

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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Truman's Press Conference

President Truman handled himself pretty well in his Thursday press conference when asked about the Eisenhower candidacy. He cleverly "covered first base" by saying he would keep Ike right where he is unless the latter asks to be relieved. That will dash the hopes of Ike's boosters of getting their candidate to come home and take part in the campaigning. The Taft crowd is left free to ride the range rounding up delegates with promises that can be accepted at face value.

Then the President protected his own position by saying he would oppose Ike as a Republican nominee, even though he praised him; and at the same time Truman kept mum as to his own intentions.

It is a genuine ordeal for the President to face several score nimble-witted reporters, some frankly hostile, and handle the questions they toss him. Sometimes the President, as did FDR, gets irritable; but Thursday he took on the gang on a slippery field and handled himself well.

At his press conference Truman confirmed that J. Harold McGrath would stay as attorney general and further that McGrath would direct the clean-up of wrongdoing in administrative offices. This is an unfortunate end of the burst of fervor the president showed on his return from Key West. McGrath is strictly a politician, with no zeal for reform and little energy as an administrator. His retention in the cabinet seems to be the result of the President's own pique at the press and others, for he had made up his mind to drop McGrath. Premature publicity and fast footwork by McGrath's friends induced the President to change his mind. So McGrath stays on; but this is another sign that Harry Truman will not hit. He's had enough.

Revenues From "Controverted" Lands

Friday's Statesman carried a story from its Washington special correspondent, A. Robert Smith, reporting an interview with the comptroller general on distribution of certain forest revenues. These revenues were derived from sales of timber from the so-called controverted O & C lands. They are administered by the Forest Service but claimed by the Department of the Interior for O & C land administration. The revenues, amounting to over \$4,500,000 are held in escrow pending settlement of the dispute.

Judge Bayly of Lane County has suggested filing a suit to decide the controversy, and pending that a distribution of at least 25 per cent which is the share received from the Forest Service (it is now 75 per cent from O & C).

Comptroller General Warren is not disposed to make a distribution unless the counties agree, because seven of the 18 O & C counties would not be eligible to participate under the Forest Service formula.

Here are the difficulties in the way of a distribution in advance of determination of title to the lands:

(1) The Forest Service distribution of 25 per cent must go to "schools and roads." The O & C distribution goes into the county general fund. (At present Marion County devotes three-fourths of the forest service revenues to roads and one-fourth to schools).

(2) The Forest Service distributes revenues only to the counties where the timber located was sold. The Bureau of Land Management pools all the receipts from O & C lands and distributes them annually to the 18 counties in the

proportion of O & C acreage at the time the lands were reverted in the government.

A partial distribution might be made, but it would seem better on account of these conflicts to wait for decision on whether these lands are part of O & C or not. Frank Sever, Portland attorney representing the counties, is going to Washington to do what he can to expedite this settlement; also to protect the interest of the counties in the revenues from O & C lands.

Thus-far Man-of-the-Year

Now that the saga is over, we can certainly agree on suggestions that thus far in 1952 Capt. Henrik Carlsen is Man-of-the-Year. Seldom has a story caught the popular fancy as the one about the indomitable skipper of the stricken ship Flying Enterprise. And seldom has there been such widespread regret as is voiced over the failure to bring the ship to shore.

But the captain still is a hero for our money. He had both courage and sense. It is not always they go together. He knew his ship like a book. If he hadn't, he would not have known at just what moment all hope was lost. And he waited until that moment to jump into the sea. He was stubborn but of sound judgment; courageous and cool. The same can be said for Mate Dancy of the tug Turmoil who apparently was willing to go right to the end on Carlsen's calculations.

The plaudits of the world aren't going to buy Carlsen's groceries, however—unless by chance the movies and television take over. And so far as his company is concerned, we'd say he'd earned something else than the mere promise of a new command. Military decorations are not in order for the peacetime merchant marine, but we'd like to see some sizeable reward for a man who will stick to a ship with an 80-degree list in the raging seas and still know when the fight is lost.

New US Route Across State

Want to go to Ogallala, Nebraska? Then take the new U.S. Highway 26 at Astoria or intermediate points and it will get you there. In Oregon the route follows the Sunset Highway to Portland, thence east over the Mt. Hood Loop and Warm Springs Highway to Madras thence through Prineville and John Day to Vale and Nyssa, and on to Ogallala.

This gives national recognition to a new route across Oregon, parts of which are quite scenic, and entitles it to receive federal road funds. The designation comes as a result of the active work of Chambers of Commerce at Madras and Prineville.

"Full steam ahead," says President Truman, for the business of rearming. "Full steam ahead" calls the country for the business of cleaning out the grafters. The blast the President gave out on returning from Key West seems to have been just a fizzle.

