

**PUBLISHER**—Alton F. Baker  
**EDITOR**—William M. Tugman  
**MANAGING EDITOR**—Alton F. Baker, Jr.  
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PAGE 4 EUGENE, OREGON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, 1952

## Truman On 'State of the Nation'

President Truman's "state-of-the-nation" message to the Congress offers very little that is new or startling or likely to give any new direction to political controversy. It is a very fair summing up of the policies at home and abroad which he has championed since he became president.

**FOREIGN POLICY**—we must not let our differences of opinion undermine the trust which the rest of the world places in us; nor must we in any degree retard the program for defense.

**DOMESTIC POLICY**—the President is still plugging for all of the expanded social programs which comprise the original Fair Deal — health insurance, fair employment laws, bigger benefits for veterans, amendments to the Taft-Hartley law — but it is a list of "unfinished business" rather than a program.

**CORRUPTION** — the President is for turning the rascals out, too, but he suggests nothing specific in this message, and he plays this part of his tune with the "soft pedal."

In telling us that this is a time of crisis during which we must endure higher taxes and many sacrifices, he is saying nothing we do not all know, although perhaps we need to be reminded that "shot-and-shell prosperity" is never very real.

There is nothing in this message to lift the American people or the Congress to new endeavors. It is a restatement of Mr. Truman's case, and not a

very convincing one. It leaves a dull and blurry impression, and we think it signifies a very tired man.

In the best of times, very little constructive action can be expected of a pre-election Congress. Mr. Truman seems to be inhibited by that fact. Although he gives no indication as to whether he will run again, he seems to be saying, in effect:

"Let's try to rock along 'till we get the election out of our system. Have your fun, boys, but try not to disturb the neighbors."

Compare this Truman message with the one which he delivered in January, 1948, under almost identical conditions, and you will get what we mean. His message to the 80th (Republican) Congress was full of taunts and jibes at the "pitifully inadequate" measures to curb inflation. He was demanding lower income taxes, continued controls, housing programs. His political stock was pretty low in those days, too, but he was "on the offensive" and seemed to have a sense of public confidence which now is lacking. He can't blame Congress for the mess he is in.

Really notable presidential messages are few and far between. This one will take its place in the collection, of interest to historians, mainly for what it reveals of the mood of the man.

## Some of Those 'Better Things of Life'

One of our favorite authors is the chap who writes the lead editorials in The New Yorker—because he usually manages to give even the saddest things a humorous twist — and we have enjoyed his New Year's piece because he has escaped most of the banalities which are re-iterated at New Year.

For instance, after noting a pronouncement by Marshall Field & Co. that the year will be governed by the planet Jupiter, author of all success, he predicts many bright days for spring and summer, crickets and goldenrod and frost for the fall, many fine marriages (in spite of Leap Year), in fact a better year than 1951, with its "corruption, treachery, graft, fear, suspicion, and preparation for trouble." Then he gets down to business:

"For the most part the attempt to correct these evils has been through revelation, sometimes with cameras grinding and floodlights turned fiercely on the witness — as though if you lit up a rascal's face you could destroy the germ of rascality. . . . The persons who staided our country during 1951 are largely unknown; most of them will never be known. A schoolteacher somewhere who managed to speak a word that touched off something in a scholar's mind and heart; a parent somewhere who tended the green plant of childhood and gave it strength; a stranger in the streets, who uttered a phrase

of liberality that took hold. These are the mighty Kefauvers of 1951."

