# Washington Digest

# Domestic Problems to Test Truman's Mettle

Harmonious Relations on Foreign Policy Soon To Give Way to Contention Over Difficulties of Reconversion.

> By BAUKHAGE News Analyst and Commentator

Washington, D. C.

The political armistice in Washington will end shortly after the President's return from Berlin. The Big Three meeting followed so closely on the heels of the San Francisco conference that foreign affairs have dominated the scene almost to the exclusion of domestic matters, which sooner or later must test the mettle of the new administration.

Another reason, perhaps, why President Truman's honeymoon has been extended is the fact that the main issue before the country, the United Nations charter, has been robbed of its partisan flavor. This is largely due to the long and ardu-ous efforts of former Secretary of State Hull. He built up a working understanding on foreign affairs be-tween the administration and the congress, which resulted in the

WNU Service, Union Trust Building, only a former senator, but a former Supreme court justice. Byrnes pro-vides an understanding link with the judicial branch as well as with the legislative. The secretary of the treasury, Fred Vinson, is a former treasury, Fred Vinson, is a former member of congress as well as an ex-judge. Secretary of Agriculture Anderson is not only a former member of congress, but was head of the house food committee, which directed some of the most serious criticism against the former admin-istration's handling of the food situ-ation. This committee is now workation. This committee is now working closely with the new cabinet member.

While Secretary of Commerce Wallace does not bring to his department the close associations of the men over whom he presided as president of the senate, the scope and function of his office has been considerably reduced by the reor-



Vice President Truman shortly before his elevation to the presidency discusses politics and artillery shells with Baukhage.

whole-hearted co-operation of most of the leaders of both parties, stur-dily supported by public opinion.

Secretary Hull was able to achieve this harmony because of the confidence in which his former colleagues held him and also because of his experience as a member of the legisla-tive branch of the government. Roosevelt could never have been as successful in this endeavor and, be-cause he realized that fully, he left the matter largely in Hull's hands. Chief Still

#### One of the Boys

In the first place, President Tru-man stepped directly from the up-per house to the vice presidency, and ever since he left the legis-lative branch for the executive, he has been acting as liaison between

Shortly before President Roose-velt's death I had occasion to interview the then vice president. I talked about the forthcoming San Francisco conference with him (as well as the field artillery, of which we are both alumni). He indicated that he was holding aloof from any public participation in the discussions of interestical of the butter of the content of th sions of international affairs but was attempting to carry on and to com-plement the work of Secretary Hull in promoting a sympathetic discus-sion of the Dumbarton Oaks agree-ment with members of the senate foreign relations committee, the house committee on foreign affairs

and others.
One of his first unorthodox acts
One of his first unorthodox acts
If the results of the Berlin meetwas almost as if the king of England were to attempt to enter the City of London without first having a formal parley with the lord mayor. But it was a perfectly natural act on Truman's part—like his spontaneous re-mark to the effect that there was a certain Chinese restaurant where he would like to eat while he was on the West coast. On second thought he realized that, as President, he couldn't do such a thing and admit-

ted it with a smile.

The President's informal visits to the Capitol haven't hurt him. Nor his formal ones. After his last ap-pearance, when he delivered the charter, he lingered so long in the senate chamber, shaking hands and patting backs, that an aide had to any more and must hurry back to

highly significant. Truman's secre-tary of state, James Byrnes, is not sylvania avenue.

ganization of the department and so is not a source of friction. In his secretary of labor, President Tru-man has a man who was exceed-ingly popular in the senate—anoth-er judge—Lewis Schwellenbach. Fear Influence

### Of Party Bosses

Of course, when it comes to ques-tions like the poll-tax and the fair employment practices act or any other measure in which the race question is involved, the old friction arises with the southern congressmen and any Republicans they can attract to their cause. Also, while there are those who say that the President is steering a course much farther to the right than President Roosevelt did, he nevertheless is committed to a number of the socalled New Deal "reforms," both be-cause of his record in the senate and because of his natural leanings. However, since Truman is known to be a strong party man, it will be easier for him to keep the southern

Democrats in line. Of course, some of the radical New Dealers are doing a lot of eyebrow raising behind the bushes and a remark (perhaps written with tongue in cheek) which appeared in the Wall Street Journal sent shivers down some spines. That news-paper, which hardly depends on Democratic support for its circula-tion, said recently: "Not since the short-lived administration of Warren

ing are such that they reveal a marked improvement in Big Three relations and a harmonious settlement of some of the difficult inter-national problems, the President's prestige will be greatly increased. However, by that time domestic discontent will be crystallizing, the honeymoon will be on the wane and

"teamwork" he can muster.

