

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles F. Sorenson

A person remarked the other day how swiftly the name of Franklin D. Roosevelt had dropped out of the news. The name which so long had dominated the American, even the world scene, appears seldom in print, a scant quarter-year since his death. The pace of events is swift, to be sure, and whole books of history were written in that period from April 13th to June 26th when the San Francisco charter was signed.

But may it not also be true that the country finds a change in the principal of the political drama a bit refreshing? Truman seems to move sure-footedly, a fact which surprises the people. He has yet made no blunder which has brought heaps of criticism on his head. Hence there is no great yearning for the days when his predecessor reigned in the land.

This significant fact was evident when over the month-end occurred a five-place change in the cabinet, something which has not happened except following the election of a new president for so long that the memory of man runneth not to the contrary. Bob Hannegan succeeds Frank Walker as postmaster general. Miss Perkins, in a new "private" hat, gives way to Lewis Schwellenbach as secretary of labor. Clinton Anderson takes over as secretary of agriculture, succeeding Claude Wickard. Tom Clark replaces Francis Biddle as attorney general. And Jimmy Byrnes is announced as

(Continued on Editorial Page)

Legion Names I. N. Bacon as Its Commander

I. N. Bacon was elected commander of Capital post No. 9, succeeding Commander B. E. (Kelly) Owens, at a meeting of Legionnaires Monday night. Other officers elected include: Walter Kirk, first vice commander; Rex Kimmell, second vice commander; Art Johnson, adjutant; J. A. Lewis, finance officer; Irl McSherry, historian; C. V. Richardson, chaplain; Bill Poorman, quartermaster; Claude Martin, sergeant at arms.

Members elected to standing committees included: Carl Gabrielson, building; Paul Gemmill, I. H. Sion and George Gabriel, to one, two and three years respectively on a cemetery committee; Stan Kraeger, Fred Paulus, Paul Gemmill, John Olson and Jack Edwards, executive committee.

Although the national department convention is still a question mark which ODT has not attempted to answer, the post elected a slate of eight delegates. The vote on the delegates will be tabulated today.

Final reports for the Fourth of July celebration caused officials to make the prediction that 10,000 persons would participate in the festivities which include a free barbecue at Marion park. Those attending will be expected to take a picnic lunch.

It was also announced that a war bond sale would be held at the wrestling match tonight. The parade committee reported that details have been worked out for the parade on July 4 at 10 a.m. Next meeting of the post will be held Monday, Aug. 3.

104th General Due to Arrive in N. Y. Today

NEW YORK, July 2.-(AP)—Three transports carrying more than 7,000 United States troops, including Maj. Gen. Terry Allen, commanding general of the 104th (Timberwolf) division, are expected to arrive here tomorrow.

Allen will arrive aboard the Monterey, aboard which are 6,493 troops, among them the 413th infantry regiment.

NEW YORK, July 2.-(AP)—Five troop carriers today disembarked more than 2,000 soldiers and Wacs, including 890 wounded aboard two army mercy ships.

CHARTER SOLE ROAD TO LASTING PEACE

The Oregon Statesman

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U.S. HAS NO FAVORITES

Unbiased Attitude Pledged

Grew Says Nation Not Playing In Soviet Hands

WASHINGTON, July 2.-(AP)—The state department emphatically set forth today a policy of impartial friendliness toward both Britain and Russia.

In a communication to an informal committee of congressmen it also restated the department's dedication to the principles of the Atlantic charter and a determination to pursue an active course in international affairs, aimed at achievement of this country's own aims.

"No Tacit Understanding" Acting Secretary Joseph G. Grew wrote the outline to Rep. Coffee (D-Wash) leader of a group of four house members who called at the state department May 31 and asked five specific questions about this country's foreign policy.

"It can be stated unequivocally that the United States government has not tacit understanding or day-to-day working arrangement through which it has become 'de facto' or otherwise a part of an Anglo-American or any other front against the Soviet union," Grew wrote.

Dr. Smith Gets Added Degree From DePauw

President G. Herbert Smith of Willamette university last week added a doctor of laws degree to degrees he holds from DePauw university, it was disclosed Monday when copies of the commencement program arrived here from Greencastle, Ind.

