of health. (AP Wirephoto).

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Martin County's Taxes Coming In
STANTON, Dec. 15—Tax collections for Martin county are progressing satisfactorily. The office of Tax Collector-Sheriff Kyle Shoemaker reports a good response so far. Oil and utility payments are practically all in. Rural assessments are picking up and are expected to hit a lively clip late in the month and in January. Until now, farmers have been so busy getting out their cotton that they have not had time to attend to taxes. The bumper crop, however, is expected to result in a big percentage of collections.

Former Red Says Bridges Had Special, Secret Party Status

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 15 (U.S.)—An admitted former Communist says Longshore Leader Harry Bridges was accorded a special, secret status in the party. Manning R. Johnson, a government witness in Bridges' perjury trial, testified yesterday that top Communist Party members gave the labor leader protection "for security reasons." The Negro witness added: "We never had a Communist in the key position. Harry Bridges held out on the Pacific Coast and I do know that they would do much to protect him."
Bridges is charged with perjury at his naturalization hearing in 1945. He testified he was not, and had not been, a member of the Communist Party. Two other officials of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union (CIO)—J. R. Robertson and Henry Schmidt—are on trial with Bridges, accused of conspiracy.
Johnson's testimony came as the witness was under cross-examination by Defense Counsel James MacInnis. It was Johnson's explanation of why he had seen Bridges only once, had never met him personally and hadn't seen him again until the current trial. Earlier, the witness testified that Bridges was elected to the party's

national committee during the 1936 convention. MacInnis pressed Johnson for details, and the witness testified:
"At the meeting of the national committee at which Harry Bridges was introduced to us, we gave him an ovation. He was introduced by Jack Stachel, and he made a few remarks."
"Jack Stachel said that in the future Harry Bridges would not be brought to members of the national committee as a security reason because of his strategic position in the labor movement on the Pacific Coast. If it became known that he was a member of the Communist

Party, we would not be able to move and work in the party's interest in his labor circles on this coast."
Stachel, former lieutenant of Earl Browder, was among 11 Communists convicted recently in New York of plotting the overthrow of the U. S. Government.
Johnson, an international representative of the AFL Clerks Union, has testified he became a Communist in 1931 while working as a longshoreman in Buffalo, N. Y. He said he quit the party in 1935. He said also he operated a restaurant and poolroom in Alliance, Neb., in the 1930s.

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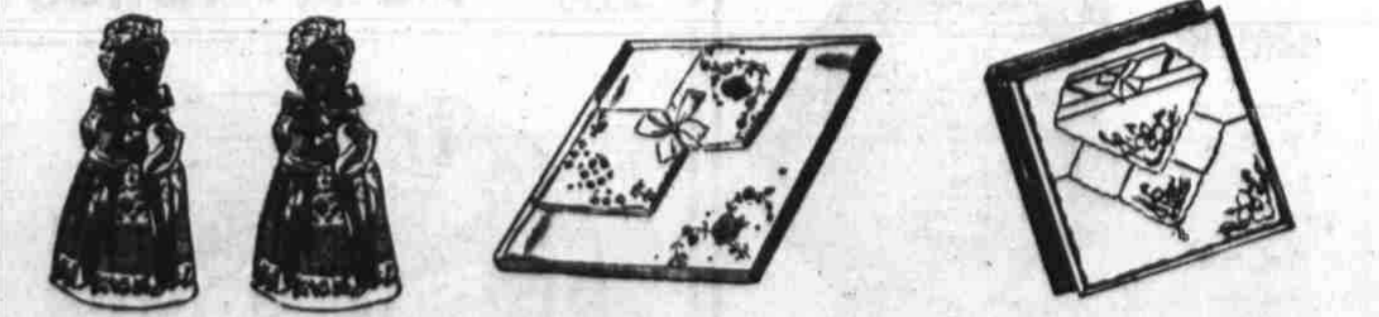


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LACONIC SCOT FOILS BANDITS
GLASGOW, Scotland, Dec. 15 (U.S.)—Swoony-haired William McRae is a familiar figure in Glasgow's Bardowie St., but he never talks much.
Two masked bandits confronted the 75-year-old man yesterday as he leaned on a news counter. One prodded a gun at him.
"It's a holdup," explained one gunman.
"Get out," said Willy. The bandits got.

Jap Workers Poised For General Strike
TOKYO, Dec. 15 (U.S.)—Japan's organized workers, seeking pay hikes and year-end bonuses, may stage a 24 hour general strike shortly.
Some 90 unions are ready to participate in the proposed strike.
The Japan federation of labor's central executive committee said it may reach a decision on the general strike tomorrow.
In the meantime separate action is being planned by various unions. The teachers union has slated an unlimited hunger strike beginning Saturday. National metal mine workers and seamen plan a strike beginning Friday.
Several members of the National Railway Workers' Union refused to resume eating when the central executive committee called off a 90 hour long hunger strike earlier this week.

GARLIC FAILS AS WEAPON
TAMPA, Fla., Dec. 15 (U.S.)—The Navy today described an attempted weapon of the Pacific war which didn't pan out—garlic.
Capt. A. R. Behnke, a naval doctor, said garlic was fed to certain gobs in "large quantities" as a possible repellent for mosquitoes which plagued the Navy's fighters.
But Behnke said the "skeeters" showed "complete indifference" to the aroma—and kept right on biting in.
He offered no comment on how the garlicy guinea-pig sailors got along with the rest of the fleet.