If the Japanese war should, by any chance, end suddenly—before another year-it would mean that reconversion, threats of inflation and unemployment and a hundred other problems will be upon us and Presi-dent Truman will be stripped of his protective authority as Commander-in-Chief. Then the slings and arin-Chief. Then the slings and ar-rows which even Roosevelt's ene-mies were wont to deflect to congress and other government agen-cies will be aimed squarely at the His cabinet appointments are man in the White House. Peace will

## BARBS . . . by Baukhage

Under the able direction of Har- | Field offices of the Federal Hous-Under the able direction of Harold McGrath, superintendent of the
senate radio gallery in Washington,
radio men were taken care of to the
queen's taste. The big chains built
excellent temporary studios at conference headquarters and all the
separate stations were well taken
care of, too. Hundreds of recordings were made and shipped out by
airmail.

Field offices of the Federal Housing administration are now accepting from private lending institutions applications for the insurance of
principal loans supplemented by
loans under Section 505 of the G.I.
bill. The veterans' administration
guarantees an equity on such loans
not to exceed \$2,000 where the principal loan, which must comply with
FHA regulations, is insured by FHA.

# Where Seeing Is Not Believing



This peaceful village isn't—it just doesn't exist—look again, closely this time. You can see that the houses only look like houses and the trees are strictly imitation. About the only real things here are the girls, Suzette Lamoreaux and Elipor Offenbach, who use a "safe" catwalk and stay off the chickenwire farmland of this elaborate camouflage which has been built to protect a vital B-29 plant from threat of possible Japanese air raids. This is the first photograph of this camouflage project—the top of a factory!

# USS Santa Fe, Cruiser With a Record



In picture at left a destroyer transfers wounded men from anoth-er ship to the USS Santa Fe (right) for treatment after an action in the Pacific. This cruiser has an envi-able record in the Pacific war. She has taken part in many major en-gagements and never lost a man in action. Above: A striking photo made from the bridge of the Santa

## Vienna Comes Back to Life



Once gay Vienna is grim as her people, who saw war at close hand, return to her ruins. The city, so bitterly fought for, is again coming to life as the citizens come plodding back with their possessions piled high

## First Witness Testifies in Petain Trial



The first witness called to testify in the historic trial of aged Marshal Reari Petain in the Palais de Justice in Paris, Paul Reynaud, stands at left (arrow) as Petain, seated, right, cups his hand to his ear to hear better. Reynaud resigned as premier of France when the country was

## Make History

Fe as the cruiser rode out a typhoon while operating with a fast carrier task force in the South China Sea.



Happy honeymooners, after the first American wedding in retaken Austria, are Lt. David Palowsky of Chicago and American Red Cross Worker Betty Ann Goit of Philadelphia, Pa. Stationed in England, Mrs. Palowsky flew to Austria in the plane of Major General Taylor.

### Crime Wave Buster



Lawman, Cpl. W. W. Horton of New York State troopers, and his favorite bloodhound. Together they have tracked down many a lost

It may take a long time to find out whether Hitler and his bride Eva Braun escaped to Patagonia. country is a series of vast Nazi-owned ranches, where German is spoken almost exclusively and where Hitler could be hidden easily and successfully for years.

The ranches in this southern part of Argentina cover thousands of acres and have been under Nazi management for generations. Because of absolute German control, it would be impossible for any non-German to penetrate the area to make a thorough investigation as to Hitler's whereabouts.

