

Cold War, 'Welfare State' Called Top Events of '49

New York, Jan. 3 (AP)—The cold war abroad and the "welfare state" issue at home were the two leading events dominating 1949 in the opinion of 14 top American newspaper editors and publishers.

And they see the same line-up for 1950.



Opponent—Welburn Moyock (above), former chief counsel for the democratic national committee, announced in Los Angeles, he will oppose James Roosevelt, son of the late president, for the democratic nomination for governor of California. (AP Wirephoto)

The 14 aired their views Sunday over NBC on the "Voice of the Press" program.

Connected with the cold war struggle between Russia and the West were many outstanding single events, including Russia's development of the atom bomb, the fight between the Soviets and the vatican, Yugoslavia's break with Russia, and the communist triumph in China.

Elections past and future were the other leading events in the editor's opinions.

They noted the recent New Zealand and Australian elections, both moves away from Socialism, and the American fall elections, which were generally favorable to the Truman "Fair Deal."

For the future, they looked forward eagerly to the 1950 congressional elections in the U.S. and the impending British general election.

But the sharp contest between the Soviet and American systems was easily the greatest issue before the world, they agreed.

"We must admit that the U.S. and Russia are engaged for the soul of the world," said Palmer Hoyt, editor and publisher of the Denver Post.

"The U.S. cannot fail to gain supremacy in the world, and this is evangelism. This is merely the continuation of the age-old battle of a million years to bring man to peace and freedom."

Starlings Increase In Portland Area

Portland, Jan. 3 (AP)—Even the bird lovers won't be happy about this news—for the European starling is more of a pest than lovable.

The Oregon Audubon society reported a study by members in the Portland area resulted in a count of 43 starlings, the largest number ever reported here.

Starlings are troublesome in eastern cities where they gather in flocks of thousands, litter buildings, and force more popular species to seek food and shelter elsewhere. They have been noted in recent years in southern Oregon cities.

The Audubon members reported spotting 89 other species of birds among the 26,000 counted. The count, taken within a 15-mile radius of downtown Portland, indicated the number of birds is not diminishing, despite the city's growth.

LETTERS REVEALED

Booth Tarkington Described Hugo as 'Terrible Fraud'

Indianapolis, Jan. 3 (AP)—Three unpublished letters, in which the late novelist Booth Tarkington evaluated the world's literary figures for a library committee, were made public today.

The letters were discovered by a librarian's secretary in an old strong box. They were written from Tarkington's summer home at Kennebunkport, Me., in 1916.

Authorities believe Tarkington wrote the letters in response to advice asked by Miss Eliza G. Browning, who then was city librarian. She was a member of committee appointed to decide what literary figures' names would be carved on the exterior walls of the central library then under construction.

Apparently Miss Browning had written Tarkington what names the committee was considering, and Tarkington took them one by one and told, partly in serious and partly in humorous vein, why each should or should not be included.

"I scratched that ignorant old cuss Cooper (James Fenimore Cooper), the rottenest writer we've produced," Tarkington wrote in one letter. "Also that terrible fraud Hugo (Victor Hugo)."

"But of course," he added, "you've got to have them. Their crimes are so imbedded you can't get away from the impression that the two were important and even intelligent men."

Tarkington said the list should not include Maurice Materlinck "because he's alive."

"He is a great man and a great writer," Tarkington said, "but if any living person should be on the library wall in name that should be (the Indiana poet James Whitcomb) Riley."

In another letter several weeks later, after Riley's death, Tarkington suggested that William Dean Howells, then 79, be the only living writer on the list.



New Dodge Coronet Four-Door Sedan—New body lines, larger rear window and fresh front end styling identify the new Dodge Coronet four-door sedan. The new Dodge line consists of 10 body styles on two wheelbases. Coronet models, on a 123 1/2-inch wheelbase, are available with Gyro-Matic transmission, which frees the driver from shifting. Fluid drive is standard equipment on all Dodge cars. Stan Baker Motors are the Salem Dodge dealers.

Martin Calls for Balanced Budget Without New Taxes

Washington, Jan. 3 (AP)—House Republican Leader Joseph W. Martin, Jr., Massachusetts, today called for a balanced budget without new federal taxes.

Martin, back at the capitol for reopening of congress, also urged quick approval of excise tax reduction which he said would give business "the best possible shot in the arm."

Martin told newsmen that both foreign and domestic spending should be trimmed, but that he saw no need for new taxes to make up losses in proposed excise tax cuts, or for current over-spending.

"The remedy is to reduce spending," Martin said. "On how much, I am willing to await developments. But it has got to be substantial."

Martin said that he found people generally "kicking about high taxes and complaining vociferously about high prices."

A wave of sentiment for government economy, Martin said, has reacted favorably for the republicans. He said it was strong enough to give the party "plenty of encouragement" over its prospects for capturing congress in the 1950 elections.

"We are going to make a militant fight to cut down expenses," Martin said. "People believe the government ought to get along with less than \$43,000,000,000 or \$44,000,000,000 a year."

Martin said he doubted that congress would remain in session past July 1.

He is the author of a proposed cut in excise taxes to prewar levels, especially on such items as jewelry and furs. He said the cut would cost the government which he believed would be about \$700,000,000 in revenue made up by a rapid increase in trade.

