

# Revival of Two-party System Sought

## Truman Purge Aimed at Restoring Party Machinery

By BAUKHAGE  
News Analyst and Commentator.

WNU Service, 1616 Eye Street, N.W., Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Before the Paris Peace conference even got underway we learned that the rules committee, which heard so much heated oratory, was as powerful as the powerful rules committee of the house of representatives.



It wasn't until after the primary returns were in, and Representative (Truman-hater) Slaughter of Missouri, a member of the rules committee, was defeated, that most laymen realized the importance of that battle, and why the President stuck his neck out as far as he did in helping to beat him.

I can see the President now as he looked up with that pert, bird-like glance he has—just enough of a smile to make you try to listen sympathetically—and say that if Slaughter was right, he (the President) was wrong.

Think what Slaughter could have said if he had been elected! But he was defeated—and the day after the primary, the real significance of the battle became clear.

Never in American history has any administration been up against the situation which developed when the Roosevelt honeymoon ended. I am not arguing how or why that

situation came about. But the fact is we have had a situation where party lines meant little, and the age-old principle of majority rule, the theory on which congress, as a working body, is organized, has been violated.

Outstanding example was the rules committee. There were five southerners—anti-administration Democrats—on that committee, and with Slaughter's help, they could tie up the vote and tie up any legislation Truman asked for.

Now maybe the fact that the administration couldn't get its legislation before congress, or couldn't get it passed when it did, was a good thing. I am not discussing that. I merely say that what happened is not a good thing for the two-party system. And as the situation grew more acute, congress wasn't a working body.

Let's take the testimony of a thoroughly loyal Republican member of the committee and acting minority leader, Representative Michener of Michigan. If the Democrats retain control of the house, Michener said, the absence of Representative Slaughter will permit the rules committee to function the way it was intended to function; namely, the legislation of the party in power will be sent to the floor.

That didn't mean Michener wanted the rival party's legislation passed. It simply meant he knew that Slaughter, teaming up with the anti-administration Democrats and the Republicans, was able to tie the vote and stymie action.

And that isn't two-party government.



TOGETHER AGAIN—IN JAPAN . . . One of the most touching meetings when the army transport, Fred C. Ainsworth, brought a contingent of American wives and families to Yokohama, Japan, was this one between Sgt. Delbert Jenkins and his wife, Marietta, both 65. They had not seen each other for four years. Jenkins enlisted at the age of 61 and saw service in the Pacific campaign.

### NEWS REVIEW

## Dardanelles Row Looms; Nations Ask Soft Peace

### DARDANELLES: Hot Spot

Another major international row appeared in the making with Soviet Russia's demand upon Turkey that she break the Montreux convention of 1936 and share control of the vital Dardanelles straits leading to the Black sea with Moscow.

Under the convention, the Turks have been entrusted with the guardianship of the strategic waterway and, while they have expressed a willingness to maintain the present arrangement, they have informed the U. S. and Britain that they cannot hold out against the Russian proposals alone. By granting Russian demands, the Turks would be forced to permit Red troops to occupy parts of their soil along the straits.

### PALESTINE: Turn on Heat

The illegal Jewish underground organization, Irgun Zvai Leumi, called upon all Jewish resistance movements in Palestine to unite in the fight for attainment of a Jewish national home in the Holy Land even as British officials lambasted Zionists for seeking to high pressure the government into acceding to their demands.

Pointing out that it was necessary to press their drive now while the British were being hard put to maintain order in Palestine, Irgun suggested that the two other resistance groups, Haganah and the Stern gang, combine to form the nucleus of an underground government and army.



FREE FOR THE TAKING . . . Plagued by a shortage of labor and an abundance of woodchucks, Autumn Van Den Heuvel, West Nyack, N. Y., farmer, has invited all-comers to "come and help themselves" to his 80 acres of sweet corn as well as blackberries and grapes.

### PARIS: Wanted: Softer Terms

Addressing the delegates of 21 Allied nations at the peace conference in Luxembourg palace, representatives of Italy, Romania and Bulgaria pleaded for moderation of terms on the grounds that, as belligerents of the victors in the closing stages of the war, they had made substantial sacrifices for victory.

Speaking for Italy, Premier De Gasperi stated that his country had contributed troops, naval power and materials for three years and that the Allies should think twice before internationalizing Italian dominated Trieste and submitting 180,000 Italians in Venezia Giulia to Yugoslav rule. He also asserted that excessive reparations would weigh down the Italian economy and reduction of armaments would imperil the safety of the state.

Foreign Minister Giurgu Tatarescu of Romania followed De Gasperi to the speaker's dais and asserted that no less than 385,000 Romanians had fought on the allied side during the last six months of the war. Furthermore, he said, German and Hungarian forces had inflicted large-scale damage of Romania after she had deserted the axis cause. Tatarescu asked for a larger army and scaling down of heavy reparations.