Then he adds:

"As we write these paragraphs, the big news in the papers is not corruption, not defense; the lead story is a tale of renaissance. A list of names and addresses has been released, and top billing today (except in the Daily Worker) goes to a few individuals nobody ever heard of before — nobody, that is, except their mothers and fathers. The prisoners-of-war story in the papers is an extraordinary testament of democratic faith. These soldiers have no conceivable news value except this: that each is an entity, and whereas they were believed lost, they are now found. Some or all may be alive. This turns out to be page one news in this country. The cynic will see in it only a newspaper's desire for human-interest material—pictures of parents shedding happy tears. But it is not that simple. This is not a tribute to heroes, or even a jubilee marking a return from the dead; it is a peculiarly American celebration of entity, the validity of entity, the verification of the place of the citizen in society. It is the defy hurled at those who claim that a person doesn't really matter. Probably our enemy is amused — so much newspaper given to the street numbers of nobodies. But if he's looking for something to worry about in 1952, we recommend it highly. And for ourselves, it will feed those interior fires that propel us, with or without Jupiter, on our journey."

We snickered that piece out of the New Yorker on New Year's Eve. It has been reposing in a hip pocket ever since. It's a bit ragged, but the thoughts are still unspent.

## 'They That Go Down to the Sea in Ships'

During the last two weeks, the world has been lifted out of its troubles watching a great drama of the sea. When the American freighter Flying Enterprise cracked open under the impact of a great storm in the North Atlantic, her captain, Kurt Carlsen, refused to leave his ship. Crew and passengers he ordered into boats. He stayed alone. That was on Christmas day.

The powerful British tug, Turmoil, came out from Falmouth. Her first mate, Kenneth Dancy, risked his life to board the stricken Enterprise with Captain Carlsen, and the two of them finally made fast the tow line. Almost within sight of safety, the tow line broke; another storm came up. After sixteen days the Enterprise succumbed to the fury of the ocean. The Turmoil picked Carlsen and Dancy out of the water as she went under.

It was a losing battle and there is many a landsman who may wonder why all this devotion to a ship. To save the million-dollar cargo from the salvage hounds? That's only a partial explanation.

"They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters; these see

the works of the Lord, and his wonders in the deep."

So sang the psalmist David. The sea casts a spell and a ship commands a devotion which countless poets have tried to express:

"I must go down to the sea again, to the lonely sea and the sky.  
 And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by."  
 —John Masefield's "Sea Fever."

Captain Carlsen will get another ship. Tough old Hans Isbrandtsen, owner of the ship, made that promise Thursday while ships' bells in shipping offices were tolling the knell of the Enterprise. That will be much better than any hero reward that could be devised.

(We've had a lot of sea drama lately — the burning of the Danish ship Erria at Astoria in which 11 lost their lives, the loss of the freighter Pennsylvania in the North Pacific, with 45 still missing. It has been a rough season at sea.)

Why did the Enterprise story catch the public fancy? It "had everything," but above all it was a story of devotion. The lonely man standing by his ship dramatized something that is deep in our belief, the unwritten code which, not always, but at best, governs the free man's way of life.

These are the kind of days we'll be wishing for when we have the kind of days we're wishing for now.

Marquis Childs

## Communists Bid For Japan's Soul

WASHINGTON — When Stalin sent his New Year's greeting to the Japanese people, it was far from a bit of offhand courtesy. It was in fact, one of the first open moves in a warfare that will use every conceivable means to draw Japan into the Communist orbit.

In his telegram Stalin echoed the familiar Communist phrases — American imperialism, enslavement, and so on — to denounce the role of the United States in Japan since the end of the war. The truth is, of course, that large amounts of dollar assistance given to the Japanese have kept them from hunger and chaos.

Since 1945 the total contributed by America in direct economic assistance to Japan is \$1,800,000,000. That direct assistance ended last July 1 with the beginning of a new fiscal year.

But now the Japanese are discovering that they need further help. A letter is said to have come from Premier Shigeru Yoshida stating that without new direct dollar assistance in a fairly sizable amount the Japanese economy faces a serious crisis. That request may have to be presented at the time that the Japanese peace treaty is up before the Senate for ratification. It is hardly necessary to add that this will complicate the political problem in a presidential year when the cry of economy is loud in the land.

