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4— Salem, Oregon, Saturday, January 28, 1950

Mr. Truman Has "No Comment"

Washington correspondents had some fun at the weekly press conference quizzing President Truman on the conviction of Alger Hiss and red herrings but got nowhere, the only reply being "no comment."

"Q.—Mr. President, regardless of the outcome in the upper courts, will you turn your back on Alger Hiss?"

"A.—No comment. Then Mr. Truman said that was a nice question. There was a bit of laughter in the crowded, oval room."

"A reporter barged in with a question about excise taxes. After a bit of back and forth the conference got back to Hiss."

"Q.—Mr. President, no point in asking other Alger Hiss questions?"

"A.—Mr. Truman replied that there was no point in asking any more Alger Hiss questions. He said they were not asked with good intent and that he did not intend to answer them."

"Q.—Mr. President, how about a red herring question?"

"A.—Mr. Truman said there would be no questions on that here."

"Q.—Mr. President, do you approve of the statement of Secretary Acheson?"

"A.—There was no comment."

Acheson had said he would not turn his back on Alger Hiss although his friend had been convicted of lying and by implication of spying for the Soviet Union while he was a high state department official.

But it is already apparent that congress will be more difficult to hush than the newsmen. Rep. Harold H. Velde (R., Ill.) says the president's refusal to discuss his 1948 "red herring" statements about Hiss was "the attitude of a stubborn man who is still attempting to withhold information on an espionage plot in his branch of government from the people and the courts of the land. If Mr. Truman won't make the answers, it is up to congress to provide some answers."

Other congressmen said they will demand that Mr. Truman release the loyalty records of Hiss and explain his previous all-out efforts to hamstring the house un-American activities commission which was trying to expose communists in the state department.

From the time the Hiss story broke in August, 1948, a presidential campaign year, until after discovery of evidence which ultimately led to his conviction, Mr. Truman pooh-poohed the spy story. He called it a red herring used by the republicans for political purposes. He said the house investigators were headline hunters.

Two Airlines Skipped Salem

Last week-end Salem's airport got all the Portland business for United Air Lines. Portland's field was iced over, so no flights came in or out there.

The question arises, however, as to what happened to the flights of Western Airlines and Northwest which also operate out of Portland? Since neither airline had facilities at Salem, neither Northwest or Western used the Salem field.

This brings up an important point that can be used effectively in the Civil Aeronautics Board hearings in another month here. If United is deprived of facilities at McNary field, then United also would be unable to use Salem when weather "closes in" the Portland airport.

At least that would be the case, assuming United used the same reasoning that both Northwest and Western did during last week-end's storm. Lack of facilities of the later two airlines here, tends to discourage them from using the field, which is certainly understandable.

Then if United were barred from Salem, as the CAB originally considered doing, then flights coming to Oregon probably would miss the state entirely during storms, since Salem is the only practical stop outside of Portland. The CAB has a responsibility to the state, it would seem, to do everything possible to give the state adequate air transportation. To act to cripple that service would be to hurt air transportation itself.

A responsibility rests with Salem, likewise, in this particular role of an alternative field for Portland. Certain of the bigger planes that are now coming into operation will not be able to land at Salem even if permission were given to use the field and if company facilities were present. The runways are not long enough for the extra large transports. So extension of the runways of McNary field will become necessary in the future if the airport is to be adequate for the second city of Oregon.

When Salem asks the CAB to keep the city's place in the transcontinental airways picture, Salem also assumes a certain obligation to maintain adequate facilities and runways.

Hydrogen Bomb Up to the President

The question of building or not building the super hydrogen bomb has been left with President Truman. Urged by many top military officials, as well as those who cooperated in building the atomic bomb, and in the technological improvement of weapons, Mr. Truman made it clear that the final decision rests with him alone.

At the closed meeting of the senate military committee with the atomic energy commission held Friday, statements urging hydrogen-bomb construction came from such sources as Dr. Harold C. Urey, a scientist who helped build the first A-bombs; Bernard Baruch, author of the American atomic control plan that Russia rejected in the United Nations, and Chairman Carl Vinson (D., Ga.), of the house armed services committee.

Indications are that congress may yet first be notified of the president's decision—if he says "yes"—through a request for an appropriation. The legislators were unquestionably ready to give the administration any money it wants for the project, and economize on non-essentials.

Sen. Harry F. Byrd (D., Va.), top leader of the democratic economy bloc, said: "As long as we have the atomic bomb, we should have the very best and have a plentiful supply of them. I do not see how we can make any other than an affirmative decision."

