

Washington Calling—

Outlook for 1947: Lower Prices, Higher Rent, Fewer Strikes

Scarcities, Except Houses, Due to End; Foreign Affairs Picture Not Encouraging

(Continued From Page One)

Dewey's long shadow falls on the scene. Arthur Vandenberg and Indiana's Charles Halleck will be potent.

Anti-Dewey Republicans are working on a "stop-Dewey" plan. Favorite sons are key to their strategy. If they can get enough of them into race, Mr. Dewey will be unable to go to convention with nomination in bag. This will make dicker possible. Harold Stassen will be there with the Minnesota delegation. And this group hopes Mr. Vandenberg will show up with Michigan pledged to him, Kenneth S. Wherry with Nebraska, Edward Martin with Pennsylvania, Owen Brewster with Maine, Leverett Stalton with Ohio, Henry Lodge, Jr. with Massachusetts, Mr. Taft with Ohio and southern state delegations, and Governors Dwight Green of Illinois, Ralph Gates of Indiana and Earl Warren of California with their delegations.

If Republicans go through with plans to oust Theodore Bilbo, they'll succeed. Considerable number of Democrats will vote to keep him out. If there's no real desire to oust him, whole thing easily can be tied into parliamentary knots.

Tax Cuts to Be Slow

There'll be some reduction in taxes next year but don't look for anything as sweeping as 20 per cent across-board cut promised by Rep. Harold Knutson and the Republican steering committee. Republican leaders feel—in view of promises—they must do something, but there are mechanical as well as economic difficulties. Under the congressional reorganization, congress must estimate by Feb. 15 next fiscal year's expenditures and revenues, then cut the cloth to fit the pattern. That will be just 28 days ahead of the March 15 filing date for 1947 individual income taxes—too short for sweeping tax legislation.

Alternatives: ONE: Make personal income tax reductions retroactive, cause taxpayers to file new set of estimates, cause readjustment of pay roll tax reductions, and resulting confusion. TWO: Proceed slowly and make personal income tax cuts effective for calendar year 1948. Political as well as budgetary logic points to this plan, as 1948 will be election year.

No such difficulty is involved in corporate and excise tax cuts—but it's in personal income taxes that voters demand relief. Excise taxes likely will be wiped out fast. Many wartime luxury excises will be abolished, others cut back to prewar rates.

Slight Union Curbs

It looks to us as if the Case bill will become law in 1947 whether Truman signs it or not; as if the Wagner act will be amended giving labor unions more responsibilities, employers more rights.

Senator Taft will be a brake on attempts to pass drastic anti-labor legislation. Ban on closed shop will not pass, though efforts may be made to stop industry-wide bargaining.

Bonus Unlikely Now

Bonus for veterans is not likely during 1947, though business recession would intensify pressure. Best changes are for "fringe" increases in benefits, such as large allowances for veteran college students, more liberal hospitalization privileges for vets and dependents. Biggest number of veteran complaints concern lack of housing, it may grow.

Threat of large-scale veteran unemployment has subsided; number on unemployment bene-

fit payrolls continues to drop. Recession would bring this up too, however, and might cause congress to extend present one-year limit on time a vet can draw unemployment compensation.

Stand-In Era Over

President Truman's state-of-union message, as now planned, will be no point-by-point espousal of the Roosevelt New Deal, but will carry enough liberal Democratic philosophy to forestall criticism that the President has been converted to conservatism. His friends say Mr. Truman now feels he's on his own, not obligated to act as stand-in for Roosevelt, as in first year of his administration.

Food industry leaders will try to get new congress to cut government farm-price support levels, thus bringing down food costs to consumers. Their goal: Cut in government support from 90 per cent of parity to 70 per cent. Motive is to hold up the present high rate of consumption—and thus sales. They say government support at 70 per cent will give farmers substantial crop income. Farm bloc leaders in congress admit some revision is necessary, will fight such large reduction. They argue the government is pledged to continue 90 per cent support at least through 1949; that continued farm prosperity is necessary if country is to prosper.

Church Council To Analyze Bills

(Continued From Page One)

and leave it up to those councils to send the word on down.

Final method by which the churchgoer will receive the information on what is going on in the legislature will be up to individual churches, the Rev. Mr. Holland said. He assumed there would be occasions on which announcements would be made to congregations from pulpits or platforms.

Local option, the Rev. Mr. Holland said, "probably would be considered a matter of moral significance." Therefore, he said, this was one subject on which the information committee might be expected to keep churchgoers posted.

Other Plans Undetermined

Whether or not the committee will undertake to disseminate similar information on bills concerning the public health program, mental hospital legislation, welfare and similar bills, the Rev. Mr. Holland could not say.