Note—On December 15, 1943, this column reported that "Hitler's gang has been working to build up a place of exile in Argentina in case of defeat. After the fall of Stalingrad and then Tunisia, they began to see defeat staring them in the face. That was their cue to move in on Argentina." The same column also cited chapter and werse regarding German-trained officials who ruled the new Argentine dictatorship. At San Francisco, Nelson Rockefeller and Jimmy Dunn insisted that the U. S. A. recognize Argentina. Note-On December 15, 1943, this U. S. A. recognize Argentina.

Note 2—H it ever comes to iden-tifying Hitler, Dr. Robert Kempner, former German police official now

MYSTERIOUS PEACE FEELERS

much more than feelers—despite Secretary Grew's denials. One of them was debated by the combined chiefs of staff for more than a week. It proposed that the Japs withdraw from Korea and Manchuria and all

invaded.

Meanwhile, Joe Grew and the army and navy have prepared a directive outlining the minimum terms we would accept from the Japs. This is one of the most highly guarded documents in the government. However, it can be stated on high authority that the Green. ed on high authority that the Grew peace plan would permit the Japs to retain Emperor Hirohito.

It can also be stated that there is considerable difference of opinion inside the administraopinion inside the administra-tion regarding the Grew memo-randum, and some of his col-leagues inside the state depart-ment, including Assistant Secretary Will Clayton and Assistant Secretary Dean Acheson, are vigorously opposed.

The whole situation is in a state of flux, and anything can happen overnight.

#### INSIDE JAPAN for home defense at noon hours, some even using pointed sticks as

spears. The Japanese railroads are being

¶ Jap prisoners taken in Burma, Indo-China and the Dutch East Indies haven't the ghost of an idea as to what is happening in Japan. They can't believe that U. S. forces are steaming close to the Jap mainland, still believe the Jap navy will reopen

supply lines to the South Pacific.

¶ There is considerable debate inside the U. S. high command regarding the necessity for landing in China. Some think a Chinese invasion is precessive to retent the second of t vasion is necessary to protect our invasion flank when we land in the main Jap islands. Others believe a Chinese invasion would only use tight shipping and result in unnecessary sualties. The easiest way to aid China, they argue, is to defeat Japan quickly, not get bogged down with a long fight on the Chinese main-

defense system, even its own local tax collections.

tax collections.

(I) We have also mined Jap harbors so Jap merchant vessels can hardly get through. . . Despite the claims of cleaning up northern Luxon, stiff fighting continues. The Japs are beaten but they don't know it. They are still making things tough for MacArthur's men—despite official communiques.

HITLER IN PATAGONIA

to Hitler's whereabouts.

Along the coast of Patagonia, many Germans own land which contains harbors deep enough for submarine landings. And if submarines could get to Argentine-Uruguayan waters from Germany, as they definitely did, there is no reason why they could not go a little farther south to Patagonia. Also there is no reason why Hitler couldn't have been on one of them.

Note—On December 15, 1943, this

living in Lansdowne, Pa., has the answers. Kempner, who was in charge of the investigation after Hitler's beer hall putsch, says that Hitler's right thumb is abnormally long, his right ear pointed on top, and his mouth is very receding. Kempner has turned over his data to U. S. authorities.

It's being kept very hush-hush, but something important is brewing behind the scenes regarding peace with Japan. Highest officials won't say a word about it, not even to some of their cabinet colleagues.

However, peace feelers which have come from the Japs have been China if (1) they could keep the emperor, and (2) they would not be invaded.

torn to pieces by B-29s. Rail junc-tions are clogged for days before traffic can clear through them.

The intire Jap administrative system has broken down. The Japs have now decentralized their government so every area has its own war production board, its own local

### Gems of Thought

THE Utopians wonder how any man should be so much taken with the glaring doubtful luster of a jewel or stone, that can look up to a star, or to the sun himself. — Sir Thomas More.

Man is his own star, and the soul that can render an honest and a perfect man commands all light.—John Fletcher.

Poor and content is rich and rich But riches fineless is

To him that ever fears he shall be -SHAKESPEARE

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# Gas on Stomach







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That Nagging Backache

May Warn of Disorder Kidney Action