President Truman played some piano selections from Chopin for Prime Minister Churchill. Too bad Winnie didn't bring his easel along and do a painting for HST.

Now we'll have to quit a half-hour early to hear Lawson McCall "commentate" at 5:30 on KGW. He will be one of the few radiators worth listening to.

"Bursted Main Forms Lake" reads an Oregonian headline. Grammar got "bursting" too.

Democratic Candidate Possibilities Divided Between Unpoliticals, Men Truman Dislikes

By STEWART and JOSEPH ALSOP
WASHINGTON—Shortly after taking over the Democratic National Committee, Chairman Frank McKinney frankly told President Truman that he would have to know the President's own future intentions before he could plan a party strategy. Truman replied that he had not as yet reached any firm decision about running again, but that he meant to go within sixty days. The President added that he would pass the word to the faithful at that time.

The foregoing report bears every mark of glibly coined reliability. Hence, if the President keeps his word, the second great uncertain factor will be removed from the political picture before the end of next month at the latest. General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower has announced his Republican candidacy, with effects even more electrifying than had been foreseen. When President Truman also reaches his decision even if he merely communicates it to the Democratic inner circle, the whole picture will begin to come clear.

The Republican response to Gen. Eisenhower's announcement, which is already so impressive, is likely to influence the President's decision considerably. For Truman is also known to regard Sen. Robert A. Taft as the only serious Republican candidate whose election would be genuinely

disastrous, and he has publicly described him as the man he "would like to run against." As the probability grows less, therefore, the President will be more inclined to follow his own undoubted personal inclination, which is not to run.

On the other side of the equation, however, is the simple fact that with Gen. Eisenhower's Republicanism now openly professed, the President will have a very hard time finding any other reasonably available candidate acceptable to himself.

His own preference, of course, is for Chief Justice Fred Vinson, and he has pretty certainly indicated this preference to his friend of the high bench. But the chief justice, who at first seemed tempted by the opportunity tentatively offered him by the President, now appears more and more disinclined to leave the court for politics. He has said unequivocally that he will not do so, unless the President can arrange a transitional appointment, so that he will not have to leap straight from the high bench to the hustings.

The chief justice's distaste for such a leap, which he regards as contrary to the best traditions of the court, looks like being impossible to overcome. At the same time, there is not the slightest indication that the President is arranging any transitional appointment which the chief justice could accept with dignity, and it is very hard to imagine what such an appointment could be.

For these reasons, a Vinson candidacy is growing less and less likely by the day, unless perhaps the Republicans end by choosing Sen. Taft, while further revelations of corruption absolutely blacken the Truman administration. In this crisis situation, the chief justice might conceivably be dragged, almost by main force, into the race.

Meanwhile, the other potential Democratic candidates can be roughly divided into two classes—those not available for sound political reasons, and those not personally acceptable to the President. Those not available include Vice President Alben Barkley and Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn, whose respective ages of seventy-four and seventy would appear to rule them out; Sen. Richard Russell of Georgia, the real leader and ablest man of the Senate Democrats, who is ruled out by the racial problem, and almost all the other more eminent senior Democrats in Congress and the country.

Those not acceptable to the President, include, by way of contrast, almost all the promising new men who have recently come up in the party—Senators Paul Douglas of Illinois and Estes Kefauver of Tennessee are two obvious examples. To be sure, if Truman decides not to run again, he may have a very hard time stemming the party tide toward one of these likely winners. And although Paul Douglas has denied any Presidential ambitions in language close to Gen. Sherman's, the Democratic leaders who want a winner will then be knocking on his door.

Over-all, in short, the President must either run again or pretend to run again until he has engineered the nomination of some dark horse he happens to like, such as Sen. Robert Kerr of Oklahoma or run the risk of seeing a man he does not like win the Democratic nomination. It will be a hard choice for the President, complicated as it is by uncertainty about the probable character of the opposition.

One must add that this hard choice for the President is also a hard fact for the country; for the shortage of inspiring political leaders with national standing has now grown more alarming than any other single feature of the national scene.



President's Message Gets British Praise

By J. M. ROBERTS JR.
Associated Press News Analyst

It's an old truism that the way things look depend on where you are standing.

In the United States, President Truman's State of the Union message was received, judging from the weight of comment I have seen and heard as something less than masterful.

His assessment of 1951 as a year of great gains has been widely questioned, and the message in general seemed uninspiring.

In Britain, however, the report seems to have been well received. The Manchester Guardian, tagged as liberal, even compared it to Prime Minister Churchill's Christmas broadcast in grimness and uncompromising devotion to the tasks of world affairs.

"Mr. Truman's steadfastness may help us to brace ourselves for the equally stern message which the Chancellor of the Exchequer is preparing for the assembly of Parliament," the paper said.