Dr. Smith received his bachelor's degree from DePauw in 1920, his master's degree in 1924.

The honorary degree awarded him Sunday, June 24, was one of two given to graduates of the university, the other going to David Lillenthal, chairman of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Confirmed



James F. Byrnes

Senate Affirms Byrnes to Take Stettinius Post

WASHINGTON, July 2.-(AP)—The senate today paid James F. Byrnes the tribute of confirmation as secretary of state without hearings, without debate and without dissent.

The nomination arrived from the White House at 12 noon and in less than a half hour approval was granted.

This was the way the senate—republicans along with democrats—chose to illustrate their confidence in the South Carolinian who served in the house, in the senate, as associate justice of the supreme court and as war mobilization director.

The unanimous confirmation made Byrnes next in line of succession for the presidency if Mr. Truman should not complete his term.

Byrnes will take the oath of office tomorrow at 11 a.m. in President Truman's office.

Byrnes succeeds Edward R. Stettinius, former U. S. Steel executive, who is to serve as U. S. delegate on the postwar security machinery.

Suspects Sought In \$1500 Holdup Of Robert Clark

Police Monday night were still seeking suspects in the attempted holdup Sunday morning of Robert A. Clark, Salem taxicab paymaster, who was beaten over the head with a gun by an unidentified gunman. Clark's money bag, which the gunman secured, contained personal belongings of Clark but the \$1500 payroll, which was in Clark's pocket, was overlooked.

Two Portland men were picked up by police as suspects but Clark was unable to say positively whether either answered the description of his assailant. Clark was attacked as he left his home at 2040 Madison street with the company payroll.

NOTED ISLANDER DIES HONOLULU, July 2.-(AP)—Dr. J. Christopher O'Day, 78, widely known physician and author and former surgeon to Queen Liliuokalani, died today. He had practiced in Oregon and Pennsylvania before coming to the islands.

Aussies Drive Japs From Borneo Beach; Front Becomes Inferno of Flaming Oil

By Spencer Davis MANILA, Tuesday, July 2.-(AP)—Australian invasion troops pushed within 1,500 yards of the fire-swept heart of Balikpapan on southeast Borneo today as their commander, Lt. Gen. Sir Leslie Morshead, announced that the campaign already was "strategically won."

The Melbourne radio said both the Sepinggang and Manggar air fields had been captured by the Australians. This was not confirmed here, but Russell Brines, Associated Press correspondent on the scene, reported at 6:30 a. m. that the capture of Sepinggang was imminent. It is three miles from Balikpapan.

Japanese resistance increased measurably as the Australians drove forward. The Australians had taken more than three miles of beach and had driven better than 2,500 yards inland, Gen. Douglas MacArthur reported early today.

Thick black smoke from the burning oil storage tanks settled over the entire battle operation. American heavy, medium and fighterbombers continued to give close support to the ground forces, while US carrier based navy fighters hit enemy road transportation inland.

MacArthur went ashore four hours after the first wave hit the beaches east of the city, and pored unperturbed over an operations map while a sniper took eight shots at him and his staff.

The capture of Balikpapan's air fields -- in the words of MacArthur -- "will enable our aircraft of all categories to disrupt and smash enemy communications on land and sea from Timor to eastern Sumatra." All of Java, another island rich in oil, will be within easy range.

More and more troops and supplies were pouring ashore from the invasion fleet of more than 300 ships. MacArthur estimated that the Balikpapan fields produced 15,000,000 barrels of petroleum annually.

County Way Over Top in Total Bonds But 'E' Lags; July 4 Deadline for Drive

WASHINGTON, July 2.-(AP)—An exasperated corporal in New Guinea really put teeth into his dealings with the natives. The natives refused to take seriously their work for the quartermaster corps, until in a burst of words his false teeth popped out.

"The incident," the army gravely reported, "caused great concern. From then on, the corporal was looked upon with respect and awe, and his orders were obeyed with alacrity."

Subs Add 10 More Ships To Big Score

WASHINGTON, July 2.-(AP)—United States submarines have sunk 10 more Japanese vessels, bringing their total bag to 1163; the navy disclosed today.

The ten were a converted gunboat, a patrol escort vessel, four medium merchant vessels, a large tanker, two small merchant vessels and a small tanker.

