

# Washington Digest

National Topics Interpreted  
By WILLIAM BRUCKART  
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Washington. — As the political campaign waxes warmer, it becomes painfully evident that the fight in 1936 for the suffrage of the people is going to be very dirty. It is going to be bitter and there is no way now apparent that such a characteristic can be avoided.

## Mud Slinging Ahead

I do not believe that either Governor Landon, the Republican candidate, or President Roosevelt, seeking re-election as a Democrat, can prevent the hurling of invectives that are going to be very close to mud-slinging. Naturally the President of the United States seldom makes a mud-slinging speech and Governor Landon personally is a mild-mannered man who believes in discussing issues rather than individuals, but the intentions or the desires of these two candidates cannot control the bitterness that is, to my mind, certain to be found in this campaign in a large measure.

As typical of the sort of thing to which I have referred is the recent speech of Secretary Ickes who, in a national radio broadcast, became quite ill-tempered in his attack on Governor Landon. Mr. Ickes is not known for his composure anyway and when he gets heated up on any subject he is likely to be guilty of remarks that are not becoming to an official of our government or any other.

I have not the slightest doubt that before the campaign has proceeded much further there will be similar speeches attacking Mr. Roosevelt personally and that, while Governor Landon may not approve, there will be unworthy charges hurled at the President.

Mr. Ickes skated pretty close to the line in his attack on Governor Landon by various adroit phrases which were designed to create the impression that the Republican candidate was either ignorant or dishonest. I do not know Governor Landon personally but I can offer this thought: No man is going to be nominated by any political party in a national convention, nominated by acclamation, unless his record is pretty clear. For Mr. Ickes to say, therefore, in effect, that Governor Landon had sold out to "Wall Street" was not the sort of campaign discussion likely to produce confidence among all the people in their government. It is comparable, in my opinion, to a charge that the President of the United States, who advertises himself continually as a friend of the common man, was guilty of increasing his own personal fortune through presidential acts—and every one knows this is not true. But to get back to the theme song of the Ickes' speech, it seems to me that the tragedy of his radio pronouncement lies in the fact throughout his discussion he was preaching class hatred. Every one knows, of course, attacks on "Wall Street" are very common in any political campaign. The demagogues use it every hour of every day everywhere they can find any one to listen to them. It is ridiculous, but it has happened for a good many years. So when Mr. Ickes made the charge that Governor Landon was either unwittingly or knowingly leading a "rich man's fight" against President Roosevelt he was descending to a rather low level of campaigning.

I have seen indications of a reaction against the Ickes' speech in another way. John Hamilton, the Republican national chairman, on his recent organization tour of the western states, propounded the inquiry that seeks to identify the "economic royalists" about which President Roosevelt spoke several weeks ago. If the Roosevelt campaigners continue this class hatred propaganda, I rather suspect from what Mr. Hamilton said in his speeches there will be a perfect barrage of demands to know the names of these economic royalists. It may not seem important; indeed, it seems like it probably is inconsequential, but if the Republicans let down a barrage on the President of the United States, he is likely to be put in a bad corner.

## May Cause Showdown

Without attempting to forecast what the Republican opposition is likely to say, I can recall as an observer close to the wheels of government during the Roosevelt regime that Mr. Roosevelt frequently was a guest on the Astor yacht and that one of his chief advisors for many months was the multimillionaire, Bernard M. Baruch. It seems also that a very rich man, Henry L. Doherty, was in charge of the nation-wide dance program held on the President's birthday and Mr. Doherty, he it said, is head of one of the great utility chains.

These are just samples. It may be good politics for the President to encourage these attacks without approving them, but those of us who knew the late Louis McHenry Howe, are convinced that he never would

have agreed to that sort of attack, had he been alive and serving as the President's closest political advisor as he did for a quarter of a century.

## Probe G-Men

There is a situation in the federal government that threatens to be quite nasty. I refer to the row that has developed between the Department of Justice bureau of investigation (the G-men) and the Treasury's secret service corps. It is all very much under cover, quite secret, but the row has come to the surface sufficiently to result in a demotion of two long-time members of the secret service.

J. Edgar Hoover has been well press-agented as chief of the G-men. Joseph E. Murphy has had almost no advertising as assistant chief of the Treasury secret service in which he has served for more than a quarter of a century. Mr. Murphy and one of his subordinates have been reduced in rank, their record stained for life.

The two departments have kept the facts well covered up. It seems that something was going on among the G-men that the Treasury secret service thought they ought to know about. They conducted their own inquiry, their own investigation into the other staff of investigators. That is as much as has been made public except Secretary Morgenthau's announcement of the demotion order. I have known each of these men equally twenty years. Each is entitled to the utmost respect. But each operates along an entirely different line—Hoover with some willingness for publicity; Murphy with an absolute policy of never letting his name get into the papers. It is unfortunate that Joe Murphy was the goat.

