

The President Is Strong and More Determined Than Ever as He Nears 60th Birthday

By JOSEPH L. MYLER

United Press Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—President Roosevelt will be 60 years old on Friday but there will only be 21 candles on this cake—it's an old Roosevelt family custom.

As is also an old Roosevelt custom, the President will gallop through his day at a pace which still amazes even veteran members of his staff.

Their amazement may be shared by the Japanese. They probably little suspected that the bombs which fell on Pearl Harbor Dec. 7 released a flood from the President's wellsprings of energy such as might be expected from few men who have hammered away for nine years—longer than any other President—at such a hard job as the Presidency.

THE ONLY outward signs of those years are a few more wrinkles, a few more white hairs—but not as many as you might think from the newsreel shots and newspaper pictures.

When he was 51 and the nation was in the pit of depression, the President was confident and strong, his voice was rich and reassuring, his attitude was courageous and determined.

Nine years later, with the nation at war, the President still is confident and strong, his voice rich and reassuring, his attitude more determined than ever.

He is a man who thrives when the going gets tough and fights best when the opposition is strong.

THE WEEKS immediately preceding Pearl Harbor were extremely difficult for a man of action. The situation called for prayerful consideration of every word and every step.

In those weeks the President was grave, tense, perhaps a little on edge. Then the Japanese attacked. The time for watching and waiting was over. The time for action was at hand.

Orders, staff conferences, Cabinet meetings, memorable speech asking Congress to take the nation into war for the second time in 24 years—he took them all in stride. And on the next day, although he might have pleaded weariness, he held his regular press conference and answered questions as they came.

THOSE who attended knew the President had slept no more than eight hours in two days. But one who hadn't missed a Presidential press conference in years said: "He never looked better."

The man who once said, "I love a good fight," had one on his hands and was waging it with all his resources.

Three things have contributed to public belief that the President is showing his years. They are his gray-brown complexion, the dark patches under his eyes, and the seams and wrinkles which show up in news reel shots.

The President's complexion is a family characteristic; his mother, who lacked just two weeks of being 87 when she died last Sept. 7, had it.

THE POUCHES under the eyes, also a family trait, and the facial seams, are especially noticeable in the newsreels because of bad lighting.

When the President poses for the newsreel cameras the lights shine down on him, accentuating shadows which are not apparent to persons who see him in normal light.

The President's daily labors have become more arduous as he grows older in office. Since Dec. 7 his routine has suffered several abrupt changes. He used to lie in bed for several hours in the morning while he ate breakfast, conferred with aides and worked over his mail. More now than frequently than not he is in his Oval Room study by 9:30 a. m.

THE PRESIDENTIAL day is longer, too. Often the mail has to wait until after dinner. Few days find the President in bed before midnight.

During the three weeks of Prime Minister Winston Churchill's visit, the President worked especially hard. Both men took a few days off from their labors, the Prime Minister going to Florida briefly and the President spending a short rest period elsewhere. The President returned to the White House refreshed and relaxed.

WHEN THE President delivered his state of the nation address to Congress on Jan. 6, some anxious listeners thought his voice sounded strained, "somewhat dry." It was. Someone had slipped up and the President, who likes to "wet his whistle" frequently as he talks, had no pitcher of water at his elbow.

The President's schedule of movements on his birthday may not be disclosed in advance, but one general statement seems safe—he will get in a full day's work.

As usual the birthday celebration—the President's "Diamond Jubilee"—will be for the benefit of infantile paralysis victims. More than 12,000 balls and parties will be held throughout the nation to raise money for the cause closest to the President's heart.

IN THE White House the President will preside at a dinner for his "cuff links gang"—a group of his oldest cronies, many of whom knew him when he was only Assistant Secretary of the Navy during the first World War. The annual dinner started in 1920 when Mr. Roosevelt, after an unsuccessful bid for the vice presidency, presented each of his aids with a set of cuff links.

