



AWARDED FARMER DEGREE—Bill Taber, (left) and Victor Pozzi, both of Sonoma, Calif., are really happy over receiving the American farmer degree, and a check, each, for \$50 at the future farmers of America convention being held in Kansas City, Mo. Here, Victor is proudly showing his check to Bill.

Taft: A Jolly Father's Sober Son Has Sights Set on Being Next President of United States

By ED CRAIG
WASHINGTON, Oct. 16.—Robert Alphonso Taft is the tall, sober son of a fat, jovial father who became president of the United States.

The son has long aspired to follow in his father's footsteps. Senior senator from Ohio, chairman of the senate's Republican policy committee, the son of William Howard Taft has twice been within striking distance of his party's presidential nomination, and in two other presidential years has been "among the mentioned."

He's been a national figure for more than a decade.

A sometimes impatient man, with a quiet sense of humor, Taft has often taken the unpopular side of a question—has risked political suicide more than once—with the calm assertion that time will prove him right.

He also has been known to change his position on occasion and—as in the case of the Communism-in-government crusade of Sen. McCarthy (R-Wis)—to adopt a policy of alliance that could be interpreted either as secret approval or abstinence.

PLAIN "BOB"

Taft's backers are offering him to the voters as plain "Bob" Taft. It is unlikely they will try to make a glamor candidate out of him.

At 62, Taft bulges slightly about the middle and is partly bald. His voice is sharply but incisive. He wears rimless spectacles.

A movie director might cast him as the vice-president of a bank, a man who passes the collection plate in church on Sunday.

Politics is in the senator's blood. It was at the White House that Taft met his future wife, Martha Winston Bowers, daughter of his father's solicitor general.

Vivacious, witty Martha Taft is one of the best-known women in Washington. She is regarded as a shrewd politician in her own right, has not been well for the past year. She and the senator, who are financially well off, are the parents of four sons.

Taft has been in the presidential picture for 15 years.

He was Ohio's "favorite son" candidate in the 1926 GOP nominating convention, and in 1940 was one of three leading candidates swept aside by the successful nomination drive of the late Wendell L. Willkie.

In 1944 Taft stepped aside in favor of John W. Bricker, now junior senator from Ohio. Bricker ran for vice president as the running mate of New York Gov. Thomas E. Dewey.

Taft made his strongest bid at the convention in Philadelphia three years ago. The Dewey forces were in command, however, and the nomination went to the New Yorker on the second ballot.

Taft was the chief architect of the Republican-dominated 80th congress. To many—including Pres. Truman—he, rather than Dewey, personified opposition to the Fair Deal's domestic and foreign policies alike.

EDUCATION

Taft was educated in his Uncle Horace Taft's private school in Connecticut, at Yale—he was head of the class of 1910—and at Harvard law school.

He was in private law practice in his home town, Cincinnati, Ohio, volunteered for the army, was turned down for nearsightedness and took a legal post with Herbert Hoover's U.S. Food Administration.

Taft returned to the private practice of law in 1922. He also went into active politics, winning election at once to the Ohio state legislature, in which he served until 1932.

In 1938 Taft ran for the U.S. senate and was elected to his first term with a plurality of 172,699 votes over a staunchly New Deal opponent.

Those were the years leading up to world war two. Taft voted first for, later against, repeal of this country's neutrality laws. He also was an opponent of selective service and lend-lease. Almost from the first, he was a leading foe of most of the new deal's domestic program.

Re-elected in 1944, Taft steadily increased in legislative influence. This was one of the decisive voices in the quick repeal of price control and similar emergency legislation after world war two.

Republicans gained control of the 80th congress and Taft served as chairman of the GOP steering committee in the senate.

He sponsored three principal social measures of his own, to give federal aid to housing, education and health services.

But his most controversial piece of legislation, passed over Pres. Truman's veto, was the Taft-Hartley law, curbing the activities of labor unions.

This brought Taft the enmity of many union leaders, but it solidified his support among certain business and other elements.

Last fall, when he sought election to a third senate term, most big labor unions united in an all-out effort to beat him.

Taft confounded his detractors

by rolling up a huge plurality—more than 400,000—over his labor-backed Democratic opponent, State Auditor Joseph Ferguson.