Student Finds Dance Strenuous
URBANA, Ill., (U.S.)—University of Illinois dances are getting rough. Ernest Kaufmann of Paterson, N. J., left one dance with a broken collar bone and spent the rest of the evening in a hospital.
It happened during a "shoe" dance when co-eds lined up on one side of the ballroom and tossed one shoe each into a pile in the center. Male students, at a signal, darted for the shoes to find the owners. Kaufmann got to the shoe pile early—too early, and he was carried away.

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As a demonstration of what Red Chain feeds can do and have done, Wooten Produce company, local dealer for the product, can point to almost any of the many winners among Howard county 4-H club boys.

Within the past fortnight another Big Spring youth has won great honors in his feeding project. He was Donald Hewett, who showed the reserve champion steer at the International Live-stock exposition in Chicago. His fine animal was finished on Red Chain feeds.

To mention another, Jimmy White won the grand championship with his steer at the Kansas City American Royal. His steer had been fed on Red Chain products.

And the list could be expanded many times, according to Harvey P. Wooten, head of the concern here. It's not a one-year record, either, for animals fed out on the products have placed consistently high in the past several years as Howard county club boys have set a pace for the entire state in show honors.

What Red Chain feeds have accomplished in the club calf feed lot, they have matched in all areas of use, Wooten pointed out. Balanced dairy products have a steady clientele.

One of the most popular fields of demands is in poultry feeds. Chick starter, mash and other specially compounded mixes have produced outstanding results in meat-and-egg production. This is because there is no guesswork in Red Chain about quality of materials or scientific formulation for most economical results, Wooten said.



MERRY CHRISTMAS IN LEATHER—An appropriately western way to say Merry Christmas with a lasting gift is to give purses and bags made at the J. L. Christensen Boot Shop, 502 W. 3rd. Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Christensen, parents of the shop owner, show samples of the work turned out here for those who like quality along with a real western flavor. Custom made boots are turned out with equal skill and beauty. (Mathis Photo).

X Known Quantity In Motor Service

Shell X-100 means greater resistance to sludge.

It means clearer automobile engines for faster, easier cold morning starts and more efficient all-weather operation. That's one reason the Westex Service store at 407 W. 3rd street is pushing the sale of the entirely new and different motor oil.

With Shell X-100 in the crankcase, there's no grinding together of dry metal parts when auto engines are first fired up on cold wintry mornings. The Shell lubricant goes instantly to work, protecting precision fitting motor parts against wear.

But more important than its resistance to wear is the new motor oil's protection against the formation of damaging acids and other chemical compounds inside the engine. Shell X-100 has been refined and compounded to prevent such chemical reactions which experiments show cause 90 per cent of the "wear" of automobile engines. Actually, it isn't wear at all, but

a gradual eating away of metal from bearing and shaft surfaces by acids that have formed when ordinary oil is mixed with the products of combustion from gasoline engines. Shell X-100's protective action prevents a large percentage of the wear, adding miles of peppy, efficient service to car motors.

The Big Spring Shell Service store has all the latest equipment for properly servicing cars of all makes. Shell servicemen examine vital moving parts on auto chassis while lubricating and servicing vehicles.

They aid the auto owner in preventing costly repairs by discovering and preventing mechanical failures through their close scrutiny and examination of the rods, universal joints, springs, steering mechanism, etc.

Rubber lubricant is applied to all rubber cushions that support shock absorbers and cut down on road noises and vibrations, thereby adding life and resiliency to rubber parts that are destroyed by ordi-

nary greases. The complete Shell Service afforded includes stocks of anti-freeze and Shell regular and Premium gasolines.

Motorists can find complete winterization service for the cold winter months ahead, as well as get all-around economy by calling at the Big Spring Shell Service station.

Flower Wire Orders Should Be Made Early

Wire orders for flowers for Christmas should be placed as early as possible, Caroline's Flowers advises.

While a member of the American Telegraph Florists, which means that wire orders received here will be transmitted to a florist in the receiving city and promptly delivered, Caroline's warns that wires can be jammed right on top of the holiday. For perfect assurance of delivery just don't wait until the last minute.

Wooten Ready With Holiday Birds

Poultry for the holiday season is a prime item with Wooten Produce company now. It makes no difference whether a fat hen or a plump turkey is

Christmas Means Lovely Flowers

Flowers mean Christmas, and Christmas means flowers at Caroline's shop, 1316 Gregg.

Standing high on the seasonal list is an excellent parade of blossoms for the home. And, of course, the perennially favored poinsettias lead the procession of color.

They come in all sizes and range from one to as many as six flowers to the plant. The wise thing to do is to book now

now instead of waiting until a day or so before Christmas before remembering that the mantle, table, or buffet needs that extra something to round out Christmas decorations.

Almost as popular as the poinsettia is the profusion of statice. Many households consider these lovely pet plants as a family tradition at the Yule tide. Here again it is wise to book orders now to be assured of a lovely assortment for Christmas Day. Still another pot variety finding increasing favor is the daffodil.

This year Caroline's has an unique assortment of decorative effects in styrofoam. The material is pure and sparkling white and has the appearance of a crisp piece of snow. It may be cut in desired forms, or come in a variety of designs including wreaths or cane swaggar-sticks which are embellished with peppermint touch and garlands of spruce, etc.

Center pieces for the season may be provided, either in delicate natural blossoms with evergreen trim, or in artificial flowers.

Corsages for the holidays will include selections from such favorites as orchids, gardenias, carnations, roses and carnations.

Standard Gives Cars New Look

Specialists in giving old cars that "new look" are attendants at the Standard Service station, located at 311 East Third street in Big Spring.

The polish jobs proffered by Big Spring's handiest station have gathered a local fame that keeps bringing new customers to the concern.