On behalf of Bulgaria, Foreign Minister George Koulishev claimed that his country had suffered 32,000 casualties during the eight months it fought on the allied side. He charged Greek demands for \$750,000,000 in reparations were excessive and asked that Bulgaria be permitted to disarm within reasonable limits. Regulation of traffic on the Danube should be the interest of all the countries bordering the river, including Bulgaria, Koulishev said.

### FURLOUGH PAY: Fast Action

Application forms for vets' unused furlough pay will be available at all post offices by mid-September but disbursement of the five-year bonds will not take place before the end of the month because of time required in printing.

In announcing the procedure to be followed, the war department stated:

1. Applications will be acknowledged when received to assure the vet his claim is on record.
2. Disbursing officers will accept sworn statements of applicants unless there is suspicion of fraud.
3. Army vets unable to determine how much unused furlough pay they have coming, figured on the basis of 2 1/2 days per month, can apply for information to the adjutant general's personnel records branch at St. Louis, Mo.

## Air Power Is Big Killer in War

This has been an aviation year. The first peacetime year that America has been acknowledged as mistress of the air as well as of the sea and the land. It has been a time of reminiscence, of recapitulation, as well as forecast and foreshadowing.

I remember the interview I had with a certain army official during the war. His impatience, smashing the ordinary rules of censorship, had revealed the secret of the bazooka kept "confidential" long after it was in use, and the details of which Germans had long since learned to their sorrow. (The bazooka functions on the rocket principle.)

The officer pointed to an old print on his wall. It was a picture of American soldiers discharging a rocket projectile in the War of 1812.

Why, then, if the rocket principle was known to us in those early days, did we not develop it as the Germans did, I asked.

The reason the rocket was neglected in the Civil War period, I was told, was because ordnance experts were concentrating on the development of the breech-loading firearm, and the perfection of rifling—the making of spiralled grooves inside the barrel which gave the bullet or projectile a twisting movement, and kept it from tumbling "head over heels." This increased range and accuracy.

The emphasis was still on the rifleman rather than the artillery, and such statistics as we have indicate that the infantry in the Franco-Prussian war of 1870

wounded 10 times as many men as the artillery did. Undoubtedly the bayonet claimed many.

By 1914-15, however, artillery produced one-half the wounded, showing the rapid advance which, in part, made experts forget the rocket again.

Artillery, according to the old definition, is "group-served, mounted firearms of caliber greater than that of small arms." This definition could easily be made to include the firearms, shells, or bombs carried by planes, or contained in the war-head of a rocket.

I mention the effectiveness of "artillery" in the latter sense, not to belittle the doughboy who is really the "ultimo ratio," but because the projectile, either carried in a plane or by propulsion in a rocket, is what might be called the definitive weapon.

The point is we did not develop the rocket in the Civil War because we felt we had something better (breech-loading rifled artillery and small arms). And again the rocket was set aside by a decision arrived at before we engaged actively in World War II when our experts, both in the army and out of it, including the great industrialists who could gauge our production capacity, felt the airplane was a superior weapon.

We did not entirely neglect study and experimentation on the rocket during the war, however, and now we are probably farther advanced in this type of "artillery" than any other nation. We also have learned to project our "artillery" by means of the "drone" (pilotless airplane).

## Is This the Army, Mr. Jones?

In World War I when YMCA and Red Cross canteens were established right up into the zone of the advance, and even nearer the front, some of the "old timers" of those days wrote to the editors insisting that the Civil war was won on "salt horse and likker" (I recall that phrase in one of the letters) and we were just softening the boys.

Well, it didn't soften them too soft for Chateau Thierry and the Argonne.

Then came World War II, and some of the veterans of the earlier war raised their eyebrows at the USO, turkey dinners at the front on Thanksgiving, ice cream (instead of beans, salmon, corn willy or nothing).

But, soldier, you ain't heard nuttin!

When they say "This is the army, Mr. Jones," to you future G.I.s, you'll hardly believe it.

Did you hear what Field Marshal (blood, sand, and green for the Normandy hedges) Montgomery had to say? He believes enlisted men in the British army ought to live like other folks. Bedrooms, not barracks.

"You had your breakfast in bed before," goes the warning song, "but you won't have it there any more." Maybe not. But if Monty has his way, British soldiers can read in bed.

And what about those tricky uniforms American soldiers are going to wear?

Blue! (like the boys in blue who

said good-bye to Blue Bell). And perhaps "two-note," with a lighter shade for the trousers! And overcoats AND CAPES!

You aren't in the army now, Mr. Jones. You're in grand opera! And then there is that terminal leave pay bill passed by congress, I suppose, to pacify the fellows who got out of the army without knowing what they were going to miss. Almost three billion dollars dumped into G.I. pockets to even them up with what the officers received for furloughs they hadn't taken.

### ANTI-INFLATION WEAPON

## Federal Spending Curb Urged

CHICAGO.—Terminating a curb in federal governmental expenditures "the nation's most powerful weapon against inflation," William K. Jackson, president of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, urged immediate congressional action to slash spending.

Jackson, who addressed business men at the 23rd annual National Institute for Commercial and Trade Organization Executives on the Evanston campus of Northwestern university, urged that congress establish an over-all budget committee to recommend a ceiling on appropriations and to co-

ordinate the total spending with expected revenues.