Martin said he would appoint later a nine-member committee of house republicans to cooperate with a committee from the GOP national committee in formulating a statement of principles pointing toward the November vote.

Red Admiral Dies

Moscow, Jan. 3 (AP)—The Soviet navy newspaper Red Fleet today reported the death of Rear Adm. Nikolai Zayats, 65, who the newspaper said had served since 1908 in the Russian fleet.

Red Fleet said the admiral died as the result of a long illness. It added he had served during World War II in Russia's Black sea fleet.



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Mill City Baby Misses Out on '50 Honors

Longview, Jan. (AP)—It was a race between cousins with a boy arriving a few hours early and missing out on first baby of the year honors here.

The boy was born in a local hospital New Year's eve to Mr. and Mrs. Martin Hansen of Mill City, Ore.

Arriving at 12:22 a. m. January 1 was the baby's cousin, Donna Jean Opsahl, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Theo. Opsahl of Kelso. The mothers are sister-in-law.

Both babies were born in the same hospital.

Some stalks of bamboo grow to be a foot in diameter and 85 feet high.

Young Yank Gives Children In Berlin Chance at Democracy

By SUSANNE SCHUMANN
Berlin, Jan. 3 (AP)—A California soldier is giving Berlin children a break.

"Santa Claus comes only once a year," the youngsters say, "but Uncle Lennie comes almost every day."

Uncle Lennie is the name by which the children know Cpl. Raymond Lenny Sergeant of Glendale, Calif. The corporal is a military policeman stationed here.

For the past two years, this 23-year-old soldier has spent most of his spare time and much of his duty time to make life more pleasant and interesting for Berlin youngsters.

Uncle Lennie believes that unless community spirit is developed among the youths, they will grow up quarreling, hating their fellow beings and susceptible to the next dictator ship which threatens their nation.

"The German youth need help today, not tomorrow," insisted the young soldier.

American authorities think so much of Uncle Lennie's work with the children that he is called to duty as a military policeman only two days per week. The remainder of the time he devotes to his gang.

Uncle Lennie has taught them football, baseball, boxing and other sports. At first he had only a handful of followers, but the gang quickly grew to 750. Now he is known throughout Berlin and has approximately 5,500 little friends. He also has a staff of 50 Germans, who work without pay, to assist him.

Additionally, "Uncle Lennie" stages shows for children in hospitals and supplies books for them to read.

German people in all walks of life make voluntary contributions to the "Uncle Lennie Fund," which goes entirely to aid the children.

Uncle Lennie is in the regular army and is due for reassignment this year. But he has already asked for an extension of duty in Berlin so that he may continue his work here.

Mrs. Twoby Home
Silverton — Mrs. Gertrude Twoby, a member of the faculty of the Evergreen consolidated schools, returned Monday from the holiday season spent at the homes of her sons, Donald and Robert Twoby of Clackamas.

Mrs. Twoby makes her home while teaching at the Coolidge street home of Mrs. Ida Makinster and Mrs. Lydia Dawes.

Reno Gambler, Ambush Victim, Probably Crippled for Life

Reno, Jan. 3 (AP)—Gambler Lincoln Fitzgerald continues to show steady recovery today from gunshot wounds he suffered November 18 in a midnight ambush, but his physicians say he will probably remain crippled for life.

Fitzgerald was seriously wounded when a mysterious assailant shot him in the back at point-blank range with a sawed-off shotgun as he opened the garage doors of his luxurious home to go to the gambling casino he operates in partnership with Danny Sullivan.

Both Fitzgerald and Sullivan were one time kingpins in Michigan gambling circles where they operated games illegally until the end of the recent war. They were later fined more than \$50,000 by Macomb county authorities after pleading guilty to charges of conspiring to evade Michigan's anti-gambling laws.

Fitzgerald, who is 57, lingered near death for weeks at Washoe medical center as surgeons battled to save his life. The shotgun blast shattered a portion of his spinal column, tore his liver and penetrated the chest wall and a lung.

All told, 108 shotgun pellets entered his body.

His recovery was described as "unbelievable" by his physicians, who credited the gambler's excellent physical condition and the fact he neither smokes nor drinks as being responsible.

However, the shattered spinal column will probably leave the gambler partially paralyzed from the waist down for the rest of his life, the surgeons believe.

He has been allowed to move about the hospital halls in a wheel chair, and later, he will be fitted with leg and body braces, but his surgeons believe it unlikely that he will ever walk unassisted again.

Meanwhile, Reno police have never managed to uncover a single definite clue as to the identity of Fitzgerald's assailant.

Police Chief Lorenz Greeson says his department has run down literally hundreds of tips and possible clues, but each investigation has run into a blank wall.

"The shooting was exceedingly well planned," Greeson says, "and we've got to admit that we've been stumped completely to date." He added that the case was not yet closed and that the investigation was continuing.

The belief persists among certain gambling circles that Fitzgerald, his pretty blonde wife, and probably Sullivan know what led to the shooting if not the identity of the assailant. However, all attempts to get this information by questioning by police and other official agencies interested in enforcement of Nevada's legalized gambling laws have failed completely.

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