



CROSS TOWN
By Roland Coe



BOBBY SOX
By Marty Links



NANCY

By Ernie Bushmiller



MUTT AND JEFF

By Bud Fisher



LITTLE REGGIE

By Margarita



JITTER

By Arthur Pointer



REG'LAR FELLERS

By Gene Byrnes



VIRGIL

By Len Kleis



SILENT SAM

By Jeff Hayes



OVERSUPPLY OF CURRENCY MAY CAUSE INFLATION

MORE THAN 100 MILLION of our 140 million Americans have a direct interest in one or more of the following forms of investment: stocks and bonds of corporations, savings deposits in banks, holdings in building and loan companies, insurance policies, government securities.

Such things represent a large portion of the wealth of the nation. All of them would be wiped out, or seriously affected, by a runaway inflation.

The causes leading to such an inflation are: An insufficient commodity production to meet the buying demand; a continuing upward spiraling of wages and prices; an oversupply of circulating currency; an unbalanced federal budget, with continued borrowings from the banks.

Strikes, decreased working hours, slowdowns encouraged by union leaders, have prevented that maximum peacetime production of commodities needed to meet the unusual demand, created by four years of war. Labor has demanded and, in practically all cases, received higher wages. That, with less working hours, and a lowered per man hour production, has heavily increased production costs. To maintain a possibility of any production means higher prices for commodities. That marks but another step in the vicious circle of higher wages and higher prices. Nothing has been settled on a permanent basis. Within a year there will be another demand for wage increases to be followed by another boost in prices, and so on to the end.

The circulating currency is increasing with each passing day. It is now several times what it was as late as 1930. Backed by no standard of value it can continue to depreciate until it has no buying power. When we have reached that point we will have utter financial chaos, and be nationally broke. Such a condition not only can, but may, come unless something is done to check the present tendency.

No real effort is being made toward that economy of operation in the federal government that can produce a balanced budget. We have a larger number of bureaucratic civilian employees than were on federal payrolls during the war. We are proposing the expenditure of billions in new social experiments, and the construction of new ventures. The budget is not balanced, and we are continuing the methods of deficit financing that can lead only to national bankruptcy.

While all of these things happen a Nero congress continues to fiddle away on a partisan tune, more interested in securing a political advantage than in saving the nation from that dire disaster—inflation. Congress can do the saving job if it will but act quickly and honestly. Next November the people can act if congress has not done something more than play politics.

WHAT A FARCE from our viewpoint was that not-so-long-ago election in Russia. There was one ticket only. The citizen voted that ticket or none. All candidates on the one ticket were picked by 13 men, of which Joseph Stalin is the leader. The election could not be other than unanimous. In Russia they call that democracy. It was about as democratic as the elections in the racketeer controlled labor unions in this country. We have no objections to the Russians having such a system so long as it is what they want.

IN A SPEECH in South Carolina Federal Controller General Lindsay C. Warren named possible avenues out of the present financial morass of the nation. As the second of these he said: "Should we not have an appraisal of the never-ending succession of new programs proposing large drains upon the federal treasury? While some of these programs may be promoted from Washington, too often does congress mistake as the 'voice of the people' the urgings of special pleaders, blocs, privilege seekers and treasury raiders. Business, agriculture and labor have a tremendous stake in a balanced budget, for, after all, they are the ones who must pay on the barrel head."

PUBLIC OPINION can be molded much more effectively by factual information, presented as such, than by rabid denunciation of the cause to which you are opposed. Rabidly expressed opinions do not change votes.

FRIENDSHIP is a give and take proposition, with special emphasis on give.

IT IS the exceptional individual who can see both sides of any problem.



Sweet Round-House

Those designs for living in the world of tomorrow keep coming. Every day some fellow who must have studied architecture while riding in Mardi Gras parades springs something newer and screwier in housing.

The brass ring in this month's Carousel Ride with Blueprints goes to a Kansas man who has produced a round bungalow.

It looks like a butter dish with ventilation arrangements, a super mousetrap with roof, a derby hat with windows.

It is made of aluminum and is suspended on cables from a steel shaft. The rooms, six of 'em, are cut in like slices in a pie. It is the ideal home for a six day bicycle racer who has married the winner of a marathon waltz and who is raising a family of hysterical roller skaters.

It takes a heap of living to make a place seem home, as Edgar Guest said. And Edgar never lived in a home where the tenants had to steal three laps on themselves to determine where the front door was.

A window runs all around the house. No matter where you sit you get a choice of views. Life in a house like this must make you feel like a cross between a roulette ball, the needle in a compass and breast of chicken under glass.

In such a home you are really a chocolate éclair with ears and a cream puff with plumbing troubles.

Viewed from a distance the place looks like half a watermelon with curtains over the wormholes.

In it there is the spirit of a Salvador Dali dream sequence, a night-club designer's nightmare and a pinwheel maker's lost weekend.

We are ordering one for summer occupancy. But we will shoot the first neighbor who sticks his head into our living room and yells "Fifty dollars for a sprint!"

Spring Signs

Gentle spring is here I know—
The thrush sings in the tree,
The turtle dove is singing low,
(We'll soon bomb Bikini) . . .
The frogs are croaking on the pond,
The lads play mumble-peg,
Lambs gambol in the fields
beyond . . .
(Will peace now lay an egg!).

