

OKLAHOMAN IS STILL PIONEER BELOW VENEER

Derricks, Dust Symbols of State's Despoiling, Stokes Says.

By THOMAS L. STOKES
Times Special Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY, Feb. 28.—Scratch the oily veneer of Oklahoma and you'll find the raw pioneer still underneath.

The man who struck it rich, the adventurer who would bet everything on the turn of a card, the man who brought his family from the filled-up acres of the East, the Indian driven from his Eastern home by a white man's government, the preacher who was moved to take his Bible and his hell-fire-and-damnation salvation into the wilderness—all are represented in the Oklahoma of today.

The oil exploiters have moved right into the heart of this city. Scores of derricks stand almost side by side with the city's skyscrapers, like a field of radio towers by day and, by night, like a string of diamonds on the plush of the jeweler's box.

Derricks rise in backyards, and about schoolhouses.

Dust Forms Background

I saw their spidery forms against a background of dust, a pinkish gray cloud hovering over the city, swept up from the Panhandle of Oklahoma and Texas in one of a series of dust storms in recent weeks which presage a return of last year's calamity.

In the derricks and the dust cloud you have the symbols of the despoiling of this country out here—the ravaging of Oklahoma's two chief resources, her oil and her farm lands, by those who lust for quick profits and think not of the morrow.

On this city's outskirts is a shantytown where whole families live from hand to mouth in degradation unsurpassed in the slums of our big cities. Nearly three-fourths of the farmers of the state are tenants. The economic scale reaches from the direct poverty to the oil multimillionaire.

There's Strong Radical Movement

Consequently there is seething under the surface a strong radical movement, exemplified in the Townsend Plan and the Veterans of Industry of America, the latter an organization embracing farmers and labor who want the government to take over industry and to divide the big farms into smaller units.

Politics of the state—only a few years out of the shoot-your-way-to-office stage—reflects these boiling undercurrents and reaches down, like the oil wells, to tap the pioneer stratum which gushes and foams to the top in election years.

So it is now.

The big political event of this year in Oklahoma, outside of the presidential race, is the contest over United States Senator.

Defending his right to another term is the blind Thomas P. Gore, a statesman of the old-fashioned Democrat type. In the forthcoming contest he will attract the support of conservatives as well as a personal following, some of it of the backwoods variety, which he has built up during a long career in politics.

Several Threaten to Run

As usual in Oklahoma, several ambitious Democrats have announced, or are threatening to run, against the incumbent.

Among these is Gov. E. W. Marland, who was squeezed out of an oil fortune by the Morgans and then took up politics. A stanch New Dealer, he is so bitter against Senator Gore's anti-New Deal philosophy that he has decided to enter the senatorial race. He says the Senator must be defeated and he believes he is one to do it.

The Governor, whose term has three years to run, has suffered the usual fate of the business man in politics in that he has been unable to handle his Legislature and it has wrecked part of his program.

Then there is young Rep. Josh Lee, not long away from his post as teacher of public speaking at Oklahoma University. He has a sort of Y. M. C. A. or Chautauqua manner in which he crusades against war and against sin in general.

Supported by 3 Groups

He counts his strength among the women, among the Baptists who make up about a third of the church population of the state and are strong politically, and among the war veterans. He stumped the state during the congressional recess, making as many as 10 speeches a day.

The Townsends have a potential candidate in Gomer Smith, Oklahoma City lawyer, third in command in the national Townsend movement, who has been running for office for years, but now has an issue and is solidified following. There are reports, however, that he may not run.

