End of Liquor Rationing in Sweden Recommended by Government Probers

By THOMAS HARRIS

STOCKHOLM (Reuters)—After pondering the question for nine years, a government committee has decided it will be all right if the Swedes started getting their liquor without rationing.

The little brown-backed ration book, a certificate of sobriety and a mark of respectability since the First World War, is to go, if the committee's recommendations are carried out—and indications are that, after due consideration, they probably will be.

When that happens, people dining out will be able to order as many drinks as they can consume and—a revolutionary concession—it will no longer be illegal and immoral for restaurants to entertain their guests with crooners.

The 11-man committee has decided that John Swede—after 36 years ration-enforced sobriety—now is worthy of the freedom of the bottle.

Getting a ration book under the present system is a complicated procedure. The applicant must fill in forms and forms, present himself politely for an interview at the Alcohol Monopoly and submit to inquiries at police headquarters on his personal character.

The possessor of a ration book can only buy as much as the Alcohol Monopoly thinks he can safely use. If he buys too much, he gets a sharply-worded letter to cut down or else.

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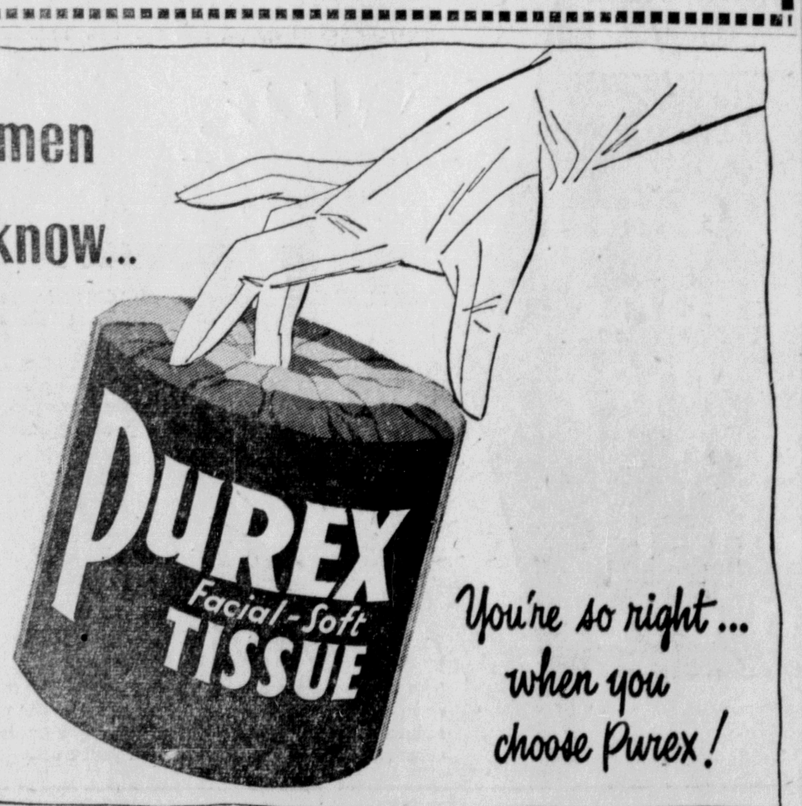

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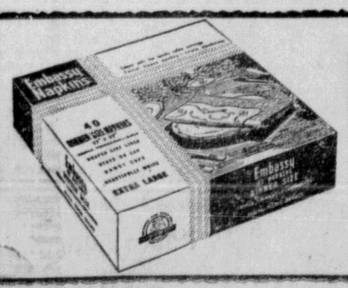

Embassy Napkins

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The marital happiness of Robert Taylor and Eleanor Parker nears a breakdown in this scene from M-G-M's stirring drama, "Above and Beyond," opening at the Capitol Theatre tonight. The new film tells the story of Col. Paul Tibbets, who piloted the plane which dropped the atom bomb over Hiroshima, and of the wife who wanted to share his terrible responsibility.

Taylor Challenges Reds 'To Come Out and Fight'

SEOUL (CP) — Lt.-Gen. Maxwell Taylor, new United States 8th Army commander in Korea, has challenged the Communists to "come out and fight."

Speaking to correspondents here he said the 8th army would welcome a Communist assault. It would be sure to "take care of it."

Taylor, successor to retired Gen. James Van Fleet, refused to comment on any United Nations attack plans to end the war.

He said he would welcome more aid from United Nations members — even "token assistance" would have great value, demonstrating the world-wide nature of the alliance.

The general said he would have an investigation made of how much the South Korean soldiers get to eat. Recent reports have said it was not enough to keep them fighting fit.

"I am going to give that sturdy little soldier all the breaks that I can," he stated.

He added that he means to maintain the work done by Van Fleet—"I am not a new broom, but just the same old anti-Communist duster with a new handle."