Motorists can also gain immediate and satisfactory attention on lubrication and wash orders. Complete oil changes can be accomplished within a short time.

Standard gasolines are, of course stocked by the station. Atlas auto accessories are sold by the Standard station. That recognized line includes tires and tubes, which carry the Atlas guarantee, batteries and hot water heaters.

The heaters are sure protection against the icy blasts of winter for motorists who confine their driving to the city or those making lengthy trips.

Downtown shoppers find the station a favorite refueling place because of its proximity to all business houses. It is situated directly across the street from the municipal auditorium.

The station is open from 8:30 a. m. to 10 p. m. every day except Sunday. On that day, it closes at 9 p. m.

Owner and manager of the establishment is Herman McPherson, long time Big Spring resident.

desired for the festive board. Wooten can furnish it quickly. All the poultry handled by Wooten for local markets is processed right here and delivered while it is at maximum freshness. A mechanical picker and special dressing facilities expedite the work.

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Bill of Rights Establishes Basic Rights, Exalts The Individual

More than 14 years after the constitution of the United States had been drawn up 10 important amendments were added. Then as now there must have been stout and righteous protests against changing that near-sacred document, but the amendments were adopted on Dec. 15, 1791.

They have since become known as the "bill of rights," and they constitute what to most people is the constitution itself. Regrettably, not too many people know there is anything in the constitution other than the "bill of rights" and not too much about them.

It is fitting, on this anniversary date, to re-examine these cherished rights, which, indeed, are the core of our liberties.

The first, and one of the most important, sets up our basic freedoms of religion, speech, press, assembly and to petition the government for redress.

The second reserves the right of the people to keep and bear arms (a militia).

The third protects the people from having soldiers quartered in any house except by consent of the owner or by due process of law.

The fourth protects the individual from unrestrained search (requirement of a search warrant).

The fifth provides that the accused in a criminal case must be indicted; must

not be twice put in jeopardy for the same offense; cannot be compelled to testify against himself; cannot be deprived of life, limb or property without due process of law.

The sixth provides for right of a speedy trial by jury where the alleged offense occurred; to be informed of charges; to be confronted by the accusers; to obtain witnesses in the defendant's behalf and to have adequate counsel.

The seventh provides that in suits involving \$20 or more a jury can be demanded; and that no fact agreed upon by a jury can be re-examined by a higher court except according to common law.

The eighth protects the accused from excessive bail, fine or unduly harsh or unusual punishment.

The ninth specifies that rights not enumerated in the constitution shall not be construed to be denied or disparaged those reserved to the people.

The tenth establishes that powers delegated to the United States are reserved to the states and to the people.

These are fundamental principles which give substance to our democratic processes and exalt individual freedom and rights. They are worthy reading, re-reading and treasuring as life itself. Indeed, thousands have died to protect them, and life without them would be, to most of us, unbearable.

Christmas Candle



Cut Out The Deadwood Even If It Treads On Selfish Interest

Our only living ex-President Herbert Hoover, thinks the national deficit of \$5.5 billion this year may be even worse next year, and he believes at least two billions can be saved if Congress will pass the additional legislation needed to make the Hoover Commission's reorganization plan complete.

Mr. Hoover was addressing a National Reorganization Conference in Washington and offered a concrete and practical remedy for at least a part of the problem of deficit financing: carry out the reorganization plan in its entirety, and save two billions. His warning that we may be turning "two Frankensteins loose in the land"—that is, higher taxes and inflation—fell on receptive ears.

He listed eight objectives to be achieved by reorganization, which he called the most urgent, and which require congressional action. President Truman is entirely receptive to the Hoover Commission's suggestions, and has promised to urge prompt passage.

Item 4 on the Hoover list: Unifying the federal hospital service. Big argument in favor: of the 225,000 beds available, only 155,000 are in use—yet Congress has provided for 50,000 additional beds at a cost of \$1.3 billion.

Item 5: Merger of water conservation services—"a porkbarrel floats on those rivers." Yet last year Congress exempted the Army Engineers from involvement in any merger.

Item 3: Set up the postal service as a modern business institution and eliminate politics therefrom.

The Civil Service was denounced as "an accumulation of waste and deadwood," where at present "Red Tape himself dwells." All-out reorganization is called for.

Selfish groups have mangled some of the reorganization proposals so far, in spite of almost universal acclaim of its over-all objectives. The cry is, "Reorganize everybody else, but leave my special outfit alone."

Notebook-Hal Boyle

No Santa For Godfather Hal, Who's Losing His Little Nina

NEW YORK, N.Y. — THERE ISN'T A darn thing Santa Claus can throw my way this Christmas.

For all I care the old boy can get stuck in the chimney in Des Moines. I'm not bothering to hang up my sock.

The one thing I'd like even Santa Claus can't give. I want him to make time stand still and keep a girl I know from growing older—and from going away.

The girl is half past two, her name is Nina, and everything about her is wholly wonderful.

I can brag about her with a clear conscience because she isn't mine except to borrow on an hour's lend-lease arrangement with her parents two or three times a week. That is my privilege as godfather.

WHEN FIRST I SAW HER SHE WAS just a moist, bald-headed ball of protoplasm that smelled of milk and made small moles like a puppy. Now she is a flaxen-haired, sturdy-legged child with a mind and vocabulary of her own.

All this year as Nina has grown older I have been growing younger. And it has been a happy, happy year — too good to go on, I guess.

The other week end her father and mother, a young newspaper couple, got an assignment to go to Italy. They will be gone for three years.

