

The Secretary of State

Senator McCarthy (R., Wis.) charges that the state department is infiltrated by communists acting as agents and spies of Russia in an attack on Secretary of State Dean G. Acheson—though any possible infiltration occurred long before his regime—the only proven instance being the Alger Hiss case, in the 1930's. Acheson has held the office only since January, 1948. But the charges have been avidly backed by some republican leaders, this being a political year, to smear the democratic administration.

The secretary of state's job is under constant fire from congress and sometimes from the president as he has little real authority. The late Henry Adams, grandson of President John Quincy Adams, accurately describes the post in his autobiography, "The Education of Henry Adams," published in 1907:

"The secretary of state has always stood as much alone as the politician. Required to look far ahead and round him, he measures forces unknown to party managers, and has found congress more or less hostile ever since congress first sat. The secretary of state exists only to recognize the existence of a world which congress would rather ignore; of obligations which congress repudiates whenever it can; of bargains which congress disavows and tries to turn to its advantage or to reject. Since the first day the senate existed, it has always intrigued against the secretary of state whenever the secretary has been obliged to extend his functions beyond the appointment of consuls in senators' service."

Secretaries of state are usually the highest type of patriotic and far visioned citizens and have rendered fine service to the country since the birth of the republic. The tasks and responsibilities have multiplied since the United States shed its shell of isolationism and became a world power.

Though during three terms plus of the presidency of the late Franklin D. Roosevelt, Cordell Hull held the post, FDR was really his own secretary as far as foreign policy making was concerned and frequently Mr. Hull was not consulted. On his retirement because of ill health Edward R. Stettinius was appointed.

Mr. Truman inherited Mr. Stettinius, who presided at the Golden Gate organization of the United Nations. Stettinius' record was that of a foremost industrialist, who at the age of 35 had risen to be chairman of the finance committee of the United States Steel corporation and its president four years later. When war threatened, he was appointed chairman of the War Resources board and in 1941 administrator of the Lend-Lease administration and special assistant to the president, and in 1945 secretary of state. As he was not a partisan democrat he was forced out by political pressure.

James F. Byrnes, the ablest politician of them all, was appointed secretary of state. He had been a member of the house from 1911 to 1925, U. S. senator, 1931-41, resigning to become associate justice of the supreme court. He resigned in 1942 to become director of economic stabilization, and "assistant president." He was appointed secretary of state in 1945, retiring in 1947.

General of the Army George C. Marshall was appointed secretary of state as Byrnes' successor. He had been army chief-of-staff 1939-45. He resigned the state post and retired early in 1948.

Dean G. Acheson succeeded Marshall. He had served in the navy in the first World War, then private secretary to Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, practiced law, under-secretary of the treasury in 1933, assistant secretary of state in 1941, under secretary in 1945 and secretary of state in 1948.

Thus Mr. Truman has tried out four able and brilliant men as secretary of state, an industrialist, a top brass military figure, a master politician, and a career man. All of them have been under fire from congress, Acheson more than any of them facing a conspiracy of shameful smear. None of them can be accused as communists or fellow travelers, though they may not see eye to eye with congress or the president.

Roble Should Not Go

Fire Chief Bill Roble startled Salem Monday with his resignation. His record as head of the department had been so outstanding during his 38 months of service that his sudden action could come only as a surprise.

The resignation dramatized his protest of the disloyalty of a small group of local fire department members for criticizing publicly the city manager form of government. That minority's action had put the conscientious chief in a position that his resignation seemed to him the only way out.

As head of a city department, Roble had raised the fire department to top rating. He accomplished this achievement with the full cooperation and help of the city manager, of members of the fire department and of the people of Salem who backed his requests with votes of approval at the polls.

When the small group of firemen attacked the city manager, those firemen were hitting at the form of government which had enabled Roble to achieve the department's success. His loyalty to the city manager had suddenly been embarrassed by loyalty to his men. Sincere and devoted to his trust as fire chief, Roble felt he could not continue under those circumstances. His resignation followed.

