

Herald and News

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BILLBOARD

By BILL JENKINS

At last. A really useful position has been found for the air pistol around the house.

Use it to shoot off icicles that you can't reach with the broom handle.

Lots of fun, gets rid of the icicles and the threat of a leaking roof, and steadies your nerves and trains the shooting hand.

The capsule powered ones are tops in this and eliminate a lot of pumping.

In case anyone wants to get away for a little while you might try heading for the Oregon coast. Glen Linnart blew into town a few days ago for the Christmas holidays and says the steelhead fishing is somewhat better than fish.

Seems like a peculiar time to be thinking of fishing, unless it's being angling through a sheet of ice, but sounds good anyway.

A small item in the paper the other night informs us that some silly joker has claimed a new record for flapjacks sitting. Ever since the days of the infamous "Shipwreck" people have been wasting their time and energy to see who could squat on top of a pile of the longest. To a lot of people this denotes nothing but a hardened aversion to work and the mental status of a low grade idiot.

Seems a shame that people like this can't be sent over to places like Korea to do a little fighting for their country instead of teeter-

BRUCE BLOSSAT

Advance indications are that General Eisenhower as President will seek to maintain the Point Four program of technical assistance to underdeveloped areas. Yet at the same time signs exist that he will attempt to go well beyond that to a more realistic plan of international economic development.

Like the Marshall Plan, the Point Four idea was an original notion marked by high purpose. It goes beyond the mere doling out of financial help, to the granting instead of equipment and technical guidance that will aid backward lands to get their own economies on a higher self-sustaining basis.

Spelled out this has meant sending agricultural experts into India to teach Indian farmers how to improve their crop yields, how to care for their soil, how to use new seed and animal feed and better farm machinery. It has meant sending health and sanitation specialists into many places to try to create healthful conditions of living and working.

This aid, especially as it affects food production in India and elsewhere, has proved its worth. No one who looks carefully at the present and prospective future benefits will question Point Four's value.

What can be put in question is how much of the development load Point Four can carry. In promoting and defending the program, the Truman administration has seemed to say that Point Four is

HUGH PRUETT

When the twilight colors have faded entirely from the west and the earth's shadow has darkened the highest reaches of our atmosphere, the stars sometimes appear in such profusion in the intimate meadows of heaven that one can easily believe there are millions of them—even that they are countless.

To know that the visible stars can be counted and that their number is surprisingly low, need not detract in the least from their grandeur. The Grecian Hipparchus about 150 B.C. introduced the present system of classifying all the stars in six magnitudes of brightness. The brightest 20 were rated as first magnitude. About 60, including most of those in the Big Dipper, were of the second magnitude, around 180 that were still dimmer were of the third. There were roughly three times as many in each magnitude as in the one immediately brighter. Finally, the sixth took in the dimmest that unusually keen eyes can detect on an extremely clear, moonless night and far from artificial illumination. Most of us see very few sixth magnitude stars.

These stars have all been charted and their number is quite accurately known. About 4000 stars in the entire sky are thus available to average eyes, but as half of these are below the horizon, only 2000 are left in view. This seems disappointingly low to the one who has always considered the stars numberless. But wait a moment.

After telescopes came into use, over 300 years ago, the starry population increased unbelievably, and fainter magnitudes were added. (Each additional magnitude is 2 1/2 times fainter than the one below it in number.) A good field glass will show over 100,000 stars and to a faintness of 10th magnitude, a four-inch telescope lens, one million stars, and through the 12th magnitude, the new 200-inch, considerably over one billion and through the 22.5 magnitude. Reasonable calculations indicate that all the stars in our galaxy or star system, both seen and unseen, number around 100 billion.

Carlson Turns Offers Down

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Heroic Capt. Kurt Carlson of the ill-fated Flying Enterprise reports he's rejected more than two million dollars in offers to capitalize on his experience.

"But I'm a ship captain," he said as he awoke last night on the Flying Enterprise II. "That's all I can do. I've written more than 10,000 thank you notes" rejecting offers.