The vernal season, yes, is here,
And I have ample proof:
Much gayer is the chantecler,
The squirrels romp my roof;
I saw an oriole today,
The buds burst near my door—
And everywhere the people say,
"Looks like another war!"

The bluebird soon will be along,
The dew is on the grass,
The woodland now is full of song
And congress full of gas;
The hurdy-gurdies grind it out . . .
(The little states get knocked about
As ultimatums fly!).

The waterfall is foaming white,
The trout are seen to break,
I heard a nightingale last night . . .
(Joe Stalin's on the make);
Along the wall, the chipmunks run,
We soon will have back beer,
(Our army has a rocket gun
To pierce the stratosphere!).

Have you heard about the UNO delegate who was disturbed in a New York hotel and phoned down, "I demand a little peace here!"?

There may be some good reason why no nation ever lends any money to Uncle Sam, but there can't be any why none ever offers him a cigar.

Use for Old Street Cars

The papers are devoting much space to the "discovery that old street cars can be converted into pretty comfortable dwellings." Discovery my eye! Years ago we were a surface-car tenant, a two-surface-car dweller to be exact. Two were hauled down to the beach of a Connecticut shore resort and a small living room built between them, with a porch added front and rear. Each car was used as a bedroom. We occupied a set-up with a bunch of boys back home. There was only one drawback. Jim Finnegan used to get in after midnight and enjoy ringing up fares.

SHORT STORY

I matched my ready wit with men
And now I'm all alone again.

With the Want Ads
"1937 Plymouth, 4-room sedan, ceiling price \$350. John Musil, 542 W. 49"—N. Y. Times.

With guest room between the car-buretor and the battery?

We trust that if there is a free lunch at the UNO bar there will be absolutely no balance.



AS YOU probably know, it isn't an easy job to get baseball managers to give out personal interviews concerning the comparative

strength of certain stars or certain positions. It so happens that one of the most important sectors in baseball, especially winning baseball, is that spot of the diamond guarded by the shortstop and the second baseman.

While no direct quotes were available we have run across seven managers and scouts quite willing to give out their private opinions.

Here is the way the consensus came out—

- No. 1. Rizzuto and Gordon, Yankees.
- No. 2. Pesky and Doerr, Red Sox.
- No. 3. Reese and Rojek, Dodgers.
- No. 4. Boudreau and Mack, Indians.
- No. 5. Marion and Verban, Cardinals.

This ranking or rating included all-around quality, hitting, fielding and double-play results. There was a close finish between the Rizzuto-Gordon and the Pesky-Doerr combinations. It was generally agreed that the Red Sox pair carried the higher-hitting average, but the defensive play of Rizzuto and Gordon gave the Yankees a slight lead.

In the work they have shown before and what they have turned out this spring, it would be difficult to find a more brilliant pair of infield workmen than Rizzuto and Gordon. Both are all over the lot. And both can get the ball away quicker than you can discard a burning package of paper matches. They keep you dizzy attempting to follow their double-play actions or their work on some slow grounder that has to be handled in split-second time.

Pesky and Doerr are good and they are likely to rate higher on the hitting side. But certainly on defense the Yankees have the edge over any other combination in either league.

The Dodger Ranking

I was surprised to see Pewee Reese and Stan Rojek rated over some of the others. But these votes came from scouts who had talked with National League managers. They figured that Reese would be good enough to give either Marion or Miller a stretch run at shortstop and that Rojek would be a big surprise. Oddly enough they figured that while Marion and Boudreau were two of baseball's best shortstops, their second-base support couldn't match Gordon or Doerr. And Rojek, with all his bright possibilities, is still something of a guess when planted in this able company.

This shortstop-second base combination means a lot to any winning club. Suppose we look back a few years—there were the old Cubs, winner of four championships in five years—and their entry was Tinker and Evers. How about the Athletics from 1910 through 1914 when they also won four pennants? Their answer is Jack Barry and Eddie Collins. Cleveland once had Tuck Turner and Larry Lajoie. One of McGraw's greatest teams had Dave Bancroft and Frank Frisch. They were factors in winning four pennants in a row.

It might be noted that the clubs more favorably mentioned in the two pennant races are strong at this essential fortress. They are the Yankees, the Red Sox and the Cardinals.

Two-Sport Stars

A while ago we attempted a rating of the best baseball-football combinations such as Frank Frisch, Snuffy Stirnweiss, Lou Gehrig, Mathewson, Overall, etc. Ray Farnham from Philadelphia writes that we have left out the star bet of the lot. "His name is Mickey Cochrane," says Ray. "Cochrane is still remembered as one of the great catchers of all time—one of the best hitters—a winning manager. But few remember that at Boston university in the early twenties, Mickey was also one of the best backs of many seasons. He was a star triple threat—one who could pass, run and kick with any All-America named that season. He was also a magnificent tackler and blocker. Cochrane was also the strongest part of the offense used by the Providence Steam Rollers."

In addition to this baseball-football argument we have already located the best combined tennis and golf player known to sport. His name is Ellsworth Vines. In his day tennis never knew a harder hitter. He was one of the best. Vines is now to be listed among the better pros, good enough to break 70 here and there, and usually in the low 70s.

The tall and willowy Ellsworth can belt the ball a long way, is a first class iron player and a pretty good putter. His long game is good all the way. Vines has always been a fine competitor.