

The word from Washington is that President Truman

is likely to have trouble getting his five billion dollars in

additional taxes. (In an annual economic message, the White

House calls on the legislators to hike taxes, close loopholes

in the tax laws, and impose a whole series of economic

restrictions.) The report states that federal spending for

the next fiscal year will come to ninety billion dollars -

with emphasis on armament costs. For the present fiscal year

the sum is seventy-one billion. The President has abandoned

all hope of putting the defense program on a pay-as-you-go

basis. Even if the tax hike of five billion should be granted,

there would be a deficit of eight billion by June Thirtieth

of this year. Rising to sixteen billion in Nineteen Fifty-three.

The report warns the public that there'll have to be

reductions in home building, the production of television sets,

the manufacture of automobiles. Four million cars to be

turned out this year compared with five million, three hundred

thousand last year. Supplies of clothing and food, however, will be abundant.

(The reaction in Congress focuses on the question of taxes. Republicans - against the five billion dollar increase. Democrats - not at all unanimous in backing the White House demand.) Quite the contrary. Senator George of Georgia, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, states flatly: "I am not in favor of any tax increase." Congressman Doughton of South Carolina, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the House, remarks: "There is strong sentiment throughout the country that taxes are high enough."

So it looks as if the five billion tax boost will have tough going in Congress.

POLITICS

(Senator Clinton Anderson of New Mexico predicts that President Truman will be drafted to run on the Democratic ticket.) He told that to the President today, in conversation at the White House. He says he informed Mr. Truman flatly that - "the Democrats are going to insist on his running." That's all quite clear, but there's one thing lacking. What was the Truman reply? What did the President have to say to this declaration that there would be a - "Truman draft?" We don't know. Senator Anderson refuses to tell what ~~information~~ information he got from the President, if any.

So it's half a story. I told him such and such, but I'm not telling what his answer was, if there was an answer.

At St. Louis, a Democratic summons for the President to run - for the Senate. Missouri National Committeeman John Nangle declares himself for - Senator Truman. He says he is confident that, in the November election, the President could run against Republican Senator Kem, and

beat him. Harry Truman - returning to his old post in the Senate.

On the Republican side, Harold Stassen entered the Minnesota primary today, ~~Minnesota~~. He has no opposition thus far, both Senator Taft and the backers of General Eisenhower having declared they will not compete with Stassen in his home state, of which he was governor a few years ago.

At the same time, Stassen comes out with a blast - demanding that General Douglas MacArthur be put back on the job of Supreme Commander in Tokyo. He charges that the dismissal of MacArthur was a bad blunder, and the General should be reinstated.

In Washington, Secretary of State Dean Acheson comes mighty close to a flat rejection of the new Soviet proposal for atomic weapon control. Today, he told a news conference that the Moscow "concessions" are - more apparent than real.

In Paris, American Delegate to the U.N. Ernest Gross declared today that the Moscow suggestions "represent an advance" if the explanation given by Vishinsky can be taken at face value. The Secretary of State apparently thinks it's more a case of "twoface" value. (~~He says the plan presented by Foreign Minister Vishinsky amounts to a paper prohibition with no assurance for effective control of the atomic bomb.~~)

BERLIN

In Berlin, the British are negotiating with Communist authorities - trying to find out about three members of the Gracie Fields Company. They disappeared in the Soviet Zone - the producer and publicity director of the British actress, famous for her songs in the Lancashire dialect. And - the chauffeur, who was driving their car.

Gracie Fields gave a performance for British soldiers, and the three men were on their way to another place in the British Zone, where she was to appear. Driving through Berlin, they strayed into the Communist area - and haven't been seen since.

MOSCOW

(In Moscow - new restrictions placed on foreign diplomats. Their movements are now limited to a radius of twenty-five miles from the Soviet capital.) Previously, the radius was thirty-one miles, but they could get special permission to visit a series of cities. Which list is also curtailed, a score of towns placed out of bounds. Among these are Omsk and Tomsk. The diplomats must keep within twenty-five miles of Moscow, and cannot get permission to go to Omsk and Tomsk.

