

Washington Digest

GOP Wanted Mac's Return; Oh, Yes, They Surely Did

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PHILADELPHIA.—Gen. Douglas MacArthur, in regretfully regretting his inability to accept the senate appropriation committee's invitation to come to Washington to testify on the Far Eastern situation, said he'd rather wait until after the national political conventions; that he didn't want to get any political implications mixed up with his visit.

Regular Republicans solemnly accepted the general's response just as if they hadn't moved heaven and earth to keep him from accepting. Sen. Styles Bridges of New Hampshire remarked gravely at the time that if anything should happen while MacArthur was away (from Japan), he (Senator Bridges) certainly wouldn't want the responsibility of having the general back here (Oh, dear no!).

The enthusiastic political amateurs who urged that the general be invited finally were quieted down to the dismay of the Democrats who wept loudly into their beards when they heard the general would not come. But there was enough danger of ructions, rows and revolt among contenders for the Republican nomination without taking chances on a military appeal upsterner.



MacArthur in the United States, marching under arches of triumph, enjoying the laying on of leis, not to mention being cheered and perhaps even voted for by a few starry-eyed elephant cubs, was no pleasant thought for the Republican regulars to contemplate. On the other hand this contingency would fill the simple Democratic soul with joy beyond compare.

We observed the same sweet innocence as to the objectives of President Truman's recent little informal tour of the country. As Chairman Reece of the Republican national committee remarked before he left: "It (the trip) will be as non-political as the Pendergast machine," which indicates the nature of the inter-party amenities which may be expected from now on.

It is indeed a tragedy that this quadrennial sporting event—a presidential election—in which we go through all the motions of tearing our adversaries to pieces, accusing them of all the crimes in the calendar just as if we meant it, should have to take place while wars cold, if not hot, seem to be breaking out all over.

It is probably a fine thing however, that, as civilization progressed, we changed our methods of choosing a leader.

In the old days it was a very simple process. When the eldest son had reached that point of strength and wisdom where he felt it was relatively safe to argue with papa the two of them took up their clubs, the ladies and younger children made a circle, and father and son held an election. It didn't take long, and the best man won.

The ladies buried the defeated candidate, and tribal life continued tranquilly until the first Tuesday after the first Monday of the month and year that junior thought auspicious.

Nowadays, we stretch the affair out for a whole year or more. The Russians have simplified elections by removing one candidate beforehand which eliminates much of the element of chance. With us the contest is highly absorbing and, just as the sabre tooth tiger often sneaked in and carried off some of the tribe while the others were watching the "election," so all sorts of things happen to us when we have our minds on the political race.

This time there is some danger that a large fat bear may grab off a large chunk of oil-land while we are watching the events leading to the November finals.

Union of Nations To Secure Peace

Recently Gen. Omar Bradley, chief of staff of the army, made a masterful argument for an unselfish and positive effort for peace, along with an idealistic appeal that we steer "by the stars, not by the light of each passing ship."

"In our hatred and renunciation of war," said General Bradley, "we must not forget that the roots of conflict flourish in the faults and failures of those who seek peace, just as surely as they take shape from the diseases and designs of aggressors. While the American people have within themselves the moral strength, the power and wisdom to marshal their forces against aggression in whatever form it affects—we cannot feign innocence through indifference or neglect of struggles that bring on wars. We have suffered enough in two world wars to know that non-involvement in peace means certain involvement in war."

"Either we shall employ our strength, power and conscience, boldly and righteously in defense of human dignity and freedom, or

we shall waste those reserves for peace, and default to the forces that breed new wars."

Wars can be prevented, said Bradley, just as surely as they can be provoked, and therefore "we who fail to prevent them must share in guilt for the dead."

That thesis of General Bradley's that it requires positive peacetime action to stop wars is concurred in by Clarence Streit, president of Federal Union, Incorporated, an organization working for the federalization of the free countries of the world.

Streit's argument, made before the house foreign affairs committee, did not get the publicity it should. Streit said that only through freedom can peace come.