### BRITISH, U. S. CONFLICT

While official statements may ignore it, the differences between Britain and the United States in the Far East may well be the greatest obstacle to a renewal of the closeness that once existed between the two nations. The headlines in recent months have played up British troubles in the Middle East and American concern over those troubles. But what is brewing in the Pacific may engender even more ominous headlines in the future.

To many Americans it is bound to seem as though Britain, in seeking to channel Japanese trade toward the Chinese mainland, is inviting Japan to follow China down the Communist sewer. The British stand appears to be a repudiation of the anti-Communist position of the western alliance in Europe.

On the other hand, to many Britishers the American position on China seems unrealistic to the point of blind folly. They argue that the fact of Communist control of the Chinese mainland must be recognized, and the position of the western powers somehow accommodated to that fact.

### AGREEMENT VIOLATED

Here is the essence of the difference between the two Allies. It is augmented by a misunderstanding growing out of the Japanese peace settlement. The British say they signed the peace treaty after an agreement that the Japanese would not be pressured to enter relations either with Red China or Nationalist China. They believe John Foster Dulles, Republican adviser to Secretary of State Dean Acheson and architect of the Japanese peace treaty, violated that agreement when he was in Japan last month.

American officials say they know nothing of any such agreement. Republican senators were assured by Dulles that after the treaty was ratified, Japan would recognize Chiang Kai-shek and ignore the Red regime in Peking. Until ratification the Japanese government can conduct trade but not diplomatic negotiations with other powers.

An important factor from the viewpoint of American politics and Senate approval of the treaty is the fact that the American taxpayer is providing the dollars to bolster the shaky Japanese economy. This is now being done indirectly in several different ways. American spending in Japan growing out of the Korean war has been running at the rate of about \$150,000,000 a year for goods, services and communications of one kind or another.

### INDIRECT AID TO JAPAN

The United Nations civil assistance command is spending about \$200,000,000 for relief and rehabilitation in South Korea. Most of this comes from the United States and a considerable part of it is spent in Japan. If there is an armistice in Korea, the United Nations would spend \$200,000,000 in rehabilitation, of which the United States has pledged \$162,000,000. And this would mean further spending in Japan. None of the latter sum has as yet been appropriated.

There are still other ways in which American dollars are helping Japan to buy the iron ore and other commodities without which her industry cannot function. But this is apparently not enough so long as the Japanese are compelled, on the one hand, to take pounds for their trade with Southeast Asia — pounds they cannot convert into dollars — and, on the other hand, are stopped from trading with the Chinese mainland.

Under the continuing threat of Communist conquest these differences may be resolved, perhaps with still another infusion of American dollars into Japan. Failure to reach some kind of an agreement would have consequences such as to make even the most passionate advocate of either the British or the American position pause for a long breath.

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## The Shepherd

TRIAL

"The Lord trieth the hearts."  
 Prov. 17:3  
 "Our finest hour!" Churchill called . . .  
 The one when England stood appalled . . .  
 Upon the brink, you will know fear . . .  
 And danger as it hovers near . . .  
 To you today as in the past . . .  
 Remember how you met it last . . .  
 And won, it gives you renewed hope . . .  
 With present obstacles to cope . . .  
 Live gallantly, your faith increase . . .  
 For men assured are "Men at Peace."  
 JULIEN C. HYER

Enie, Meenie, Minie, Mo!



## Stassen to Fight Taft in 3 States

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Sen. Robert A. Taft and Harold E. Stassen squared off Thursday to fight it out for votes in the presidential primaries of Illinois, Wisconsin and Ohio.

Those are the only states so far in which primary contests are assured between two or more aspirants for the 1952 presidential nomination.

Neither Taft nor Stassen has indicated yet that he intends to enter the New Hampshire primary, where supporters of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower have promised to enter their candidate. Backers of Gen. Douglas MacArthur are talking of entering his name in New Hampshire despite his disavowal of political ambitions.

### Two Other States

Taft-Stassen contests have been developing in rapid-fire order since Stassen announced plans last week to enter primaries in Taft's home state of Ohio, in Minnesota, where Stassen formerly was governor, and in Pennsylvania, where Stassen is now president of the University of Pennsylvania.