There's no way of telling whether or not an American plane did bomb a prison camp in North Korea - as charged by the Reds. Today, Supreme Commander General Ridgway disclosed that U.N. aircraft were in the vicinity named by the Communists, an area near the Red capital of Pongyang. But, the U.N. command does not know exactly where the prison camp is situated - so there is no way of telling whether or not an American plane flew near it. Today, the Reds raised the figure, and stated that ^{fifteen} ~~twenty~~ prisoners had been killed, instead of ten - all believed to have been South Koreans.

^{In} ~~the~~ the negotiations today, the Communists agreed to consider a proposal that packages be ~~included~~ ^{the} included in ~~the~~ present exchange of letters - so the prisoners-of-war might receive packages from home. But, again, they rejected the ^{idea} suggested that sick and wounded prisoners be exchanged right away.

(~~At the same time, they refused to permit representatives of the International Red Cross to present a~~)

EGYPT

Big doings at Cairo - and these, for a change, were not howls of anti-British violence. Today Cairo staged a carnival of public rejoicing - welcome for a new Crown Prince. The announcement was made with pageant and ceremony - the birth of a son to King Farouk and Queen Narriman. Whereupon, huge crowds began pouring into the square in front of the palace - where the royal bodyguards, in dazzling uniforms, were lined on parade. A public holiday was declared - hailing Ahmed Fuad, Prince of Lower Egypt, and heir to the crown.

The trouble with the British was forgotten, except for shouts that the birth of the royal babe was a sign of good luck for Egypt - in the struggle for Suez and the Sudan.

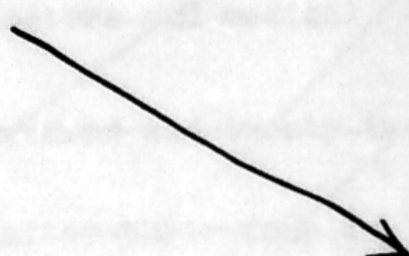
News from the Canal Zone reports British raids against headquarters of terrorists. They rounded up a hundred and sixty, with five Egyptians killed in a series of skirmishes.

SUBSTITUTE LEAD - - TRAIN

The last of the passengers have been removed from the snowbound streamliner "The City of San Francisco" - in blizzard-cho^{ck}ed Donner Pass. The number of those aboard the train now turns out to have been two hundred and fifty-six instead of two hundred and twenty-three passengers, four of whom had been taken off yesterday. Two hundred and nineteen were rescued today, together with thirteen men of the train crew. Twenty of the crew are still aboard "The City of San Francisco" staying there to help get the streamliner out of the snow.

Twenty-seven of the passengers were ill, eight so weakened they were carried on stretchers. Nobody in critical condition however. Most of the passengers were in good spirits when they left the marooned luxury train.

The big job of rescue began this afternoon as soon as powerful snow plows



TRAIN

~~Right now, the passengers are being removed from~~

~~the snowbound streamliner, City of San Francisco, the~~

~~historic shakedown Denver Pass, a route that started~~

~~taking them out this afternoon, as soon as powerful snowplows~~

had succeeded in breaking open U.S. Highway Forty - which

~~parallels~~ the railroad through the high Sierra. The highway

is downhill from the tracks, and the passengers have to be

taken in tractors down that incline - deep with snow. This

tends to slow the rescue job. But, as soon as the passengers

reach the highway, they are ~~immediately~~ taken into trucks and

automobiles - a fleet of which are waiting. Their immediate

destination is Nyack Lodge, a ski resort four miles from the

train. There, they go aboard a relief train, which takes them

down the Sierra Nevada, on their way to San Francisco.

~~Earlier in the day, a rescue train was able to break through the giant snowdrifts, with doctors and medical supplies. They found most of the two hundred and twenty-two passengers and trainmen in good shape, after their four day~~

~~origin in the snow-bound train xxxxxxxx since xxxxxxxx~~ Some
~~have been sick xxx the doctors report that none is in xxxxxxxx~~ serious
condition. They simply had one huge adventure in the blizzard,
^{with}
~~and~~ plenty of discomfort, and even danger. They can tell you
that the Spaniards of old were quite right in giving a name to
that range, the Sierra Nevada - the snow mountains.