"Alfalfa Bill" Mentioned

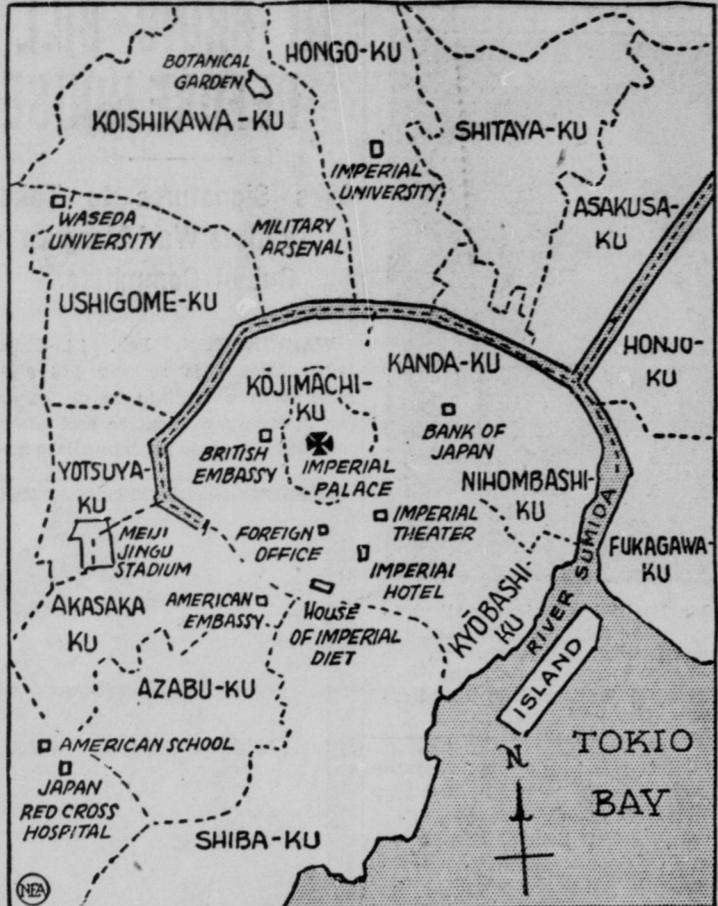
There is a possibility that former Governor "Alfalfa Bill" Murray may get in the race—though he is said to be looking toward the governorship. Right now he is writing philippies against the New Deal as organizer of some sort of taxation league from his farm at Broken Bow where he is followed about by a loving jackass and keeps his pigs part of which understand English while the others respond only to Chinese.

Political analysts say Senator Gore is sure to be in the run-off primary—and there is almost certain to be one following the regular primary in July. His opponent in the run-off seems to be anybody's guess.

Mentioned for the Republican senatorial nomination are Herbert K. Hyde, part Indian, the young United States attorney who prosecuted the Urschel kidnapers and former Senator John W. Harrel.

Despite the sharply defined economic groups within the Democratic Party in the state, most observers believe President Roosevelt will carry it in November because of the absence of any third party movement to which the radicals could go.

WHERE REBELS, LOYAL TROOPS ARE MASSED



M'NUTT ISSUES ASSEMBLY CALL FOR THURSDAY

Legislature Is Summoned to Enact Laws for Social Security Plan.

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consider only social security at a special session.

He appeared personally at a caucus of the Senate majority and obtained a "gentlemen's agreement" from Democratic members of the upper house that they would confine legislation to social security subject matter.

Revolt Rumors Heard

However, there are rumors of revolt in both houses, chiefly over the old-age pension proposals and partly because of a growing demand for liquor law revision.

There also is some objection to the employee tax in the job insurance bill, several members taking the view that the joint employer-employee tax is inequitable because some employers can pass it along as usually is done in the case of a sales tax, but the employee can not pass on his levy.

First fixing \$2500 as the maximum annual wage on which the unemployment compensation tax would be levied, the joint committee has stricken out this provision. It was discovered the limitation would not save employers any tax because there is no salary limit provision in the Federal act.

Hope for Short Session

Under the Federal act, employers of eight or more persons receive Federal tax credit up to 90 per cent of the amounts they pay into the state fund.

One of the first actions of the assembly will be resolutions by majority leaders of both houses to clear the calendar of bills left over from the 1935 session. Unless such a formal action is taken, the measures would be alive and subject to consideration.

Gov. McNutt and his advisers are hopeful of a short session, lasting at the most two weeks. It may run as long as 40 days by law. Leaders of both houses had been impressed on them the necessity for prompt action in passing the social security enabling bills.

