

Interest Centers on November Polls

GOP Leaders Intrigue Press With Election Prospects

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WASHINGTON, D. C. — This weather—in Washington and elsewhere—develops more heat than light. That's a trite phrase, I know, but it's apropos because heat, rather than light, is always the keyword at this season, politically speaking. Congress accomplished its faded rather gracefully, I thought, even if they must have prayed for forgiveness for "the things we have left undone" as fervently as for the things they did which didn't sit too well with their consciences.



And now the voice of the vote-getter is heard in the land. Radio and newspaper correspondents are being courted by both political parties. For example, recently, a crowd of radio folk was given a luncheon-table look at the vote-getting machinery behind the Republican lines. Our hosts were Republican Chairman Carroll B. Reece at one end of the table, and Republican Campaign Manager Clarence Brown at the other. (A similar jaunt into Democratic territory will be reported in a future column.)

Reece Quiet, Popular Chief

Reece is a slight, greying, quiet-voiced man whose Tennessee accent reminds one occasionally of Claude Pepper in one of Claude's unorthodox moments if you can catch him in one. (Personal confession: I like Pepper and Reece both and so do a lot of people who would be the first to say, "the views of these notables do not NECESSARILY agree with those of the undersigned.")

It is a little presumptuous of me to refer to Reece as "greying" because the year 1889 had to stretch itself from January to December to fill the time-gap between my birthday and his. He has taught in almost as many academic institutions as I have casually attended. He was a battalion commander in World War I whereas I never rose above the exalted station of shavetail, and among his five decorations are the Distinguished Service Cross, the Distinguished Service Medal and the Purple Heart. He was cited for bravery by a marshal, three generals and a colonel.

Perhaps the same qualities which

won Reece his decorations qualified him for his present job. He certainly doesn't lack assurance even if he doesn't rattle sabers in expressing it.

But we are not talking about Reece. We are talking about his job. He is out on the hustings, although his trip, which will take him as far west as Seattle and as far south as Georgia, is mildly camouflaged as a vacation. Anyhow Mrs. and Miss Reece are going along, and a part of the time will be spent at a resort in the Rockies.

Backstopping Reece here in the capital where nobody votes, but where a lot of writers and talkers remain, will be Clarence Brown, representative from the Seventh district of Ohio, a state which might be called a latter-day mother of presidents and which right now is looking hopefully over the patterns of maternity gowns.

I have a fellow feeling for Representative Brown, tinged perhaps with the natural deference a reporter always has for a publisher. Brown publishes several country newspapers (that's the way he put it himself in the congressional directory) whereas I merely write for "several" besides this one. Also he has three more children than I have. He and I once met on the debating platform, and while I would naturally never admit that I didn't present the best argument, I will concede somewhat grudgingly that Brown's resounding oratory won him the most applause. We

Brown and Reece complement each other very well. Reece is slight, dignified, soft-spoken. Brown is large, loud enough to be heard in the back row without using the PA system, and hail-fellow-well-met. As "campaign manager" he is going to sweat it out (that is literal) with the rest of the Washingtonians who don't vacate in the summer.

They were debating selective service, and I hasten to explain that former Senator (now Supreme court justice) Burton and I had the unpopular side. Anyhow, Brown (may-the-best-man-win) won.

Reece and Brown didn't talk on the record at the luncheon but I have a good idea of how things looked to the Republicans at that congenial gathering of radio folk. If the elections were held as of that moment, they claimed, the Republicans would win a majority of seats in the house of representatives and would make very heavy inroads on the Democratic majority in the senate. Since then many of the primary battles have been fought and I'll report the reactions later.

Gallup Poll Heartens GOP

In the first place I understand that the Republicans took considerable satisfaction in the Gallup poll which showed that, excluding the one-party Democratic states, 46 per cent of the persons interviewed showed a Democratic preference and 54 per cent a Republican preference.

