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CHARLES V. STANTON Editor
EDWIN L. KNAPP Manager
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CLEVER SIDESTEPPING

By Charles V. Stanton

Was it smart politics on the part of General Eisenhower to spurn President Truman's invitation for a White House briefing on the military and international situation?

By rejecting the President's offer, he opens himself to criticism from the opposition that he is endangering national security. Had he accepted the invitation, he would have been charged with being a "Truman man," a label the Socialist-Democrats are endeavoring to hang on him. Either acceptance or rejection would supply ammunition to his opponents.

It is interesting to compare this situation with accusations contained in Herbert Hoover's memoirs as recently published in *Collier's* magazine.

Hoover relates that after his defeat at the polls, and pending Roosevelt's inauguration, he invited the president-elect to conferences on policies to speed recovery from the Great Depression. He says he urged that Roosevelt join in fixing interim policies. Roosevelt declined the invitation. Hoover charges that rejection of his invitation caused a relapse in recovery, already underway, and that Roosevelt, after his inauguration, proceeded to set up the very machinery Hoover had urged months earlier, plus costly boondoggling projects. The ex-President says Roosevelt's refusal to cooperate cost the country millions of dollars and materially delayed economic recovery.

Eisenhower On Spot

Eisenhower's refusal of Truman's invitation could have similar repercussions. Should he be elected and find sudden emergencies arising, he could be accused of endangering the country's security through failure to accept briefing. Thus he might get his administration off to a bad start.

Eisenhower, of course, carefully protected himself on this score, expressing willingness to "instantly change" his decision should a grave emergency develop. He based his rejection on the grounds that he wanted to be free to criticize the administration. Administration spokesmen, however, point out that Eisenhower was informed he could bring along his press secretary and other members of his staff and would not be bound to secrecy, except on security matters.

Perhaps a newspaperman can understand General Ike's position a little better than most people. Just what constitutes "security," and how far would Ike's freedom to criticize extend had he accepted the President's invitation? Newspapermen have had experience with that problem.

Off-The-Record Subterfuge

The administration, and particularly its bureaucrats, has used the "off-the-record" dodge very freely. A spokesman from Washington or an administrative agent, speaking before a civic club, such as Kiwanis, Rotary or Lions, or when addressing a convention, will announce that his remarks, for security reasons, are "off-the-record." This means that newspapermen cannot discuss or criticize in detail. By use of this subterfuge, speakers endeavor to throttle the press. Certainly any statements which can be made safely to a group of 50 or more persons are entitled to general publication. Newspapermen have blocked this subterfuge by announcing their presence in the audience and declaring publicly that they will not be bound by secrecy where supposedly "security" matters are discussed before a quasi-public body.

Eisenhower, in refusing the President's invitation, sidestepped the off-the-record subterfuge the administration has used quite effectively in the past.

Had he attended the conferences, and had he then offered criticism of policy, he immediately would have been accused of releasing "classified" information. Charges would have been hurled that his discussions of policy were placing the country in jeopardy.

Actually, Eisenhower doesn't need the offered briefings. No man in the country today has more knowledge of the international situation. He is fully informed on existing policy, because he was forced to work under it. He knows its strength and its weakness. He has superior knowledge, too, of Communist policies. He could, in fact, contribute more to conferences with the President and State Department than he could receive.

His rejection of the invitation, in our opinion, was a very clever piece of strategical sidestepping.



Stevenson's Huddle With Truman Gives GOP Heads Opportunity To Use Needles

By JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON (AP) — It might not fit like a Brooks Brothers suit but if a political candidate could borrow an elephant hide for the duration of a campaign he wouldn't twitch visibly every time the other side plunged a needle in him.

Up to this time General Eisenhower and Governor Stevenson have been under the public microscope, undergoing the usual examination for ideas, attitudes, promises, personality, past performance and all-around savvy.

The campaign is still a little too young, and the things said about them so far have been generally too mild, for anyone to have a positive opinion about the relative thickness of the two men's skins, a condition which can be revealed only through some sharp needling.

Eisenhower's running mate, Sen. Richard Nixon, seems to have shoved a needle a yard deep in Stevenson when a week or so ago he offered the public opinion, free of charge, that Stevenson was the "captain" of the CIO and other special interest groups.

It may have been only an optical illusion if anyone thought he saw the governor jump when he got this jab. But at any rate he quickly took pains to say he was his own master.

One of the questions in the campaign from the beginning, of course, has been this: Would Stevenson, if elected, be just a carbon copy of President Truman or would he provide the country with a fresh Democratic administration?

As if to demonstrate he was strictly his own man Stevenson picked his own men to help him in the campaign and made his headquarters in Springfield, Ill., many a country mile from Truman and the professional politicians who bow three times at sunset every day in the direction of the White House.