Between now and the opening of the general assembly Jan. 9 the committee is expected to determine how far it will go in keeping voters abreast of the anticipated tide of legislation.

'Cool-Off' Period

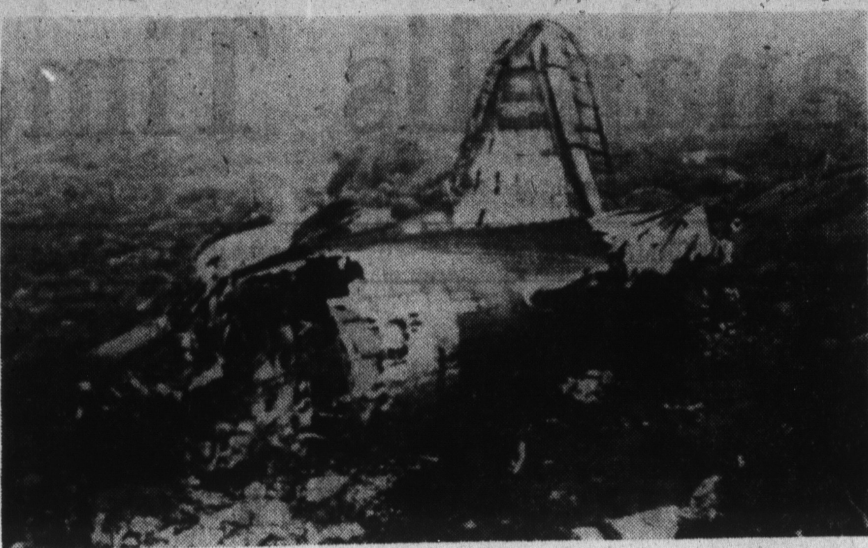
The legislature probably will get a "cooling off" period on the red hot question of direct primary before going into action on it.

The recent exchange of unpleasantness between State Auditor A. V. Burch, the primary's chief exponent, and state Republican Chairman Clark Springer, its chief opponent, was not regarded by legislative policy makers as conducive to calm deliberation.

Although several bills on the primary question are expected to be introduced, it may be near the end of the session before the question comes to the floor for open debate.

Meanwhile, Chairman Springer is understood to have washed his hands of all legislative matters except "those which directly concern the party organization."

By mutual consent of other party chiefs and legislative leaders, Mr. Springer probably will maintain this hand-off policy throughout the 61-day session.



SMASHED AIRLINER—Here is the wreckage of the Western Airlines plane which smashed into boulder-strewn Cuyapipe peak near San Diego Christmas eve. Rescuers fought their way through a blizzard today to remove the bodies of 12 persons killed in the wreck. All aboard apparently had been killed instantly.

Constellation Crash Kills 12

11 Hurt in Fire TWA Accident

(Continued From Page One)

the wrecked liner said that it was "completely disintegrated."

Two children, a 4½-month-old baby from Newark, N. J., and a 12-year-old French student who lives in New York were among the survivors. The baby escaped serious injury.

Stewardess Is Heroine

Survivors paid high tribute to pretty Vina Kay Ferguson, hostess aboard the plane, whose coolness and calm nerves were credited with saving most of those who survived.

Mrs. Ferguson said: "We got out as best we might. The portion of the plane in which I was when the ship crashed happened to be the least wrecked. Most of those who died were pinned in the wreckage."

Mrs. Edith Delaby Waterbury, a

19-year-old French girl who was taking her 4½-month-old son, Charles Bruce, to join her G.I. husband in the United States said: "Miss Ferguson was definitely the heroine of the crash. She did everything she could to calm the passengers on board when there was anxiety as to whether we could make Shannon for a forced landing. Her husband, Charles Waterbury, is a 28-year-old steelworker of Newark, N. J. 'Thanks to her we were ready for the worst when the worst came.'"

American passengers who lost their lives were: Alan Charles Lanyon, a Washington economist; Mrs. Clementine Jeanne Pugh, Philadelphia housewife, and Alexander H. Pekelis, Larchmont, N. Y., a professor at the new school for social research.

Other fatalities included a Polish merchant and five citizens of France.

Dead crew members were Navigator Robert Osterburg, Flight Engineer Walter McBride, both of Alexandria, Va., and Radio Officer Herbert Burmeister, Washington, D. C.

Injured passengers, besides Mrs. Waterbury, her baby, and the French student, were a French en-

gineer and Dr. David N. Tannenbaum of New York, director of the Palestine Economic bureau.

