

You may see the humor on radio and TV these days in mechanical or topical, says Columnist Jack Cooper. The humor, he has discovered, deals with the humbug of tragedy. You might say he's just read his column on Page 1-A.

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# THE CHALLENGER

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## CONGRESS CONVENES To Face Grave Problems

### 82nd Called To Order Formally GOP To Question Foreign Policies

By JACK BELL  
WASHINGTON (AP)—The 82nd Congress convened at noon (EST) today in colorfully refurbished chambers, crowded galleries, bright with feminine figures in their best finery, contributed a gay note to the hasty-chalking and chalking of greetings among the legislators on the floor.

But there was an atmosphere, too, of solemnity and tension, born of the feeling that the two-year term of this Congress may be an era as trying as any in American history.

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### WORDS OF ADVICE FOR NEW SENATORS

Sen. Scott Lucas (D-Ill.), Democratic majority leader defeated in the elections, briefs the incoming new Senators. Said Lucas: "I can't tell them what to do, but I can tell them what not to do." Standing (left to right) are Lucas, Sen. George Smathers (D-Fla.), Sen. A. S. Monroney (D-Okl.), and Sen. Earl C. Clements (D-Ky.). Seated (left to right) are Sen. John O. Pastore (D-Ri) and Sen. Willis Smith (D-N.C.). (AP) Telephone.

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### Madison Election First Business

#### '51 Assembly Gets Underway

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### Mecklenburg Delegation Split 3-1 For Taylor

By TOM FERBER  
Charlotte News Staff Writer  
Rep. Robert Laetler Jr., who introduced a bill to amend the Mecklenburg County charter, was defeated today in a 3-1 vote by the Mecklenburg delegation.

### Acheson Not Sure Soviet Ready To Talk Problems

WASHINGTON (AP)—Secretary of State Acheson said today that the West must have further clarification of Russia's position on a proposed four-power meeting before it can assume that meeting has an agenda for the foreign ministers.

## New Defense Production Unit Formed Harrison Heads Powerful Agency

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Truman today set up a new "Defense Production Administration" tying together the Government's scattered emergency production agencies.

The powerful new DPA is to be headed by William H. Harrison, now chief of the National Production Authority.

Under Mr. Truman's executive order Harrison will have authority over industrial output, transportation, fuel, minerals and power. Some of these powers are now scattered through various Government departments.

The group regrets that it has been unable to pursue discussion of a satisfactory cease-fire arrangement. It therefore feels no reconstruction is possible until a cease-fire can be made by the end of the year.

### UN Group Gives Up On Truce In Korea

LAKE SUCCESS, N. Y. (AP)—The U. N. Commission on the Causes and Consequences of the Korean War today announced that it has abandoned hope of getting a truce in Korea.

The report of the three-member body was made before the General Assembly's political committee by the U. N. Commission on the Causes and Consequences of the Korean War.

### Profits Tax Bill Signed By Truman

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Truman signed today the new 83-300,000,000 tax bill, slapping a 71 percent top rate on corporations.

It lifts the nation's tax collections to the highest dollar figure in history, but Mr. Truman said the "tax ahead of us" will require more and more tax cuts.

### Truman Attends Special Services

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Truman joined high officials of the United States and other nations today in a special service to mark the 10th anniversary of the end of World War II.

### Opposes Restrictions On Jobs Appeal Court Favors Negro Firemen

By EMMETT BRITNER  
Charlotte News Staff Writer  
The U. S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth circuit today ruled that Negro firemen in Virginia who permitted racial restrictions on their jobs were not discriminated against.

The opinion, delivered by Chief Judge Robert H. Parker today, made void an agreement by railroad and railroad firemen to limit the number of Negroes to 50 percent of those employed.

The original suit was filed by Willis J. Baker and others against the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad and various railroad brotherhoods. The suit was dismissed by the district judge and the case appealed to the circuit court.

## Allies Fight To Hold Big Capital City

TOKYO (Thursday) (AP)—Leading elements of seven Chinese Communist armies early today reportedly surged to the outskirts of Seoul and began reforming for the assault on the ancient capital.

Associated Press Correspondent Stan Swinton reported from an Eighth Army post that the dyng city's fall depended upon how soon the fast-charging Chinese units could reassemble.

Seoul, lighted by unheated fires which favored buildings, still was held by U. S. and Allied infantrymen. They were fighting to hold their whirling odds.

The Chinese in the onslaught used some tanks, but the main assault was borne by Communist infantry. The Reds struck in wave on wave, headed from the rear.

Eight Army field commanders expected a full-scale assault on the city by the Chinese. The plan called for a second line of defenses seven to ten miles to the north and northeast.

Communications with Seoul went down 2:35 P. M. (12:35 A. M. EST).

A dispatch by AP Correspondent Stan Swinton, filed via Eighth Army headquarters at 6:40 P. M. stated that the intelligence officers are saying the earlier attacks, although in force, were only a preliminary to a final all-out assault on Seoul's defenses.

His dispatch was badly cut by censors.

AIR TRAFFIC SUSPENDED  
Photographers film wreckage from air base in North Korea that air traffic police reported had been hit by Reds.

Far East Air Force headquarters in Tokyo today said it had this report. It was not clear when flights to Kimpo would be resumed.

AP Correspondent William J. Waugh made the commercial report of the latest military developments from the battlefield.

He could hear the muffled boom of his guns in the distance. Until he was cut off, Waugh relayed the word that the Chinese are in possession of the city from abandoned U. N. units.

The Eighth Army at 7 P. M. (5 A. M. EST) clamped a tight cordon around the city. It was "some sort of official announcement," he said.

Two divisions from American divisions—the First Cavalry and the 25th—were ordered to the city. They were committed to the battle for the battered old city.

Heavy casualties on both sides were reported. Communist units struck first before dawn in light strength. They pushed an opening between British and American units and poured through the line ten miles northeast of Seoul and two miles south of abandoned Uijongbu.

More and more Reds swarmed through the gap. They stepped-up the intensity of attack with fresh troops, mortar and machine gun fire.

Shortly after the assault began, the U. S. military officer in charge of the Correspondent Swinton the Chinese are moving recklessly through the hole in the American line since the enemy offensive began New Year's Eve—but hundreds of thousands of Chinese were rolling southward.

The U. S. Eighth Army reported the entire U. N. line, stretching 150 miles, was in jeopardy.

### What's Inside

Table with 2 columns: Name and Price. Includes Classified Want Ads, Comics, News, etc.