Although Taft has said nothing about entering the Minnesota or Pennsylvania primaries, Stassen said he was meeting the Taft challenge in those states.

### Challenges Taft

He announced Sunday that he would enter the Illinois presidential preference primary, which does not bind delegates, and revealed Wednesday that he would enter the Wisconsin primary. He invited Taft to meet him in both. Taft, who had announced previously that he would enter a slate of delegates in the Wisconsin primary, responded Wednesday night by announcing that he will enter the Illinois primary. In both of those states, Taft has significant support from the leaders of well-knit state GOP organizations.

## Nunn Is Appointed To State Utilities Job

SALEM — (AP) — Warner H. Nunn, who has worked for the state Civil Service Commission for six years, will become Assistant State Public Utilities Commissioner Feb. 1.

The appointment was announced this week by Public Utilities Commissioner Charles Heltzel. Nunn succeeds Max Flannery, who resigned after holding the position since 1943.

## Scappoose Tops Nation

ST. LOUIS — (AP) — When it comes to talking turkey Missouri Gov. Forrest Smith probably will moderate his statements a bit in the future.

Two months ago Gov. Smith challenged fellow governors to enter their largest state's turkey in competition here at the National Turkey Federation. The governor was sure Missouri would win.

But when judges announced their findings Wednesday night Missouri came in sixth in the competition.

A 49-pound, 8-ounce entry owned by Loren A. Johnson of Scappoose, Ore., was the champion. Missouri's bird was a scrawny 40-pound, 15-ounce.

Miller Lumber Co.  
 Dutch Boy Paints  
 "Dutch Boy" Color Gallery!  
 534 Hiway 99 N.  
 5-8791

## Steel Profits High, Murray Contends

WASHINGTON — (AP) — CIO President Philip Murray said Thursday steel makers' profits are "so great" they can afford his unions' pay and other demands "without raising prices at all."

Murray was called as the opening witness before a Wage Stabilization Board panel in hearings on a government suggested solution to the big steel labor dispute.

## Painters Learn Manufacture

A number of Eugene house painters have just completed a 30 hour class in paint manufacture and demonstration. The classes were held at the Eugene Vocational School and were sponsored by the Eugene Joint Labor-Management Committee of the Paint Industry.

Ken Baird was the instructor and had a number of paint industry representatives appear before the class during their sessions. Prizes were given students with the best attendance record and the student with the highest grades.

A class in wallpaper hanging and color techniques is planned to start in February for journeyman and apprentices.

## O & C Land Problems Outlined for Kiwanis

Otto C. F. Krueger, district manager of the Eugene office, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of Interior, outlined major problems of administering Oregon and California Lands Thursday noon at a Springfield Kiwanis Club meeting.

He spoke in Springfield Memorial Bldg. Assisting was Roy L. Bradley, timber cruiser for BLM Director Marion Clawson, presented at a Eugene Kiwanis Club meeting in Eugene last Dec. 3.

## OPS Claims It Helps Women Stay Slim

MIAMI, Fla. — (AP) — The Office of Price Stabilization helps women with streamlined figures to help keep them that way, according to Gertrude Gordon of the OPS.

Inflation, American style, makes folks fat, Miss Gordon said. The OPS liaison representative explained that when prices of non-fattening cuts of meat soar too high, the homemaker is forced to substitute poundage-packed dishes such as spaghetti and cheese.

## Woman Who Said She Inspired 'Frankie and Johnny' Song Dies

PENDLETON — (AP) — Frankie Baker, a woman who claimed her shooting of the man who had done her wrong caused the "Frankie and Johnny" ballad to be written, died in the State Hospital for the Insane here Tuesday.

Whether she really was that Frankie never was proved, although she filed suits against Mae West and Republic Pictures 20 years ago trying to collect money over the film about Frankie and Johnny. The court ruled against her.