I took her on a fare-well visit to the Central Park Zoo. She said goodbye to the monkeys, wanted to climb in and pet the tigers, jeered at the "lazy seal" that wouldn't go into the water. But most of all she loved the pigeons because they came and pecked peanuts from her hand.

THEN WE BOUGHT A BALLOON AND hauled a cab home. On the way she turned to me with a luminous smile and said: "Hal, I sleepy."

And she stretched out comfortably on the seat, put her feet in my lap, and dozed off. All the rest of the way I kept thinking, "Lord, Lord, can't you let it stay this way for a long time?"

Three days after Christmas she'll be gone, leaving me a godfather in absentia. When I see her again she'll be almost six and will greet me with a polite "buon giorno" instead of "Hi, Hal!"

How can I believe in Santa Claus — this year?

Capital Report-Doris Flesoon

Fair Deal Dems Plan Fight For Truman's Civil-Rights Program

WASHINGTON. — Senate majority leader Lucas has promised a group of CIO, AFL and Negro leaders that he will call up a Fair Employment practices bill during the first 50 days of the new session of Congress.

The group gave him several reasons why they preferred FEPC as the first civil-rights test. It is on the calendar now

in a form acceptable to civil-rights advocates. Labor and Negroes in all 48 states of the union are more excited about FEPC than about any other part of the Truman civil-rights program.

Finally, an analysis of past votes on civil-rights measures and cloture petitions indicates more support for FEPC in Congress than for the rest. It is not hard to see why this should be so; the poll-tax and lynching bills touch the Negro closely, but people of other races and faiths who are important in states outside the south are affected by job discrimination. Senators from such states will not be allowed to cooperate by inertia with the southerners when FEPC hits the floor.

Fair Deal Democrats believe two developments have strengthened their hand in civil-rights matters. One is the New York victory of Senator Lehman, who has long fought for legislation of this character.

The other is the defeat in Texas and Virginia of state poll-tax repealers. The southerners have always claimed — in Washington—that the states would take care of these things, left to themselves; their favorite compromise is a constitutional amendment approach to the poll-tax that would require state approval. It is true that the Virginia measure at least was complicated by registration features that some liberals felt were worse than the poll tax; nevertheless, two states voted and voted no.

The Big Spring Herald

Published Sunday morning and weekday afternoons.

APPOINTED EDITOR: JAMES H. BROWN.

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Merry-Go-Round-Drew Pearson

Snyder-Eccles Inflation Feud Throws Some Light On U. S. Economic Policy

WASHINGTON. — The inflation row between Secretary of the Treasury Snyder and Federal Reserve Director Eccles attracted headlines a few days ago. But when the two men met behind the closed doors of a Senate committee, the final results of the feud were hushed up.

It was Snyder who, perhaps knowing he would be no match for the shrewd and experienced Eccles, insisted on a closed-door meeting. However, here is what happened.

Present at the Senate session was Tom McCabe, popular, easy-going Federal Reserve Chairman who agrees with Snyder on most things, and who pleaded with both Eccles and Snyder to cease their "public squabbling" because of repercussions on business and the stock market.

Eccles shot back that stock-market reaction to his dispute with Snyder was far outweighed by the future economic and financial welfare of the nation. It would be better to have a showdown now, public or otherwise, he said, rather than wait until inflation hits us.

The press has made this a personal dispute between Secretary Snyder and myself, but it's not that at all," Eccles declared. "It's a question of deep, fundamental policy that affects the future welfare of every man, woman and child in the United States. The Federal Reserve system cannot adequately carry out its obligation to control inflationary trends while the Treasury continues to borrow at fixed, low interest charges."

BONDS DUMPED

The interest rate (now averaging about 2.2 per cent on long and short-term government securities) should be somewhat higher, Eccles contended, to discourage dumping of government bonds by banks, insurance companies and other big purchasers. Also, it should be more flexible, he argued, so the Federal Reserve Board could use it as a lever to prevent either an over-expansion or a tightening of bank credit.

Interest rates on government securities naturally influence the rates on commercial loans, Eccles pointed out, and therefore the quantity of such credit—which the reserve system is expected to control.

"Well, the Treasury has obligations, also," argued Snyder. "Let the interest rate go up on government bonds and there will be a howl from farmers and other groups, who will then have to pay higher financing charges on private loans and mortgages."

Turning to Sen. Douglas of Illinois, chairman of the committee, Snyder remarked that Congress was chiefly responsible for inflationary trends.

"Inflation originates in the Congress," he commented, tartly. "If Congress votes to appropriate great sums of money and then doesn't increase taxes to balance this spending, you are making inflation. You can't build up big deficits without taking risks."

ROBBING PETER

The Treasury chief added that the low interest the government was paying on its bond issues represented that much of a saving to the taxpayer and helped to balance the budget. However, Eccles shot back that it did nothing of the kind, but was a rub-Peter-to-pay-Paul policy that actually cost the taxpayers more in the

long run.

Low interest rates on government bonds often lead to dumping by big investors, who prefer to invest their money in less secure but more profitable commercial loans, he explained. Since the Federal Reserve system is required by law to buy up the bonds dumped on the open market, this further increases national bank reserves — against which more inflationary money is then issued.

The amount of money the Treasury is saving now by its fixed, low interest rates, is only a pittance compared with the future cost of inflation—if Snyder continues his present policy, Eccles warned.