Taylor turned aside a direct question whether he thinks a general offensive by the 8th army could succeed at this time. Gen. Van Fleet said before his departure that an offensive now would certainly succeed.

"I think enough has been said by this time," Taylor told reporters. "If not, it will be. I will leave that to my predecessor."

By this he apparently meant that Van Fleet's views will be aired further when the former commander appears before members of Congress March 4.

Taylor also said he would welcome Chinese Nationalist troops in Korea with "open arms," but pointed out that was a decision to be reached at a political level.

3-D Picture To Show in U.K.

LONDON (Reuters) — British movie-goers will see a three-dimensional feature film for the first time next month, the J. Arthur Rank organization announced today.

"Bwana Devil," Hollywood-made United Artists 3-D feature, will be screened on major circuits in London, Birmingham, Leeds and Glasgow.

Roman historians adopted as an epoch the foundation of Rome which is believed to have occurred in 763 BC.

Elections Act To Remain Same

VICTORIA (CP)—The provincial government has abandoned plans to introduce legislation to streamline the Elections Act at the current session of the Legislature, it learned today.

The government previously had hopes of introducing several amendments to the Act, chief of which would have been steps to shorten the 63-day period it takes to call a general election.

Emigrants from the valley of the Ganges in India first settled in the island of Ceylon about 543 B.C.

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SCREEN ★ ★ FLASHES

By BOB THOMAS

HOLLYWOOD (AP) — Gloria Swanson today threw a damper on Hollywood's enthusiasm for three-dimensional films.

"They will be a flash in the pan," she remarked. "After the novelty is over, the film industry will be faced with the same big problems."

Miss Swanson is uniquely equipped for commenting on the film industry. She is one of Hollywood's all-time great stars and has spent the majority of her years in and around the film business. But she has remained detached enough from the movie whirl to keep it in perspective.

"After I made 'Sunset Boulevard' in 1950," she said, "I went on a 35-city tour to exploit the picture. I talked to people in all walks of life and learned some startling things about the picture business.

"One of the things I learned was that the older generations had abandoned the movies. They could no longer identify themselves with the movies since they could not see their favorites of their own age. Hollywood aimed its appeal at youth and neglected the millions of more mature citizens.

"Another thing I found out—it was just too much trouble and expense for many people to go out to the movies. It's a major production for a couple to attend a theatre.

"The industry will still have to face these problems when the thrill of new-dimensional movies has past. That's why I think the only real future for films is in developing some kind of box to collect money for movies on TV."

While peering into the future, the actress predicted that life again will be centred in the home. She cited the great increase in home buying and the decentralization of cities.

"It is the greatest thing that could happen to us," she commented. "It will mean bigger families and happier people. We will get back to the basic qualities of life and not be forced to seek entertainment away from home."

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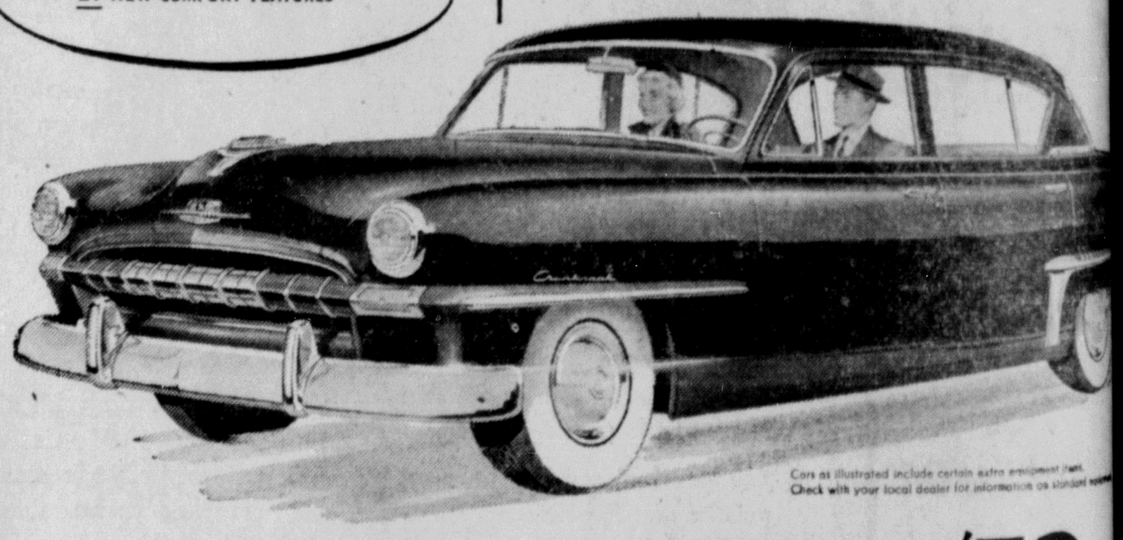

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