

NATO L.P. P. G. Thurs. Feb. 19 - '53.

The North Atlantic Treaty countries have agreed to spend four hundred and fifty million dollars for military bases, chiefly air bases. <sup>And</sup> That's the figure General ~~Matthew~~ Ridgway wanted, in the first place.

In December, there was a clash - when the American Commander of the North Atlantic Treaty forces named the sum - as the "rock bottom minimum." But a conference of Nato powers cut the figure in half. And <sup>Gen.</sup> Ridgway seemed to have lost <sup>out</sup> ~~the~~ ~~game.~~

<sup>Now</sup> But, ~~since then~~ there has been a reversal. So announced by Lord Ismay, Secretary-General of Nato. The North Atlantic Treaty countries have adopted the Ridgway figure.

However, there's a catch. Lord Ismay adding: "The nations are committed to the principle, but not the cash."

So -  
~~Now, they've got to find out who pays?~~

That, ~~in fact~~, was the dispute in December - each nation trying to duck as much of the financial burden as it

could. Today Lord Ismay spoke of that as - "sordid bargaining, humiliating horse-trading, passing the hat around."

He hopes that by the time the Ministers of Nato meet again in April, they'll have decided on ~~that~~<sup>the</sup> question - who is to pay? How they'll divide the burden in putting up four hundred and fifty million for bases - the Ridgway figure.

LONDON

Britain announces a record-breaking peace-time budget for defense - four billion, five hundred million. This will be presented to Parliament by the Churchill government.

It's a record-breaker, but still under the figure at first considered - five billion. Which had to be reduced because Britain's economic position is on the down-grade again.

The new budget was made public today by Minister of Defense Earl Alexander, who stated that the four-and-a-half billions would be devoted, primarily - ~~the~~ to the most advanced weapons of the atomic age. Conventional armament will not be neglected, but the emphasis will be - atomic.

KOREA

The all-out assault on the North Korean tank and infantry training school - went on today. American Jet <sup>planes</sup> ~~planes~~ hurling tons of bombs - and fighting air battles with <sup>the</sup> enemy. ~~Jets~~. Two more Migs shot down.

~~(The great military center near Pongyang, the Communist capital, is taking an awful beating. Today Lieutenant George West of Detroit, who dropped a cargo of bombs on the buildings and supply dumps, declared: "The ground just seemed to heave up and boil, like muddy coffee. When the explosion settled down, there was a ring of about one hundred yards of solid flame."~~

~~But~~ <sup>In some ways</sup> the most interesting of the Jet pilots in the <sup>is</sup> great assault was - Ted Williams, the mighty home-run hitter, former outfielder of the Boston Red Sox. Only three days ago, he had a narrow escape, when he crash-landed a crippled Panther Jet at two hundred miles an hour. <sup>Now</sup> ~~But he was~~ back in action today - on his sixth mission.

Ted Williams was famous in baseball, for his acute eyesight - keeping a sharp eye on the speeding baseball.

But he says the speed of Jet can be still more baffling.

"Trying to find a target, while flying a Panther Jet", he remarks, "is harder than trying to hit that ball.

## MISTAKE

The Chairman of the Committee on Un-American Activities says he made an honest mistake, when he charged - that Mrs. Agnes E. Meyer had written a pro-Communist article for a publication called "Soviet Russia Today." Congressman Velde explains - it was all because of an error in translating an article from the Moscow newspaper Pravda. Somebody else ~~who~~ wrote the <sup>at</sup> pro-Communist article. - not the wife of Eugene Meyer, publisher of the Washington Post.

She cited the false accusation in a bitter attack on Congressman Velde, and Senators McCarthy and Jenner - in connection with an investigation of alleged Communism in schools.

So now, Congressman Velde says she used the mistake he made as a means to assail the investigation.

## TRUMAN

Ex-President Truman is in the news today - twice. He wrote - two letters. In the White House, he was famous for writing letters - and some were scorchers.

Remember that epistle to Paul Hume, Washington Post music critic, whom H.S.T. threatened to punch in the nose - after Hume had written unfavorably about the singing of Daughter Margaret? "I never met you," wrote the President, "but, if I do, you'll need a new nose."