MERRY-GO-ROUND

George Craig, first World War II vet to command the American Legion, had four years active combat service, and is really fighting in peace for the democratic ideals we had in war... Courageous Congressman Andy Biemiller of Wisconsin deserves credit for taking Judge Armstrong's "bonus-for bigotry" foundation off the government's tax-exempt list... U. S. Ambassador James Clement Dunn, now in Rome, is angling for the highly prized post of ambassador to the Court of St. James... Sen. Pat McCarran now thinks he is almost as important as the President. When McCarran returned to Washington last week, the entire staff of the Senate Judiciary Committee was lined up waiting to greet him like a returning potentate... Avar M. Warren, now American ambassador to Finland, will be the next U. S. envoy to Pakistan... The Navy

has just developed the world's most powerful airplane engine. It will outfly even the fastest Russian jet... A long-suppressed feud between Secretary of Defense Johnson and Atomic Energy Chairman David Lilienthal is about to break into the open... The real estate lobby has a new device for killing rent controls. It is fixing up a list of vacant apartments in overcrowded Washington exclusively for Congressmen who want to rent—just to show there's no housing shortage.

AIRLINE LOBBYIST

You've got to hand it to Pan American Airways for being versatile when it comes to lobbying. All during the 80th Republican Congress they depended on GOP Sen. Brewster of Maine and Sam Fryor, former GOP committee-man from Connecticut, to do their lobbying. In fact, only one Democrat, Carroll Cone, was on their lobbying payroll, and prior to November 1948 he was expected to exit after the elections.

Immediately after the elections, however, Carroll Cone, Democrat, went up in value to Pan American, and he may now be come a vice president.

In addition, Clark Clifford, soon to leave the White House for the law-lobbying business, will become the brightest star in Pan Am's lobbying army.

NOTE — Pan American has just put across a neat piece of lobbying with the Civil Aeronautics Board, by which it gets one foot in the door on the route to Rome. This route belongs to TWA, but Pan Am used the excuse of carrying Holy Year pilgrims, a 'g' CAB gave it a special route to Rome.

Hollywood-Bob Thomas

Riddle Of Thelma Todd's Death Still Unsolved

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 26. — Was it murder or was it suicide? or did Thelma Todd die accidentally die 14 years ago today?

That riddle has been cause for debate in Hollywood ever since the blonde star was found dead in her garage one morning in 1935. Here's how the death occurred:

Thelma, the fun-loving school teacher from Lawrence, Mass., went to a Saturday night party at the Trocadero in honor of the English comic, Stanley Lupino. A chauffeur picked her up between 2:30 and 3 a. m. and drove her back to her car at the beach. She appeared quiet and tired.

When she waved goodbye to the driver at four Sunday morning, it was the last time she was seen alive.

At 10:15 a. m. Monday morning, Miss Todd's maid opened the garage door and found the actress slumped in the front seat of her car. She wore a mauve and silver evening gown and mink coat, and jewels ornamented her throat and wrist. She had been dead at least 12 hours of carbon monoxide poisoning.

The ignition key was turned on and the heavy garage doors were closed. There were no notes or other clues. A lengthy investigation ensued. There was no

conclusive result.

Detective Chief Thad Brown of the Los Angeles police told me this week: "The death is still accidental in my book."

WORD-A-DAY

By BACH

RAIMENT
(raiment) NOUN
CLOTHING IN GENERAL;
VESTURE; GARMENTS



Around The Rim-The Herald Staff

The Matrimonial Pasture Always Looks Greenest A Long Way Off

Recently, the so-called "lonely hearts" murders focused public attention upon that phenomenon of modern life, the matrimonial club. Most people already were familiar with it through numerous magazine ads and the revelation of an occasional swindle, but the "lonely hearts" case was something new and rhoved to what lengths some of these folk are capable of going.

I have just glanced through a current popular magazine, and I find no less than 16 advertisements of matrimonial clubs. They make exciting reading, especially one which promises to introduce you to beautiful, wealthy Mexican girls, desirous of marrying foreigners. In fact, this latter proposition is so attractive that I feel sure there must be a catch somewhere.

Why should a rich young senorita wish to marry a gringo in preference to one of her own countrymen? Has there been a falling-off in the justly celebrated galaxy of Mexican-senorita-or-is-there-something-wrong-with-the-girl-herself—perhaps a serious physical defect, or a strain of hereditary insanity in the family which puts a marriage in her own circle and class out of the question?

Another difficulty suggests itself. Mexican senoritas of the better class usually are sweet, modest girls, convent-bred and very shy. Moreover, they have a deep-rooted pride of race. I cannot imagine one of these glorious creatures offering to send her photograph and description to any Tom, Dick or Harry in Los Estados Unidos.

Of course, it may be that I am unduly cynical, but I believe a careful investigation would reveal that the majority of these "lonely heart" senoritas are mere adventuresses and that both their charms

and wealth are greatly overrated. Such, at any rate, has been the almost invariable case whenever a matrimonial club in the United States has attracted the attention of the authorities.

Without doubt, many of the men and women who join clubs of this kind are perfectly sincere in their desire for a congenial mate. At the same time, they must be extremely simple to enter into intimate correspondence with strangers on the recommendation of an unknown club operator who, obviously, has no interest in the business other than the collection of lucrative fees. Instead of finding True Romance, they are more than likely to be swindled out of large sums of money or hooded to their graves by blackmail.

Sometimes, naturally, the matrimonial club does deliver the goods in the form of a happy marriage; otherwise, it soon would cease to flourish. Arnold Bennett, the English novelist, made such a marriage the theme of one of his most delightful books.