Everybody here has been confident all along that a satisfactory compromise would be reached and that the marital law still in force would be lifted within a few days.

Ray Marshall, manager for the United Press, was going to meet me at the station. He did not appear and I stood disconsolately among my bags, wondering what to do, when an excited American told me that the army had rebelled.

I got a taxicab to the Imperial Hotel—it was snowing and my driver seemed to have some trouble finding his way through the streets—and found the lobby filled with excited guests, including scores of foreign tourists.

Nobody knew what was happening. But everybody had heard a rumor. It turned out, strangely, that most of the rumors were correct. The premier and other high officials had been murdered, the rebellious troops had a considerable part of the government center of the capital, including the prime minister's official residence, the metropolitan police headquarters and the big new parliament building which stands on a hilltop about half a mile from the hotel.

As soon as I had breakfast, I got a taxi to the United Press office in the Nippon Dempo News agency building about two blocks from the hotel, across a canal.

The news agency building is a new, five-story one, with a carrier pigeon loft on its roof and more telephones than I ever have seen in one place. Every one of them was ringing, it seemed. Motorcycle couriers were dashing up to the doors with side cars to carry the reporters.

But the harassed editor in chief didn't know much about what was going on. It was impossible, for the moment, for any of his men to get to the scene of action. Within a few hours, however, the first rumors were confirmed and we knew that the premier had been murdered and that other leading men had been stabbed or shot.

Many people thought that a military dictatorship would be established at once. The Japanese newspaper men, though generally doubtful this and expected the rebels to surrender in the end, fearing that their act of terrorism would achieve the reforms they desired.

I met several foreign women who know Tokyo and found none of them greatly excited. Some had seen the military outbreak of 1932 and said they felt sure that there was no danger, the usual courtesy of the Japanese toward foreigners would be unchanged. It was proved that they were right.

The army rebels succeeded in killing five of seven men they chose as victims—Premier Keisuke Okada, Finance Minister Korekiyo Takahashi, Admiral Soroku Suzuki, Admiral Makoto Saito and Gen. Jotaro Watanabe.

The two whom they sought and who escaped were Prince Saito, "last of the elder statesmen" and the emperor's closest adviser, and Count Mobukai Makino. They complained, it has been disclosed now, that these men, the youngest 68, were too powerful and were acting against the country's best interests.

Bill May Be Changed

Hearings Continue on Kentucky Reorganization Measure.

By United Press

FRANKFORT, Ky., Feb. 28.—Hearings continued today on Gov. A. B. Chandler's state reorganization bill, with indications there would be major changes before the measure is given its final reading and brought to a vote.

How Tokyo Looks—
BY MARY KNIGHT
(Copyright, 1936, by United Press)

TOKYO, Feb. 28.—(By telephone from New York)—Compared to similar outbreaks I have seen in Europe this rebellion has been a most orderly one.

So far as I have seen, the traditional courtesy of Japanese toward foreigners has not changed at all. Everywhere I have met with the most charming courtesy, even though the Japanese consider it rather unusual for a woman to be a newspaper correspondent.

It has all been very quiet. Most of the people didn't even know what happened for more than 24 hours after the outbreak, and they learned of it in detail only when the government permitted brief communiques to be broadcast.

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DRESSES UP FOR BRUNO



SUN REAPPEARS TO CHASE AWAY COLD WEATHER

Higher Temperatures Are Predicted for Tonight: Rivers Drop.

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ice cakes that were left by the stream when it was out of its banks.

Ravenswood took up routine life again after the visit of high waters, and all persons had moved back into their homes.

Vincennes Flood Feared

Flood waters of the Wabash River are receding at Lafayette and Logansport, but the river still is rising at Terre Haute.

Weather Bureau forecasters said the river probably would leave its banks at Vincennes as the swollen waters swept downstream.

The river reached 18.8 feet, more than two feet above flood stage, at Terre Haute today and is expected to rise to 24 feet within the next 24 hours.

