

Republicans Have Just About Ruined the Country, Truman Says

San Francisco — (U.P.) — Former President Harry S. Truman left today for Kansas City after charging the Republicans "have just about ruined the country."

Mr. Truman made this charge at a press conference yesterday prior to addressing a \$100 a plate dinner on behalf of the Truman Library at Independence, Mo.

The ex-President was a model of decorum at the dinner, praising Chief Justice Earl Warren and former President Herbert Hoover. But he had plenty to say to reporters.

He was asked if he was disturbed by Republican National Chairman Leonard W. Hall's statement that President Eisenhower may run for reelection.

"Not at all," he said. "I don't care who runs. The Democrats are going to win in any event because the Republicans have just about ruined the country and the government."

No Criticism

Mr. Truman said he was going to refrain from criticizing President Eisenhower, saying "I've been President and I've been criticized while I was doing

my job. I know how it is."

But he promised he would be in there "pouring it on" when campaign time comes around. He said he'll "have plenty to say about everyone."

Obviously enjoying himself, Truman leaned forward and told the newsmen:

Portland Adds 90 Auxiliary Policemen

Portland — (U.P.) — Portland's police department was beefed up last night when 90 auxiliary policemen went to work with regular patrolmen for the holiday season.

Police Chief Jim Purcell Jr. said the auxiliaries would release regular policemen for other duties while the new men worked with traffic officers to try to hold down the holiday death toll.

In the past 10 years, Purcell said, an average of nine persons have been killed in traffic in the four to five weeks before New Year's day.

"You know, I've always liked you boys from the working press. I never mind how rough you get, because you've always been honest."

"But it's those fellows who do the rewrite, the blue pencil boys and the policy makers on the newspapers that have always

given me trouble."

He said the trouble was that "rich" people own newspapers and "any man who's rich is a Republican." That was why, he added, Democrats don't always get a fair break in the newspapers.

Sweetland Hits Back At Charges by Wyatt

Portland — (U.P.) — Democratic National Committeeman Monroe Sweetland struck back at State GOP Chairman Wendell Wyatt last night about the issue of congressional hearings.

Wyatt earlier had charged that the current timber investigation by a joint congressional subcommittee was politically inspired.

Sweetland told a Young Democrat meeting at Lewis and Clark college that "Republicans like to hand out punishment through congressional investigations but they can't take it when a Democratic congress probes into possible favoritism . . . in the timber business."

At the banquet attended by 750 Northern Californians, Mr. Truman praised Mr. Warren as "perhaps one of the greatest" Chief Justices this country has ever had. He said Mr. Hoover had done "wonderful work for

me" in gathering funds for the Truman library, which will house some 3,500,000 documents.

Mr. Warren was honorary chairman of the dinner and Mr. Hoover a sponsor. However, neither was able to attend.

Death on Malheur Ranch Under Investigation

Ontario—(U.P.)—Malheur county Coroner George Beechler and Deputy Sheriff Frank Elfering today were investigating the death of an unidentified man on a ranch, 70 miles southwest of Harper.

Beechler said the body was found in a state of deterioration.

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