Mrs. Roosevelt will receive a score of movie, radio and music stars at luncheon and present them to the President. Later they will contribute the luster and glamour of their names and personalities, as well as their talent, to the success of the birthday balls here.

STATE WELFARE SHIFTS TOP JOBS

Changes Made to Handle Tasks Transferred From Unemployment Relief Commission; Shepard's Division Gets Increased Duties.

By EARL RICHERT

A re-shuffling of top jobs in the State Welfare Department was announced today by Thurman A. Gottschalk, administrator.

The move, he said, is designed to enable the department to better handle the increased duties placed upon the department by the recent integration of the Governor's Commission on Unemployment Relief with it.

The office of acting assistant administrator, held by Virgil Shepard, for the last four years has been abolished because of the heavy additional duties placed by the integration on Mr. Shepard who also heads the Division of Public Assistance, Mr. Gottschalk said.

Mr. Shepard's division will now handle all the public assistance duties formerly handled by the G. C. U. R. in addition to its former functions.

Heads Field Service

Mrs. Helene Y. Smith, assistant director of the Division of Public Assistance for the past several years, has been named to the new post of director of field services. She will have charge of the department's field staff.

The task of directing the field staff formerly was held by Mr. Shepard as acting assistant administrator.

Dudley Smith, former head of the G. C. U. R., has been named acting head of the Division of Public Relations and Information, a post he held before going with the G. C. U. R. The position has been vacant since Charles W. Geile resigned a year ago to take a position with the State Selective Service.

Abolish Statistic Unit

Mr. Gottschalk also announced that the Division of General Administration which had charge of accounting, office files and statistics would be abolished and that he would take active charge of the work formerly performed by the department.

The Administrator said that Max M. Sappenfield, who has been acting as head of this division since Charles Marshall was called to the Navy a year ago, would supervise the work formerly done by this division.

Personnel Reduced

The Administrator said that the field forces and accounting staffs of the Welfare Department and G. C. U. R. would be completely integrated, thus enabling a reduction of personnel.

The G. C. U. R. now operates 22 field offices for WPA certification purposes and the Welfare Department has 14 district representatives. Mr. Gottschalk said that present plans were to combine these offices and duties, creating 12 district offices and eliminating about a dozen employees.

Additional members will be added to the four-man ration board to enable it to carry on its functions on the broader scale of rationing.

Meanwhile, ration officials in the State and its 92 counties will be working overtime to set up the detailed sugar rationing machinery, Mr. Strickland indicated.

PORTLAND SCHOOL AFIRE

PORTLAND, Ind., Jan. 27 (U. P.)—Damage estimated at \$25,000 resulted today from a fire of undetermined origin in the Portland Senior High School building.

IN INDIANAPOLIS—MEETINGS—VITAL STATISTICS

Here Is the Traffic Record

FATALITIES

County City Total

1941 6 4 11

1942 4 10 14

—Jan. 26—

Accidents ... 12 | Arrests ... 260

Injured ... 5 | Dead 1

MONDAY TRAFFIC COURT

Cases Convic. Fines

Violations tried paid

Speeding 23 22 \$26

Reckless driving 5 5 44

Failure to stop 11

through street. 1 1

Disobeying traffic signals 3 3 3

Drunken driving 4 4 200

All others 27 20 70

Totals 63 55 \$354

MEETINGS TODAY

Indiana Retail Hardware Association, convention, Murat Temple, all day.

Indiana Grain Dealers Association, convention, Columbus Club, all morning.

Indiana Pastors' Conference, First Baptist Church, all day.

Indiana Manufacturers of Dairy Products, convention, Indianapolis Athletic Club, 6:30 p. m.

National Food & Feed Products Credit Group, meeting, Hotel Washington, 6 p. m.

Co-operative Club of Indianapolis, luncheon, Columbia Club, noon.

H. P. Amy Umbenhauer, at Methodist.

Donald W. Anderson, at Methodist.

Charles E. Parrish, at Methodist.