The GOP leaders believed they had a good, fighting chance to win 15 to 17 senatorial seats from their opponents. In New York, they say Governor Dewey's good record and the campaign he is planning ought to pull in a Republican senator (they won't say whom). They believe Democratic Senator Mead will have to run for the governorship.

They felt they had a chance in Delaware and West Virginia and that if the ballots were cast at that moment they would win in Mis-

Ol' Kentuck Bloody Battleground

Kentucky was catalogued as still a dark and bloody battleground. At the time of the luncheon, Representative May's followers seemed to feel, according to press reports, that he was a martyr. If something should come out to change their minds on that score, he might go down to defeat. And we are reminded that, as one Republican put it: "every 20 years or so Kentucky changes its mind."

What the Republicans seem to count on most is the natural reaction, "throw the rascals out" theory which Americans always have reverted to after so long a period of any party's incumbency. In addition, say the GOPundits, there are the usual mistakes of the party in power which result in the well known attitude of one of Clarence Brown's constituents who told him:

"I don't know who I'm FOR, but I know darned well who I'm AGAIN."

'ENCOURAGED' DESPITE LAGS

Vet Housing May Reach Goal

WASHINGTON.—Despite reports indicating building lags throughout the nation, Housing Expediter Wilson Wyatt predicted that his veterans' housing program will achieve its goal of getting 1,200,000 temporary and permanent homes started in 1946.

Wyatt's prediction was based on a report which he characterized as "encouraging" although it contained facts indicating the picture is not too bright. The report showed:

A total of 496,000 family units of all types were started in the first half of the year. To achieve the 1,200,000 goal, the number of "starts" will have to average 117,000 per month in the last half of the year compared with an average of 83,000 in the first half and with 92,500 in June.

First Slump Reported. In June, for the first time since the Wyatt program began last January, "starts" of conventional

and prefabricated houses and apartments slumped. The June figure was only 62,000, compared with 66,000 in May. To achieve the Wyatt goal, 84,500 of these new homes must be started every month in the last half of the year. They constitute the largest portion of the program.

Production of prefabricated houses has been far below Wyatt's earlier expectations, so that the 1946 goal for "starts" of this type has been reduced from 250,000 to 100,000. To achieve the over-all goal of 1,200,000 family units, the national housing agency will have to start 738,000 conventional type houses and apartments, instead of 650,000 as originally planned, 212,000 temporary homes instead of 200,000, and 100,000 instead of 50,000 "conversions" (adding family units by remodeling older houses and apartments).

In the first half of 1946, 225,000

units of all types were completed. Of these, 72,000 were "temporary" units, such as relocated barracks and trailers. Only 153,000 permanent homes and apartment units were completed, and only 40,000 of these were started after the Wyatt program began.

The Wyatt report attributed to the bureau of labor statistics an estimate that it takes six to seven months to complete a new family unit today compared with three to four months before the war.

Wyatt did not mention in his report that the number of applications for priorities to build under his program declined sharply in June, a fact that may presage another slump in "starts" during July.

Priority applications, which were for 125,102 units during May, dropped to 45,705 units in June. July figures will not be available until September.

NEWS REVIEW

New Farm Plan Studied; Death of UNRRA Looms

UNRRA: U. S. to Quit

Following close upon the blast of Senators Butler (Rep., Neb.) and Ellender (Dem., La.) against use of United Nations relief and rehabilitation funds abroad, Assistant Secretary of State William L. Clayton told the fifth UNRRA council meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, that the U. S. would not contribute additional funds to the agency.

While the senators had charged that UNRRA supplies were being used to bolster foreign governments, Clayton stated that the U. S. was withdrawing future assistance to the agency because the period of immediate postwar impoverishment was passing and the U. S. and other countries had supplied sufficient credit mediums for financing recovery.

In all, the U. S. provided no less than 2½ billion dollars of aid to UNRRA, sufficient for supplies to fill 2,000 cargo ships.



WAR INSPECTION . . . Separated by the war, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Manske found inspiration for a unique business venture. Mrs. Manske, the former Jane Fauntz of swimming fame, sculpted small figurines of their daughter to send to her husband, former football star. Now they are in business selling figurines.

