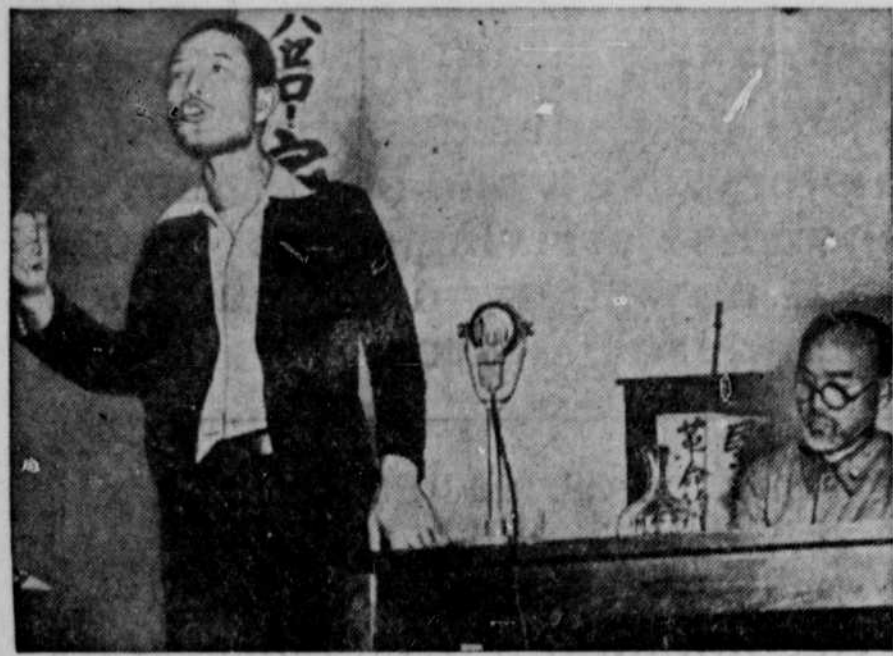


WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Congress Fashions 5 1/2 Billion Dollar Tax Reduction for 1946; Ponder Postwar Army Training

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



With freedom of speech assured under Allied orders, former Japanese political prisoner addresses gathering in Tokyo. Under proposed liberalized constitution, all Japanese elements would be afforded opportunity for recognition in nation's governmental councils.

TAXES: Good News

Though the senate and house had yet to compromise their differences, John Q. Public could look forward to substantial reductions in income taxes in 1946, and American business was assured generous relief for the immediate postwar period.

No less than 2 1/2 billion dollars was expected to be lopped off of individual income taxes as a result of provisions for permitting \$500 exemptions for dependents before payment of the normal 3 per cent levy and the scaling down of surtax rates.

Close to another 3 billion dollars was scheduled to be pared from corporation income taxes through substantial reduction or total elimination of the excess profits assessment; repeal of the declared value excess profits and capital stock levies, and graduated decrease in surtax rates on companies with less than \$60,000 net return.

In addition to income tax reductions, the use tax on automobile and boats was expected to be dropped. Solons were divided on the question of wartime luxury levies, however, with the house for cutting present rates to prewar levels July 1 and the senate against the action.

With reserves well over 6 billion dollars, both houses were unanimous in freezing present social security payroll taxes at 1 per cent on employee and employer alike and forestalling an automatic increase to 2 1/2 per cent apiece January 1.

Under the tax relief bill drawn up by the senate, G.I.s would not be required to pay taxes on service compensation during the war years, and officers would be permitted to spread tax liabilities over a three year period interest free.

LABOR: Setting Pattern

With both Henry Ford II and United Automobile Workers' leaders expressing confidence in settlement of a wage adjustment at the company, government officials held high hopes that an agreement might result in the establishment of a postwar pay pattern and clear the way for speedy reconversion.

Government optimism was a welcome note in the dreary labor picture, pointed up by the deadlock in negotiations between the UAW and General Motors over the CIO union's demands for a 30 per cent wage increase to maintain wartime "take-home" pay and the corporation's resistance to the demands because of possible effects on prices.

Setting the pattern for other CIO unions, the UAW declared that General Motors was able to dip into alleged huge wartime profits to carry over any losses accruing from higher wages until future production reached big volume levels. Reflecting industrial sentiment for its own part, General Motors denied exorbitant wartime earnings and declared any withdrawal from reserves would crimp expansion plans.

As the companies and unions clashed, the administration worked on a reconversion wage policy designed to guide negotiations through the troublesome days ahead. Strongly influenced by labor, the government reportedly favored substantial wage boosts to maintain wartime "take-home" pay while freezing prices at prewar levels, except in hardship cases.

