

TRUMAN BLUNT,
FRANK, ADROITAbility to Accept Advice Is
Noted.By CHARLES T. LUCEY
Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, April 13.—Harry S. Truman is an everyday American who ploughed a straight furrow as a Missouri farm boy and who, as President, is expected to do the same.

Extreme views on both sides can be heard about him today. Truth, as usual, lay somewhere between.

No one knows better than Harry Truman how sharp is the contrast between him and the Franklin Roosevelt he succeeded last night.

He has followed Mr. Roosevelt, but he is no New Dealer. He has been beholden to bosses, but he has been able to say no to them. He is a man adroit in compromise who can work well with Republicans as with Democrats. And he is a rather frank-spoken man whose bluntness more than once has got him in hot water.

Harry Truman came to the senate in 1934 with advice from Boss Pendergast to work hard, keep his mouth shut, and he knew the ropes, and answer his man. It wasn't until 1937 that he did anything that put him in the national spotlight, and that was as vice chairman of a committee investigating the railroads.

No Exceptions

When it came to digging into the Missouri Pacific, names of politicians and others back in Missouri began to bob up. Telegrams and telephone calls poured in on Senator Truman asking him to ease up on that home-state stuff. Boss Pendergast was one of those who turned on the heat. But Mr. Truman told his committee investigators:

"I don't want you to ease up on anything. Treat this investigation just as you do all the others."

As senator, Mr. Truman never apologized for Boss Pendergast and when the old man died, a few months ago he went to Kansas City to his funeral. Pendergast had been his friend and there still was loyalty there, that was all.

Harry Truman has a certain gentleness about him, but back of this is the shrewdness which, despite what some people have rated only average ability, has carried him to political success.

Seeks Advisers

When he became chairman of the senate war investigating body that came to be called the Truman committee, he went to his friend Bob Jackson, then attorney general, and asked him for the best man he had to run an investigation. The attorney general gave him Hugh Fullerton, and other able investigators were found.

Friends cited this to show that, given a job, Mr. Truman tries to surround himself with able people.

Hoosier Vagabond

By Ernie Pyle

OKINAWA (By Radio)—Our war with Japan has gone well in the last few weeks. We are firmly of Okinawa, which is like having your foot in the kitchen door. Our wonderful carrier pilots have whittled down the Jap air force daily. Our anti-aircraft from ships and from shore batteries has plugged Jap fliers for the highest ratio I've ever known from ack-ack.

Our task forces have absolutely butchered the only Jap task force to put to sea in many months. B-29's are hitting Japan, with fighter escort from Iwo Jima. Airfields are springing up on Okinawa. We all say we are sure glad we are not in the Japs' shoes.

One main question asked over here now is, "How long will the Japs hold out?" There are all kinds of opinions, but actually nobody knows.

We don't know, because no one in his right mind can pretend to understand the Oriental manner of thinking. They are unpredictable. They are inconsistent. As one officer said, "They are uncannily smart one day, and dumb as hell the next."

Their values are so different from ours. The news broadcasts from Tokyo and Shanghai are an example. These broadcasts are utterly ridiculous.

Examples of Japanese Lies

DURING OUR first week on Okinawa they constantly told of savage counter-attacks when there weren't any. They told of driving a large part of our landing forces back to the boats in the Okinawa sea, when actually they fired only a few shots onto the beach.

On D-day plus four, they broadcast that despite the fact that we had finally succeeded in landing 6000 troops. The truth is that by sunset of the first evening we had an incredible number of scores of thousands of Americans on Okinawa!

Everything that Tokyo said about us was a downright lie. Yet maybe Tokyo really believed it. No one can tell. The Japs don't think like we do.

The crippled Jap air force cannot do us anything but spasmatic harm from now on. And their navy needn't ever be considered. If you could see the

colossal naval power we have here you could hardly believe your eyes. It's one of the most impressive things I've seen in this war.

We have plenty of troops in reserve, and new convoys of supplies have already begun to arrive just as we finished unloading the original massive supply fleet.

On Okinawa the majority of the Japs are on the southern tip, and in considerable strength. The northern area is being combed and a few scattered ones mopped up.

There is tough fighting in the south and it will remain tough to the end. I've heard some officers say the south end of Okinawa may turn into another Iwo Jima. That will mean heavy casualties on our side, but the end of Okinawa is inevitable.

Rest of Island Seems Safe

AND WHILE the army's 24th corps of infantry is doing that job, the rest of the island apparently is wide open for us to develop and we are doing it with our usual speed.

This island has everything we could want in such an island. There is plenty of room for more airfields, room for roads and vast supply dumps and anchorages for ships. And the civilians from whom we had expected trouble are docile and harmless.