Leaving out of account fortune-hunters, swindlers and blackmailers, it is interesting to speculate on the reasons which prompt people to seek their mates through a matrimonial club. They are lonely, of course, but why cannot they find congenial companionship in their own community? Is it shyness, bad temper or some other undesirable trait of character which has driven everyone away? Or are they merely dissatisfied with the local prospects and think that they can do better far afield? Whatever the reason, the majority of them are doomed to disappointment in their flight from loneliness, and run the further risk of losing a respectable portion of their worldly goods.—R. G. MACREADY

Affairs Of The World-DeWitt MacKenzie

Gulf-Stream Scare Shows U. S. Britain Don't Know Each Other

THESE DAYS OF CLASHING POLITICAL ideologies have a tendency to breed doubts and suspicions even between old and tried international friends.

We had a rather startling indication of this recently when Lord Strabolgi, laborite member of the British House of Lords, declared in a debate on defense that there were American hotbeds who were talking quite glibly of using atomic power to divert the gulf stream in England west communitic. England owes her temperate climate to the gulf stream and presumably might become an arctic country if the stream were turned away.

WELL OF COURSE, THE SCIENTISTS promptly tossed this idea out the window as nonsense. It would take more than atomic power to shift the gulf stream, even if anybody wanted to shift it.

So much for the scare, but it leaves us with the uncomfortable thought that this is an extraordinary viewpoint to be held by any citizen of an ally who has been through two world wars with us. England doesn't show signs of going communitic, and even if she did it shouldn't try to do her in with atomic bombs.

Speaking rather louder than words are our deeds in trying to help Britain over-

come her economic crisis and get on her feet.

But what is the basis for such outlandish ideas as the gulf-stream nightmare? It strikes me that the answer is lack of acquaintance. Our two peoples don't know each other as well as they should, though from first-hand observation of both countries for many years I believe America knows England better than England knows us. And I could be wrong about that.

THE BRITISH SCHOOL SYSTEM PRIOR to the second world war didn't teach much about the United States. American history ceased with the revolution. Since the outbreak of the war some schools have given more attention to the United States. We need personal contact, and that will come in due course. Meantime we have to fall back on present communications and improve them. I was chatting with an Englishman the other day and asked him what he thought would help.

He said a return to normal size newspapers in England would help immensely by providing space for: adequate news coverage. The motion pictures and the radio are vital mediums. More interpretive news writing and more factual novels are need-

The Nation Today-By James Marlow

Another Filibuster Seen When FEPC Bill Is Re-Introduced

WASHINGTON, 26. — WHEN CONGRESS returns in 1950 you can expect a repetition of what happened this year: A Filibuster.

The Truman administration is going to try for an early vote on the bill to set up an FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Commission).

The result? Pretty sure zero.

The FEPC bill would forbid an employer to discriminate against a job-seeker because of his race, color or religious belief.

It's part of President Truman's civil rights program. Other parts of it call for federal laws to outlaw lynching and the poll tax.

And the result if the Trumanites try to put through those other parts of the program? Pretty sure zero, too.

MR. TRUMAN TOOK A STRONG stand on the civil rights program in the 1948 elections in which he was elected President and the Democrats won control of Congress.

But the Trumanite Democrats lost control of Congress when, shortly after Congress opened this year, they tried to clear the way for bringing up a civil rights bill and thus fulfill Mr. Truman's campaign pledges.

At that point the southern Democrats, deeply embittered by the civil rights program, split off from the Truman Democrats and filibustered. They did it so successfully that they prevented any civil rights bill from being considered in the Senate in 1949.

What happened as a result of that filibuster will have an important effect on what happens in 1950.

BEFORE THE FILIBUSTER STARTED, this was the situation in the Senate: There was no limit on debate — or a filibuster—unless two-thirds, plus one, of the senators on the floor voted to stop it. (And, of course, unless a filibuster could be stopped the Senate could not reach a point of voting on the measure which was being filibustered.)

But under the arrangement then in effect if only 90 or 80 or 70 senators were present on the floor, two-thirds plus one of them could stop the filibuster. But, because the 1949 filibuster was over, this hap-

pened: The Senate, with Republicans joining the southern Democrats, made this rule for the future:

NOW A FILIBUSTER CAN'T BE STOPPED unless two-thirds, plus one, of the total 96 senators vote to stop it, whether or not all 96 are present on the floor. That's tougher to get than just two-thirds, plus one, of those merely present at any voting time.

That's what the Trumanites face in 1950 if they try to bring up the FEPC bill and a filibuster starts.

Some senators are so set against any limit on Senate debate that they might vote against stopping a filibuster even though they might be willing to vote for FEPC once the filibuster was over.

If the Trumanites lose on the civil rights issue during the congressional session in 1950, they can use it as a campaign issue — in the congressional elections later in 1950—to get more Trumanites elected. Particularly among Negro voters.

THE SEATS OF ALL 435 HOUSE MEMBERS and a little more than one-third of the 96 senators are involved in the 1950 elections.

Today's Birthday

BETTY SMITH born (Webster) Dec. 15, 1904 in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn, daughter of an actor. Her first novel "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," catapulted her to fame, but only after years of work which produced about 70 one act plays. After an early marriage, which ended in divorce, and the birth of two daughters, she studied playwright, worked with a summer stock company and served as playreader for the Dramatists Play Service. She wrote "A Tree . . ." by working from 6 a.m. to 7 a.m. every day for a year. A second novel "Tomorrow Will Be Better" was less popular. The same month that her first novel was published in 1943, she married Pvt. Joe Jones of the U. S. Army.



REAL ESTATE - Farms & Ranches - Rube S. Martin - 1341-acre cattle and sheep ranch, Concho county, fenced and cross fenced, woven wire. Small farm, well watered. \$85 per acre. Possession Jan. 1st.