And suddenly, like a man who had felt a slight chill, Truman said now he was "just a buck private in the rear ranks." Although he had been rarin' to get going on a speech-making trip around the

Permit To Construct Fills Or Piling On Lower Umpqua River Asked Of Army Dept.

Applications have been made to the Department of the Army for two projects involving the placing of piling or fills in waters of the lower Umpqua River, reports T. W. Ragsdale, chief, operations division of the Corps of Engineers, Portland.

The Oregon State Highway Department, Salem, has applied for a permit to construct fills for highway realignment along the south shore of the Umpqua River, westerly (downstream) from the mouth of Koepke Slough at various locations along the shoreline over a distance of about 8500 feet.

The toe of the fill slopes will be landward from the low water line in the east half of the area, and in the westerly half of the work it will extend channelward from the low water line into small sloughs southerly from the main channel and shoreward from low marsh islands along the south

and he shared her hope. Before the day was over, in a way totally unforeseen by either of them, that problem was solved.

Never again did the "barrel of meal and the crust of oil" seem quite empty to them, although there were other testing times. There is no formula for finding one's needed "answer" in a Bible story, but it is there! Waiting to unfold in one's heart as gently and as naturally as a rose unfolds — never doubt!

In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

to get them. We can't leave those guys for the goonies!

Who are the "goonies"? They are the swarming red Chinese who come on and keep coming on, endlessly, out of that overflowing reservoir of cannon fodder that is red China, two more springing up to take the place of each one that is shot down.

And who are the pitiful THEY the wounded, pain-wracked marines in the hospital train was referring to in his agonized screams? They are the dead. Those for whom the fighting is mercifully over, for whom the long last sleep is beginning. For them the horror and the terror are over.

But their bodies! Their bodies mustn't be left for the goons to trample on.

And— Awful thought — Among the dead there may be those who SEEM to be dead, but in whose bodies there still glows dully the faint spark of life. They mustn't be left to the horrors of a communist prison camp.

Battered, broken, bloody, it wasn't the blinding pain of his own wounds that American boy in the hospital train coming back from the grim struggle in the Korean hills was thinking about. It was the fate of his comrades left behind on the field of battle that was torturing him, even in his delirium.

And there was the 19-year-old boy with the shattered leg. He and his buddy were manning a machine gun. They were jumped by a BATTALION of red Chinese. In his weariness and his pain, he was muttering the story.

"About 20 goonies ran toward us. We shot down a lot of them. But those goonies were all around. We knocked them down, and more kept coming right on. . . . One goonie sneaked up behind us and jumped in our trench. . . . But he landed on his own grenade. . . . It blew him to bits. . . . Some pieces of it hit my leg. . . . I kept on firing, but everywhere you looked goonies were coming down on you. . . . It was AWFUL."

The 19-year-old kept on fighting all night. In the morning, when the battle lulled, he crawled down the hill, dragging his splintered leg behind him, and found a front-line aid station.

"Semper fidelis." Faithful to the last. The motto of the Marine Corps. These American boys who are the individual units that make up the Marine Corps LIVE UP TO THEIR MOTTO.

What about us on the home front? Do we do as well?

I doubt it. But I think we would do better if we were as well led. These boys of ours over there in Korea are led by DEDICATED men. Men who govern their lives by this rule: What is best for my country? If it is best for their country that they die in their tracks, they die in their tracks.

Too often, here on the home front, we are led by men who ask: What is best for ME? What will get me the most votes?

A thought in closing: In this political campaign, in this year of decision, let's never forget that the BIG ISSUE is getting as leaders men who will govern their every act of leadership by this rule: What is best for my country?

of the northerly shore.

Letters expressing views concerning the effect of the work on navigation on this latter project are requested from all interested parties by Sept. 2, in the office of the District Engineer, Portland, and on the former project by Sept. 3.

Reader Opinions

Sutherland Courtesy Draws Appreciation

ROSEBURG (To Our Sutherland Neighbors) — We, the parents of members of the Gene Smith accordion band, wish to express our appreciation for the courtesy and hospitality shown us last Saturday when our band marched in the Timber Days parade.

Sutherland should indeed be commended for his public spirit. The whole town went all-out to make its celebration a success.

We hope to again be honored in the Timber Days celebrations of the future.

Signed: Mr. and Mrs. George Goergen, Mr. and Mrs. Bjorne Paulson, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Larson, Mr. and Mrs. George Niday, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gladwill, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Pfaff, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Knaggs, Mr. and Mrs. James W. Watts, Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Gladwill, Mr. and Mrs. Jack C. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Merl Austin, Mrs. Frances A. Young, Mr. and Mrs. Ward Cottrell, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Doyle, Mr. and Mrs. George N. Kuhn.