FARM PROGRAM: New Proposals

A new farm program calling for a combination of sound open market practices and governmental assistance was proposed by the special house committee on postwar economic policy and planning headed by Representative Colmer (Dem., Miss.).

In recommending changes in present farm legislation, the committee urged:

Greater flexibility be allowed in farm prices, especially toward each other.

Supply and demand be given greater opportunity to determine farm prices rather than artificial controls.

Re-examination of the out-moded parity price formula designed to give farmers an income on a par with industrial workers.

Concentration on a long rather than a short range farm program.

For establishing a "floor" under farm prices to prevent a disastrous drop, the committee proposed a support program guaranteeing producers "60, 70 or 80 per cent of parity"; a supplemental payment during hard times to assure a certain percentage of pre-depression income, and limits on the rate of decline for a specified commodity in a year.

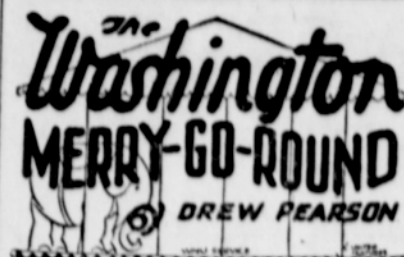
CIO:

To Fight Prices

Remaining militant in its post-war program to aid the interests of more than five million members, the CIO announced an all-out drive on rising prices to prevent further depreciation of the workers' dollar.

Revealing that it had given up plans for another big wage drive to win further increases to offset rising living costs, the union stated that demands for more money probably would result in still higher prices.

In forecasting additional price rises of 15 to 20 per cent during the next few months, the CIO said that the corresponding reduction in purchasing power of the consumer's dollar would represent a wage cut of 17 per cent. A successful consumer strike against higher prices would terminate current inflation within the next 18 months at the worst and three to six months at the best, it said.



IT'S SAME CROWD AGAIN

PARIS — It's hot in the galleries of the palace of Luxembourg. In the top gallery sit hundreds of newsmen—Chinese, Siamese, Greek, Indian, New Zealanders, watching a man speak far below. Newsmen from all over the world watching the peace. It's their peace. What's done here will affect their countries from Baluchistan to Iceland, from Saskatchewan to Samoa, and they are watching.

Far below, under the klieg lights, sits Jimmy Byrnes — patient, polite Jimmy Byrnes — never leaving his seat, never failing to listen. . . . A man speaks into the microphone. He's interpreting Molotov . . . in French. Another man speaks. He's interpreting Molotov in English. . . . It takes hours. When, you wonder, will diplomacy ever become modernized? Diplomacy hasn't been changed since 1815. . . . The Vienna conference when the great powers divided up Europe and brought on more wars.

Paris today is depressingly the same. We invent modern methods of warfare. . . . Rockets that may reach the moon, atomic bombs that sink navies, germs that can destroy civilizations. . . . But the weapons of peace never keep pace with the weapons of war. . . . nor do the diplomats who wield the weapons of peace.

The same crowd which failed to head off the last war is here again—even some of the same crowd which sat in at the last Paris peace conference. . . . Look at their faces. Poker faces. No life, no lift, no passion for the peace they are negotiating, bored faces, preoccupied faces, bored with the endless translations. Bored with the whole boredom of diplomacy. Not a man among them who lost an arm or a leg, who knows what it is to suffer on the battlefield. These are the men who are writing the peace.

Jimmy Byrnes is not bored. Polite, patient, precise Jimmy Byrnes sits on the front row — perhaps he is too polite, too patient. . . . You feel like shouting down at Jimmy. You wish you had a telephone to reach him there, way down below. You wish you could tell him:

"That was a great speech you made the other day, Jimmy, but finish it. Tell them the rest of the story. Tell them not only that the United States isn't going to remain isolated but also that we're going to raise hell with anyone who blocks our path to peace. Tell them that millions of Americans are fed up with all this frittering; that millions of Americans mean business and will back you up in anything you do."