The injured crew members, besides the hostess and pilot, were: Co-pilot Clifford Sparrow, Washington, D. C.; Flight Service Officer Joseph Logan, Atlantic City, N. J.; Radio Officer Dudley Hill, Alexandria, Va., and Flight Superintendent William Teale, Santa Monica, Cal.

Police Find Car Of Escaped Convicts

SOUTH BEND, Ind., Dec. 28 (U. P.).—Discovery of a stolen automobile linked with a St. Joseph, Mich., jailbreak sent Indiana police on a search for three escaped prisoners today.

The car was found abandoned in South Bend. It was believed used by Robert Fehling, 26, Watertown, Wis.; Eugene Dobbins, 28, Benton Harbor, Mich., and Alfred Wisette, 25, Benton Harbor.

They sawed their way out of the Berrien county jail Christmas eve.

INDIANAPOLIS CLEARING HOUSE

Clearings —For the Day— \$ 8,363,000

Debits —For the Day— 23,210,000

Clearings —For the Week— \$ 39,710,000

Debits —For the Week— 106,300,000

Starting Monday, December 30
we will resume our 5-day week,
being

Closed Mondays

Store Hours: 9:00 to 5:25
Tuesday through Saturday

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Wealthy Chicago Man Slain, Maid Beaten by Burglars

(Continued From Page One)

they will be sent to the FBI in Washington.

Police pieced together Miss Held's statements with a trail of blood stains, criss-crossing the first floor rooms, kitchen and basement.

"I was in the kitchen doing the dishes when the front bell rang," the maid said. "There were two men I had never seen before. They asked to see the lady of the house and I told them she was not in—that only old Mr. Freund and I were home."

Beaten on Head

Miss Held said the men shoved her back into the house, and drew their guns. "They pushed me to the fireplace and beat me on the head with the end of their guns," she told officers.

The maid said she heard Mr. Freund coming upstairs from his basement workshop. But she lost consciousness and did not see him approach the men. The next thing she remembered was being struck by the men again, and dragged through the kitchen and thrown down the basement stairs.

Police believed the bandits demanded Mr. Freund accompany

them upstairs and disclose the hiding place of his daughter-in-law's jewelry.

Struck Several Times

When he refused, police figured, the assassins grabbed the chisel he had carried from the workshop and struck him several times in the head and beat him with their guns until he collapsed.

Miss Held said after she "came to" she crawled to a rear basement door and tried to unlock the screen. The slayers found her there and again beat her unconscious.

The slayers then went to the second floor to systematically ransack the bureau, closets, nooks and crannies of three bedrooms.

Loot Is Jewelry

Their loot consisted of a diamond brooch valued at \$1000 and a pair of gold earrings set with amethyst stones.

Detectives said the "cold brutality" of the murder suggested that the assailants were "drug addicts hopped up for the job." They said the thieves easily could have subdued the aged man and maid without such violence and brutality.

Co Race Pre-4 Of Ta

Leaders Outside

By LYNN

WASHINGTON—The bitterly-fought leadership contest compromise choice to be Charles A. Clarence J. B. A. Jenkins Dirksen of Ill.

They are the nounced themselves "a on biggest congressional is the speaker for Rep. Jose Massachusetts

Halleck Rep. Brown regarded as tenders for Halleck is gl to win.

Out in the that the lead with 1948 pre Halleck is ch candidate of Dewey of New ship favorite Taft of Ohio.

Senator Taft are standou Republican pr

Wadsworth The name Wadsworth of frequently me misse leaders Wadsworth statesman an the house. I the senate, h since 1932.

But Mr. y years old nex and of a re probably wou ment to per to take on th

Others sug Leslie C. Are Wolcott of Wolverton C. Pl House Rep next week. P hoping that members get ment can b leadership to contest.

Talmadge Seeks

ATLANTA, Herman Talm Governor-elect offered him Georgia today, ciples of white by his father.

It was the young Talm death precipi for a success Governor Ell

Mr. Talm white super Negroes from mary.

"I feel it is and to the p said, "to car which he fou Mr. Arnall permit Lt. G son to succe made's supp the state co ture must el emergency.

Both Thon forces have battle.

Committee Report

WASHINGTON—A senate committee to full commit

Senator The Miss.) for h sissippi war Committee port makes the question should be d senate, it m allegedly ac contracts he ment jobs in

The comm members on the subcomm expected the public Thurs

The report ator Homer I was based on public hearis evidence the celved an ex some furnit from Mississ

Poles Se Priest to

WARSAW, P.).—The Ro fansi was t today impose court for ill tivity.

During his cution charg youths to m Polish press. Catholic prie on these cha