New Minister Was Pastor At 'Sister' Church

The Bailey Hill Evangelical United Brethren Church near Eugene is a sort of sister to the North Roseburg Church both of which were started under similar circumstances about three years ago.

The Rev. Kenneth Dooley, who will succeed the Rev. E. Clark Robb as pastor of the Roseburg church, comes from Eugene, where he has pastored the Bailey Hill Church recently.

Services for the latter church have been held in a Grange hall in the winter months, but like the North Roseburg Church, has been holding summertime meetings-out in the open on the future building site.

The Rev. Mr. Dooley, who takes over Aug. 24, will be assisted here by his wife, Vivian. They have two children, Terry, 20 months, and Patricia, six months.

He is a graduate of Pacific Bible College, Azusa, Calif., and has done graduate work at the University of Oregon. He is working for his Masters degree.

The Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Robb will be honored Sunday night, with a farewell party following his final sermon at the church. They are going to Spokane, where the Rev. Mr. Robb will take over as pastor of the Ledgerwood Evangelical United Brethren Church.

Coincidentally, another Roseburg minister intends to move to Spokane soon. He is the Rev. Willis Erickson, pastor of Faith Lutheran Church, and Mrs. Erickson.

Business Men Denied Slash In Assessments

PORTLAND (AP) — Circuit Judge W. C. Perry of Pendleton Monday denied an appeal of 15 Multnomah County businessmen for a reduction in the 1950 merchandise inventory assessments.

The ruling by Judge Perry, temporarily assigned to Multnomah County, upheld the County Board of Equalization and the State Tax Commission.

The businessmen asserted in their suit that inventories of their businesses were assessed at 60 per cent of market value while property was assessed at 30 per cent of its discal value. They said this was discriminatory.

The judge ruled it was not.

CHURCH TO PICNIC

Members of St. George's Episcopal Church, Roseburg, will hold a picnic supper at 4 p.m. Sunday in Umpqua Park.

MY PAPER HASN'T ARRIVED YET

IF NOT..

Phone 2-2631

BETWEEN 6:15-7PM

First Presbyterian Church

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 Rev. Morris H. Roach, Th.D.

Morning Service 11 a.m.

"What Is Your Mileage?"

Evening Service 7:30 P.M.

"Profit, and Loss"

Grants Pass Planning For Hardboard Plant

GRANTS PASS (AP) — Plans for a hardboard plant here to use wood waste, first advanced two years ago by the Chamber of Commerce, reached the money-raising stage Tuesday night.

Charles R. Cooley, local lumberman who heads a temporary organization set up to arrange financing, said this was the status:

There is an option on a site three miles east of here:

The plant, if built, would be a year in construction and would turn out 60,000 square feet of quarter-inch boards daily.

The state corporation commissioner has approved sale of a million dollars in stock and a half million in 8 per cent debentures, the money to be banked until the commissioner decides if it looks like enough can be raised to start construction.

Lacking Securities and Exchange Commission approval, which was not sought, stock can be sold only within Oregon.

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A Tribute To-- THE CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

This hard-working group of civic-minded citizens deserves a lot of credit — nobody knows how hard they may be finding it to get people to work for the Centennial's success. Many are called, but few come through. Even though the committee itself may not receive all the recognition it deserves, its work will still be a tremendous success — for it will have preserved the priceless historical heritage of Roseburg and Douglas County. We salute the following members of the Centennial Committee, who work without compensation: Lowell Rhoden, E. G. High, Roland West, Albert Micelli, Stewart Stephens, C. L. Bagley, and Mrs. Kenneth Ford. These patriotic citizens are assisting Director Horace Robinson and May Matthews, secretary, in the preservation of Douglas County's priceless historical treasure.

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Scraps From the MENDING BASKET

By **Vahnett Martin** P.O. Box 874, Drain, Or.

"Zarephath" — the word caught my ear as I tuned across the dial. But I heard no sharing of joy in what the word had come to mean to the speaker. She lived in a town of that name. . . well, it was a name out of the Bible. When prodded further she said, "Well, some people in the Bible had trouble at a place called Zarephath. . ." Evidently the radio interrogator didn't know anything to add?

As I went on with my work I kept thinking about Zarephath (II Kings, 17). Bible stories are like packets of seeds, aren't they? One finds each time one thinks of a Bible story, or reads one again, new meaning, new inspiration, added food for thought, just as walking in a familiar garden, one notes new blossoms, new growth, and promise of more to come.

During the depression a little family was having a rather difficult time due to the fact that the earthquake, or rather fear of another earthquake, had emptied 13 houses within a block or two. Part of their living had come from those rental commissions. There were simply no real estate sales then!

The parents made every effort to keep their own anxiety away