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Salem, Oregon, Wednesday, January 4, 1950

Truman's Annual Message

President Truman in his 6000-word annual "State of the Union" message, though more optimistic, simply reiterated the "Fair Deal" espousal of a year ago, especially those concerning labor, social, farm and power demands that were before congress last year, and many of them rejected. The message is aimed squarely at next fall's elections, in which they will serve as campaign issues which he will take to the people with the hope of re-electing a democratic congress.

The president is apparently resigned to continued deficit spending. He reiterates his old demands for tax increase, for repeal of the Taft-Hartley labor law, civil rights legislation, the creation of a CVA and St. Lawrence project, extension of rent control, extension of the draft, the Brannan farm plan, socialized medicine, but says little on economy in administration to curtail deficits. He warned against "the folly of attempting budget slashes which would impair our prospects for peace or cripple the programs essential to our national strength."

The president's foreign policy program called for continued support of the United Nations, continued aid to Europe, for economic and military co-operation with European democracies. He had little to say about the East, or Formosa.

The message was more friendly in tone to his opponents than some previous ones or of most of his campaign remarks. But it did not in any way alter the administration's program that has kicked up so much opposition in the congress.

Mr. Truman's proposals foreshadow at least two years more of big time deficit spending, perhaps more. "More than 70 percent of the government's expenditures are required to meet the costs of past wars and to work for world peace," Mr. Truman said. "This is the dominant factor in our fiscal policy. At the same time, the government must make substantial expenditures which are necessary to the growth and expansion of the domestic economy."

Mental Illness No. 1 Problem

The United States public health service reports that more than one million Americans were treated in hospitals last year for "America's No. 1 public health problem"—mental illness. Last year half of all hospital beds were occupied by psychiatric patients, and the number would have been greater had the institutions not been overcrowded.

One out of every 10 persons in the country will need psychiatric help at some time in his life. One out of 20 will spend some part of his life in a mental institution. Today the national mental health bill is \$200,000,000. By 1956 it will be \$250,000,000, says the report.

There is no proof, according to the authorities, that war or tensions of modern life have materially boosted the insanity rate. The biggest single factor in the higher figure seems to be the better diagnosis and facilities of modern medicine. Cases that once would have been ignored now are identified as mental illness and treated.

According to the survey, 12 states were spending less than \$1 a day on each mental patient, all in the midwest or south. Another 19 states spent less than \$1.50 a day. New York with the best mental or "least bad" institutions, spent \$2 a day for each patient.

By contrast, the veterans' administration averaged \$5.85 per patient in its neuropsychiatric wards. Private mental hospitals, which handle less than 4 percent of all patients, spent \$6.95 per patient.

Community Chores Not Attended To

Marion county didn't do as good a job as was hoped in the outcome last year in the Community Chest drive.

The state, as a whole, averaged 83 percent of the state goal. Marion county raised 89 percent of its reduced goal of \$104,400. Eight counties of the 36 in the state made their quotas. The eight were Clackamas, Gilliam, Harney, Hood River, Lane, and Sherman. Populous Multnomah came a little closer to its goal than did Marion, with 90 percent.

Because it made its quota, Lane county, for instance, is feeling pretty cocky. The Eugene Register-Guard in that county comments that the success of the chest drive there was "simply that Lane county has not grown too big for its britches." What the Register-Guard has reference to is significant: "We have not grown too big to have very genuine community feeling."

It is difficult to try to put a finger on the reason why Lane county met its Community Chest quota and Marion county didn't. Or, for that matter, why Multnomah county did even better than Marion. The effect locally, however, is easily seen. Community Chest agencies have been forced to cut their services enough to keep within the curtailed budget, which was controlled by funds raised.

For some reason, Marion county didn't get around in 1949 to getting the community chores tended to. And that wasn't good.