Ohio Rivers Spreading

(By United Press) Turbulent streams bounced ice blocks over lowlands in Indiana, Ohio and Kansas today, forcing scores of families from their homes.

The flood menace was most severe in the Maumee and Chagrin River valleys in Ohio. More than 100 families were driven from their homes at Painesville, O., when the Chagrin poured over its banks. Near Toledo, the Maumee marooned 30 families. Ice gorged in the river, threatening new floods.

Thaws loosened ice in the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers and they were rising steadily. A dozen families in Kansas fled from inundated lowlands near the Missouri.

Fair weather with rising temperatures was forecast for most of the Midwest today and tomorrow. Rivermen said the flood menace will decrease with a gradual thaw and no rain.

FARM PROGRAM SPEED INDORSED

Agreement Before Senate Would Create Great Military Combine.

By United Press

PARIS, Feb. 28.—Unless unforeseen events threaten the French Senate into differing with the Chamber, the Franco-Soviet pact creating one of the greatest military coalitions in history is to be concluded in March.

The Chamber ratified it yesterday in fear and trembling, but with an outward show of enthusiasm, and sent it to the Senate. President Albert Lebrun was authorized to sign the instrument of ratification which is to be exchanged with the Soviets as soon as the Senate acts.

Ostensibly, the treaty only binds Russia and France to mutual action against aggressors, but actually it binds armies potentially totaling 27,000,000 men into a unit. It is the connecting link between the Soviet treaties with Turkey and Czechoslovakia, and France's alliances with the Little and Balkan Ententes.

His intention was revealed as a subcommittee of the Senate Agriculture Committee decided to call upon him in an effort to reach a decision in the situation.

Mr. Roosevelt indicated he was prepared to provide not more than \$30,000,000 from unallocated relief funds for a loan program under which individual farmers' loans would not exceed \$200.

The government swung its vote for ratification with trepidation inspired by the Japanese coup.

There was a question in all minds whether Tokyo would precipitate a Russo-Japanese war that would involve France. Germany, many Frenchmen believe, would not be idle long if the Soviet government became embroiled on its eastern frontier.

We are concerned only with the possibility that these guns might fall into the hands of criminals in this country," the Attorney General said.

He said the studies should be finished soon enough so that new legislation is found advisable that could be submitted to the present Congress.

Bill Before Committee

Under a law passed in 1934, Federal licensing was required for all sawed-off shotguns, submachine guns, silencers and automatic revolvers. Cummings pointed out that a bill is before the House Ways and Means Committee amending this act to provide for registration of all guns, including revolvers and pistols, except 22-caliber guns.

Other resolutions avoided extension of efforts to arm foreign countries, support of the farm bureau's membership drive, and assistance of the bureau's general program, particularly that dealing with education of older youths.

"While we did not relish this exception particularly, we could not oppose it because we could not say that gangsters and criminals were going around brandishing .22 guns," Cummings said.

A reception and dance are to be held tonight at the Claypool.

Those in the reception line are to be: Mayor Kern, Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Edwin Munchhoff, national committee woman from Indiana; Joseph P. McNamara, national committee man from Indiana, and Mrs. McNamara; Mrs. Mary Garrett, president, Statehouse Democratic Club; Richard Kirby, president, Young Men's Democratic Club of Marion County; Mary Louise Walpole, president, Young Women's Democratic Club of Marion County; Francis O. Mattingly, Bloomington; arrangements, Mary Louise Walpole and Richard Kirby, Indianapolis; credentials, Bernard O'Neil, South Bend; rule and permanent organization, Robert Tilton, Fowler, and resolutions, Preston Mullan, Cannellton.

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INDIANA'S YOUNG DEMOCRATS ARE TO ELECT CHIEF

President of Organization Sought by 1000 Delegates at Meeting.

More than 1000 members of the Young Democrats of Indiana today are seeking a president to head their organization, at their annual convention at the Claypool and Tomlinson Hall today and tomorrow.