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TRUCK DAMAGE TO ROADS

SIX-MONTHS co-operative study in the State of Maryland promises to answer a question that has been debated hotly for years—how to do heavy truck damage to the highways?
An interim report on the Maryland study has just been issued, and it presents findings that should be of great interest to the North Carolina General Assembly and to the State Highway Commission.

parison, with the same number of truck passes, 10 per cent of the joints carrying 32,000-pound loads were depressed.
One conclusion jumps out of these findings: An axle load increase arithmetically the same caused the road to react geometrically in other words, a 30 per cent increase in axle loads does not cause a 30 per cent increase in damage. Rather, it may cause an increase in damage of several hundred per cent.

TOBEY WINS COMMITTEE POST

SHORT of selecting Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon, the Republican Party made the best possible choice of a man to fill the vacancy in the important Senate Foreign Relations Committee.
Charles W. Tobey, the outspoken and liberal Senator from New Hampshire, finally won out on the basis of sending after months-long jockeying the post after the GOP Senate floor vote.

Europe, he is an impassioned supporter of Chiang Kai-shek, and his selection would have created new obstacles to the development of a harmonious Far Eastern Policy.
Tobey offered to stand aside and let the foreign relations seat go to Speaker Aiken of Vermont, provided that Senator Brewster of Maine, who also had a seniority claim, be named to the same.

NABBING THE 'SMALL FRY'

NORTH CAROLINA courts have been notably reluctant to crack down hard on "small fry" in the bootlegging, lottery and other assorted rackets. The prevailing theory is that the big operators are the main culprits, and that it doesn't do much good to punish the little fellows severely.
Recorder J. Winfield Smith of Wilmington has other ideas on the subject. This week he handed out sentences to nineteen "small fry" bootleggers and lottery ticket peddlers.

Recorder Smith on the subject, it can be assumed that he considers "runners" to be necessary to the successful operation of a numbers racket, and that stiff sentences for "small fry" will discourage others from working for the syndicate managers.
We believe that Judge Smith has something there. It would be better, of course, to get at the top men in the lottery racket, and put them behind bars for a long time. The trouble is that they pretty hard to catch, and even harder to convict. If alert police officers make it tough enough on the "small fry," the big boys will be left without a force to make the plug-ups and pay-offs, and their business will soon dry up.

WHAT PRICE GLORY?

SINCLAIR LEWIS, the novelist, died this week in Rome. He was 65 and the author of a number of sound and biting novels about life in the United States. He brought great fame to himself and some honor to his country in 1930 when he received the Nobel Prize for Literature. The prize was based, largely, on his novels, Main Street, published in 1920. Bent Sin (1922) and Arrowsmith (1926).

thing he had between Main Street and his triumph in Stockholm was lost.
Perhaps one of the reasons would be pointed out: "Nothing fails like success." Perhaps ours is not the proper climate for the genius. We wear them out too fast—with money and adulation. Few of our geniuses survive this onslaught of affection.
Now and then someone like Thomas Merton comes on the scene and solves the whole matter by retiring to a monastery. Merton, who monopolized the best-seller lists in 1949, is living in a Trappist retreat, free from the attractive but dangerous life of wine, women and song.

It is disturbing sometimes to realize how short the life of genius actually is. The great Lewis genius was a decade, and although he continued to write, to produce readable novels it was clear that something had died.

We can't send all our great minds to monasteries, however. And we certainly can't stop the public from lionizing the popular novelists, the baseball star, the child prodigy of Hollywood.

Under present arrangements in most communities there is no place left to take these disturbed persons, sending them to some other institution, except the jail, where at least they are protected from themselves. If they are violent they must be placed under some kind of restraint. Even if admission to a public institution is secured, several days may pass before committing papers can be cleared and other necessary details

attended to. Special rooms in general hospitals, such as the Shelby hospital is providing, offer at least a temporary answer. They represent little enough progress, but progress, and nevertheles in a field where public indifference and inaction have too long prevailed.

Two thoughtful bachelors remarked that the worst bustle was peculiar. You would think from the sound of it that it was worn in an entirely different place—Kingsport (Tenn.) Times.

Truman Speech Courts Cause Of Unification

By THE ALSOP'S
WASHINGTON
FOR FORECASTERS of the Congressional climate, the most important single fact about the President's message to Congress is an omission. The customary defiant demand for the Fair Employment Practices act and other items in the civil rights program was conspicuously missing.
Five years ago, the President left out the act which has regularly plunged each new session of Congress into an instantaneous, embittered and time-consuming dog fight.