Taft's stand on the great question of the day is sometimes forthright, sometimes hard to state in a few words.

He has consistently opposed "lavish" government spending and what he regards as "socialistic" programs of all kinds.

Yet he has sponsored legislation giving federal aid in fields—housing, for instance—where he feels private enterprise can't do the job.

Taft has backed foreign aid proposals, although on a far smaller scale than the Truman administration has proposed.

He declared his support of U.S. intervention in Korea, once it was an accomplished fact, although he declared that the president had no power to use troops for that purpose.

In this year's "great debate" on foreign policy, Taft took sides with Gen. Douglas MacArthur and favored more aggressive conduct of the war. He opposed the sending of new ground troops to Europe on the theory that it was more

likely to provoke war with Russia than to make Western Europe safe from aggression.

He has called for a much larger air force. Taft contends that the present administration has spent

billions for defense without insuring the nation's security.

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By MARJORIE OVGARD

Several weeks ago we bade farewell to "The Fat Man". But J. Scott Smart, who played the role of "The Fat Man", is back in a new mystery-drama series, entitled "The Top Guy".

The same man, in a different story! So goody, goody. Hope his reprieve is as good in this program. "The Top Guy" is an exciting story based on the crime-busting activities of a police commissioner of a large metropolitan police department. J. Scott Smart is the "top guy" on the force, who has worked his way up through the police ranks to his present office. Whenever a crime is committed, he is on hand to offer judicious advice to the newest rookie and plan the police action. All this starts tonight on KFLW and ABC, 8:00 p.m. Judging from the picture, wouldn't you say the former title suited him better?



J. Scott Smart

Two of ABC's news commentators appear in the movie, "The Day the Earth Stood Still", currently playing in Klamath Falls. . . . Drew Pearson and Elmer Davis play their real-life roles of ABC radio network commentators, reporting the landing on Earth of a space ship visitor from another planet, and the global reaction to the "historic" event.

Big doings in Merrill this week-end. The Potato Festival Banquet starts things off Friday night. It's cooked and served by the Presbyterian Ladies Aid, all very good cooks. The banquet will be held back at the Merrill Grade School gym this year, starting at 6:30 . . . Activities all day Saturday and then the Harvest Ball Saturday night, music by Baldy's Band.

Sacred Heart Notebook

by MARY EGAN

Once again Sacred Heart will be represented at the annual Catholic Northwest press conference at Gonzaga university, Spokane. Representing the academy at the conference to be held this Friday and Saturday will be Sister M. Ethelwina, Marlene Mingo, Eleanor McKillip and Mary Egan.

The main purpose of the conference is to aid in solving the problems which confront the staffs of both high school newspapers and annuals. In addition to the regular speakers students will be given opportunities to participate in roundtable discussions in which they explain specific problems of individual staff members.

Aside from the educational aspect of the conference, the schedule provides entertainment, a banquet and dance for the delegates. Also they will have the opportunity of seeing the Gonzaga vs. Walla Walla football game.

Barbara Howard will also be absent from school Friday as she will be leaving, with other representatives of the county, for Portland, to attend the Regional Red Cross conference.

Mother Juvenalis and Sister Agnes, the Catholic school supervisor, are visiting the academy this week. At this time they are meeting many of the students and learning more about how our school is operated.

Sports Bribe Figure Jailed

NEW YORK, Oct. 16.—Joseph Benintende, 42, was jailed on a bribery charge yesterday as the leader of a ring allegedly ready to lay \$50,000 bets on a single rigged college basketball game.

He was seized last night as he stepped off a plane from Boston. Benintende was indicted August 17 in connection with an alleged attempt to fix the 1950 National Collegiate Athletic Assoc. championship game between City College of New York and Bradley university of Peoria, Ill. He had been sought since the indictment.

Dist. Atty. Frank S. Hogan then described Benintende as a Kansas City hoodlum, "an associate of known narcotics dealers and the worst of the Missouri underworld."

"He was investigated in connection with the Binaggio and Gargotta murders," Hogan added.

Charles Binaggio, Kansas City Democratic leader, and his top muscleman, Charles Gargotta, were slain in Kansas City in April, 1950, by unidentified gunmen who never have been arrested.

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