Winning \$84,000, Tax-Free, Terrifies Middle-Aged Couple

Birmingham, England, Jan. 4 (AP)—Mr. and Mrs. Albert Moxon heard with horror today that they have won £30,251 (\$84,702.80) in a soccer football pool.

"I'm terrified," said Moxon, a 50-year-old truck driver. "We just hoped for £500 (\$1,400) to buy some things for the house."

"I wish we hadn't won it," said his wife Clara, 49. "It's too much. It could wreck our happiness. We have been perfectly happy for 29 years."

To make it worse the money is tax-free under British law. The pool operators offered the Moxons a trip to London to be presented with a check for their winnings.

No, thanks, said the Moxons. Let the postman bring it.

'Nacilbupers' in Politics

Washington, Jan. 4 (AP)—Rep. Huber (D., Ohio), has coined a word to describe those who seek a union between republicans and southern democrats.

"Those who indulge in this backward thinking should be labeled and treated as nacilbupers," Huber set forth in a prepared statement.

He explained later that a "nacilbuper" is a republican spelled backwards." He did not make clear how one of them should be treated, though.

BY BECK  
A Dog's Life



SIPS FOR SUPPER

(Editor's Note: Columnist Don Upjohn is ill today, so his "Sips for Supper" is missing on the page. The Capital Journal knows his readers join in hoping for a speedy recovery.)

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

What Does the Cut-Rate Crystal Ball Say for '50?

By HAL BOYLE

New York (AP)—Let's dust off our old \$4.98 crystal ball, and see what the year ahead has in store for us.

Well, this poor man's philosopher, sees 1950 as a less jittery period than 1949. The world will argue as much as ever, but it will sink with more confidence into the routines of peace.

Fear of immediate war will abate still more. Nobody will drop an atom bomb in anger, and more people will worry about losing their jobs than fret about being hit by an atom bomb. Salesmen will have to work a little harder to make their percentages. The slogan "the customer is always right" will ring still more of its old meaning.

Pension protection will be a bigger political issue than tariff protection. Since it's an election year, congress will repeal the taxes on fur coats and baby powder.

Who will carry the elections? The crystal ball fogs up there, but it is safe to bet the republican party will end the year with more new voters in its fold than new congressmen. So will the democrats.

Among other things the crystal ball flatly predicts these things—(but you can't put too much faith in a \$4.98 mouth-piece):

Bing Crosby's hairline will continue to recede, and Humphrey Bogart will be bitten by a live panda.

General Douglas MacArthur will return to America. Both Notre Dame and Oklahoma will lose a football game. (Don't write in to say I'm crazy—It's my crystal ball that's talking.)

Don't expect a subway series in baseball. The National league winner: The St. Louis Cardinals (Brooklyn Dodgers, second). The American league winner: Boston (Detroit, second). The St. Louis Browns will play the full season as usual.

That's what the crystal ball says—and you can believe it or buy your own ball. For the rest of it, life will be pretty much the mixture as before for the average man. He'll remember 1950 as a fine year, and if he behaves himself he shouldn't feel much more than 12 months older by 1951.

Hunger-Strike, Communist-Style

Calcutta, India, Jan. 4 (AP)—Nearly 500 communist prisoners are on a hunger strike in various prisons here, officials announced today.

Their demands: That the prisoners have a say in the appointment of their jailers, and that the jailers get a pay raise.

'Ah-Yes,' 'Oh-No' Reactions Given Capitol's Face-Lifting

By HARMAN W. NICHOLS

Washington, Jan. 4 (AP)—The session, reacted with "Ah-yes" and "Oh-no" to the \$5,000,000 fixing up job in the house and senate.

Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D., Minn.), for one, was impressed. He liked the plush job done in lights, silk wall covering and all—and the modern acoustics. Before the gavel fell on the new session, however, there was quite a to-do about the "halos" which appeared as an optical illusion over the heads of some of the busts of former vice-presidents in the gallery level of the senate. John Adams among them.

But when the senate met at noon all that had been eliminated.