Carlson was greeted by his wife and two daughters, who flew from their Woodridge, N. J., home and will accompany him to New York via the Panama Canal. He's completing a world tour on his new ship.

The old Enterprise, which he manned alone for days, sank off the coast of England Jan. 10 despite courageous efforts to save her.

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Truman Considers Korean Intervention Most Important Deed of Administration

By ERNEST B. VACCARO

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Truman is getting ready to leave office convinced that a siren America, co-operating with strong and healthy partner nations, can maintain peace with Russia.

He believes his decision to send American troops into Korea under a United Nations mandate may have saved the world from another global war.

That war, he told me, was the loudest decision he ever had to make, tougher even than the one to drop atomic bombs on Japanese cities in 1945—because it involved the risk of a third world war.

I talked with the President in his Oval Room office at the White House yesterday. It was one of a series of personal interviews he is granting separately to a small group of reporters that have covered him daily throughout his occupancy of the White House.

Truman is proud of his record on foreign affairs and feels that, when the history of his administration is written by future researchers, it will be noted for having kept the world out of war for nearly eight long, crisis-ridden years.

He is planning a nationwide broadcast sometime in January summing up what he considers the achievements of his administration and charting the course he thinks the nation will follow. It would be an elaboration on his State of the Union message to Congress, to be delivered early in the session opening Jan. 3.

He is proud of the Greek-Turkish aid program, the Marshall Plan and the succeeding steps undertaken by this government to strengthen the economic and military potential of Communist-threatened nations.

These were bold steps, he said, but the decision to enter South Korea when the North Korean Reds invaded it, in his view, was the "toughest" of all.

When he ordered the bombing of Japan, Truman said, he was told it would shorten the war and save the lives of possibly 250,000 Americans and as many Japanese.

In that case, there was no question of the course to take, he said. He halted communism in its efforts to engulf the whole world, and he believes it gave hope to free men everywhere that if they band together they can never be conquered, he added.

The President pointed to the big world globe given him in 1945 by Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, who will become President Jan. 20.

"During these eight years," Truman said, "we've kept that old globe out of disaster."

And at home, he continued, "we've got an economic situation without equal in the history of the world" with a production rate of 344 billion dollars, a national income of 290 billion dollars and with 63 million persons employed.

Truman now regards the defeat of the Democratic party in November as just one round of a battle over principles that will be carried into future elections. He has already voiced his support of Adlai E. Stevenson's leadership and of Stephen A. Mitchell, Stevenson's hand-picked Democratic national chairman. Truman feels—although he wouldn't say so in so many words—that Stevenson's defeat for the presidency stemmed primarily from three things:

1. The glamor attached to Republican candidate Eisenhower by virtue of a great war record.
2. The practice of what Truman has called "demagoguery" by Eisenhower, during the campaign, particularly Eisenhower's announcement that he would go to Korea to seek an early and honorable peace. (Men close to Truman say he was incensed by the implication in that announcement that Truman wasn't doing all he could to bring peace in Korea.)
3. What Truman called at times

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Eisenhower Backing From Southerners May Show Up in Working of Congress

By EDWIN B. HAARINSON

WASHINGTON (AP) — Southern state backing of President-elect Eisenhower in the Nov. 4 election should be reflected in his legislative proposals in the new Congress, Sen. Mundt (R-S.D.) said today.

In an interview, Mundt predicted the 83rd Congress, which convenes one week from today, will reach its major decisions through "a working combination of Republicans and Southern Democrats."

Although the session will be Republican-controlled, he said, any legislation projected by Eisenhower "must depend upon support of conservative Southern Democrats."

If Mundt is right — and many members of the new Congress agree with him — any broad civil rights measures, like federal anti-discrimination or fair employment practices commission (F.E.P.C.), would have as tough sledding as in President's Truman's administration.

Mundt's views attract attention because he was a pioneer as early as 1949 in the Republican drive for voting support in the traditionally Democratic Solid South.