RIVER OF BURNING OIL MAKES NO-MAN'S LAND

By James Hutcheson WITH AUSTRALIAN TROOPS AT BALIKAPAPAN, July 2.-(AP)—A river of burning oil -- a hellish inferno of flame and smoke -- mae a no-man's-land between Australian and Japanese lines today.

As Australians and a few Americans watched from a white sand ridge which they had seized, a big storage tank a thousand yards away erupted like a 100-foot volcano. A wall of flame 100 feet across leaped spectacularly hundreds of feet skyward.

The wild column of roaring flame seemed to lean forward, as though it were going to topple onto us across the valley. Scores of men stood up from their guns, watching in wonderment and shielding their faces from the heat.

Troops a mile away on the beach said they could feel the

Another Two Square Miles Left in Ruins

WASHINGTON, July 2.-(AP)—Construction of the Santiam bridge, a unit of the recently authorized \$1,300,000 road building project in the upper Willamette valley, has been released by the war production board, Senator Guy Cordon said today.

WASHINGTON, July 2.-(AP)—The federal works agency has approved a grant of \$87,000 to construct a sewer at Sweet Home, Ore. Senator Guy Cordon announced today.

Portland Fire Hits 2 Plants; Loss \$75,000

PORTLAND, Ore., July 2.-(AP)—Huge columns of black smoke poured across north Portland tonight as a \$75,000 fire destroyed a roofing company warehouse and damaged a steel fabricating plant which furnishes parts to shippers here.

L. W. Wells, owner of the Clow Roofing company, said loss to his plant was \$35,000 and Ben Koback, owner of Victory Steel Fabricating co., estimated loss of plant equipment and material at \$40,000.

He reported about \$5000 worth of steel units for maritime ship work were destroyed.

City Gets Budget But Salary Boosts Leave Total in Doubt

By Isabel Childs City Editor, The Statesman The City of Salem has a 1945-46 budget. But no one who was in the council chambers when it was adopted Monday night could tell you its size.

For the council went on a salary-raising spree--upped the annual pay of the city treasurer (forgotten in the first upsurge of department-head salaries two weeks ago) to \$3300, gave the engineer a new boost to \$3800, and went down the line to increase pay for the engineer's stenographer, the treasurer's clerk, the stenographer in the police department, first aid men and first aid captains, health department, park superintendent and laborers.

The public library was left out of the new increases, and some student of municipal affairs may within a few hours find a dozen more forgotten men. Some increases were merely "to equal the salary of --" so the city recorder has a full day's work ahead of him.

Intent of the council was to use some \$20,000 surplus funds which weren't mentioned when the budget committee was at work.

Not all the budget changes were increases; the safety levy,

Let's Not Hesitate - Truman

President Tells Senate There Is No Other Choice

By Francis J. Kelly WASHINGTON, July 2.-(AP)—Harry S. Truman came back to the senate today to hand his old associates the United Nations charter and ask them to ratify it promptly.

The president spoke with the simple, easy air of a man who felt pretty sure of getting just what he asked for.

"The choice before the senate is now clear," he said, spacing his words carefully.

"The choice is not between this charter and something else. It is between this charter and no charter at all."

Then, just before ending his seven-minute speech, he re-emphasized that conclusion to the men who have the final say-so on ratification.

"This charter points down the only road to enduring peace," he said.

"There is no other. Let us not hesitate to join hands with the peace-loving peoples of the earth and start down that road—with God's help and with firm resolve that we can and will reach our goal."

"I urge ratification. I urge prompt ratification." There appeared no doubt his request would be granted since an Associated Press poll showed more than two thirds of the senate membership already on record for the world organization.

The relatively small senate chamber was jammed with notables and their friends, including some members of the cabinet. But there were no microphones, no popping flash bulbs, none of the fanfare usual at a president's appearance. Mr. Truman himself thought the occasion called for simplicity.

"The objectives of the charter are clear," the president declared. "It seeks to prevent future wars. It is the product of many hands and many influences. It comes from the reality of experience in a world where one generation has failed twice to keep the peace. The lessons of that experience have been written into this document."

The last obstacle in the path of the proposed \$250,000 plant of the National Battery company in West Salem has been overcome, it was announced Monday night in the West Salem city council.

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