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"THE PAPER THAT HAS NO ENEMIES HAS NO FRIENDS."
—George Putnam.

Political Topsy

You will recall that Topsy had no raising, "she just grewed."

The convention system, of nominating a President and Vice President of the United States, is a political Topsy. It had no raising; it just "grewed", and it has "out-growed" its usefulness.

It must be replaced by a National Primary which will place the selection of a President and Vice President in the hands of the people of these United States, where of right, in a democracy it should be.

The framers of the Constitution of the United States provided an Electoral College, to select the President and Vice President. It was to be a representative body of learned and experienced men, who were to meet and make the selection.

They were afraid of political parties. Their only experience with them was that they would not yield to the will of the majority expressed, at an election, but would resort to force, thus producing periodic civil war.

Immediately after the establishment of the government, under the constitution, there appeared differences of policy, theory of function and procedure of government. Honest and logical issues produced political parties. Thus it became necessary to name two or more sets of candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presidency.

The only organized political body close to and cognizant with the issues was the Congress of the United States; and for a time its members, divided by ideas and opinions, functioned as nominating agencies. The responsibility was great and the interests of the Congressman's constituents might appear different from the interest of the entire country, then Congressmen were willing to shift the responsibility to elected delegates, in numbers proportionate to representation in the House and Senate.

Thus the political Topsy grew.

Enthusiasm is most contagious and proselyting contagion is desirable to build up popular support for a proposed candidate. Without other ways to express enthusiasm, demonstration developed, and as an advanced degree of demonstration can be attained only by further and wilder demonstration, we have the organized hysteria with the sophomoric carnival procedure of the Chicago conventions.

Scientists in the field of the human mind tell us that an explosion is essential to the continued stability of the human mind. So we do not decry the hysteria, we accept it as necessary explosion.

The danger lies in that it prepares the way for the band-wagon psychology that resulted in the nominations made at Chicago. A choice not of the people of this democracy, but of interests, in a position to select timely and parade a band-wagon.

At Chicago, when the afflatus had exhausted itself, and the desire to support a winner became the motivating force, the kept press was ready to and did name a winner and paraded him on his band-wagon. The result of the conventions all have heard.

It must not happen again. The choice must return to the people. A National Primary will accomplish that end, and will remove the ridiculous procedure in conventions, that, in the recent past, has made our democracy the laughing stock and exposed it to the ridicule of dictators.—Guest Editorial by Roy R. Hewitt, Salem.

DR. MARK

HAMMERICKSEN

REGISTERED OPTOMETRIST

Will be at his Mill City office in the Jenkins Building
Thursday afternoons 1 to 6 p.m.
Also Thursday evenings by Appointment

HOME OFFICE: 313 W. FIRST, ALBANY



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Use Our Modern Moving
Vans Next Time You
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"Ship the 'WRIGHT' way"

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Editorial Comments

UNCLE SAM: TRILLIONAIRE

The breast beaters are always telling us we're going to hell in a hand-cart because of our huge national debt. This man Truman is ruining us, they say. He's spent more of our dough than all the other presidents combined, they say.

Well, our national debt is astronomical. It's around \$260 billion gross.

And we'd be a lot happier, speaking for ourselves, if this debt were smaller or if we were paying it off systematically instead of going farther into the red. But one has to remember that the greater part of it is accounted for by a couple of wars and when you spend money at the rate of \$90 billion a year, as we did at the peak of our World War II effort, our debt sky-rocketed.

And when you're trying to re-arm yourself and your allies with one hand and fight a good-sized war with the other, as we're doing today, the billions flow like water and, despite record tax income, that old debt figure nudges ever upward.

There's another thing that we seldom think about when we're wailing about debt and taxes. How does our debt compare without national wealth?

The U. S. News & World Report performs a worth-while public service by making this comparison for us. Noted for its careful analyses, it has gone to considerable trouble to bring a little sanity into our debt situation.

Did you know that Uncle Sam is a trillionaire? That's right, a trillionaire. We're talking about tangible assets such as land, buildings, industrial plants, automobiles, factory and store inventories, stores, homes, durable appliances and household equipment. We're not including oil, coal and minerals in the ground or forests, highways, dams, perishables, works of art or military assets. They're worth additional billions.

Nor does this total include the record supply of money now in the hands of Americans—approximately \$190 billion.

Even so, this country is worth \$968 billion today. And that's so close to a trillion dollars that the difference isn't worth quibbling over.

Now, what do we owe against this tremendous store of real estate, goods, gold and machinery? How do we balance out?

Our net federal, state and local debt is \$241 billion. (Like private industry, government has liquid assets offsetting part of the debt.) And get this, private debt against physical assets is even larger—\$270 billion. The U. S. News roughs it out at \$500 billion altogether.

Thus, our total debt today, federal, state, local and private, is just 52.8 per cent of our total worth.

But here's the payoff: The percentage of debt to total worth is lower today than it was in 1932 or in 1948 when it was 58.8 per cent and 54.6 per cent respectively. We're in much better position than we were at the peak of the last war when we owed 74.5 per cent of the equivalent of everything we owned.