Eisenhower reaped a rich vote harvest last month by carrying Texas, Florida, Virginia and Tennessee in the presidential election.

Mundt said this political fact should be reflected in Eisenhower legislative proposals.

"For nearly four years the actual majority in Congress has cut across party lines," the Republican senator said. "It has consisted of Republicans and Southern Democrats."

He added, speaking of the upcoming session:

"The margins in both the Senate and House are so thin that major decisions will depend upon Democratic support."

Mundt will have a hairline majority in the new Senate with 48 of the 96 seats. There are 47 Democrats and 1 independent, Morse of Oregon.

In the House, there will be 221 Republicans, 211 Democrats, 1 independent and 2 Democratic vacancies.

Mundt said a Republican-Democratic coalition will decide such major issues as "the depth of tax reduction, sharp economies in federal spending and the all-important state or local controls, including issues regarding federal versus FEPC, title lands and education programs."

Mundt said he is optimistic about chances for national Republican candidates in future elections in Dixie but does not expect the South to back electing GOP governors or congressmen.

"The so-called Solid South has lost all past control over the Democratic party," he said. "That control now is in the hands of big-city machine Democratic bosses and the various left-wing pressure groups."

"The great majority of Southern voters never can find a place within existing boundaries of the Democratic party."

He named no names.

Members of both parties in Congress have been called to separate caucuses in Washington next Friday, when they will choose their leaders. No serious battles over organization are expected in either camp.

Apparently neither side sent a notice to Sen. Morse, who bolted the GOP to back the Democratic election ticket but who says he will vote with the Republicans in organizing the new Senate.

Senate Republicans are expected to pick Earl of Ohio as majority leader, with Bridges of New Hampshire as temporary president. Knowland of California as policy committee chairman and Saltzman of Massachusetts as assistant floor leader.

Lytton B. Johnson of Texas, the Democrats' likely choice for Senate floor leader, with Clements of Kentucky being mentioned as his assistant.

In the House, Martin of Massachusetts will become speaker, replacing Rayburn of Texas who is underlined for Democratic floor leader. Halleck of Indiana likewise has no opposition for GOP floor leader.

THE DOCTOR SAYS

By EDWIN P. JORDAN, M.D.

Each year many parents come to the pediatrician with a child who is "slow." Perhaps the youngster does not learn to talk as soon as others of the same age, or shows some other mental deficiency.

This is a tragic situation to be in, but such parents should realize that about one person in every hundred is mentally deficient, so they have company, and the problem should be faced and the best possible solution sought.

The first thing to recognize is that mental development of children at different ages can be measured by fairly reliable tests. The common term for the results of these tests is the "I.Q.," which stands for intelligence quotient.

This is a measure of the child's ability to learn rather than what the child actually knows. The difference of a few points, however, does not mean much. Also, there are several kinds of such tests and the "scoring" of them is not always the same.

The "I.Q." is figured by dividing the mental age as calculated by one of the intelligence tests in common use by the actual age of the child in years, and multiplying the result by 100. Thus, if a six-year-old child has a mental age of three, the intelligence quotient would be expressed as 50.

If the "I.Q." is far below normal, the child must be considered a true idiot and cannot be educated in school subjects; such children usually are best cared for in an institution. The next lowest group are imbeciles, who can learn to perform simple household duties but do not go far in school subjects.

Above these two groups are the less seriously retarded children who can often be taught to support themselves in simple occupations, but are not likely to go beyond the elementary grades of school.

It is not possible to drill or train a youngster with a low "I.Q." into a definitely higher group. Neither can this be done by punishment or praise. This may be a hard thing for parents to realize, but it should be faced.

Parents of mentally retarded children can save themselves and their children much grief by consulting school supervisors, qualified physicians, or mental health experts concerning the future which may be expected for their children and what they can do about it.

Some retarded children can go farther than others, and all should be studied to find out what is the best way to raise them and how they can be fitted to take part in life to the highest degree which their abilities allow.

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