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Economic Highlights

The significance of the last election will be the subject of heated discussion for a long time to come, as victor, vanquished, and objective observer alike try to figure out what made the people vote as they did. But, regardless of the verdict of history, certain conclusions can be drawn right now with small chance of rebuttal.

First of all, Mr. Truman and his "Fair Deal" program took a stunning defeat. It is true that the Democrats have paper-thin majorities in House and Senate. But it seems impossible that any of the more controversial sections of that program can be pushed through while this Congress is in office. The majorities are just too small. A good many of the Democrats are notably unenthusiastic when it comes to the Brannan plan, compulsory government health insurance, regional authorities and administrations, virtually unlimited social security, and the rest. They will line up with the strong Republican bloc to stop them.

The defeat of so many Democratic stalwarts rubbed more salt in the Administration's wounds. The loss of such Senators as majority leader Lucas and Tydings and Thomas is a bitter one. Men such as these carried much of the load for the President in his dealings with Congress. They will be extremely difficult to replace. At the moment, there seems to be no willing candidates for majority leader to succeed Mr. Lucas. Whoever the choice is, he will have a rugged and thankless job next year.

Perhaps the most unequivocal Truman supporter of all was Mrs. Helen Gahagan Douglas. She lost badly in the California senate race—and it must be remembered that this is a key state, which Mr. Truman carried last time. Another blow was for James Roosevelt to go down to overwhelming defeat in his try for governor.

But the Truman administration and the Democratic party were not the only losers in this election. Organized labor, as a political force, took a terrific whipping. The Taft-Ferguson election in Ohio was the key spot. The CIO-AFL high commands did everything conceivable to beat Senator Taft, whom they regard as their arch-enemy. Up to shortly before the election, they were confident of success. They felt that, at the worst, Taft would just squeak by. Actually, he smothered his opponent with a 400,000-plus majority. He even carried most of the industrial counties where union membership is greatest. In other words, the rank-and-file didn't obey their union officers. And that was true in other states and in other contests, including a number of very important gubernatorial battles.

Another interesting point is that political registrations don't necessarily mean a thing any more. Oregon is a fine example. In that state, on the basis of registrations, Democrats now outnumber Republicans by a substantial margin. Yet the GOP swept this election. Republican Senator Morse beat his Democratic opponent by a better than three-to-one. Republican Governor McCay beat his Democratic opponent, a strong pro-Truman man, by two-to-one. The people voted for individuals, not party labels.

What caused all this? The international mess; the growing worry over government domestic spending; the feeling held by millions of people that the Administration has been keeping secrets from them; the equally potent feeling that we have carried internationalism to an extreme and that it is just not possible for us to support and police the whole world; the ominous turn of events in Korea—such forces as these, it seems now, caused the great revolution in voting that occurred last November 7.

Mrs. Cordie Burns has been confined to her home for a few days with an attack of neuritis.

"For Once, Be Every Care Forgotten..."



SET the scene for happiness—home-style, if you please! Light up a fire on the hearth, bring in a bowl of apples and nuts, brew a potful of fragrant, steaming coffee. Then just sit back and enjoy the howling of the winter's wind outside.

A cup of coffee in front of a fireplace is probably the simplest form of hospitality there is, but it is surely one of the nicest. It's nice, that is, if the coffee itself is deep-flavored, deep-colored, hot and good. There are a lot of long winter evenings just ahead. What better time to stop for a moment and make sure that the coffee you brew is coffee at its best?

No matter what kind of coffee maker you use, here are a few worthwhile tips that will always stand you in good stead. First of all, start by choosing the proper grind of coffee for your coffee maker. If you use more than one kind of coffee maker, it's likely you will need more than one grind of coffee. And try to purchase not more than a week's supply of coffee at a time. Coffee loses much of its flavor if it has been exposed to the air for longer than that.

The brewing process begins with a scrubbed and shining coffee pot. A simple rinsing of your coffee maker is not enough to remove the oils which coat the inside after each use. You will find it takes

soap or detergent and a bit of elbow grease to clean it thoroughly.

