

Democrats Don't Want Wallace To Return to Party

WASHINGTON, Nov. 10. — (AP) — Henry A. Wallace will find the welcome mat gone if he makes any move to return to the Democratic party, National Chairman J. Howard McGrath said today.

Although he did not rule out absolutely the re-conversion of a repentant Wallace, McGrath told a reporter:

"So far as I am concerned, Henry Wallace has taken himself out of the Democratic party and he can stay out."

The national chairman added that the triumphant Democratic committee — its internal strife still smoldering — is making no gestures toward any fringe elsewhere.

Wallace has made no announcement of his future plans. Neither has he said what is going to happen to his Progressive Party, which polled little more than 1,000,000 votes nationally.

But Senator Glen Taylor of

They'll Do It Every Time

PEE-WEE McSTUB, THE CAMPUS MIDGET, FINALLY LINED UP A DANCE DATE JUST ABOUT HIS SIZE



By Jimmy Hatlo

BUT PAUSE TO SHED A TEAR FOR PEE-WEE. HE'D NEVER HEARD ABOUT THOSE 4-INCH PLATFORM SHOES



Fund Urged to Teach People To Read Roman Dates on Cornerstones

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK. — (AP) — Sure and bejabbers, there were two Irishmen. They were fresh from the Old World, they were, and complaining the streets of the New World weren't paved with gold. Sure and if then they didn't pass a great building with fine pillars. And there was a stone in it that said: "MCMXIX."

And Pat turns to Mike and says: "Faith, Mike, we do be judging the country too harshly. There's one Irishman that's getting along all right."

Ha, Ha! Yes, it's an old story. Everybody knows that the "MCMXIX" wasn't an Irishman at all, but Roman numerals indicating the year the building was erected.

All right, you may know that "MCMXIX" stands for 1909. But suppose the stone had said "MXDXIX." The odds are strong that you couldn't tell any more than the Irishmen—when it was built.

And that's why Congress should vote funds to teach people how to read the Roman dates on cornerstones. Either that or pass a law forcing contractors to put on "1409" instead of "MCDLIX."

The Search For An Answer

It's important. Just why, I'll explain later.

First let us take a simple little "Roman date like 'MCDLIV.' I showed this to thirty people and asked them what number it stood for.

The reply ranged from "I do not know" to "It's easy—1,550, 904."

Four professional men, a photographer, a pretty secretary, and a man who bets on the wrong racehorses were among the 28 who gave the incorrect answer. One said that after studying six years of Latin the only figure he remembered was that Gaul was divided into three parts—and he was taking Caesar's word for that.

So I called the New York Public Library, where they have an information service that can tell you everything from the number of feathers on an abattoir to what was Hlawatha's chest expansion.

"What number does 'MCDLIV' stand for?" I asked.

A young lady who sounded like a pretty fair number herself answered sweetly: "Search me."

Another Try Fails

This seemed like a grand idea—offhand. But then she switched me to the Art Department, where she said they had more experience with Roman numerals.

"Oh, yes, we get questions about Roman numerals quite often," said a dear old elderly voice, as gentle as the painting of Whistler's mother wired for sound.

"What was it you wanted — MCDLIV?"

There was a long pause, and then—

"H-h-mmm. It's quite confusing arranged that way. Let's see. The 'M' stands for one thousand, the 'XL' is fifty less ten—that's forty. The 'IV' of course is four. But the 'CD' — I don't find it in the World Almanac. The Almanac has only 'DC' — six hundred. Perhaps 'CD' is the same thing as 'DC'."

"That would make it one thousand, six hundred and forty-four. Does that sound right?"

No ma'am. It didn't. The New York Public Library was publicly wrong. The right answer was one thousand, four hundred and forty-four.

What difference does it make?

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Well, if the politicians get word nobody can read, cornerstone dates—they can slap "MCDLIV" on every big city bridge or building they put up.

Ten years later they can come along and say they want to tear it down, and put up another one. When a taxpayer yelps, "why it's practically new," the politicians can say:

"You pitiful dope—look at the cornerstone. It says MCDLIV—1,444. Why this building is a public menace. It might fall down any minute."

And up goes a new building—and the tax rate.

How long can we afford this chaos on cornerstones? Arise, Congress. Get up off the seat of government and end this confusion. Salus Populi Lex Suprema Esto! Or I'm not a Latin from

Manhattan.

(Editors' note: On the other hand we could just seal up Boyle in an undated cornerstone while he works out a concrete solution.)

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Two More Innocent Victims



The war between the Arabs and Jews in Palestine continues to create a tremendous refugee problem. These two Arab youngsters, huddled under a sack in Amman, Trans-Jordan, for protection from the weather, are part of a large group of people driven from their homes by the renewal of fighting. (Photo by NEA-Acme staff correspondent Artine Kamikszian.)

Oregon Democrats Hold Celebration

PORTLAND, Nov. 10. — (AP) — Oregon Democrats celebrated the election of a state treasurer and legislative gains at a victory meeting here yesterday.

State Sen. Thomas J. Mahoney told the gathering of state party bigwigs that "I don't think it will be very long before we have a Democratic governor in Oregon."

Walter J. Pearson, Portland elected state treasurer on the Democratic ticket, was unable to attend. He was in Salem at a State Board of Control meeting where he had been invited to start getting acquainted with the job he takes over Jan. 10.

Mahoney predicted the party would increase its State Senate strength in 1950 from 10 seats to the 16 needed to elect a Senate president and control committee appointments.

Aside from the state treasurer and legislative gains, the party swept virtually all Multnomah and Lincoln County offices.

Monroe Sweetland, Newport, national Democratic committee man, and Nancy Robinson, Portland, committeewoman, said "we expect the Democrats in the Oregon Legislature to present and carry through a sound, liberal Democratic program for Oregon."

Indications of party reorganization plans at the State Central Committee session next February were hinted.

During World War II, the U. S. Navy for the first time had more installed diesel power than steam power.

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