## Action Mystifies

The board of governors of the Federal Reserve system took an action recently that probably is quite mystifying to the average person. They ordered all of the banks of the country which are members of the Federal Reserve system to keep a deposit reserve with the Federal Reserve banks 15 per cent greater than ever has been required before.

With the technical phases of reserve requirements and the mechanical operation of this particular order, I think we need not be very much concerned. But with the principle upon which this action is taken I think every one with a bank account, however small, ought to be vitally interested. They ought to be interested for the very simple reason that this action illustrates better than any words I can write how far the centralization of control of the banking structure has gone. This action was taken under the National Banking act of 1935, a statute that has been frequently criticized as a "political banking act."

In the instance I have just reported, the change in the reserve requirements probably will have no serious reaction on us as individuals. It probably will not hurt the banks because few banks in the country have had calls for loans in any quantity since business is at such a low level. But the point is that under this law, the Federal Reserve board of governors can alter banking conditions over night. It can issue new rules and regulations that are wholly impossible of understanding by the average individual, but which are almost riotous in their effect upon the management of individual banks throughout the country.

To state this proposition in another way, may I describe it in the terms of a private business enterprise. If a storekeeper in a small town were subjected to regulation from Washington and the regulatory power in the federal government had such discretionary authority as the Federal Reserve board of governors, could that storekeeper ever feel that he was managing his own business? I think not. Then, in the case of the Federal Reserve board of governors, it must be added that the president of the board is Mr. Marriner S. Eccles who is known far and wide for his radical ideas about banking. It can be further said that Mr. Eccles has the ear of President Roosevelt. This has been criticized many times of course where opponents of the Roosevelt banking policies have contended that the banks can be utilized in any way the administration desires to use them. As an illustration of this, the federal government has been borrowing billions. Most banks are check full of government securities. While I do not say it has happened, yet because I do not believe it has happened yet, nevertheless there is a possibility that government borrowings can be forced on the banks under such conditions. That is the course of action that has ruined the currency in half a dozen European nations.

Eugene — Breaking all previous records for the plant, the Eugene Fruit Growers association cannery, now running at peak, is putting out 15,000 cases of produce per day. During this peak period 1400 persons are employed.

## OREGON STATE NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Brief Resume of Happenings of the Week Collected for Our Readers

**Halfway** — The city of Halfway, Baker county, will soon be entirely out of debt. The city treasurer has money on hand to take up the last \$7,000 bond issue for the water system.

**Salem** — Reports filed with the state game warden on the number of Chinese pheasants raised by amateurs show and increase over last fall. Out of a total of 1608 eggs supplied by the commission, 995 were hatched and 667 birds were raised to maturity and liberated.

**Milton** — Eddie Buck and Bill Gleason thought they had a good idea while on a recent fishing trip. They buried several cans of beans in the remains of a camp fire and the cans exploded, showering fire on their pack sacks. Their bedding was about all that was left and one blanket had 20 holes in it.

**Salem** — The Oregon liquor control commission reports a net profit of \$11,177 in its stores last month on gross sales of \$589,437. Since the state went into the liquor business two and one-half years ago \$2,982,426 has been turned over to unemployment relief.

**Salem** — It is not likely that there will be any material reduction in Oregon insurance rates during the next year, Hugh Earle, state insurance commissioner has reported to Governor Martin, although he hoped to bring about a few minor decreases. An increase in some of the more hazardous classifications of property may be expected, he said.

**Salem** — Because the three Willamette valley flax retting and scutching plants have bought more flax than they will be able to process, the state board of control has agreed to purchase their surplus and put it through the penitentiary plant. The board offered to buy pulled flax up to May 1, 1937 at \$25 per ton and threshed flax straw at \$23.50.

**Sweet Home** — It didn't put the lumber back into its original tree, but when all the electric-motored machinery in the Sweet Home sawmills began to run backward, enough other things did happen to give employees plenty to talk about for time to come. The trouble started when the current into Sweet Home had been shut off for a short time. When service was restored and a sawyer started a board through, the sawdust flew up in his face and the board did peculiar antics. Upon investigation it was found a mistake had been made in the hook-up, causing all equipment to run backwards. Electric appliances acted peculiarly, refrigerators in some instances destroyed.

## WHOA ALL TRAINS

**Grants Pass** — Fortunately the trains run but once a week. A boy led a horse over the municipally financed California and Oregon Coast railroad bridge near town. Its hind feet were caught between the ties—then its fore feet. An auto wrecker was called to extricate the animal.