At that time and thereafter, many of those who were in the President's camp were sure that the President would have to make, if he hoped for Congressional cooperation, the world crisis.

To this argument, it is now unavailing. Truman has not changed his mind, to be sure, about civil rights. He has merely deferred the matter until he can get a solid civil rights program at the time.

Both the Heel Senators had little to complain about in their committee assignments. Willis Smith, according to Democratic floor leader Ernest W. McFarland, was the only freshman Senator to get his first choice, Judiciary.

The situation brings to mind the story told about a recent visit of a Democrat on the House Ways and Means Committee. He has been waiting patiently ten years for 80-year-old Bob Doughton to step out of the way.

Smith's other assignment, the District Committee—a sort of city council which helps govern Washington—the Senator is frank to say that he knows little about municipal government. However, most freshmen are in the same boat.

There is only one way to achieve these ends and to unify the country. In 1943, in comparable but much less dangerous circumstances, the Government organized the nearest equivalent to a national coalition government.

BEFORE this session of Congress is over, the President is going to get quite a tussle over whether he has the right to send troops overseas. The Republicans led by Senator Tyng have already questioned the matter. And rumblings of support for

Okay, Let's Have It'



News From The Capital Tar Heels Get Committee Choices

By TOM SCHLESINGER
Charlotte News Special Writer

THE GOP move are already apparent in portions of the Southern bloc.
Senator Hoye, for instance, in commenting on the President's State-of-the-Union address, declared: "I still believe that it would be wise for the President to consult Congress before committing troops for combat duty outside the United States."

Senator Smith said while "I realize that these were emergencies in isolated cases where the President should and did have the authority to send troops into combat, I do not think troops should be sent in fighting strength without approval of Congress."

Most of the Democratic comments on the President's speech were complimentary. Hoye thought it "splendid on the whole." Smith called it "reassuring." Doughton, while saying any attempt to raise the huge budget by a national sales tax would be only a last ditch effort, asserted stonily: "We shall do what we can to provide the taxes without wrecking the economy."

A REPUBLICAN came between Senator Hoye and Senator Smith. Richard Nixon of California last week took over the third-floor suite in the Senate Office Building that separates the offices of the two North Carolina lawmakers.

Senator Hoye will reintroduce his bill for control of homosexuals in the Government. He has several items in mind, including one dealing with peep plantings. The similar office—directed by them on the Senate side—reports little confusion on telephone messages being misdirected.

ANOTHER matter on which the North Carolina Senator haven't as yet reached a decision is universal military training. In the past, Senator Hoye opposed it. He now says that he might have been misled but says he'd like to see the bill before he makes any final decision.

S. Hearing Serious Beef Shortage

WASHINGTON
A CONTROVERSIAL report on how to stop the world-wide shortage of beef is being prepared for the Agriculture Committee by its hard-working staff, headed by trustee-Bruce Paul Hedrick. In its present undiluted form, the report has this:
Meat—The United States is on the verge of a serious beef shortage. The supply of beef is being depleted at a heavy rate, stopping the slaughter of veal calves, selling more frozen beef, and importing from Latin America. The Government has put a price cap on beef, and is buying up the supply. The supply of beef is being depleted at a heavy rate, stopping the slaughter of veal calves, selling more frozen beef, and importing from Latin America.

Republicans Get The Jobs
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Threats of War Change Politics In Strange Way

By MARQUIS CHILDS
WASHINGTON
PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S new strategy of defense and his right to award if only in the headlines. His "Dear Harry" letter to the Virginia press represents a brand new stylistic trend in the Truman correspondence.

The letter is, of course, a recognition of the political realities. The practice of awarding in control of the Senate. Sitting in the driver's seat, they can decide which road will be taken.

It is a most happy position to be in and above all for Byrd who has made the Senate his chief concern of the past. In the full flush of his 1948 victory, the President said to the Senate, "I am in control of the Senate, challenging the authority of the Southern Democrats."

Republicans with close to a majority in the Senate have shifted even further to the right. Over the years, the Senate has become more conservative. The extreme right wing organization, has been formed by the Conservatives.

Among Democrats in the Senate, the liberal situation prevails. Northerners, representing the liberal-labor faction, are left out in the cold. These are the ones who have met to try to determine if they can exert whatever influence they may have in the Senate.

Partly this is due to a waveling tempo, or a condition likely to exist over a long period is open to question. The Senate may come out of the debate over foreign policy which is rapidly being sharpened. And, too, there are some interesting alignments.

For the most part organized labor has been a conservative force on the side of all-out cooperation with Western Europe. While this is expected by the CIO, it is also the line of the AP of L.

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