The point is that while our total debt, public and private, has grown steadily since the war, our total worth has grown even faster. The expansion of wealth since the war—the Truman years, if you please—has been the greatest in our nation's history. And our total annual national production—now around \$330 billion—is within striking distance of our total debt.

Our productive capacity is approximately twice as great as it was in 1946. Our total wealth has doubled since 1944. And actually, the U. S. News survey shows, the growth in our net debt in that period has been accounted for by private individuals and private industry—not government—believe it or not.

The U. S. News points out another thing. A large part of the public debt—federal, state and local—is accounted for in such assets as highways, public buildings, power and irrigation dams, reclamation and flood control works, river and harbor improvements. This money isn't wasted at all. It is invested in projects that are paying dividends to the people of America.

All this doesn't excuse wasteful spending. It doesn't mean that our economy can stand a greater and greater load ad infinitum. There's a limit somewhere. It does bring a little sanity into the discussion of our debt problems, federal, state, local and private. It does remind us that here in the United States we have the greatest wealth-producing machine on

earth. And it's still growing and still unable to meet our demands for goods and services.

The U. S. News ends its pointed analysis this way:

"The United States, over the years, has become a tremendously wealthy country. The amount of wealth is important. Even more important is how wealth is used."

With that we certainly won't argue. —From Oregon Journal.

Loans Now Available Under FHA For Farms

Production and subsistence loans are available from the Farmers Home Administration, U.S.D.A., for the purchase of farm equipment, livestock, feed, seed, and fertilizer, states Martin H. Baker, county supervisor for Linn, Lincoln, and Benton counties. These loans are available to low income farmers whose operations are sound and they are unable to get financial assistance elsewhere.

These loans may run from one to five years, and bear interest at the rate of 5 percent per annum until paid. The re-payment schedule is set up for annual, semi-annual, quarterly, or monthly repayments, depending upon the type of operation the farmer is engaged in.

Housing loans are also available for building, or re-modeling farm houses, barns, chicken houses, etc. These loans may run for 20 years, or less, and bear interest at the rate of 4 percent per annum.

Application blanks and information for these loans may be had at the Farmers Home Administration office, room 222, Post Office building in Albany. The office is open daily from 8 to 5, except Saturdays.



Horse Racing
Pari-Mutuel Wagering

State Fair
SALEM

8 DAYS STARTS Aug. 30 SAT.

How to fight	FLIES	MOSQUITOES
OUTDOORS 	Use residual sprays on screens, porches and garage cans Store manure in fly tight boxes Spread manure thinly on fields or lawns Treat manure with borax, calcium cyanide or super phosphate Keep stable floors clean	Use repellents on skin and clothing Treat standing water with larvicides Empty old tin cans, saw troughs and street gutters Screen open cisterns Cover cesspools, septic tanks and rain barrels Empty bird baths once a week Stock ornamental pools with gold fish or top minnows
INDOORS 	Use Space sprays Aerosol Bombs Fly papers Fly swatters Fly poisons	Use DDT sprays on porches and screens
AIRLINER CLOSER 	Install 16 mesh screens on all windows and doors Have screen doors open outwards Install Yale "skeeter cheater" door closer (also eliminates annoying banging) Install Yale "skeeter cheater" push-pull catch	

SOURCE: Survey by Yale & Towne, Stamford, Conn.

Special Announcement

We have added another pharmacy to "The Quisenberry Pharmacies, that operate as one"
130 S. Liberty St., Salem

The new pharmacy will be open until 11:00 o'clock at night on week days and from 12:00 noon until 2:00 P.M. and 6:00 until 9:00 in the evenings on all Sundays and all holidays.

There we will specialize in prescriptions and stock will be limited to medicines and sick room supplies.

Your prescriptions will be on file there as well as at the other locations and will be available, for your convenience, these longer hours.

The new location is 130 South Liberty Street, and the phone number is 4-3336. However, if you dial the Court Street number, 3-9123, and that store is closed, the call will be relayed.

We are pleased to be able to offer this kind of prescription service and to have it available these longer hours.

Quisenberry Pharmacies
"THAT OPERATE AS ONE"

FOR 24-HOUR SERVICE DAILY DIAL 3-9123



Meet Mr. and Mrs. Bill Brown . . . owners of Mountain States Power Company.

It's a solid fact that Mountain States Power Company is owned by a lot of people like Mr. and Mrs. Brown—yes, and yourself. People from all walks of life have put some of their savings into electric companies such as ours. They are the direct owners.

But there are countless indirect owners, too. They are people who have savings accounts or life insurance policies . . . and that means nearly everyone. You are probably one of them.

It works like this: When banks and insurance companies accept your money, they must invest it wisely. Because business-managed electric companies have a long record of successful public service, much of this money is invested in utility securities.

Mountain States Power Co.

"A Self-Supporting, Tax-Paying, Private Enterprise"

8 GREAT DAYS and NITES!
STATE FAIR
SALEM
SATURDAY, AUG. 30
through
SATURDAY, SEPT. 6