The News Chronicle of London, also tagged liberal, looked at the domestic rather than the international angles of the address and decided that the President was steering "well left of center," but that, because of political reasons, his social program will never be fully carried out "though there is no real economic reason why it should not be. The American economy is so strong that it could carry the enormous burden of armament without reducing the standard of living of its people."

A lot of the President's advisers have also been saying the same thing about America's economic strength—but the Defense Production Administration already is ordering cuts in consumer production, just the same. There are non-economic arguments against the President on this subject, too.

The London Daily Herald, Labor, thinks the idea known over here as "Point Four" is the thing. "Much depends on how seriously Congress takes Mr. Truman's request for more economic aid to Asia's poorest peoples. Many millions will turn to Communism in their despair unless the West

Comes the Dawn

Salem School Board was minding its P's and Q's the other night when it decided to name the proposed new East Salem school plain "Hoover School." Not "Herbert Hoover," mind you, but just plain "Hoover." This, the board reasoned, would help it out of the jackpot if any anti-Herbert Hoover citizens should object to naming the school after the former president. After all, the school could have been named after a vacuum cleaner.



Anyway, while Christmas street decorations are going down displays of garden seeds are going up in local store windows. Makes a fellow feel so Spring he's almost ready to take off his gloves and unfasten the top button on his overcoat . . . And a High Street sports shop already is window-adding a Christmas lay-away plan for 1952 Yuletide.

Ladd's Market on South 12th Street has its own plan for helping the March of Dimes. On Jan. 25-26 a 2 per cent credit will be allowed on all purchases. And the credit will be turned over to the MOD . . .

Another unique way to produce dimes for the March of Dimes turned up at KSLM offices . . . There the boss decided the familiar radio term "spot announcement" was undignified and just plain old ugly. So, with the consent of the station personnel, he decreed that a dime should go into the kitty for the March any time someone slipped up and used that spotty old phrase instead of the more polished and proper "commercial insertion" of plain "announcement."

Comes to hand a product put out by the State of Kentucky designed to balance that state's budget—although old Kaintuck puts out another product designed to throw most people off balance. The budget-balancing deal, though, is the winter issue of an official magazine published by the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Not only is it chock-full of articles about Bluegrass products (including Rosemary "I sing the way I feel" Clooney) but it is loaded with big, juicy ads which must supply enough revenue to offset all that money people lose on the horses down there.

does more to help them."

The Independent London Times said "it was an awesome picture that Mr. Truman sketched of industrial America armed and arming, of a huge machine moving towards its greatest speed and momentum." Then it adds silyly: "To steer it well will call for highest wisdom, and sober counsel to the helmsman will be the duty of America's friends and allies," chief of whom, of course, are the British for whom the Times seeks to speak.

GRIN AND BEAR IT by Lichty



"You'd think the income tax people would adopt the practice of giving you coffee and doughnuts after bleeding you."

Literary Guidepost

By W. G. ROGERS
A CHRISTMAS BOOK: AN ANTHOLOGY FOR MODERNS, compiled and arranged by D. B. Wyndham Lewis and G. C. Heseltine (Dent-Dutton; \$3.50).
Sir Roger de Coverley said, we are reminded here, that it was "very well that Christmas should fall out in the middle of Winter . . . when the poor People would suffer very much from their Poverty and Cold, if they had not good Cheer, warm Fires and Christmas Gambols to support them."
We are all poor enough at least to enjoy the Cheer and Gambols provided bountifully by this book . . . first issued 25 years ago and now, because it is so popular, prettily printed again for, we hope, another 25 years. It is not the usual collection; its virtue is that it is not new, but old, and as quaint as some of the carols in it, and as flavoured as the mulled ale or sack posset it tells how to concoct. It quotes Henri Murger, Claudel, Thackeray, Milton, Tennyson, Malory, Shakespeare . . . "T welth Night," of course.
It tells us how good Per Gynt

freed a farmer from a pest of Trolls; how Villon stole on the holiday in 1456; how the witches danced in Salem in 1692, how a little girl "did a very good day's work" on Dec. 25, 1771, in Boston; how Field-Marshal Lord French ordered his troops in the trenches to stop singing carols in 1914. This is the season of gifts, so Martial need not have been apologetic for what he gave his friend Quintianus: "I have sent you nothing but my homely little books. And it has always been followed by a day of reckoning: The Christmas bills run up by Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, for his Countess, or by his Countess for her Thomas, for cloth, furs, silver and tallow amounted, in 1314-15, to about 1,200 pounds.
There's a dismal prophetic note, too, in a Christmas-time pronouncement in 1675 from the Massachusetts Colony, which had "a longing Desire the Indian Wars might be ended; and we presumed ere this, that the Powers of Perswasion or Force would have made a happy Change, by altering the Minds, or restraining the Mallice, or our Heathen Foes."

