

Herald and News

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Entered as second class matter at the post office of Klamath Falls, Ore., on August 20, 1906, under act of Congress, March 3, 1879.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Table with columns for MAIL and BY CARRIER, and rows for 1 month, 6 months, and 1 year rates.

JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON (AP)—Chalk up one of the strangest episodes in President Truman's administration...

The companies were ordered to produce their records for the grand jury. But the jury couldn't get satisfied. The companies fought in court against turning over their records.

There are seven giant companies in the world's oil trade. Five of them American. Standard Oil of New Jersey, Standard Oil of California, the Texas Company, Socony-Vacuum and Gulf Oil.

At last, by court order last December, the five American companies were instructed to turn over their records to the government by yesterday, Jan. 12. At last it seemed the jury would be able to get down to work.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) which has jurisdiction over antitrust laws, several years ago began to examine the oil industry.

Then word leaked out that Truman's National Security Council, made up of his top advisers, told him that for reasons of national security the grand jury investigation should be dropped.

For more than a year Truman wouldn't let the report be made public. It was not in the national interest to do so, he said.

McGranery dutifully called in the oil company lawyers and told them the grand jury investigation would be dropped if it turned out to be an irritating if they would provide their records so the government could start civil action against them.

Sen. Jennings, Missouri Democrat, became indignant over the suppression. The seven companies, he said, dominate U. S. foreign policy in the Middle East, Indonesia and Venezuela.

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Finally, last August Truman let the FTC report be published by the Senate Small Business Committee, of which Sen. Sparkman Alabama was chairman.

Now, having scratched his head a bit, it would seem McGranery could go ahead with the criminal case, or drop the whole business, or the company lawyers might calm down, or something. But no matter how much they were burned up, it probably didn't compare with the scorched feeling of Spingarn, whose staff prepared the FTC report and who has been slugging away at the oil companies.

The report described most of the world's oil as controlled by the seven giant and said they were interlocked through a "corporate complex of companies they control."

He visited Truman yesterday and came away, saying: "It looks like the oil companies have performed one of the greatest stunts in history... a super-promoter's job of snowing something under with baloney."

Gen. McGranery announced a federal grand jury would investigate. The companies denied any wrongdoing. McGranery said his Justice Department would work up both criminal and civil proceedings. Criminal action is intended to punish past offenses; civil action is designed to prevent repetition.

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Point Four Program Due for Change

By JACK BELL

WASHINGTON (AP)—Republicans may continue President Truman's Point Four program of technical economic assistance abroad, with some changes in operations methods and under a new name.

But Truman's budget proposal to spend two billion dollars in foreign economic aid in the year beginning next July 1 is likely to be subjected to close scrutiny and sharp pruning.

Four influential GOP senators said today in separate interviews they favor retention of the principle of Point Four, under which this nation furnishes technical advice and assistance to underdeveloped areas and lays the groundwork for U. S. private investments. It now operates in 35 countries.

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Ike Cabinet Lists Four Top Problems

NEW YORK (AP)—Reduction of federal spending, how to deal with communism at home and abroad, foreign aid and government reorganization reportedly are tagged for priority study by the Eisenhower high command meeting again today.

These are problems it was learned, which President-elect Eisenhower and his key associates consider must get first attention of office next Tuesday.

Eisenhower, Cabinet designers and other top officials he has appointed met for 4 1/2 hours yesterday and discussed the future of the administration, foreign and domestic.

Except for adding that the group had arranged to build another session today, Eisenhower's press secretary, James C. Hagerty, declined to say anything more.

The secret order applicable to the entire group was understood to have come from Eisenhower himself, although Hagerty did not say so.

Vice President-elect Nixon called the first conference "very helpful and productive," but he said he could not go beyond that.

It was understood, however, that matters such as finding ways to cut the \$78,000,000 federal budget which President Truman submitted to Congress last Friday were among top problems which Eisenhower fell should be discussed at the two-day conference.

So was the problem of internal security—how to deal with communism and subversion at home. During the campaign, Eisenhower sharply criticized the Truman administration's handling of that problem, and he pledged that the Republicans would handle it better.

Foreign policy generally, and specifically what to do about the Korean War stalemate, were also said to be "must" subjects, along with the amount and distribution of foreign aid to help fight the Communist threat.

Eisenhower has devoted much study to plans for reorganization of the executive branch and there was a possibility the conference group would get a report on a survey being made by a special committee the general named in November.

Justice Department pardon attorneys began studying records of the case yesterday. The recommendation may or may not be ready for Truman before he leaves office.

The expectation in official circles is that the President will decide for or against commuting the death sentences if he has time to weigh the question on the basis of the Justice Department report. Otherwise the decision will be left to President-elect Eisenhower.

Federal Judge Samuel Kaufman has granted a stay in the execution of the Rosenbergs, originally scheduled for tonight, until five days after the White House acts.

In other fields, the President has two major remaining tasks: 1. His last annual economic message to Congress, just about completed, it goes to Congress tomorrow.

2. A personal report to the nation, which promises to be an overall account of his nearly eight years of stewardship. Work is still underway on this message, which he will deliver over all four television networks at 10:30 p.m., EST, Thursday.