That resignation now rests on the city manager's desk, awaiting action.

Before City Manager Franzen takes any action, he should review the excellent work that Roble has done. Franzen should think back to those days in 1947 when Roble took over, and contrast the change in the department that the fire chief has made. Franzen should recall the efficiency of the department as repeatedly shown in answers to alarms. He shouldn't forget how the department responded promptly, for example, to the Fairview Home fire last year and, under trying circumstances, prevented the loss of many lives of the inmates.

The small group of men who embarrassed their chief should recall the downtown fire-house as it was before Roble became chief. Those men should think back to a before-Roble and after-Roble comparison of their conditions and pay. Those men should remember how Roble fought vigorously for shorter hours and more pay for them. They should recall Roble's constant championship of his men on the floor of the city council. Those men cannot ignore the pride of service he has brought to the department.

The Capital Journal feels that the loss of Bill Roble as fire chief would be a loss to the people of the city of Salem. His resignation should be held up. He should be persuaded by the city manager and the men of the department to remain as fire chief.

BY BECK

Life's Darkest Moment



KRISS-KROSS

Girls Waited . . . But Boys Didn't Show Up

By CHRIS KOWITZ, Jr.

Six years ago last night a lot of young ladies in England were left waiting by their boy friends . . . they waited on street corners, in front of restaurants and theatres . . . they looked at their watches and fumed . . . but the fellows didn't show up . . . for some mysterious reason, most of the young fellows had disappeared from their familiar haunts.

But while those English girls fumed and fussed over being stood up that night, the young men who were to have met them had much more important engagements than their disappointed girl friends realized . . . some of them were plunging through the night in boats along the French coast . . . some were in planes, dropping bomb loads on German coastal batteries.

You see, it was June 5, 1943 . . . D-day . . . the allied invasion of France had begun. And that's why so many girls were left waiting by their dates on that night six years ago.

There's some birds out at Doc Will Thompson's place at Riverdale that have set up home in a Capital Journal box . . . first moved in about three weeks ago . . . Thompson moved 'em out . . . birds moved in again . . . so Thompson thought he might as well make things as comfortable as possible for the birds

MacKENZIE'S COLUMN

Truman's Views on Prospects Of Peace Not Always the Same

By CLARK BEACH

(Substituting for Devitt Mackenzie, AP Foreign Affairs Analyst)

The basic dilemma of those who guide United States foreign policy has come into sharp focus.

President Truman said at his Thursday news conference that he believed the world is closer to permanent peace than at any time in the last five years. He had been asked to comment on a poll (Gallup) which indicated that a majority of Americans expect war by 1955; and he replied that he did not agree with that at all.

Yet a few hours earlier, in asking congress to continue for a second year the military aid program for nations threatened with communist aggression, he warned of dangers. In his report on the past year's program, he described "the increasingly bold and menacing character of communist activities in many sectors of the earth."

"These numerous manifestations of Soviet intentions have left no doubt as to the existence and reality of a persistent Soviet drive for world domination," he said. "The need and urgency for protecting the ramparts of freedom has never been more plain. The problems of security for the free nations must be solved or they cannot hope long to endure."

Mr. Truman's roles as Paul Revere at the bedside and as the apostle of peace for the evening performance are not contradictory, as some officials explain it. They said he probably meant in his news conference remark that the prospects of peace are brighter now because of the growing power and unity of the Western nations. The guiding principle of the administration is to seek to maintain peace by building U.S. strength and that of its allies to the point where the Soviets will not risk any aggression.

The course which the United States has found it expedient to pursue, however, has necessarily had some unhappy results. It has made it difficult for this country to assume the spiritual leadership which is needed to win any war, cold or hot.