The critic was never resentful - and, recently, wrote a magazine article in which he stated that Harry Truman did more for the art of music than any other President. So now he gets another Truman letter. This time - a pat on the back.

"My interest in music," writes H.S.T., "has been the interest of an amateur who is really fond of good music. I hope I helped some music lovers to have a better appreciation of the great composers."

The other Truman letter, tonight, is on a different subject - money, a problem of presidential finance.

Truman - 2.

The Philadelphia Evening Bulletin runs a column signed "The Philadelphia Lawyer." Which received a letter from a reader, asking - who got paid what on Inauguration Day? The Truman term ended at noon on January Twentieth - the Eisenhower term beginning at that same time. So, was the presidential pay for that one day - split between them?

The columnist, called "The Philadelphia Lawyer" put the question to H.S.T., and gets the following reply:

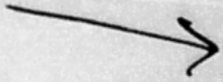
"I'm not able to answer your question. It seems to me like a 'Philadelphia Lawyer' ought to be able to figure it out." To which the ex-President adds: "I merely accepted the check the Secretary of the Treasury sent me - hoping the government would remain solvent long enough for me to cash it."

Nice touch of humor - after all the talk about how the New Deal and Fair Deal were sending the country into bankruptcy.



BLIZZARD

The mountain West is having a ~~great~~ blizzard - violent wind and heavy snow sweeping through Wyoming. A gale - blowing up to fifty-five miles an hour. Snow - fourteen inches.

The blizzard is howling down onto the great plains, where they've been having a destructive drought - with dust bowl conditions, After the dust - now the snow. 

ADD BLIZZARD

To complicate the weather news - Texas had a tornado today. The big wind hit the Ferguson prison farm and blew the roofs off buildings. And - knocked over homes in a nearby community.

STUDENT

At Houston, Texas, Barry Braden is a high school pupil, ambitious to become a newspaper reporter. He hangs around police headquarters - to learn the ways of covering crime stories. The cops encourage him - and, tonight, Barry has a story to write.

An ex-convict with a long record, Bootsie Borg, held up a grocery store, today, and got away in an automobile. The license number was taken, and broadcast.

Barry was riding in a police car with ~~inspector~~ Inspector John Moffett - and spotted the license number. They chased the car. The fugitive tried to make a turn, but ~~could~~ <sup>unable to</sup> get his automobile around, ~~he~~ jumped, ~~out~~, and started to run.

The police inspector, driving on after the bandit, gave his revolver to Barry, and told him - to shoot. So the high school pupil fired - aiming at the feet of the fleeing robber. Who kept going. The inspector said - "Shoot at him." Barry did, and the convict fell.

What then happened is told by Inspector Moffett.

"I told Barry to walk over and make sure he wasn't playing possum. He did, stooped over the man - then came walking back. He was shaking all over. He gulped and said - 'He's dead.'"

The high school student, ambitious to become a reporter - had more of a story than he ever expected.

## SCHOOL FIRE

A flash fire swept through a school in Albany today - the flames racing through corridors and class-rooms. The building, in minutes - a blazing inferno. Four hundred children were at their studies - and there might have been a tragedy of horror. Here's what happened.

directed the rescue. He  
Policeman Walton Williams saw the fire, dashed into the school, and began handing children down out of class-room windows.

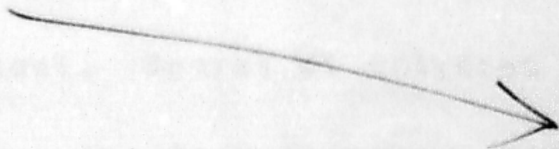
Nearby, workmen were tearing down a building. They ran to the rescue, and here's what Joe Meehan says: "That cop deserves a medal. You should have seen that fellow go. He handed so many kids to us, I don't know how many I myself handled. Ask Stan and Al there."

His fellow workmen, Stan Krempa and Al Bigjohn, <sup>chimed in that</sup> ~~said~~ - they didn't know how many kids they handled, as Policeman Walton Williams <sup>handed them</sup> ~~passed the children down~~ out of the windows.

By good luck, a ladder truck of the City Fire Department, was nearby, when the flash fire broke out.