Specifically, if the free nations unite in a federation (by free nations, he refers to nations which are not dominated by any foreign power and where at least the theory of democracy, as we understand it, obtains) these free nations can assure peace. He suggests as charter members of the federation the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Switzerland, Belgium, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Eire, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

Streit says further that power can be divided into four suits, like a deck of cards, and that these 15 democracies, if they federate, can hold every ace. He lists them:

"The Ace of Clubs: Armed power. Not only would their soldiers, if united, number as many as Russia's and be much more mobile and better-equipped, but this union would begin by having the bulk of the world's airpower; 90 per cent of its naval tonnage; advance bases everywhere on earth; 100 per cent atomic power.

"The Ace of Spades: Productive power. Despite the tangle on tariffs and currencies, these democracies outproduce the rest of the world. Think what they could do with a free flow of trade similar to that among our own states!

"The Ace of Diamonds: Raw material power. No need of separate stockpiling of essentials. These nations could produce 50 to 90 per cent of most of them.

"The Ace of Hearts: Moral power. This union would unite all lands towards which the rest of humanity has looked for refuge from oppression and leadership toward liberty. Nothing can appeal to men so deeply as an individual freedom—and to back it up with every ace is to add irresistible authority to its appeal."

I think that is a very concise and logical statement. Western Europe already is moving toward a union, slowly, out of necessity, because there is NO OTHER WAY!

The peoples of the world do not want war; the free nations, having achieved freedom, have no cause for war except to defend that freedom. The federation could maintain freedom without war, for no one would dare challenge it.

Convention Coverage Took Much Planning

Convention hall in Philadelphia, as the Republican convention got under way, was no sight for the sore eyes of Harold McGrath and Bob Menaugh, superintendents respectively of the senate and house radio galleries and Bill Henry, president of the Radio Correspondents association.

Since October, 1947, they've practically been commuting from Washington to Philadelphia to inspect the hall, plan where broadcasts should originate, decide where network and independent radio news broadcasters of varying degrees of importance should be seated, confer with Republican and Democratic politicians, supervise hotel accommodations and, most vital of all, hurt nobody's feelings in the process.

Four hundred and 36 radio news-men were assigned to cover the Republican convention as compared to the 49 radiomen accredited eight years ago and 160 in 1944.

Forty-four organizations in addition to the four major networks originated broadcasts from the convention; 31 of these shows came from the hall itself. Others originated in the 14 other facilities scattered around the building, some on the stage of the hall, some in the basement and so on.



Four Measures Listed To Curb Elm Disease Increasing Toll Noted Over Widespread Area

The dread Dutch elm disease, killer of thousands of trees, is spreading rapidly over large areas.

Control measures should include: (1) Pruning and burning of all dead material from elms; (2) removing of the bark before elm wood is stored or dumped, if the wood is not destroyed;

(3) piling of stored elm wood in a dry building or cellar; (4) removing and burning promptly all elm trees killed by the disease.

There are three good clues for spotting the diseased trees, according to University of Massachusetts specialists. Evidence of woodpecker work is one. Where strips of bark have been removed from tree limbs it may indicate that woodpeckers are feeding on elm bark beetles, carriers of the Dutch elm disease.

Shepherd's crooks are another sign of the disease. These crooks are twisted twigs branching out at the end of last season's growth. Third, lack of spring buds may indicate that the trees have been attacked by the disease.

Early detection of the disease will aid control measures, foresters say.

Electricity Serves New Chore in Poultry House

Electricity has added one more chore to its list of poultry operations. It has invaded the egg storage room in a battle against mold and musty odors.

Accompanying picture shows how this battle is being fought on a Virginia farm. The "armament" consists of two bactericidal lights. From a central place on the ceiling, the lights radiate powerful germ-killing rays into every part of the room.

The egg storage room has been free of mold and musty odors since the equipment was installed three years ago. As a result, eggs stored there have been rated as "top



Virginia farmer fights mold in his egg room with two bactericidal lights.

quality" and sold at premium prices.

Electricity also lends a hand in incubating and brooding operations; cleaning and grading eggs; ventilating and lighting poultry houses, de-beaking, watering and, finally, after killing, in removing feathers and freezing for delayed home use or commercial sale.

Use of electricity on farms has made marked strides recently.

Farm Saw Frame



The table for this saw frame is an all-steel welded job which is not damaged by heavy poles. The frame at the back of the table and the safety guard were made from scrap pieces. The guard on the back of the saw also is an example of fabricating useful equipment from metal scraps with an arc welder.