Every move in this nation makes to strengthen its allies, militarily, economically or culturally, is pounced on by the Kremlin as an instance of Yankee imperialism. The U.S. talks heard so much insincere talk for the past 20 years or so that they

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

New Labor Committee Head Will Push Aid to Education

By DREW PEARSON

Washington—Slow-spoken Congressman Graham Barden of North Carolina, new chairman of the house labor and education committee, will wait for the right moment and then push his federal-aid-to-education bill—without aid to parochial schools.

Barden, a former schoolteacher, is a strong believer in aid-to-schools, but incurred the wrath of Cardinal Spellman last year when he took a strong stand for continued separation of church and state.

Since then, the late Congressman Lesinski of Michigan was able to bottle the education bill inside his labor and education committee. But with Lesinski's death, however, Barden probably will be able to report the bill out in the form he wants it. But whether he will be able to get it through the house is doubtful.

Meanwhile, here are some of the school conditions existing in parts of the nation:

In a San Antonio skid row suburb, 3,500 children are crowded into two school buildings. Three thousand others do not go to school at all, or attend part-time classes . . . Some schools in northern Virginia are so overcrowded, students are taught in two and three "shifts" per day . . . More than 400,000 children in Oklahoma are schooled in inadequate or unsanitary buildings, including firetraps. At Midwest City, Okla., about 550 children are being taught in a frame firetrap less than 100 yards from an air force jet plane runway. If a plane crashed, it is not pleasant to imagine what would happen to children in a building with no outside doors.

Two Connecticut friends: Secretary of State Acheson and able Senator Brien McMahon, both from the state of Connecticut, have a peculiar relationship. Neither is too fond of the other, yet McMahon has been one of Acheson's staunchest defenders.

Acheson, who has a peculiar faculty for saying the wrong thing to senators at the wrong time, was standing in the receiving line of a diplomatic reception, when the Connecticut senator and his beautiful wife Rosemary approached. As he shook hands, the secretary of state remarked to his wife:

"Alice, here is an ogre whom I would like to knock over the head, accompanied by the most beautiful woman in Washington."

Acheson smiled when he said it. Nevertheless, the remark was not particularly appreciated. The personal friction between Acheson and McMahon probably dates back to the days when Acheson's father, the Episcopalian bishop of Connecticut, refused to perform the marriage ceremony for McMahon's close friend and law associate, Homer Cummings, first attorney general under Roosevelt. Cummings had been divorced, and Bishop Acheson refused to sanction his second marriage.

More recently, observers have detected a note of resentment around the state department at the manner in which McMahon has taken the initiative away from Acheson by expounding some A-1 ideas on breaking through the iron curtain. Despite personalities, however, McMahon has continued to be one of the best friends of the state department on Capitol Hill.

NOTE—McMahon it torn between two advisers—New York Times correspondent Arthur Krock, who arranged for his historic Truman interview while dining with McMahon; and columnist Marquis Childs. When the senator from Connecticut goes liberal, Childs is not averse to claiming credit for it.

MERRY-GO-ROUND

For the first time in history, labor will be represented on the interstate commerce commission. Ray McKeough of Chicago, former CIO executive and member of the now reorganized maritime commission, will be transferred to the ICC . . . Senators are slowpokes in reading the much-sought state department loyalty files. Of the 81 files, Tydings of Maryland and McMahon of Connecticut have read about thirty. Green of Rhode Island, twenty; Lodge of Massachusetts, twelve; and Hickenlooper of Iowa, who was loudest for the files, has read only four.

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TAFT'S FRIEND
It never leaked out during Taft's battle against the national labor relations board, but NLRB counsel, Robert Denham, whom Taft defended, has gone to extreme lengths to show his bitterness toward labor.

Man Loses Ramming Contest Against In-Law's House
Evansville, Ind., June 6 (A)—Joel Mallory matched his automobile against his father-in-law's house in a ramming contest and was doing all right until a police car butted in. He was overmatched then. The result is that he's charged with drunken driving.