And Nothing Can Be Done About It - A cartoon strip showing a man talking to a dog about a neighbor's dog barking at night. The dog replies 'OH, MY GOSH! GROANED OUT AS HE SCRAMBLED TO HIS FEET, YOU AREN'T COMING BACK, ARE YOU?' and the man replies 'WHAT HAPPENED AT THE OFFICE TODAY? ANYTHING INTERESTING?'.

Outpost To Good Pool In Borden County Located - Seaboard and Pan American have staked location for a south-west outpost to the Good pool in southwestern Borden county. It will be the No. 1 Modesto Good Simpson, three miles south-west of the Good pool. Location is to be 1,972.5 feet from the north and 1,880 feet from the east lines of section 10-33-30, T&P. Projected depth is 8,500 feet.

Commissioners Of County To Attend Austin Hearing - Members of the Howard county commissioners court will go to Austin Wednesday, Dec. 28, for a public hearing on the following day by the State Highway Commission, at which time a Fairview-Vealmore paved road will be discussed as a 73-25 project. The invitation to the hearing was extended by D. C. Greer, state highway engineer. The pavement, if put down, would extend 12 miles northward to Vealmore.

City's Handling Of Cottonseed Draws Tribute - Handling of cottonseed purchases and storage in Big Spring has drawn a pat on the back from a source not impressed with the program as a whole. Ivan J. Campbell, associated editor of the Cotton Gin and Oil Mill Press, publication for the cotton and oil seed processing industry, deplored the program in general in the Nov. 28 issue of the publication.

LUFKIN HONORS KURTH - Texas Industrialist Given Three Titles - LUFKIN, Dec. 15 (AP)—A 64-year-old, white-haired Texan modestly bore these titles today: "Man of the South," "Texas' Leading Industrialist," "Mr. East Texas." With them went the tribute of his town, his state, this section of the nation.

Rube S. Martin - Ranch For Sale - 1341-acre cattle and sheep ranch, Concho county, fenced and cross fenced, woven wire. Small farm, well watered. \$85 per acre. Good terms.

Abilene Scene Of Track Meet - Abilene will be the scene of the District 5AA track and field meet April 14-15, according to a decision reached by representatives of school comprising the district, who met in Abilene Wednesday.

Big Spring Scout Troop No. 9 Wins 1949 Court Banner - Boy Scout Troop No. 9 won permanent possession of the 1949 court banner at the regular court of honor Tuesday night.

Past Matrons Dinner Party Held At Settles - Past Matrons of the Order of Eastern Star met at the Settles Hotel Tuesday evening for a dinner and Christmas party.

Wolf Returns From Trip To California - Sheriff Bob Wolf returned here from Bakersfield, Calif., where he took into custody H. H. Williford, wanted here on a charge of passing a felonious check.

Mrs. A. J. Hilburn Is Class Hostess - Mrs. A. J. Hilburn was hostess to the East Fourth Baptist Dorcas class at a Christmas social held in the home of her daughter, Mrs. T. B. Clifton.

Rainbow Girls Make Party Plans - Plans were made for a Christmas party when the Order of the Rainbow for Girls held its regular meeting Tuesday evening at the Masonic Hall.

LEGAL NOTICE - THE STATE OF TEXAS TO: RALPH V. SMITH - You are commanded to appear and answer the plaintiff's petition at or before 10 o'clock A. M. of the first Monday after the date of the return of this citation.

Bovines Oppose McCamey Friday - If the Big Spring Steers can get by McCamey in their first round game of the Midland invitational it's almost certain they'll advance as far as the third round.

Gibson Gets Usual Stay of Execution - Samuel B. Gibson, Negro, sentenced to death for the slaying of 15-year-old Juan Oquie here, has been granted the customary 30-day stay of execution.

City High School Band Will Play In Auditorium Today - The Big Spring High school band under direction of J. W. King, Jr., will make its first formal public appearance of the school year to night at 8 o'clock in the Municipal auditorium.

Local High School Athletes Feted - Members of the Big Spring high school football team, coaches and school officials were guests at the annual "no speech" football banquet held in the Maverick Room of the Douglass hotel at noon here today.

Musical Comedy Set At Stanton Today - STANTON, Dec. 15—First of two productions of a musical comedy, "It's a Date," will be presented at 8:15 p.m. today in the high school auditorium.

NEIL G. HILLIARD, C. P. A. - Announces the Removal of His Office to Ground Floor Read Hotel Building - 115 Runnels Street - Big Spring, Texas - General Accounting Auditing Income Tax Service

LEGAL NOTICE - THE STATE OF TEXAS TO: GEORGE CHAYTE - You are commanded to appear and answer the plaintiff's petition at or before 10 o'clock A. M. of the first Monday after the date of the return of this citation.

To Present Program - Some 50 pupils of the Farrar Pre-School will present a Christmas program Sunday at 4 p. m. in the municipal auditorium. This is the school's tenth annual Christmas program and will include songs, rhythm bands and dancing.

WEATHER - BIG SPRING AND VICINITY: Fair and warmer this afternoon. Light and Friday. High today 88, low tonight 34, high tomorrow 88, low tonight 34, high tomorrow 88.

MARKETS - NEW YORK COTTON - Noon cotton futures were 10 to 20 cents a bale higher than the previous close. Dec 29 23 1/2, March 30 3/4 and May 30 1/2.

Timmons Remains Due Here Friday - Remains of Mrs. Lucille Timmons, 52, former Stanton resident, will arrive here Friday evening.