According to Capitol Architect David Lynn, it was all due to a high polish behind the busts. Lynn's workmen took care of that at an early hour and very few senators saw it.

But no getting around it, the looks of the place have changed. Sen. Henry Lodge, Jr., (R., Mass.) was one complainer. He looked at the architect's drawing last year and cried that the

10 DAYS AHEAD

Front-page headlines in the last few days have featured the story of the inter-cabinet debate over Formosa, and its defense against the Chinese communists. This entire story, however, was featured in the Washington Merry-Go-Round on December 22, exactly 10 days before it broke in other newspapers.

Pearson told in detail how General MacArthur had sent urgent cables demanding that Formosa be occupied by U. S. troops and how his pleas were responsible for a reversal by the joint chiefs of staff, who, however, were finally overruled by Secretary of State Acheson.

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Leaders Determined to Avoid Another Kickback Scandal

By DREW PEARSON

Washington—Hottest problem facing congressional leaders as they got back to Washington was how to prevent another Parnell Thomas kickback scandal.

This will be a major topic at a secret meeting of the house-republican steering committee early next week. House GOP leader Joe Martin will tell his lieutenants that house republicans must immediately rid their payrolls of any non-working employes who draw salaries from the taxpayers.

Also, he will do some blunt talking about members who bring disgrace upon themselves and their party by accepting kickbacks.

Martin himself has set an excellent example in keeping his payroll honest. Since coming to congress he has never had a relative or a non-working employe in his office, and last year he refused to hire an extra \$3,000-a-year clerk authorized by congress, on the ground that the extra clerk wasn't needed.

Speaker Sam Rayburn and Majority Leader John McCormack also will privately warn house democrats who have been chiseling on the taxpayers to clean up their payrolls pronto.

The Russians have their own way of keeping an eye on American officials in Moscow. Some time ago, Maj. Gen. John W. O'Daniel, U.S. military attache in Moscow, was watching a gala military parade which included a flight by the Red army's latest planes. He was anxious to know more about these planes, so leaning halfway out of his office window, he took a series of pictures.

What General O'Daniel didn't know, however, was that across the street Russian cameramen caught him in the act. And the newsmen they took of him taking pictures of Russian planes are to be featured in Soviet theatres as an illustration of so-called American espionage.

NOTE—Recent U.S. "spy" trials have shown that the FBI has used the same tactics in watching the Soviet embassy on 16th street—namely, placing cameras in a building just across the street.

PROBING LOBBYISTS  
Hard-hitting Representative Frank Buchanan of Pennsylvania, chairman of the house lobby investigating committee, has ordered his staff to pull no punches in probing the big pressure groups which operate on Capitol Hill.

"Leave your whitewash brushes at home," Buchanan bluntly told assistants. "In this investigation we're not going to protect anybody but the American people."

One big outfit that will receive some careful attention is the real estate lobby, which will wage a vigorous drive during this session to block the extension of rent controls.

This is the same lobby that tried to sabotage public housing.

CONGRESS PREDICTIONS  
Privately, leaders agree that the second session of the 81st congress will set no records for productivity or progressive legislation. It will be a cautious session, with both parties playing politics up to the hilt and striving to keep their skirts clean for the November election.

There will be a lot of shouting about civil rights—with an eye on November—but nothing enacted into law except, possibly, the anti-poll tax bill. This has already passed the house and needs only senate approval.

The fair employment practices bill, hottest of the civil rights measures, also will pass the house, but senate foes are prepared to filibuster it to death. Thus, northern democrats can boast in the next campaign that they were able to get this hot potato through one house of congress, while southern democrats can boast about killing it in the other.

The republicans are strictly in the middle on this one and can be counted on to outvill the democrats in the losing fight for civil-rights legislation. However, they are not willing to revise cloture to back up their yells. Here's the outlook on other major issues:

Federal Aid to Education—Already passed by the senate, this hot potato will be revamped in the house to meet Catholic objections. One concession will be an amendment providing bus transportation for parochial as well as public school students.