## FOREST FIRE LOSS SMALL

**Salem** — Although Oregon has had virtually no forest fire loss this year and the record from April 1 to August 15 has been the best since the state forestry department was organized in 1911, Governor Martin has closed another 88,000 acres of timberland until October 15. In the last four and one-half months, only 3292 fires have been reported. A total of 125 fires burned less than one-quarter of an acre, 161 covered up to ten acres and only 45 raged over more than ten acres.

## GETS HIS COYOTE

**Dothan** — Frank Ingram of Dothan in southern Douglas county is a coyote hunter and gets his varmints one way or another. The prize way to get them is revealed in a recent letter received by the county clerk: "I am sending under separate cover, one coyote hide. Please mark same for bounty and destroy the hide. I will send affidavit as soon as I can get same signed. This coyote was bayed in my kitchen. I went out with my dogs and left the door to my house open. The dogs took up the trail and when I returned they had the coyote behind my cupboard in my kitchen. Believe it or not."

**Hood River** — Postmaster J. D. Lucas has announced that postal receipts, not including money order business, at the Hood River office during July amounted to a 29 per cent increase over the figures for July, 1935.

**Eugene** — Breaking all previous records for the plant, the Eugene Fruit Growers association cannery, now running at peak, is putting out 15,000 cases of produce per day. During this peak period 1400 persons are employed.

## what Irvin S. Cobb thinks about:

### The Campaign Blues

**SANTA MONICA, CALIF.**—What with Roosevelt taking over the ancient Hamiltonian theory of centralized authority and Landon promising to restore the Jeffersonian principle of state sovereignty the campaign is in "high."

What with Farley undertaking to organize the Negro-voters of the north for Roosevelt and the other side claiming to be hopeful of carrying Florida with the aid of white votes; what with Andy Jackson turning over in his grave and James G. Blaine stirring fretfully under the sod, it seems the most appropriate campaign selections would be for the Democratic orchestra to render "John Brown's Body" and the Republican quartet to sing "Bonny Blue Flag," with special emphasis upon the stirring line, "Hurrah, Hurrah, for Southern Rights, Hurrah!"

### Doping the Geegees.

DESPITE revelations that some of America's most prized race horses have repeatedly been doped, one of the state racing boards reinstated a trainer found guilty of this foul and crooked practice. So our commissioner to the international antinarcotic conference at Geneva is disgusted.

Maybe because I'm hopelessly old-fashioned, I still prefer that a horse should be trained on the turf and not at a drug store. Nowadays the fellow who prowls the paddock just before a race is liable either to go to sleep suddenly or to bucking. It depends on whether the geegee he sniffs has been drugged to lose or drugged to win.

### Hollywood Dog Days

TOURISTS to the Hollywood sector come during a dullish interlude. The diary of Miss Astor has been closed, and the next chapter in the love-life of John Barrymore has not been opened.

It might be said for Miss Astor's output, before the court shut it off, that it was well-written and caused the public eagerly to await further disclosures. Certain parties may have gone out of town, but they all left word where the paper was to be sent. Hereafter, for a series of such purely personal confessions, it might be well to begin each installment like this:

"May it please your honor and my precious pettykins."

### Praising John Hamilton

I HEARD John Hamilton speak to a selected group of his own folks, and please don't laugh when I say that the individual he most reminds me of—in engaging personality, in sound sense—is the rival national chairman, Jim Farley.

Without comparing these two as to past records or future prospects, I figure they're temperamentally alike in various ways—notably in not getting unduly excited or nastily vindictive.

In his talk Hamilton did not declare the American flag was in danger, did not implore anyone to save the American home. He didn't call the Republicans saints; didn't call the Democrats knaves or idiots. He didn't claim for his side a monopoly of patriotism. Quite calmly he told his hearers what points he thought should be stressed by his party in this campaign—and poked fun at himself while poking fun at the other crowd.

### Congressmen Versus Taxes

AGAINST my better judgment, I'm trying to be cheered by the announcement of the present majority leaders in congress that, looking forward to the next session, they behold no new taxes ahead. But, after election, when the lads look closer, they'll probably be able to behold quite a few.

That's why a balanced budget is like the idea of a santa clause—something everybody talks about, but nobody ever expects to see. Excepting when a campaign is on and the voters are sort of flinching their galled backs under the load, a favorite pastime of legislators, wherever found, is thinking up more taxes to go along with the taxes they've already thunk up.

They resist the craving for just so long, and then they notice some previously overlooked dollars hiding behind the baseboard, and then—well, you might hire a henhawk to guard your henhouse, but could you depend on his word?

### IRVIN S. COBB

Western Newspaper Union.

### Bermuda's Water Supply

In Bermuda all the roofs of the houses are white because these roofs are used to catch the rain as it falls. There is a strictly enforced law that every house must have a suitable water catch and storage tank. Rain falling on the white roofs, or into hillside catchments dug into coral, is diverted to storage tanks which are inspected and limewashed regularly.

## IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL Lesson

By REV. HAROLD L. LUNDQUIST, Dean of the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago. © Western Newspaper Union.

### Lesson for September 6 TURNING TO THE GENTILES

LESSON TEXT—Acts 14:8-13, 19, 20; Romans 10:8-15.

GOLDEN TEXT—I have set thee for a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldst be for salvation unto the uttermost part of the earth. Acts 13:47.

PRIMARY TOPIC—What Happened in Lystra.

JUNIOR TOPIC—When the Gospel Came to Lystra.

INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—Trials and Triumphs of Missionaries.

YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—Christianity Facing Other Religions.

The progress of the first missionary journey into gentile territory had brought Paul and Barnabas from Cyprus to Antioch of Pisidia in Asia Minor, where Paul preached with great power. Persecution by leading Jews then led them to go on to Iconium where they tarried for a long time preaching "the word of grace" in the face of many difficulties. Next they came to Lystra, in which city we consider first the experiences of

### I. The Messengers (Acts 14:8-13, 19, 20).

They were immediately faced with the case of a man crippled from birth—outwardly hopeless, but having that inward faith which Paul at once recognized. He spewed, and God works in mighty 1. Power (vv. 8-10).

Faith releases the unlimited power of an infinite God. It did in Lystra almost nineteen hundred years ago. It does today wherever men believe God. The miracle of healing which took place created a sensation which resulted in great 2. Popularity (vv. 11-13).

The heathen people were looking for an incarnation of their gods. The supreme god in their mythology was Jupiter, and his chief attendant was Mercury. In Paul and Barnabas they thought they saw these two gods, and began to give them acclaim and honor.

The flesh loves popularity. Few temptations are so appealing and so treacherous to the Christian worker as a desire for popularity. Paul and Barnabas might have argued that such public esteem would help them in their later proclamation of the gospel. Or they might have fallen into the specious fallacy of those who say that the approach to the heathen is by way of an appreciation of their religions, and by an adaptation of gospel truth to their philosophies.

True servants of God like Paul and Barnabas were not to be misled into either of these pitfalls. They vehemently turn away the people to "turn from these vanities to the living God." Such faithful and self-denying witness to the gospel is greatly needed.

They followed at once a startling change in the attitude of the people. The fanatical Gentiles are joined and stirred up by equally fanatical Jews who had followed the missionaries, and we soon find them meeting

3. Persecution (vv. 19, 20). Fickle and short-lived is popularity with men. Let us labor to please God rather than men.

Paul was stoned and left for dead. But God had not forgotten him. He never forsakes his own. It is believed by many that even while being stoned and near to death, Paul was having the experience which no other man ever had, and which he describes in II Cor. 12:2-5. Be that as it may, God miraculously brings him to life and full vigor at once, and the messengers go on their way to Derbe. As they continue their ministry we turn aside for a glimpse into one of Paul's epistles to consider

### II. The Message (Rom. 10:8-15).

The carrier of a message is important, but of far greater import is the message that he carries. The word which Paul preached, and which you and I must teach and preach if we are faithful to our calling is "the word of faith." It is the glorious good news that "Whoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Reader, have you called on his name? Have you admitted your need of salvation, and in your earnest desire to be saved have you abandoned every trust in self-righteousness or self-improvement and believed on him in your heart as your personal Saviour? If not, "Now is the day of salvation." If you have, it is your privilege and your duty to confess him "with the mouth," telling everywhere by faithful life and testimony that Jesus still saves.

### The Getting of Wisdom

True wisdom is a thing very extraordinary. Happy are they that have it; and next to them, not those many that think they have it, but those few that are sensible of their own defects and imperfections, and know that they have it not.—Tillotson.

### Money and Health

Money is the thing most envied, but the least enjoyed. Health is the thing most enjoyed, but the least envied.—Colton.

## Foreign Words and Phrases

A merveille. (F.) Wonderfully; to perfection.

Boul'-Mich'. (F.) A familiar corruption of the Boulevard St. Michel, a famous street in the Latin quarter of Paris.

Coup d'etat. (F.) A sudden stroke of policy; a revolution.

Demi-monde. (F.) The "half-world"; women outside the social pale.

Entremet. (F.) A dainty side dish.

Flat justitia, ruat coelum. (L.) Let justice be done, though the heavens fall.

Nom de guerre. (F.) Literally, a war name; a pseudonym.

Petit-maitre. (F.) A dandy; a fop.

To kalon. (Gr.) The beautiful; the chief good.

Ultima ratio regum. (L.) The last argument of kings, i. e., war.

Vedi Napoli e poi mori. (It.) See Naples and then die.

### BOYS! GIRLS!

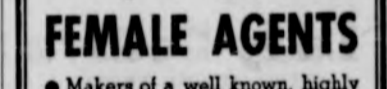
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