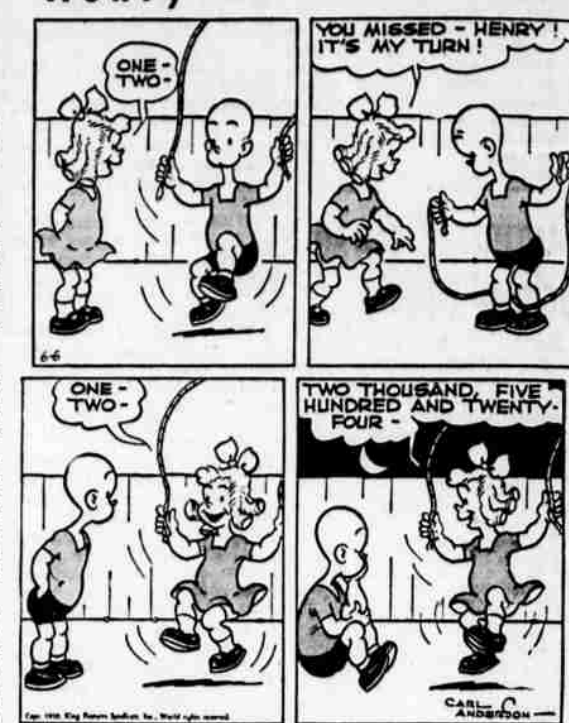
Patrolmen Paul Masters and Clyde Bullock, called to the home of Mallory's father-in-law, Joseph Knight, said they saw Mallory crash his 20-year-old light car head on into a cement-and-brick porch.

"He backed up and rammed it two more times before we could grab him," Masters said. "When he backed up for the third time, he hit our police car and that stopped him." Mallory, 29, had an explanation: "I was mad at him," the officers quoted him as saying.

Patrolman Bullock surveyed the wreckage and toted up this damage score: House, \$300; Mallory's car, \$50; police car, \$25.

BY CARL ANDERSON

Henry



POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

No More Heroes? World Is Full of Them Even Now

By HAL BOYLE

New York (A)—The other day a friend said to me: "There are no more heroes." He seemed sad about it. Thinking it over later, I decided he was wrong. He just had run out of personal heroes himself, and hadn't yet found a new one.

But I am sure he will. For heroes are as necessary to the development of the mind as food is to the growth of the body. Nations need them as much as individuals. And the quality of the nation is shown by the type of men it picks to hero worship.

Every man's memory holds a catalog of personal heroes, some of which rather lose their luster as he grows from childhood into youth, maturity and old age. But this is all right, because you need different types of heroes at different ages, and there is nothing wrong in changing them to suit your own needs.

My first hero was a dog. He was named Dewey, after the famous admiral of the Spanish American war, and it rather went to his head. Dewey was a bulldog, and he had an idea that every day he had to fight the battle of Manila Bay all over again, sinking all the neighborhood dogs he could find.

But he had that one quality all heroes must have: Courage. I was a lucky kid in my next hero—my father. He was big and strong and kind. He had his weaknesses, but he never did a petty thing, or sulked in his tent like Achilles. He died a dozen years ago, and he is still the big hero of my lifetime.

Others in my index of heroes were Buffalo Bill, Stonewall Jackson, Man-O-War, Jack

During the second World War my idea of heroism changed a great deal—heroes didn't have to stand alone upon a peak in history. Heroes, as the infantry proved, could be anonymous and multitudinous.

And I think I grew up a great deal when I realized that the main work of the world is done by quiet and earnest heroes, who live and die in obscurity. They don't know they are heroes, and there is no one to tell them that they are.

But it is a joy to discover them, to appreciate them, and to learn from them. They give you a feeling of shame, but that isn't a bad feeling to get from a hero—the right kind of hero. And they are all around you everywhere. Look in your own neighborhood. Can't you find one? He's there—if you have the heart to know a hero when you see him.

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