Taxes—The house will pass legislation increasing either corporate income taxes or taxing excess profits, but Senator George of Georgia and other business-minded colleagues will put up a stiff battle against this in the senate.

Social Security—The social security expansion bill, already passed by the house, will pass the senate in somewhat similar form, with few, if any, of its "liberalization" teeth pulled.

Taft-Hartley Repeal—Not a chance, despite White House demands for action. Congressional democrats want to save this one for an election issue to use against republicans. Senate and house democratic leaders will do some shadow-boxing for the newspapers, but that's all.

Fireman's Holiday  
Bangor, Me. (AP)—On his day off, fireman Dennis Givren, 62, rescued four children from a burning house.

BY CLARE BARNES, JR.

White Collar Zoo



Night Watchman

MacKENZIE'S COLUMN

'Chins Up' for 1950—Year Should Make Big History

By DeWITT MacKENZIE

About every other person one meets wants to know what the year 1950 is going to bring us in foreign affairs.

You don't need to be the seventh son of the seventh son of a prophet to know that the answer is "plenty." There are some really bright spots, but there also are some dirty storms blowing up.

I'm reminded of a flight I made during the war over the wicked mountain field capped by "the hump" between China and Burma.

We had more than 30 folk aboard. As we approached the hump, we encountered a terrible storm. Many got sick, and we were yelling and moaning. We had to climb to about 18,000 feet—without oxygen in the passenger compartment—and some people became unconscious. The sensation was like that of starting to go under an anesthetic.

The neat little Chinese hostess stopped to ask how I was getting along, and I allowed as how it was hard to breathe. She smiled and replied:

"Just drop you chin down on your chest and relax—let yourself pass out. It won't hurt you any."

I glanced at the man across the aisle. He had his chin on his chest and was unconscious. I thanked the lady, but shook my head.

My point is that if things get too bad this coming year we always can drop our chins on our chests and pass out.

However, as the signs read. I think this definitely is a year to keep "chins up." I believe we shall make the hump O.K.

Things in western Europe look decidedly brighter from the standpoint of the western powers. On the other hand Asia presents a grim picture as the great communist offensive increases in size and pressure. The trend of the battle of the isms in Asia will have a vital, and perhaps decisive, bearing on the world conflict.

Both politically and economically, western Europe is making reassuring strides toward rehabilitation, thanks largely to American assistance. Indeed, as this column previously has pointed out, the communist drive not only has been brought to a halt, but the Red forces are decidedly on the defensive in many sectors.

Moscow is straining every nerve to consolidate its position and prevent any further defection like that of Marshal Tito's Yugoslavia. In this connection there is widespread speculation among observers whether Russia is getting ready to incorporate her satellites into the Soviet Union.

Relations between Moscow and Finland again are tense. Russia has accused the little nation of harboring more than 300 alleged Soviet war criminals in violation of the Russo-Finnish peace treaty.

The Soviet charges have been received gravely in Finland and President Paasikivi in a New Year's message to the nation declared:

"There must be no enemies of the Soviet Union in Finland, only friends."

Of one thing we may be sure: Communism will continue its tactics of harrasing the democracies both politically and economically.

Washington officials say one of the critical issues facing American foreign policy in 1950 is that of preventing Western Europe from encountering new economic troubles when the Marshall plan aid ends in '52.

Still another critical issue is named, and that is the problem of creating a program to halt communism in the orient. The communist success in China is a body blow for the Western Allies. Already India and Burma have recognized the Chinese communist regime, and Britain is said to be preparing to extend recognition shortly.

One of the most pressing problems in the Far East is what to do about the big strategic island of Formosa, now occupied by Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek as Nationalist headquarters.

General Douglas MacArthur and his top military planners are said to believe America should make every practicable effort to prevent Formosa from being captured by Chinese Reds. Yes, the next 12 months are likely to make big history which will affect us all.