Giving both capital and labor its say in the formulation of a reconver-

sion pay program, the government moved slowly in the establishment of policy. Hopes ran high that the forthcoming management-labor parley would result in the voluntary creation of machinery for settlement of important disputes.

MILITARY TRAINING: Await Response

Having received President Truman's recommendation for one year of postwar military training for American youth 17 to 20, congress adopted a cautious attitude on the question, with one ear perked for popular reaction and the other for military argument.

Personal congressional response to the President's request varied, with Senator Revercomb (Rep., W. Va.) declaring "... I am open minded—I want to hear both sides of this. ... " while Representative Celler (Dem., N. Y.) exclaimed "... We



President Truman asks congress for military training for youth.

want no truck with compulsory military conscription. ... "

Meanwhile, it was estimated that about 975,000 youth would be called up for training each year under the President's program, with 250,000 rejected for physical or mental deficiencies. Because of weather considerations, the largest number of camps undoubtedly would be located in the south, with regular army officers and non-commissioned officers in charge. Fewer routine tasks, such as kitchen police, would be in store for reservists, military sources said.

JAPAN: Reform Imminent

Her military machine smashed, Japan's highly developed economic monopolies, designed for foreign as well as domestic exploitation, also faced imminent dissolution as part of the Allied program to strip Nippon of her war-making potential and democratize the country.

The losers figured to be the five great financial-industrial families of Japan, which, as the dominant civilian powers, had exercised strong pressure on the nation's foreign policies. Backed both politically and financially by the government, the big five, known as the "zaibatsu," were heavy investors in overseas development.

By smashing the "zaibatsu," the Allies planned to loosen their grip over Japanese politics and permit more liberal and democratic elements to exert influence over government direction. At the same time, destruction of the great combines promised freer opportunity for economic development in the country.

As steps were taken for the dissolution of the "zaibatsu," the political transformation of Japan slowly gained ground with new parties in the development stage and more liberal political institutions impending in the rewriting of the national constitution.

AGRICULTURE: Global Pact

First permanent body of the United Nations, the Food and Agriculture organization (FAO) came into existence in the grand ballroom of the Chateau Frontenac in Quebec, Canada, with 30 nations formally signing its constitution.

Though possessing no executive powers over member nations, FAO seeks, through voluntary interchange of information and effort, to improve agricultural production, raise nutritional standards and better the living conditions of rural populations. Indicative of the big job FAO has on its hands, two-thirds of the world's population is estimated to be ill-fed, with many facing periodic starvation.

Signatories to the FAO constitution include Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, France, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Iraq, Liberia, Luxembourg, Czechoslovakia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Peru, Union of South Africa, Philippines, England, United States and Venezuela.

FRANCE: Left Swing

With their fundamental platforms at variance, France's three great political parties—the Communists, Socialists and Popular Republican movement—prepared for the establishment of a new constitution as demanded in the recent election.

As the three major parties and a smattering of smaller organizations moved to write a new political charter for the country, the Popular Republican movement, backed by General De Gaulle, loomed as a counterweight between the Communists and Socialists. Known as a Catholic Liberal party, and led by Foreign Minister Bidault, the PRM's surprising demonstration of strength in the elections was indicative of the quick defense thrown up by moderate elements against the threat of extreme radicalism.

The new alignment found France's political picture characteristically mixed, with the Socialists joined with the PRM for a western bloc of European nations against Communist opposition; the Communists committed to a swift program of nationalization of industries; the Socialists favoring more study of such an undertaking and the PRM for a moderate course.

FIRE RAIDS: U. S. Vulnerable

Back from a tour of war-racked Europe, Anthony J. Mullaney, chief fire marshal of Chicago, Ill., and a noted authority on fires, declared that investigations showed that no great city could withstand concentrated explosive and incendiary raids and domination of the skies overhead was the only assurance of safety.

In making his disclosure, Mullaney cited the obliteration of Hamburg, Germany, where all walls were of brick, numerous firebreaks existed, no skyscrapers reared up and an efficient fire department operated. In a contrast indicative of the vulnerability of American cities, Mullaney cited localities dotted with frame buildings, wood lathe and plaster construction, tall buildings, and few empty spaces for allowing a sweeping fire to peter out.

In burning out Hamburg, Mullaney said, great squads of Allied bombers first dropped explosives to rip up structures, with incendiaries then being loosed upon the open wreckage. Towering flames licked up the oxygen to create a vacuum into which air from surrounding areas then rushed in, creating fierce "fire storms." With instruments recording temperatures of 1,400 degrees F., over 40,000 persons were said to have died from the flames, heat inhalation or asphyxiation.