Wisconsin Notes Drop In Dairy Cow Numbers

At the beginning of 1948, Wisconsin, America's greatest dairy state, had 2,580,000 cows and heifers, two years old or over, kept for milk, also 1,015,000 heifer calves and heifers one to two years old kept for milk cows. Compared with a year ago, the number of milk cows declined 51,000 and the number of young stock kept for future milk cows decreased 15,000.



AS FAR BACK as 1934 the rampant spirit of the St. Louis Cardinals brought them the title of the Gas House Gang.

Their 1948 outfit hasn't a Dean aboard—"Me and Paul"—a Delaney, a Pepper Martin, but it has much of the same spirit that has carried the team along so many years.

Spirit is almost as indefinable as color, but it lasts longer. It can become a heritage, which color can't.

As Eddie Dyer put it: "It was nothing but sheer spirit that carried our team from a bad last to second place last summer. When we lost nine straight games to sink deeper into the cellar there was every excuse to quit—especially as we had so many sick or injured men on the squad. But the team refused to quit and that gave me further proof it was about as game a bunch as I ever saw."

"We have many of the same men on our squad this year that came from 10 games behind in August to win some six years ago. Marty Marion—Terry Moore—Stan Musial—Country Slaughter—Whitey Kurovski—some of our pitchers, although we've lost Lanier, White and Beazley from that 1942 squad. But the same old spirit is still there."

"Remember last spring in St. Petersburg, Ducky Medwick was the best-conditioned man in camp—and one of the best hitters. A lot of years had passed since 1934—but they couldn't affect his spirit. I've seen too many of our men out there hustling when they should have been in a hospital."

"I'll admit we haven't the youngest team in the league, but it isn't too old. It still has the spirit of six years ago when they beat the Yankees four out of five World Series games."

"This is still an open race. The big improvement in the Pirates and Phillies will make a difference. And the Reds no longer will be a soft touch with Blackwell back. It's a tough league in which to set up a winning streak. There are too many good teams and too many good pitchers in your road. This will be the toughest of all races."

Disappointing Red Sox

Last year it was the Cardinals. This year it's the Red Sox. The Cardinals, a 3-to-5 odds-on favorite, still were trying to wiggle off the last place hook around this date last year.

The Red Sox would have been last at the quarter mark this season if the ignoble White Sox hadn't been in the same league—the worst team in big league baseball. Yet the Boston ball club carries Ted Williams, Bobby Doerr, Dom DiMaggio, Johnny Pesky and Vern Stephens, rated among the best men in baseball. All this—plus Joe McCarthy.

Yet for the first six weeks of the race this club couldn't keep pace with the Browns, tabbed as the all-time jokes. It might be mentioned here that the home support given the Browns has proved again this franchise must leave St. Louis and let the Cardinals have an exclusive roost.

But this isn't explaining the Red Sox. One answer is shoddy pitching, but this can't be the only answer. They did far better last summer with about the same pitching.

The Red Sox dropped from second place in team batting to fifth despite Ted Williams' consistent hitting. Their first pitcher was in the 3rd spot in the league ranking, and they have only one regular who was above .500. But still they had the same staff as they had last year, plus Kramer and Kinder.

McCarthy Broods

Joe McCarthy has nearly always been a winning manager. There is no other manager who broods as much over defeat. So anyone can see the miserable spring and early summer the Buffalo leader has known to date.