So, within a minute or so, the firemen had their ladders in place, taking pupils from the upper floors of the school.

All four hundred - saved.



## ADD SCHOOL FIRE

What made the fire so dangerous was the fact - that, immediately, flames blocked the front ~~exit~~ entrance of the school. Scores of children had to be hurried, rushed down the fire escapes. One teacher, Mrs. Helen Rogers, got the twenty-eight youngsters in her class to a fire escape on the third floor, although - things were confused by the sound of the fire alarm.

"Some of the pupils" says Mrs. Rogers, "thought it was an air raid alarm and crawled under their desks."

They thought it was an atom bomb - typical of this modern era.

## BUS DRIVER

Detroit city officials announce that no action will be taken against the school bus driver, John Snay. After driving bus-loads of kids to and from school for twenty-four years, a driver's patience can wear thin. So John Snay is not penalized for the wild ride he gave a rambunctious assortment of boys and girls.

He picked them up at the Denby High School - and things began to happen, though nothing unusual. "It was the same thing every day," says the bus driver, "a bunch of clowns, screaming, pulling the bell rope, running up and down the aisles, and shooting firecrackers. I just got fed up - and I let 'em have it."

He let 'em have it - by taking them on a wild ride, careening around corners, lurching and swerving. He bounced them and scared them - for a whole hour. Then - drove them back to the school and told them to get out! - and walk home.

Not at all according to educational regulations. But even the patience of a school bus driver can wear out.



## INSECT

At the Connecticut Experiment Station for Agriculture, they're beginning a study of the world's most deadly creature.

*Man?!  
That, you may say, is man* The human race might well be considered the deadliest of all species. But, an equally good argument can be made for the habrobracon.

A tiny wasp, one of the smallest of insects; which kills victims a thousand times its own size - the larva of other insects. Does it *with its microscopic* ~~with a~~ poison sting, though the amount of poison is too *minute even* ~~small~~ to be measured. The venom - that deadly.

At the Experiment Station, Dr. Raimon Beard is making a chemical study of the poison, analyzing it, hoping to produce it synthetically in the laboratory. Why? Well, the answer points to D.D.T.]

*That* wonder-working insecticide is beginning to fail - in the case of some insects. They become immune to it, develop a resistance. So the belief is that a more powerful insecticide might be developed from the poison of the tiny *microscopic* wasp - deadliest of creatures.

## CORONATION

In London, the Earl of Shrewsbury insists - he will drive his own coach in the Coronation procession. Thereby - defying the Duke of Norfolk. Lord Shrewsbury is England's premier earl, while the duke is the hereditary Earl Marshal of the Coronation, in charge of arrangements.

The Earl of Shrewsbury has a family coach - built way back in days of yore. Used the last time by King George the Fifth, in Nineteen Eleven - when His Majesty made a visit of state to Ireland. In those days, forty-two years ago, George the Fifth borrowed the Earl of Shrewsbury's coach - to lend a greater dignity, as he drove through the streets of Dublin town.

The coach is a dark red, maroon, padded with red silk inside. The coachman's box - ornamented with gold tassels. To draw the superb vehicle - two handsome chestnut horses. Which a brewer of Birmingham, Maynard Mitchell, has offered His Lordship - for the Coronation.

It should look fine in the procession - especially

with the Earl, himself, driving the coach.

Nothing strange about that, really. Coach driving was an aristocratic sport, back in the days of Queen Victoria, when a Duke or Earl would take the reins and show his skill in a thundering drive across country, in Hampshire, Shropshire or Worcestershire!

The Duke of Norfolk - the Earl Marshal - understands all this, and has his own aristocratic sympathies. His objection is - that horse-drawn carriages are likely to create confusion in London traffic, especially in the jam at Coronation time. He's afraid they'll tangle up the traffic all the way from the Marble Arch to Old Bond Street, and on to Piccadilly and Whitehall.

But the family motto of the Earls of Shrewsbury is - "ready to perform." And the present Earl is full of ancestral pride. He is "ready to perform", driving a coach at the Coronation. And no doubt, Nelson, my dear fellow, you will be there at the foot of the statue of Nelson at Trafalgar Square, to watch His Lordship go careening by.