The commonest error in coffee making is a tendency to skimp on the amount of coffee used. The use of not enough coffee is wasteful, not economical, for the real proof of economy lies in the finished product. If your coffee is weak or tasteless, then you have wasted not only the coffee itself but your time and effort.

Here are the proportions recommended by the Pan-American Coffee Bureau: One Standard Coffee Measure (or its equivalent, two level measuring tablespoons) of coffee to one three-quarters of a measuring cup of fresh, cold water. These amounts make one serving and apply to all kinds of coffee makers.

Timing is important, too, particularly if you use a vacuum-type maker or a percolator. Percolator coffee should be "perked" gently not more than six to eight minutes after it begins to show color. For vacuum coffee, keep it over low heat for about three minutes after the water has risen to the upper bowl.

Accurate measure, careful timing, a clean coffee pot and the proper grind of coffee—these are the basic elements of every good cup of coffee. Try them out and you will see.

How To Stop Cluttered Cupboards Suggested

Clutter in the cupboard can be avoided by some thoughtful rearranging, according to Mary Beth Minden, Oregon State college extension home management specialist.

First, decide on the things really needed in the storage area. Banish seldom used or duplicate articles to a less convenient cupboard.

After eliminating all but the bare essentials, work out the arrangement within the cupboard. The most frequently used kitchen tools and containers are handily stored when they require no stretching or bending to reach them. Objects used at the same time are stored together. Like articles may be stacked, but stacking unlike articles means extra handling.

Lastly, plan to use storage conveniences, Miss Minden suggests. An extra rack, a vertical divider, hooks or a half shelf help the homemaker to pick articles out of her cupboard without disturbing other items.

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Leth To Serve For New Colleges On USDA Group

A former Oregon county extension agent, Walter C. Leth of Monmouth, has been named to represent four northwest land grant colleges on the U.S. department of agriculture field committee.

In his new position, Leth will be a liaison officer between Oregon State college, and state colleges in Washington, Idaho and Montana and nine USDA agencies. Announcement of his appointment comes from Dr. J. C. Knott, director of the Washington State college institute of agricultural sciences. Dr. Knott is chairman of the resource

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development council of the four institutions concerned.

The field committee was set up in May by Secretary of Agriculture Charles Brannon to advise and assist in coordinating multiple purpose activities of the department of the Pacific Northwest. Dean F. E. Price, director of agriculture at Oregon State college, said Leth will aid in formulating and implementing an integrated agricultural program for the Columbia river basin.

Field representative for the secretary of agriculture, H. N. Peet, Portland, heads the committee.

Leth served as county extension agent in Polk county with headquarters at Dallas from 1936 to 1949, resigning to farm. During the past few months, he has served as consultant for the Stanford University research institute in connection with work relating to fluorine damage to agricultural crops in the Portland area.

Leth's appointment is the latest in a series of moves calculated to increase the effectiveness of research and extension work in the Pacific Northwest, Dr. Knott said. The resource development council which he heads was established by the four colleges early this year to serve as a medium of exchange for ideas and information.

Leth's office will be in Portland.

Screw Eyes May Help Solve Cupboard Blues

Screw eyes can be a boon to homemakers wishing to put shelf dividers in their cupboards, reports Mary Beth Minden, Oregon State college extension home management specialist.

Oregon women are enthusiastic about solving storage problems in their kitchens through the use of

these dividers. Their chief complaint, however, is that the upright partitions are too hard for most women to install.

Miss Minden suggests using four screws on the bottom shelf and four under the shelf above to hold a divider tightly. Or, short, narrow half shelves may be supported horizontally by screws installed in each end of the cupboard.

These dividers may be pulled out from between the screws when the shelves need washing. Then too, when a new pan is bought, the dividers can be moved to fit it by changing the location of the screws.

To set a screw, start the hole with a nail slightly smaller than the screw shank. Remove the nail and insert the screw. Soaping the shank makes it easier to twist into the wood.

A party of geese and duck hunters, composed of R. W. Anders and son Jim, V. E. Noel of Central Point and George Barnum of Medford went to Modoc Point this last week end, finding the hunting excellent. There should be plenty of wild game for Thanksgiving.

Mr. and Mrs. John Prentice, and twin daughters of Bend, Ore. motored to Medford last Thursday to visit

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