Chairman David E. Lilienthal of the atomic energy commission has been quoted in some sources as being adverse to construction of the weapon. But he said that statements on his views have been "inaccurate and some of them just plain absurd." He specifically denied a report that he has offered to go to Moscow to negotiate directly with Josef Stalin on new atomic controls.

BY BECK

Parental Problems



THE FIRESIDE PULPIT

Words of St. Paul Ring True Today as They Did Originally

BY REV. GEORGE H. SWIFT

Rector, St. Paul's Episcopal Church

It would be difficult, if not impossible, to appraise the work of Saint Paul, whose conversion the church celebrated on January 25th.

What Saint Paul did after he was converted on the road to Damascus gave the faltering young church the "spark" which made it "click," and which carried it over the first shock of persecution.

The vigorous way in which he preached the Gospel, established churches, and converted souls placed Saint Paul in the church's hall of fame as the world's greatest Christian missionary. Then, too Saint Paul left more writings that have survived the test of time than did all the original 12 apostles together.

The words of Saint Paul have survived the test of time because they ring true! Somehow, they interpret Christianity in a way that makes it plainly applicable to our own everyday experience.

Saint Paul made a word picture of the church of that early time. But what he said of the church then might be said of the church today:

"As dying and behold, we live; As chastened, and not killed; As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; As poor, yet making many rich; As having nothing, and yet possessing all things."

According to its critics, the church has been dying for fifteen hundred years. Yet it goes on, ever increasing in numbers and strength; always poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing all things of real and lasting importance.

Saint Paul's writings, as found in the New Testament, should be read and re-read hundreds of times. Saint Paul's faith and spiritual strength as revealed in his Epistles will continue to be an inspiration to mankind as long as there is a Christian Church.

Saint Paul had a great soul, a trained mind, sound convictions, and the strength of character to act. He must have had a crystal-clear conscience too, when he wrote his own epitaph in words like these:

"I have fought a good fight; I have finished my course; I have kept the faith. Therefore there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness."

Other signs of the coming explosion are:

1.) "Wild Bill" Langer, the bull-throated independent from North Dakota, was calmly eating in the senate restaurant when GOP leader Ken Wherry strolled by. The mere sight of Wherry aroused Langer to an angry snarl.

"They're trying to read me out of the party," he said, "and there goes one of the so-and-so's who'd like to do it. But I'll show them. I've been stomping up and down North Dakota and the people don't want to go back to McKinley."

2.) Republican regulars in Oregon backed up by lumber interests and a \$150,000 campaign kitty are preparing a 90-day "blitzkrieg" against progressive Sen. Wayne Morse in the GOP primary.

3.) Last straw for many republicans in congress was a demand that they buy blocks of New York stock.

It's trying to destroy man's best friend—the common cold. This is rank ingratitude to an ailment that has helped more people than it has hurt. For modern society is built on the common cold, real or imaginary, and it fills many necessary functions.

There is a great tumult raging in medical circles as to whether the new anti-histamine drugs will cure the common cold.

Who cares? Who wants it cured anyway? Pneumonia, influenza, bronchitis, asthma—these are real diseases that threaten lives and should be attacked without mercy.

But why pick on the common cold? It isn't really a disease—it is one of civilization's great safety valves.

The misguided people who want to get rid of it use the same arguments as those who advocated prohibition 30 years ago. The main argument is economic—that colds cost some \$420,000,000 a year in lost wages.

The idea is that, if colds are stopped, people won't miss work and they will have \$420,000,000 more with which to buy homes, orchids, toy trains and shetland ponies.

What nonsense, really! How many "colds" are caused by germs? Only a fraction—as most physicians know. A cold is really a camouflage name to describe hangers, laziness, deep fatigue, spring fever, an unwillingness to face problems at the office, a temporary re-

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Republican Gripes May Be Just Forerunner to Blast in GOP

By DREW PEARSON

Washington—It looks like an explosion was brewing inside the republican party.

A senator's snort plus troubled questions are portents of trouble. The snort came from that merry old soul of republican conservatism, the delightful and brainy Eugene Millikin of Colorado.

Senator Millikin, an important looking man with a huge, bald head listened with an amused twinkle to gripes hurled at the republican national committee. Then he snorted: "The trouble with the national committee is they are living in an antediluvian age."

Coming from millionaire Senator Millikin, this is extremely significant, yet it's typical of the reaction of moderate republicans to the high, wide and handsome campaign by the party's right wing against "me-tooism."

Another troubled question was raised recently by Vic Johnston, conscientious man-of-all-work for the GOP congressional campaign committee. He inquired of republican friends: "What can I tell my son? He wrote from college that he's considering leaving the republican party because he thinks it does not offer anything for youth."