Story is Legendary

The 75-year-old Negro woman's story has been told many times in the past 30 years in magazines and newspapers, usually with variations in detail. This much she generally told the same:

In 1899, while living on Targee street in St. Louis, she had a man named Allen Britt, sometimes called Albert. One night

she found him at the home of Alice Pryor. She got Britt's tool and killed him with it, though there's some question about whether she fired through that hardwood door the song recounts.

Nellis Bly Origin

The song sometimes was called "Frankie and Albert" pointed out. And Alice became Nellie Bly in a poetic license.

Coming here in 1914, operated a shoe-shine stand many years. She spent hours sitting in a dimly lit room playing solitaire or reading through the papers. Children sometimes stood aside and chanted the words "Frankie and Johnny."

Frankie stayed independent long as she could, but she was committed to the Home and then to the hospital here.

Workers presently earn about \$1.95 hourly on the average.

The union probably will take until the middle of next week to present its case. After that, witnesses representing the steel industry will have their inning.

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The million-member union is asking an average 18 1/2 cents hourly pay boost and other concessions. It postponed a scheduled New Year's day strike at President Truman's request to let the WSB decide the case.

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## Super Carrier Sought by Navy

Flush-Deck Flat-Tops To Haul Atom Bombers

WASHINGTON — At least one and possibly two super aircraft carriers are being built by the Navy, it was learned Thursday.

Chairman Carl Vinson of the House Armed Services Committee said the big flat-tops will be ordered after the U.S.S. Forrestal, now building at Newport News, Va. It is a 90,000-ton flush-deck carrier designed to haul atom bombers, cruise faster than 30 knots, and remain at sea for more than three months.

The Georgia Democratic legislation to authorize the construction has been put on the committee's priority list for consideration.

Vinson said President Truman's forthcoming military budget expected to include funds for one of the new super carriers. A bill to authorize construction of the ship will be introduced at about the same time, and he will press that Congress amend it to authorize not one but two of the ships.

Next Year's Budget

Actual funds for the new carrier could be sought next year's defense budget.

The Forrestal is due for completion in about three years. Estimated cost is \$208 million. New and secret features will include a television system in planes land.

The ship will be 1040 feet as against 968 for the biggest carriers now afloat; her beam will be 125 feet, instead of 120. Maximum speed will be "substantially greater" than her cruising speed of 30 knots plus.

Acheson to Test World Situation

WASHINGTON — (AP) — House Foreign Affairs Committee will call on Secretary of State Acheson next week for a view of the world situation fore setting out on a stormy sea over foreign aid.

Chairman Richards (D-S.C.) the committee wants to see Acheson on, among other things, what Prime Minister Churchill expects in further American assistance.

The issue before the Congress, Richards told a reporter, was not whether foreign aid should be continued but how much American public could and should give.

Mac May To Test Republic

WASHINGTON — (AP) — possibility of inviting Gen. Douglas MacArthur to be speaker at the Republican National Nominating convention under discussion by members of the Party's Executive Committee.

A prominent GOP official asked not to be quoted by a reporter, said he had talked over an invitation to the general.

This party member said MacArthur is almost certain to be asked to make a major speech at the July convention in New York — a likelihood confirmed in Republican quarters.

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## A TRIBUTE TO OUR VETERINARIANS!

It has oft been said that a dog is man's best friend. If you love the faithful loyalty and companionship of one of these happy tail wags, you will agree. If you know the importance of keeping your dog in perfect health, you will be equally appreciative of the services and counsel of your Veterinarian. These men live in a wonderful world of four-footed activity. Poodles, Pomeranians, Pedigreed blue-bloods. Or just plain mongrels who, oftentimes, are smarter than their fancy counterparts. No matter what your dog's lineage is, the kindly, understanding (who treats Kittens, Pigs and Percherons, too!) will keep them in sleek, contented condition. Give your animals the care they deserve!



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 Dial 5-3305