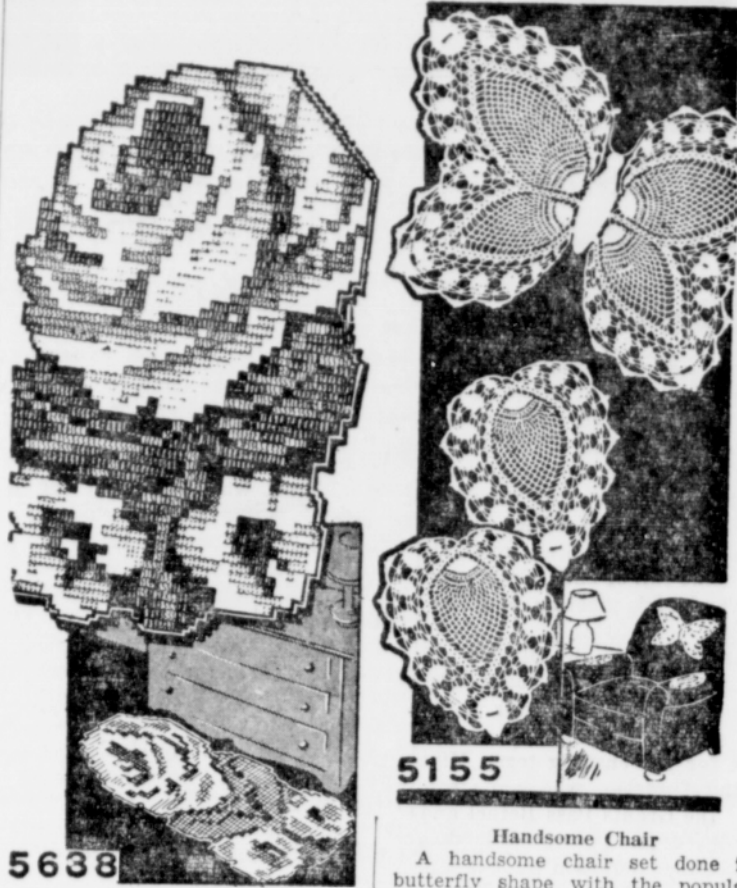
Have his Red Sox dumped themselves out of the pennant race? That isn't the problem now. The problem is—can they finish in the first division?

Certainly none of this Red Sox misery can be laid to Williams. At last reports, Williams was leading the American league in individual batting and in runs-batted-in. He was second in home runs. He was well above his record of a year ago and hot on the trail of Ken Keltner of the Cleveland Indians.

It couldn't be Williams. But Doerr, Stephens and DiMaggio were not too hot. They are better than .250 hitters. Johnny Pesky is also more than 60 points below his normal average.

The Red Sox have nothing like the team spirit carried by the Athletics, the Indians or the Browns. They lack the urge and the lift—the desire to win. They have looked dazed and bewildered in many games, as if they still don't believe they have spent over six weeks headed for the cellar.

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5638

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ASK ME ANOTHER?

A General Quiz

- THE QUESTIONS
- When was the first professional game of football played?
 - Who formulated the principle of the parachute as long ago as 1495?
 - A viva voce vote is taken how?
 - Can people become immune to snake bites?
 - Where did the American Indian originally come from?

THE ANSWERS

- In 1895 at Latrobe, Pennsylvania.
- Leonardo Da Vinci, who is remembered mostly for his painting, but who was also a great scientist.
- Orally.
- Yes. The famous Australian snake expert, August Elchorn, allowed himself to be bitten by snakes hundreds of times for exhibition purposes. He finally died at the age of 87 as a result of blood poisoning caused by a barbed wire scratch.
- Most scientists agree that the American Indian probably originated in Siberia.

U. S. Flag Merchant Fleet

U. S. flag merchant fleet as of May 1, 1948, totaled 3,542 vessels of 1,000 gross tons and over, as against 3,577 vessels in the same category on April 1, 1948. Of the total fleet, 1,948 vessels were in active service; 1,084 privately owned, 833 government owned vessels under bareboat charter, 29 government-owned vessels under G.A.A., including nine C-4 "austerity" vessels temporarily in passenger service, and two Panama railroad vessels. Inactive vessels totaled 1,594 including 48 privately owned, temporarily inactive; 138 vessels inactive under G.A.A., 1,407 vessels in the reserve fleet and one Panama railroad vessel under repair.

5155

Handsome Chair
A handsome chair set done in butterfly shape with the popular pineapple motif. It's a giant size, too, measuring over eighteen inches from wing tip to wing tip! A nice idea for a gift.

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HOUSEHOLD HINTS

A few drops of glycerine or a pinch of borax added to wash water will keep woolen garments from turning stiff and hard after they dry.

To prevent ink-written addresses on packages from becoming smeared by rain or snow rub it several times with the stump of a white candle.

Colored felt hats can be brightened up by rubbing them with a piece of stale dry bread. Don't try this on white ones.

Before scaling a fish rub vinegar over it. Scales will then come off easily.

One or two pans of cold water placed in an overheated oven will cool it quickly.

Moisten the string you use to tie up a package. It will shrink and tighten up the knots as it dries.



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Tender Crust	Yes
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