Your Health

By Herman N. Bundesen, M.D.

Drug addiction has been much in the news the last few months. Reports of school-age children in danger of becoming addicts should make everyone recognize the need for danger to society from this habit.

There is need for more people to learn the underlying causes of this serious disorder, and also the ways to cure it.

Why do people become addicts? The underlying reason almost always is that they have a personality problem. Usually, people who become addicted are the pleasure-seeking type, or else they have psychoneurosis personalities. It is extremely rare to find an addict who is an emotionally normal, mature person.

It is a strange fact about addiction that persons who learn through associating with addicts are much more likely to become addicts themselves than are persons who receive the drugs from a doctor to relieve pain. Addiction is something like a contagious disease, usually spreading from person to person.

There is another danger, too—the use of one drug commonly leads to others. Thus, most marijuana addicts eventually become addicted to morphine or heroin.

Some types of drugs, when first used, create a feeling of ease and comfort in the individual. They have the effect of reducing emotional tension, and the nerves are falsely resting. Worries vanish, and the individual taking the drug can dream and put off the time of decision until tomorrow.

Many addicts have a feeling that drugs increase their efficiency. Actually, adding drugs decrease mental efficiency, and do not increase courage or physical prowess.

What happens when morphine is suddenly withdrawn from the

addict? Eight to fourteen hours after his last dose of morphine he becomes restless and tosses in his sleep. Then his eyes begin to water, his nose "runs," he perspires and "waxes" excessively. Goose pimples appear, and the pupils of his eyes dilate. His breathing is heavy, and his blood sugar is lowered. The person becomes increasingly restless and, in some cases, the arms, legs, and feet twitch almost constantly. He has severe muscle cramps, backache, and generalized aches throughout the body.

These severe symptoms eventually pass off, but not before five to seven days after the last dose of morphine. Withdrawal of barbiturates brings somewhat similar symptoms, and in serious cases may endanger life even more than morphine.

Morphine and other addicting drugs can cause a complete mental and physical demoralization. Their effects are so serious that treatment is rarely successful unless it is under the direction of specialists in a hospital. The Federal Government supports two such hospitals which specialize in curing addiction, one at Lexington, Kentucky, and the other at Ft. Worth, Texas.

Modern treatment avoids the severe symptoms described above. It withdraws the addicting drug slowly by substituting less harmful drugs. The other important part of the program is mental and psychiatric treatment for the personality difficulty which is at the bottom of the drug habit.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

E. M.: Will any special diet help mental illness?
Answer: There is no definite evidence that diet will have any special effect on a mental disorder.

Congressional Quiz

Q—Is there any formal movement to draft Gen. Eisenhower for the presidency?
A—Yes. A "Draft Ike" campaign formally got underway Nov. 29 when a national headquarters for the Eisenhower-for-President movement was opened in Topeka, Kan., under the direction of former Sen. Harry Darby (R-Kan.) and others. Sen. Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr. (R-Mass.) became Eisenhower's campaign manager Nov. 17 and the Washington office, under direction of . . .

Security law, enacted Sept. 22, 1950, requires the registration of what it defines as "Communist action" and "Communist-front" organizations.

Better English

By D. C. WILLIAMS

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "He hasn't worked any for the last three weeks."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "preface"?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Itinerary, irascible, idiosyncrasy, ignoramus.
4. What does the word "accutate" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with es that means "to exile, banish, exclude"?

ANSWERS

1. Omit any, and say, "for the past three weeks." 2. Pronounce pref-as, e as in let (not as in me), a as in unstressed. 3. Idiosyncrasy. 4. To put into action; move to action. "He was actuated by a desire to succeed."

5. Estradize.

Q—I hear Churchill's going to talk to Congress. When?
A—Vice President Barkley announced Dec. 21 that British Prime Minister Winston Churchill will address a joint session of Congress "about Jan. 17."

Q—Have any Communist groups registered under the Internal Security Act?
A—No, according to the Justice Department. The Internal Security Act requires that all Communist groups registered under the Internal Security Act must file a statement with the Justice Department.

Quote for the Day

I am the light of the world. Jesus Christ.

Q—Why doesn't the Justice Department prosecute the Communists for not registering?
A—It cannot do that until the Subversive Activities Control Board determines if a given organization comes under the Act and so must register. Hearings have been in progress since April 23, 1951, on the Justice Department's application for an order requiring the Communist Party, USA, to register.

Q—Why should it take so long to determine that the Communist Party is Communist?
A—The Justice Department, which wants to prove the CP is a "Communist-action" group, must convince the board that, among other things, the party's way is paid and its policies are directed by the world Communist movement, that its operations are secret and that its leaders subordinate allegiance to the U.S. to allegiance to world communism. The board's decision is subject to Supreme Court review.

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