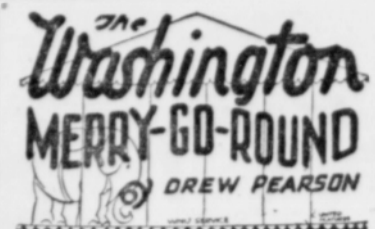
**Return State Powers.** Jackson also urged local governments and business organizations to work for the return to the states of powers and controls usurped by the federal government.

"Several state agencies have developed the enervating habit of looking to Washington as the source of solution for every difficulty," he asserted. "They seem to have forgotten that this seemingly easy treatment becomes a two way narcotic. It is habit forming in Washington as well as in the state capitals."

The chamber of commerce has asked business groups to refrain from seeking special federal appropriations for the benefit of individual states or local communities, he reported.

**Hits 'Mob Rule.'**

The business men were asked to campaign for legislation to "equalize the responsibilities as well as rights" of labor and management. "Jurisdictional disputes, boycotts, coercion, intimidation, mass picketing, blocking of public highways by strikers, and prevention of access to private properties do not represent law and order, but mob rule," he asserted.



### SIDES FOR NEXT WAR

PARIS.—Perhaps it has ceased to be news but, even so, it can't be emphasized too often that this so-called peace conference is actually a choosing up of sides for another war unless something vital and electrifying in the way of diplomacy steps in to prevent it.

Events are moving with terrific speed while this conference moves with humdrum slowness. In the Russian zone of Germany, 12 factories are pouring out munitions for the Red army. In Czechoslovakia, the sum of 400 million dollars has been appropriated for munitions—all of a standard type, interchangeable with either the Czech or the Red army. Yugoslavia and Poland also are pouring out standardized Russian arms.

Meanwhile this peace conference talks sonorously, piously of procedure and precedents. Meanwhile, also, the sides are chosen—the line-up, unless heroic measures head it off—for the next war.

The line-up of Russian satellites never varies. In all the conference voting, from San Francisco through the United Nations assembly in New York to Paris, Russia's stooges only once voted against their masters in the Kremlin. That was when Byelorussia got its signals crossed. Russia can be absolutely sure of the following votes on every rollcall, come hell or high water: Byelorussia, the Ukraine, Poland, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia.

The line-up on the other side varies. It is significant that the British dominions frequently desert England. This proves there's real democracy in the British empire. Australia and New Zealand vote more than half the time against England; Canada about 50-50. South Africa and India frequently are aligned with England, although not always.

The most forthright leaders of the anti-Soviet bloc are Australia, the Netherlands, Brazil and Belgium.

Note—Most pathetic satellite in the Soviet line-up is Jan Masaryk of Czechoslovakia, now nicknamed "The Prisoner of Zenda." Son of old President Thomas Masaryk, who founded the Czechoslovak republic in Pittsburgh in 1918 under the godfatherhood of Woodrow Wilson, Jan Masaryk's sympathies are all with the United States and Britain. But with his country solidly surrounded by Russia, he votes consistently with the Russian bloc.

### ACCUSED OF SNOOPING

It isn't being advertised but Lt. Gen. Sir John Harding, commander of Allied forces in Venezia Giulia, has sent a hot cable to the White House and the British foreign office against dynamic ex-Mayor La Guardia of New York, accusing the fiery Fiorello of snooping in Trieste. General Harding demanded that the White House and the British crack down on La Guardia and prevent him from slandering American and British troops in Trieste. In fact, General Harding even threatened his resignation unless he got full support. As a result the British, which have some jurisdiction over La Guardia because UNRRA is international, sent New York's former mayor an appeal to pipe down.

Apparently it did no good, however. It was after receiving the London appeal that Fiorello boasted that 25 good New York cops could clean up the thieving in Trieste. La Guardia previously had demanded that the Anglo-American troops in Trieste prevent the wholesale disappearance of UNRRA supplies.

Note—During the war, F. D. R. promised La Guardia a commission as brigadier general and the job of helping to govern Italy, but the army brass hats blocked it. Apparently they figured they could never handle the ferocious Little Flower. British generals now think their American colleagues were right.

### DON'T MISS A TRICK

Chief trouble with the American delegation at this peace conference is that it lets the opposing team take too many bases on balls and steal second too many times. Meanwhile, the Russians are on the umpire's neck, yelling themselves hoarse over every close decision. They don't miss a trick. If a bunt down the first baseline is called a foul, the Russians will argue until blue in the face that it was a fair ball. Finally, the opposing side gets tired of wrangling and arguing and gives in.

### MOLOTOFF COCKTAIL

The hard-hitting, mercurial foreign minister of Russia has changed his tactics a lot since the United Nations conference at San Francisco. Also, since the council of foreign ministers in London last September.

At Paris, Molotov is playing his cards more carefully. Perhaps he realizes that public opinion has crystallized against Russia. At any rate, instead of hurling Molotov cocktails when things go against him, he has been outwardly calm.

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