And They^{are} still living up to their name - more
snow today, more blizzard, with rising winds. Down in the
Valley,
valleys, in San Joaquin, the story is - rain. All
California, in fact, is being drenched, ^{with} floods in many
places - as a new storm sweeps in.

RACKET

In Washington today, Senate investigators were told about a numbers racket with the headquarters frequented by the police. The witness was a ^(negro)~~negro~~ barmaid - who said that from Nineteen Forty to Nineteen Forty-five, big business in gambling was run in her house. Headed - by Whitetop Simkins, a Negro tavern operator. Runners in the numbers racket brought in as much as six thousand dollars a day, business so big that it required half a dozen adding machines to handle the figures, with a staff of employees on the bookkeeping job. Whitetop Simkins told her that he paid off the police - and, ~~many~~ today, she told the investigators that Washington cops had a way of dropping in at the busy headquarters of the numbers game.

An evil story of dope comes from Syracuse, New York - where a jazz musician, today, was sentenced for growing his own marijuana. And - the police are looking for a blonde accused of peddling dope.

The musician, a pianist for bebop bands, confessed that somebody gave him a supply of marijuana seeds - which he planted. Where? That adds to the insolence and irony of it. He grew a crop of the narcotic plant on land owned by the county - on the outskirts of Syracuse. There, on that public acreage, he harvested his crop of dope.

The blonde figures in a sensation that broke today - news of drug selling to college students. Judge William Banerick, presiding over the investigation, calls the condition - "terrible, appalling." The blonde is ~~named~~ accused of running a business of narcotics in a whole series of colleges in upper New York State - a sort of academic circuit of dope.

BROWNING

Baylor College, Waco, Texas, reports the theft of a piece of sculpture - just about the most sentimental on earth. Two clasped hands, in bronze - hands of the poets Robert and Elizabeth Barrett Browning. A prize treasure at the Armstrong-Browning Library, newly established at a cost of two million dollars.

People still sigh over the Nineteenth Century romance of the Brownings. At the time they met, both were celebrated poets. She, an invalid - and a victim, it seemed, of a strange whim. Her ^{father} ~~father~~ was determined that his children - should never marry. There were several daughters, and he was resolved that they should never have husbands. So the invalid. Elizabeth Barrett, and Robert Browning, had to have a secret wedding - for a lifelong happy union. All of which made a famous love story, and an American woman sculptor, Harriet Hosmer, persuaded the Brownings to

let her make a memento of their devotion - a plaster cast of their two hands, clasped. From which she made a sculpture in bronze.

So that's what has vanished from the Browning Library at Baylor College - vanished in mystery. Today, the police, after making an investigation, say there are no signs of an entry having been forced into the room, the doors and windows of which were locked. They can't guess how the robber ever got in - to steal the hands, in bronze, of Robert and Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

WEDDING

The news from Lynn, Massachusetts, today, sounds like a baseball game - but it's a wedding. A Big League pitcher got married, and the dispatch is more like a score card at a ball park.

The bridegroom - Maury McDermott, who throws fast balls and curves for the Boston Red Sox. The bride - Barbara Riley, an airline stewardess of Miami. Their first meeting was at an exhibition game during a training season in Florida. Red Sox versus Brooklyn Dodgers - and I don't know if McDermott, on the mound, won ~~his~~ game. But he did win - a bride.

Today, his best man at the wedding was Johnny Pesky, the Red Sox infielder. Ushers - First Baseman Walt Dropo, Home Run Hitter on the Boston team. And - Jim Hegan, catcher for the Cleveland Indians.

Even the clergyman was a ball player - the Reverend Bernard O'Kane, who used to pitch for

WEDDING - 2 -

Boston College.

The ritual included the usual "I do."

But the clergyman might have concluded, Nelson,
by calling - "Strike 3?"