NAVY: Speed Releases

With nearly 300,000 enlisted men and officers already released since V-J Day, the navy planned for the demobilization of an additional 800,000 by the first of next year through a reduction in discharge scores.

Following establishment of lower scores November 1, the navy contemplated an even further cut December 1, with male officers' point requirements pared to 44; enlisted male personnel to 39; WAVE officers to 30, and enlisted WAVE personnel 24.

In cutting its discharge scores, the navy left its point computation unaltered, with one-half point for each year of age; one-half point for each full month of service; 10 points for dependents regardless of number, and one-fourth point for each month of service outside of the U.S., since September 1, 1939.

TURKEYS:

G.I.s and civilians alike are assured of ample supplies of turkeys for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays even though the size of birds may be smaller than usual due to growers' speeding up production upon government demand.

Purchasing turkeys as early as last August, the army quartermaster corps assured plentiful stocks for service personnel. Most of the birds already have been dressed and stored in warehouses or are in progress of shipment overseas.

Washington Digest
 Sounder Education Needed To Maintain Free World

Economics and Geography Among Studies Required to Ground Students in the Problems at Home and Abroad.

By BAUKHAGE
 News Analyst and Commentator.

WNU Service, 1616 Eye Street, N.W., Washington, D. C.
 (This is the first of two articles on the subject of the "new reconversion.")

In the last two months the public has learned a lot about the importance of industrial reconversion. For many more months, business men, with the help of the best technical advice they could obtain, have been preparing to shift from wartime to peacetime production. Government has shared the knowledge of its experts and proffered its co-operation. Labor has contributed its suggestions. All three know what they want. Together they hope to obtain a successful synthesis.

But what many people do not realize is that the nation, the whole world, for that matter, is facing another reconversion problem, equally as difficult to solve, equally as important to achieve. It is the reconversion of our whole educational system, and upon its success depends the political future of democracy and its economic future as well, as embodied in the theory and outworking of free enterprise.

It is no exaggeration to say that our current educational system, which along with our wartime industrial system made Allied victory possible, is no more adapted to meet the new and startling problems of the postwar world than the Japanese defense could meet the atomic bomb.

Enlightened educators everywhere realize this. In a short time experts will meet in London to work out a program outlined in San Francisco by the men and women who planned the educational and cultural council of the United Nations. Here at home and in other democratic countries, domestic educational policies are being reshaped to meet the new conditions.

Education for world freedom is an important objective; education for freedom in the land of the free is equally important, for it is the foundation stone of world democracy. We have the task of reconverting our own antiquated machinery so that it will be geared to produce and maintain freedom. The United Nations' task is to build new machinery which will displace the Nazi-Fascist teachings which still have their hold on a large segment of the population. Our own product must be both a weapon of offense and of defense.

We have a powerful example in the need for this in the demonstrated strength of the Nazi ideology and the weakness of what we have so far produced to combat it.

Nazi Propaganda Remains Strong

A report made public only a week or two ago reveals how "Nazism at its blackest," as the report describes it, is being kept alive in a series of "resistance clubs" in Germany scattered from the North sea to the Bavarian mountains. Allied investigators have pieced together an appalling picture of a widespread activity based upon race hatred, and other Nazi principles with which the German youth has been so thoroughly indoctrinated in a manner pointed out in these columns some time ago and which I then said must be dealt with eventually.

The offense is powerful, and the weakness of our defense is illustrated in recent dispatches telling us how Nazi propaganda is affecting the viewpoint of the American army of occupation. A major is reported as doubting the truth of the atrocity stories in the concentration camp of Dachau located only a few miles from where he was stationed. American soldiers are heard parroting the familiar Goebbels' fabrication that Germany was forced into the war; that Hitler had his faults but was really great in many respects, or if Hitler's glory is found to be too strong a goat he is used as a scapegoat to excuse German war guilt.

I have just come from a long talk with one of America's great educators, John Studebaker, United States Commissioner of Education. It was he who introduced me to the phrase, "the new reconversion."

"Our democratic system is threatened from within and without," he said to me earnestly. "The Amer-

ican school gave our polyglot nation the solidarity to carry on the war successfully. But," he added, "we have severe tests ahead. We must educate for freedom, and educate for existence in a newly integrated world of which we are an integral part. We must understand our own problem and the problems of others."

I couldn't help applying this theory to the stories from Germany. A thorough understanding of democracy is proof against Nazi propaganda. An understanding of other peoples and events beyond our borders which affect us—as the rise of Hitler and Mussolini affected us—would make us deaf to German prevarications and excuses.