Then you see the children — and the old people. You've turned down dozens of small boys who want to shine your shoes. But this one has a hungry look under the dirt.

He goes to work as you sip a beer. He eyes you as you munch a crisp tostada. You hand him one, and he gulps it.

You pay him much more than the shine is worth. That turns out to be a mistake. With a grin and a "gracias, señor," he scampers off to tell his friends. It takes quite a while to shake off the swarm of small boys who want to hold doors for you, guide you around town, carry your bundles.

An old woman, a dingy black mantilla draped over her head, huddles on the step of a hotel facing right on the sidewalk. As you step to one side there's a light tug on your sleeve. A tiny girl—the must be no more than 2—holds out a grimy hand begging.

You fish in your pocket for a coin and give it to her. You hear the old woman call to her.

Some of the shopkeepers implore you in heavily accented English to "enter my shop." As you pass, is it all imagination that makes you think you can see hope die in their eyes?

You hear a man's voice, "Senor—for the lady?" A cripple holds up a corsage of gardenia buds. How can you bargain this time?

You enter a shop—just to look, you explain. With real courtesy the shopkeeper shows you graceful silver tea sets, handsome leather luggage and boots, beautiful pottery and glassware—all handmade by skillful artisans. All for nothing, compared to what you'd have to pay at home.

But you hadn't planned to buy. You have to leave. It's dark and you have a long drive home. You'd like to buy something from this person who has been so gracious, but you just thank him. He smiles and nods, but his eyes aren't happy.

The nighttime charm is returning as you walk the short distance back to the border. But how you have seen the things behind the lights and gay music.

WASHINGTON (AP)—Rep. Short (R-Mo.) today termed "inexcusable" the crash of an Air Force C-124 Globemaster which killed 87 persons in aviation's worst accident near Seattle Dec. 20.

He made the statement as the House Armed Services Committee recalled Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg and other top Air Force officials to conduct a probe of seven military accidents which claimed 234 lives in November and December.

Another 55 persons were killed in two other military accidents in the Far East during that period.

Short, to be chairman of the committee, said the "oversight" of the crash was mainly responsible for the "inexcusable" Globemaster crash. "This," he told a reporter, "means the Air Force has to tighten up its training program."

Air Force officials testified last week that the Globemaster crashed because of locked controls designed to keep the plane against surface winds when on the ground.

The probe, Short said, has the ultimate responsibility for making sure they are unlocked before the aircraft is in motion to see if they have been released, they added.

The committee called for detailed information on three accidents involving C-124 Flying Boxcars at today's hearing.

One crashed in Alaska with the loss of 14 persons Nov. 7 and another disappeared off Alaska Nov. 13 with 26 persons aboard. The third accident, near Billings, Mont., resulted in nine deaths.

In addition, 11 persons were lost when a Navy patrol bomber crashed near Shelton, Wash.

The committee expected to complete its inquiry today.

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Truman began his last week in the White House today—as busy as ever and beset by eleven-hour problems ranging from oil to atom spies.

In an atmosphere of mild confusion around his office, the outgoing President is cleaning out his desk, dispatching dozens of late-wire letters and shaking hands with a steady stream of well-wishers.

But all the time, tight to the end of his administration, he must make decisions which no one but a president may make.

One particularly vexing one is the Rosenberg case.

Sometimes between now and next Tuesday noon, when his term expires, whether the convicted atomic spies, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, shall live or die.

A world-wide propaganda campaign urging clemency for the Rosenbergs has been sparked by Communists. Protests have come from other sources, too, that the death penalty is unduly severe.

Famed scientist Albert Einstein announced at Princeton, N. Y., yesterday that he had written Truman that "my conscience compels me to urge you to commute the

THE DOCTOR SAYS

By EDWIN P. JORDAN M.D.

In this column vitamins A and D will be discussed together, both because they are caused by a lack of this vitamin in the diet. Vitamin A is not considered to be helpful in the treatment of certain kinds of skin calouses, but only when they are caused by a lack of this vitamin in the diet.

The term, vitamin D, is applied to at least two substances which are known to aid in the proper use by the body of calcium and phosphorus. Consequently, this vitamin is recognized as a specific method of treating certain conditions in which calcium is not properly used.

Lack of enough vitamin A may cause eye difficulties. The first symptom of eye trouble of this kind is night blindness. Inability to see well in a dim light caused by deficiency of vitamin A is cured promptly by giving extra doses of this vitamin.

These conditions are rickets, a kind of bone softening in children, infantile tetany and probably some other conditions in which there is abnormal use of calcium and phosphorus.

There are other kinds of poor night vision which do not respond to such treatment, of course. There fore, the claim that vitamin A will aid drivers of automobiles and lessen their chances of having accidents at night is not warranted.

In children particularly, combinations of vitamin A and D are frequently given during the winter months with the purpose of improving bone and tooth formation.

There is reason to believe that vitamin D also plays an important part in tooth formation, but it is doubtful that this substance is the only important element in the prevention of such diseases of the teeth as caries. This vitamin is also present in almost exactly the same foods as vitamin A.

This is particularly important in winter because in northern climates, at least, the sun is less powerful and the skin of children is less exposed to the sun. At such times, therefore, the vitamin D which is formed by exposing the skin to sunlight may be insufficient to supply the necessary amounts.

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