The way Americans can build, this island can be transformed in two months. Before long it could look like Guam or Pearl Harbor. We are in Japan's back door and while we are here they can't really do very much to us.

Of course, Japan's vast land armies are still almost intact. But if it does come to the great mass land warfare of continental Europe, we now are able to build up strength for that warfare right on the scene.

There is a fighting spirit among us. People are conjecturing about the possibility of the Pacific war being more than we had ever allowed ourselves to think.

For years it looked endless, but now you hear people talk about being home maybe by Christmas. Some really believe they will. Others have their fingers crossed, but they are more hopeful than ever before.

Instead of a war weariness, there seems to be a new eagerness among our forces to sweep on and on and wind the thing up in a hurry.

Inside Indianapolis By Lowell Nussbaum

THE DIGNIFIED Atty. Gen. James A. Emmert is a most accommodating man. He got on an elevator in the Claypool Wednesday, accompanied by a nice looking woman—not his wife—and carrying her luggage. When they reached the lobby, he and his companion walked over to the desk. There he put the luggage on the floor, and started out of the lobby.

Meeting a friend, he remarked: "It's getting so you have to do everything around this hotel—even to carrying people's luggage." Asked who the lady was, the accommodating attorney general explained: "Don't know her from Adam. She stopped me in the hall and asked if I would carry her luggage..." Two of the new 40-passenger buses were delivered to Indianapolis Railways will be on exhibit on Monument circle Monday for a public inspection. The two busses, and others expected within the next few days, won't go into service for several days—probably not until the end of next week. It will take several days to instruct some of the operators with the new busses, including the automatic clutch feature. Where will the new busses be used? Best bet is the Central line.

Clothing Unnecessary

A HEADLINE in the Daily News Record, a clothing trade paper, announces that: "Clothing is not essential commodity, says federal judge." Upon reading the story, you find that the judge isn't advocating nudist camp practices—merely that he refused to impose a jail sentence on a man pleading guilty to charging above ceiling prices for 102,000 yards of piece goods. However, the judge did give the man a \$12,000 fine.... Norma Jean Johnson, who works in The Times' service department, lost her paycheck Wednesday and thought it was gone for good. Imagine her pleasure when she received an envelope yester-

day containing the check. The good Samaritan is connected with Capitol Dairies, but neglected to identify himself.... Note to the young lady at Continental Optical: Sorry, but I can't carry out your request. A long time ago I learned that one item of praise for a courteous trolley operator brings 100 more just like it. You see, there are a lot of street railway employees who are thoughtful and considerate. They greatly outnumber the few whose manners are "not so good.".... It seems odd that, with the government urging us to plant victory gardens as we never did before, there's no organization set up to help folks obtain garden space. The O. C. D. had a committee serving as a go-between for a couple of years. But apparently nothing is being done this year. This comment was suggested by a letter from Harold Clager, 614 N. Grant, seeking information where he could find a garden lot near his home.

Government Cats

POSTMASTER Adolph Seidensticker has started his own private war on pigeons and starlings. A representative of the fourth assistant postmaster general's office was in town the other day and heard Mr. Seidensticker complaining about the bad manners of the birds that perch above the federal building entrances at night. The representative said they had the same trouble in New York, but managed to discourage the pesky birds with wooden cats, suspended on wires from the top of the building. Mr. Seidensticker had a carpenter make up some wooden cats and placed them above the entrances at the southeast corner of the building. Now he's waiting to see the pigeon's reaction.... Pfc. Glenn Ash who is with the 9th army in Germany, writes home to his wife (in Shelbyville) that his outfit has taken quite a few towns but thus far they haven't found any German civilians. "They all say they are French, Polish or Hollanders," he says, adding: "I suppose when we get to Berlin, they will all be Russians by then." No doubt, Glenn; no doubt—unless we get there first.

Government Cats

SERVICES will be conducted at 4 p.m. tomorrow at Flanner & Buchanan mortuary for Miss Flora H. Laut, bookkeeper of the W. C. Brass Co., who died yesterday at her home, 702 Virginia ave.

Miss Laut was a lifelong resident of Indianapolis and was a member of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran church.

She is survived by two sisters, Mrs. A. L. Gale and Mrs. Bertha D. Vehling and three brothers, William, Henry W. and C. W. Laut, all of Indianapolis.

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Ralph William Secoy

SERVICES for Ralph William Secoy, who was injured fatally Wednesday night when his car hit a safety zone abutment at Ohio and Delaware sts., will be held tomorrow in St. Rose's Catholic church in Lima. Burial will be in Upper Sandusky, O.

Mr. Secoy, president of the Federal Express Co., lived at 5022 Madison ave. He was 46.

ELKHART WOMAN, 102, DIES

ELKHART, April 13 (U.P.)—Mary Wilson, who was 102 last March 18, died late today in the Elkhart county infirmary. She was born in Knox county, Ohio, and came to Elkhart as a child.