Arguments Heard On Slusser Appeal - Briefs were submitted and oral arguments heard before the court of criminal appeals in Austin Wednesday on the appeal of Phillip C. Slusser, Big Spring.

WESTERN AUTO ASSOCIATE STORE - Give America's Favorite... Deluxe Equipped Western Flyer - \$49.95 - Beautiful tank model Western Flyer, Has torpedo headlight, chrome truss rods and rims, luggage rack, white, other deluxe features. FULL YEAR GUARANTEE!

JAMES LITTLE - ATTORNEY-AT-LAW - State Nat'l Bank Bldg. - Phone 383

FREE DEMONSTRATION - Cleanse by washing the skin. Scrubs, soaps, masks, eye cream, water, etc. Mrs. E. J. CASEY - 409 Johnston - Phone 2154

REXOIL - Rexoil is the most effective oil for your engine. It keeps your engine clean and cool. Rexoil is the most effective oil for your engine.

MARKETS - NEW YORK WALL STREET - The stock market showed a rally of weakness today after yesterday's moderate rise to a new 1949 high.

Market Strong in Livestock Sale Here - The market-continued strong at the Big Spring Livestock Auction company's sale Wednesday with lots of buyers evident.

Brother Succumbs - Mrs. Ed Long has received word of the death of her brother, S. H. Stead in Danville, Ala. Burial for Mr. Stead has been held.

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W. L. MEAD - Official Agents For UNITED VAN LINES - Anywhere In U.S.A. - Bonded And Locked Vans - PHONE 2635 - Warehouse - Sprinkler System - Low Insurance - BIG SPRING BONDED WAREHOUSE

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Texans Won't Slacken In Battle Against Cotton Acreage Statute

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14. (U.P.)—Texans, trying to block enforcement of the cotton acreage allotment law, will not slacken their court fight, their attorney says.

Even though proposals for changes in the program have been advanced, William H. Shireman, Corpus Christi, said yesterday the coastal bend growers will press their case against Secretary Charles Brannan and other top Agriculture Department officials.

The Texas lawyer filed a suit here Monday in U. S. District Court.

Also on last Monday a House agriculture subcommittee discussed the cotton acreage problem and drafted amendments to the law. Chairman Cooley (D-NC) of the full committee expressed hope Congress would approve the changes quickly in January.

"The proposed changes would give the coastal bend counties of Texas substantially more acreage than they seek through court action," Shireman told a reporter.

"However, the changes at this stage are only proposals, and until they are set forth in the law we will prosecute our case."

"Many things could happen, such as a fight over the FEPC to cold up speedy action on the matter."

A hearing is to be held Monday on the request of the Texans for an immediate injunction restraining Brannan from putting the announced acreage program into effect in Texas.

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THOUSANDS OF BALES OF COTTON STORED IN OPEN—Scenes such as this are common in the yards of cotton gins of Texas' South Plains, where thousands of bales of cotton are being stored in the open. An all-time record crop of over one million bales were produced in the Texas South Plains this year. There are 18,000 bales in the open at the West Texas Compress & Warehouse Co., Lubbock, Tex. (AP Wirephoto).

State Revenues Hit By New Oil Cutback

AUSTIN, Dec. 15. (U.P.)—Texas' money-hungry treasury today faced even shorter January rations from oil production revenue.

The Railroad Commission yesterday ordered a January cutback of 83,373 barrels daily from December crude oil production allowances—topping production and resulting state revenues for the second consecutive month.

It quickly brought suggestions from other sources on problems of revenue and taxation facing a special session of the Legislature next month.

The commission's order will permit 2,050,943 barrels of crude oil and an additional 281,173 barrels of natural gasoline and distillate to flow daily. Cut in the present crude allowable of 2,134,321 barrels (as of Dec. 10) was accomplished by ordering production in all fields shut-down an extra day in January.

That will permit the East Texas field to operate 13 days and all other fields to operate 17 days next month.

Commissioner Ernest O. Thompson said the reduction was compelled by accumulation of Texas oil in above-ground storage.

"Last week Texas oil stocks above ground increased 1,936,000 barrels and since Oct. 29 Texas crude in storage above ground increased by 5,264,000 barrels," he said. "Every requirement for oil is being met."

Talk of a sales tax instead of relying on oil to meet increased state revenue demands had stirred yesterday's statewide prorotation hearing. Oilman H. F. Nichols of Tyler told the commission that the depressed oil market could no longer pay the increases in the state's grocery bill. He suggested that the sales tax alternative now

faces the state.

Gov. Allan Shivers stamped that idea with terse comment: "I'm personally against a sales tax."

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CAPEHART SAYS TRUMAN INSISTED ON \$37 MILLION LOAN TO CORPORATION

VALPARAISO, Ind., Dec. 15. (U.P.)—Sen. Capehart (R-Ind) said last night that a \$37 million loan by the Reconstruction Finance Corp. to Lustron Corp. was made at the insistence of President Truman.

Capehart recalled that he was a member of the Senate Banking and Currency Committee which studied the RFC loan to the Columbus (Ohio) prefabricated house manufacturing concern.

"The word came over that the President of the United States was insisting that the loan be made," Capehart said. "When we investigated we found that the place was filled with people from Missouri."

The senator did not say from whom the word came. He said the RFC had repeatedly rejected the loan before word came.

His statement was made in a debate with Rep. Jacobs (D-Ind) at Valparaiso University.

Capehart had said in a previous debate at Richmond, Ind., that the government is "squandering your money and mine over in Ohio on Lustron homes."

Jacobs countered this last night by declaring that a Republican congressman who later became a Lustron official made the huge loan possible.

Jacobs identified the man he said

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