In order to meet the threats against democracy from within and from without, Mr. Studebaker believes, with most of his colleagues, that our present educational system will have to be thoroughly renovated. "Both the plant and the product must be remodeled," he says.

He chose two subjects—geography and economics—as examples of how the product must be altered.

Knowledge of Conditions Vital

Geography is important because it is a study of the world in which we live. It is a study of the peoples who live in the world—of our very near, thanks to jet propulsion and atomic energy, if not always very dear neighbors. Geography is also the study of the pursuits, the industries of the people of the world. Its grasp is essential if we are to bring intelligent thought to judgment of events and the conditions at home and abroad and their effect upon each other and upon us.

"And yet, geography was never taught to our people," Mr. Studebaker says. "We stop teaching it at the eighth grade. The younger children, from three to eight, are taught by teachers who themselves never had more than eighth grade instruction in the subject."

And his second example of one of our educational products which must be strengthened, economics, "belongs still less to the people." Only 5 per cent of the high school pupils ever studied economics, he informed me, and only 5 per cent of these ever learned anything about international trade.

"How can we possibly meet the problems arising now if we do not understand this subject? How can we possibly maintain free enterprise if we cannot pass a considered judgment on the questions that the papers are full of every day? How can a person say whether a wage increase is fair if he has never studied the simplest theories of supply and demand, or the more complicated relations of wages, costs, profits?"

And in the international field, he continued, how could a person who had never learned the fundamentals of international trade know whether a tariff was justified, whether a cartel was dangerous, whether certain foreign business activities benefited the people as a whole, whether free competition or government subsidy was a better policy? How could they advise their congressman to vote on the Bretton Woods agreement, or the policy of foreign loans?

Just as geography suffers because its teaching ends before maturity is reached (maturity in this sense is the 15-16 year group, roughly high school age), economics is begun too late. It is offered as a one-year, high school course and boiled down into such a concentrated potion that not only are vital elements omitted (such as international trade) but it becomes a dry and highly abstruse subject. Furthermore, since it is often an elective (a subject I'll touch on in a later article), it may be omitted entirely because it is "hard."

These two subjects are only two examples of those which should, in Mr. Studebaker's opinion, make up a solid "core" of education available to all.

"This core," he says, "is essential if we are to build solidarity in a democratic society. A certain group of vital, basic subjects which will help us understand the problems that threaten democracy, the down-to-earth facts necessary to give us the basis for a sound faith in our way of life."



THE boxer-puncher argument takes on a new form in the case of Joe Louis against Billy Conn. For in addition to being a knockout puncher, Louis was also among the better boxers. So Conn had to gamble his boxing skill and his greater speed against an opponent who could box and wreck you with either hand.

Here's the story Conn told me of their only meeting:

"When we came to the 12th round, I knew I was out in front. At least I felt sure I had a lead on points. Then a funny thing happened. The 12th round was too good for my own good. I outboxed Louis by a good margin in that round, adding to my lead. Near the close of the round I found a good opening and I nailed Louis square on the chin with a right.

"I saw his eyes roll and his knees sag. I knew Joe was hurt. So all I had to do in the next three rounds was to box and keep away. I know I could have done that, for at the time Louis was a tired man. But this is where I got dumb in place of being smart. I decided I could knock Joe out. I honestly thought he was all through.

So instead of keeping away I sailed in and started slugging with him, toe to toe. The pictures showed that I made no effort to keep away from a fellow who could out-hit me with either hand. The great Conn wasn't willing to win a world's championship on points. He also had to be Killer Conn.

"Well, I got what I deserved. I got knocked out. But I still figure a better boxer can handle a harder puncher, even when he is badly out-weighted. These hard punchers don't like shifting, moving targets that are hard to tag."

Boxer vs. Slugger

Past records of the ring have usually shown the boxer can hold his own against the slugger. Jim Corbett proved it against John L. Sullivan, looking back some 53 years. Sullivan at the moment, however had been all through for some time, after 10 years of strong alcoholic indulgence.

What about Corbett and Fitz at Carson City? Well, don't forget that Ruby Robert could box as well as punch. Fitz in fact was a great boxer. Jack Johnson was another able boxer, one of the best.

What about Jack Dempsey and Gene Tunney, used as the leading example of boxer vs. puncher? They fought 20 rounds of which Tunney won at least 16—possibly more.

But don't forget that the Dempsey of Philadelphia and Chicago was far from being the Dempsey of Toledo. Seven years on top take their toll.