Around the senate chamber of the palace of Luxembourg are great, gold ornaments. Woodwork carved in ornate shapes, heavily encrusted with gold—remnants of the lush days of the de Medicis. . . . If the French had only been smart. If they had only painted out the gold and substituted white crosses! Then perhaps the bored diplomats sitting below would remember. . . . white crosses . . . from Guadalcanal and Stalingrad, from Salerno and New Guinea, from Tobruk and the Rapido, from Normandy and Aachen. . . . Close your eyes and you can see them. . . . Thousands of white crosses. . . . The dead speak:

"We who lie here have nothing left to give.

"To all your praises we are deaf and blind.

"We may not even know if you betray

"The hopes we cherished for mankind."

But the diplomats below don't seem to hear. . . . Men in red plush seats, fastidious men in red plush seats, their nails polished, their cravats carefully tied. They don't seem to hear. They are thinking about procedure and majority votes, vetoes and prestige and whether they will get out in time to take tea with Mrs. Ogden Mills.

One man does hear. He sits opposite Jimmie Byrnes. . . . A big, uncouth man, his hair not even parted. . . . Evatt of Australia. His cockney accent is uncultured but he dares to speak. He is the only man who comes anywhere near preaching the Sermon on the Mount, who tells the bored men in the red plush seats that they must love their neighbors as themselves. . . . Unpleasantly Evatt steps on the toes of the big nations — tells them they have no business sabotaging the peaceful goal of others. . . . They don't like Evatt, but they listen. Even patient, polite Jimmie Byrnes doesn't like Evatt. But he listens. . . . Thousands of men under white crosses listen, too.

BARTERING OVER PEACE

Clement Attlee, prime minister of Britain, speaks — the man who performed the miracle of defeating War Leader Winston Churchill—a modest man, a sincere, earnest man. His bald head shines under the klieg lights. But it is no halo. . . . Some hours before Attlee was haggling with Byrnes over the future of Germany—bartering over the peace of the world; wanting to trade off a British policy in Palestine for an American policy in Germany.

Changing Character Of Outmoded Rocker



IN TODAY'S cramped living quarters there is little space for a rocker that neither harmonizes with antiques nor modern furniture. Yet, with the slight alterations shown here, such a chair may be made to seem at home with either type of furniture.

After the rockers have been removed, it may be made to change character to suit the material used for cushion and back covers.

This idea is from Home-Making Booklet No. 5 which also contains more than 30 pages of illustrated directions for other things to make from things on hand and inexpensive new materials. Readers may get a copy of Book 5 postpaid for 15 cents by writing to:

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Kidneys Must Work Well

For You To Feel Well 24 hours every day, 7 days every week, never stopping, the kidneys filter waste matter from the blood. If more people were aware of how the kidneys must constantly remove surplus fluid, excess acids and other waste matter that cannot stay in the blood without injury to health, there would be better understanding of why the whole system is upset when kidneys fail to function properly. Burning, scanty or too frequent urination sometimes warns that something is wrong. You may suffer nagging back-ache, headaches, dizziness, rheumatic pains, getting up at night, swelling. Why not try Doan's Pills? You will be using a medicine recommended the country over. Doan's stimulate the function of the kidneys and help them to flush out poisonous waste from the blood. They contain nothing harmful. Get Doan's today. Use with confidence. At all drug stores.

DOAN'S PILLS



Carroll B. Reece and Rep. Brown

souri I'm still talking about the senatorial race). They called Montana and Washington probabilities rather than mere possibilities.

O'Mahoney knows he has a fight, they say, and they believe the Republican candidate, John Henderson, has a chance against the popular gentleman from Wyoming.

I heard a lot of talk, too, about the interesting possibility in Connecticut where Rep. Clare Luce was expected to oppose former OPA Administrator Chester Bowles, which would be a colorful affair with all the technical skill of her publisher husband, and all the skill of an advertising man, Mr. Bowles, pitted against each other.

As to the house of representatives, Republican machinery has been grinding in at least 75 districts.