Two "progressive" republicans have answers, but so far they haven't been listened to. Scholarly Sen. Irving Ives of New York advises: "To attract the support essential to our success, we republicans must stand for things. We must show that we have genuine solicitude for the welfare of all the people. The reactionaries are living in a dream world and can only destroy the republican party at a time when there is a tragic need for an intelligent opposition to the fair deal."

Similar advice comes from the young, hard-hitting Massachusetts senator, Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., who says: "We need a positive program to win elections. This means a fight to prevent the party from falling completely into the hands of the right wing."

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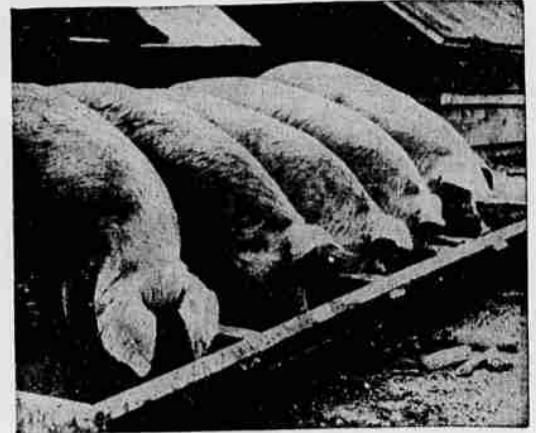
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BY CLARE BARNES, JR.

White Collar Zoo



Senior Partners

MacKENZIE'S COLUMN

India's Statehood Symbol of Fast Changing Times in World

By DeWITT MacKENZIE

(U.S. Foreign Affairs Analyst)

India's arrival at full statehood—complete in all respects as a sovereign republic which is answerable to no foreign power—is symbolic of our rapidly changing times.

This transformation, involving more than three hundred million souls, has in the main been effected within the past generation. Even to those who have been privileged to witness this epic development at close range, it seems almost unbelievable that such a mighty change could happen within the compass of so short a time.

I'm taking you back to 1916-17 when I made my first visit of several months to India. It was an Arabian nights adventure into the middle ages.

The vast peninsula was presided over by the British viceroy; as representative of the king-emperor, and the regime was far more regal than that in England itself. It had to be, because under it were some 600 native princes of unlimited wealth who had the power of life and death over their humble subjects. Such potentates bowed only to superior power and splendor.

The imperial Durbars were things of wonder. Nowhere else ever had been seen such displays of opulence—the mountains of priceless jewels, the clothing cunningly woven of solid golden threads, the elephants' caparisons which were worth the ransom of a king.

That was the dazzling part of the picture. Beneath this blaze of glory there were of course various strata of society which reflected the education and culture both of their own ancient India and of the outside world. But then came the lowly masses, the vast majority of whom always were hungry.

At the very bottom were some 40,000,000 or more Hindu untouchables who were so low that they didn't even have a place in the caste system. They were the pariahs, condemned to be the emptiers of nightsoils for their "betters." Poor devils, these untouchables were far less fortunate than the gaunt-bellied, wild dogs from which they got the name of pariah.

Those still were days of considerable child marriage. Women had little or no place in public life but for the most part were kept shut away from the outside world. When they appeared in public they were closely veiled—all except the lowest classes.

That was the picture a generation ago. But education was spreading, and the people were beginning to feel a political consciousness.

A little Hindu named Gandhi was tramping the highways and byways, preaching the tenets of the sermon on the mount, and instilling the urge for political freedom on the minds of the masses. Working with him were eager followers like the great Nehru, who now is prime minister of India.

Well, you know the rest of the story. Progress has surged across the peninsula and we now have the independent nations of India and Pakistan. Both are playing their part in world affairs.

The princes have been deposed and their subjects have joined the free peoples of the new nations.

India ranks among the great manufacturing countries of the globe. Education has swept the peninsula, for both women and men. Women are discarding the veil, and you see young men and girls walking the streets together. Religious bigotry has lessened.

When I first visited India I made a friend in a distinguished Hindu writer. I was entertained in his home but his wife wouldn't eat at table with me because I was an "unbeliever." Four years ago I was entertained in their home and she ate with me as though I were a member of the family.

Yesterday India inaugurated her first president, Rajendra Prasad, a disciple of the martyred Gandhi. She also promulgated her new republican constitution, under which the stigma of "untouchability" is outlawed.

Whither now? I have traveled widely on the India peninsula and studied the people. I believe their capability for advancement is unlimited. India may well become the leader of the whole orient.

Capital Journal

WANT-AD WONDERS

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