Sam Langford was a great fighter and a great puncher. But check Old Sam's record against 139-pound Jack Blackburn, who trained Joe Louis. Blackburn told me once that in seven fights Langford had never knocked him down. I hurt Langford as much as Sam hurt me," Blackburn said. Blackburn was a master boxer, one of the greatest. Sam Langford will tell you that.

Langford looked better against Jack Johnson and Harry Wills than he looked against Blackburn—as Blackburn explained the case some years ago.

Why Conn Wasn't in Navy

With Joe Louis in the army, why wasn't Billy Conn picked for the navy? This question has been asked more than once. This is the story we get from a high navy official. We had Conn all set to go into the navy. This was also O. K. with Conn. At the time we figured an army-navy ring match might help out a lot in some financial war campaign. Even if this never took place, we wanted Conn in the navy. So Conn reported at a navy recruiting station. But instead of waiting in line, Billy wandered around the place. Finally a navy petty officer, not knowing who Conn was, ordered him to get in line. The order was given somewhat brusquely. It made no hit with Conn. In place of obeying the command, Conn told the petty officer what he thought of him and just where he could go. And after this Conn left the navy recruiting place and went out to enlist in the army.

This is 100 per cent Conn. Just how Billy ever got by in taking army orders is another mystery. There is nothing the Pittsburgh fighter hates worse than taking orders, or even suggestions. He wants his own way.

\$80,000 a Year Men

Ruth drew an \$80,000 salary one year in baseball and that figure still remains tops in the diamond game. Walter Hagen made more than \$80,000 around that time, but no golfer in those days ever drew important money from tournament play.

It is all different now. Nelson is already around the \$60,000 mark this year with several big money tournaments left in the South, all in the \$10,000 class.

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Sanitation Pays To keep disease away from the dairy herd, never purchase feed in unsterilized second-hand bags, and do not permit feed, hay and bedding to be hauled in trucks that may be contaminated. Another precaution is to keep feed mangers, drinking cups, calf pails and other utensils scrupulously clean and sanitary.

Making Tires Last Here are a few recommendations to those who want to save their tires: Use the spare tire occasionally even if you haven't a flat. It will otherwise deteriorate from disuse. Drive the long way round if the short-cut isn't on smooth roads. Watch out for "curb scraping" when parking. Half of the tire trouble comes from that direction.

Auto Accidents Will Mount Our first postwar year will see more deaths from automobile accidents than Americans suffered from the first two years of world warfare. Everyone should know the proper steps in reporting an accident and in summoning an ambulance for its victims, in order to hold down the toll.

Dangerous 'Baking Powder' The old story about the biscuits that were heavy because the cook mistook "bug powder" for baking powder is not so ridiculous as it sounds. Many serious accidents have resulted from carelessness with insecticides used in the home and garden.

Human Scape-Goats Sin-eaters were believed to take upon themselves the sins of the dead by means of food and drink. In upper Bavaria sin-eating long survived. A corpse cake was placed on the breast of the deceased and then eaten by the nearest relative.

Code of Confucius' Not His Own Confucius did not found the code of morals and ethics which bears his name. Rather, he was the transmitter of teachings of antiquity and the editor of some of the Chinese classics.

Anaplasmosis in Cattle Anaplasmosis is a disease of cattle resulting from infection by a minute parasite which inhabits the blood stream and attacks the red blood cells, destroying them and producing a severe and fatal anemia.

Huge Postwar Market for Autos Looms

Potential demand for automobiles by domestic consumers next year should amount to 9,843,000 cars, after allowing for 331,000 cars to meet the increase in population, says the Alexander Hamilton institute.

At the beginning of 1942, the number of passenger automobiles in operation in the United States was at a record peak of 27,364,000, results of an extensive survey showed. As the result of the stoppage of production during the war, the prospect is that there will be only 21,821,000 cars in operation at the beginning of 1946. Taking into account the increase in population since 1942, the number of passenger automobiles in operation at the beginning of 1946 will thus be 6,768,000 cars below the normal level and in addition 2,744,000 cars may be scrapped in 1946.

BARBS . . . by Baukhage

They've just made a film about teachers—for the children's sake let's hope they don't get a film about pupils. It might result in more spankings than a bad report card.

A new process of canning in aluminum for highly sensitive machines and parts saves warehousing—and we hope it will make more new jobs than will be lost by displaced warehousemen.

There won't be enough oysters this year to supply the demand. Probably the war took too many shells.

An eye-bank is being established, the purpose of which is to make available healthy corneal tissue to restore sight to those who are blind through an affliction of the cornea. The system is similar to the blood-banks and no less valuable. I wish they would establish a hair-bank.