BRIDGE PARTY TOMORROW

Golden Rule chapter, O. E. S., will meet Monday in the home of Mrs. Hazel Berry, 847 N. Bradley ave., for a luncheon and bridge party.

WE MOURN
OUR LEADER'S
PASSING

INDEPENDENCE, Mo., April 13 (U.P.)—The home town neighbors of President Harry S. Truman—regardless of how they differed with him on political questions—were certain today that he would make a good chief executive.

They voted against him heavily in the election last fall, but one and all, they were proud to have Missouri's first President come from Independence, and they wanted him to know it.

"Harry will make a good president," said Col. William Southern, editor of The Independence Examiner, who has known Mr. Truman all his life.

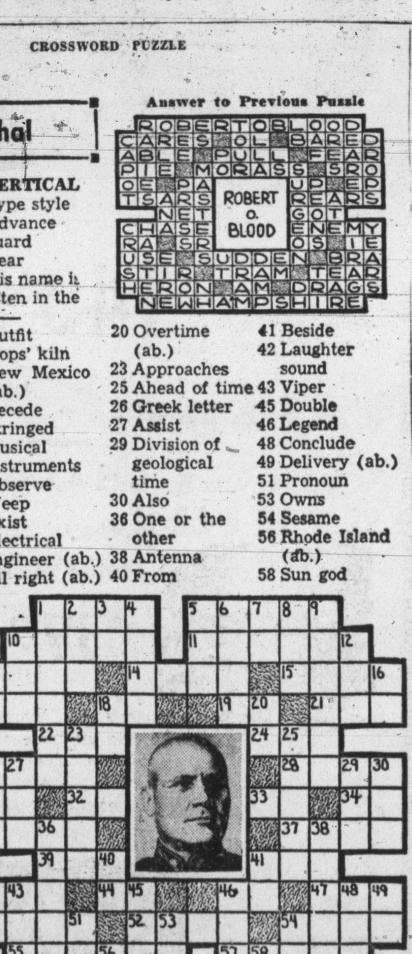
"With everyone else in Independence, I am proud that a man from Missouri—and one from Independence—has become President of the United States."

Mrs. Margaret Ellen Truman Noland, 95, an aunt of the President, lives across the street from the Truman home. She said she was "stunned by the great responsibility which is thrust upon Harry."

"But," she added, "I'm proud of him and have all the faith in the world he can handle the job."

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Red Marshal

HORIZONTAL
1,5 Pictured
1,6 marshal of the
2,6 First
3,7 Ukrainian
4,8 Army
10,9 Condition
11,10 Poetry term
13,14 Vegetable
14,15 Senses
15,16 Drill
17,18 Long fish
18,19 Toward
21,22 Lixium
22,23 Writing fluid
24,25 Beverage
26,27 Speed contest
28,29 On the ocean
31,32 Hawaiian Islands (ab.)
32,33 Exclamation
33,34 Upon
35,36 His forces crossed the River
37,38 Debark
39,40 Equal (comb. form)
41,42 Secondary
42,43 Headgear
44,45 Measure (ab.)
46,47 His forces are part of the Army
50,51 Pale
52,53 Straw-colored Liquid
54,55 Small
55,56 City in Illinois
57,58 Trivalent
59,60 Wrecks
60,61 PassagewayVERTICAL
1,2 Type style
2,3 Advance guard
3,4 Near
4,5 His name is often in the
5,6 Overtime
6,7 Hops' kiln
7,8 New Mexico
8,9 (ab.)
9,10 Recede
10,11 Stringed musical instruments
11,12 Observe
12,13 Weep
13,14 Exist
14,15 Hawaiian Islands (ab.)
15,16 Electrical
16,17 20th
17,18 21st
18,19 22nd
19,20 23rd
20,21 24th
21,22 25th
22,23 26th
23,24 27th
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89,90 93rd
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92,93 96th
93,94 97th
94,95 98th
95,96 99th
96,97 100th

In reverence... we bow our heads with the passing of our Great President and Leader.

The LEADER STORE

Closed Saturday, April 14th

WILLIAM MERL
RITES ARE SET

Associated With Leather Firm 19 Years.

Services for William J. Merl, a salesman for the Landweren Leather Co. 19 years, will be held at 8:30 a.m. tomorrow in the Blackwell funeral home and at 9 a.m. in the Church of the Little Flower.

Survivors are his wife, Alberta; two sons, Donald and James; a brother, John E., and three sisters, Mrs. Josephine Trefry, Mrs. Catherine Dew and Miss Margaret Merl, all of Indianapolis.

Mr. Merl, who was 39, died yesterday in St. Vincent's hospital. He was buried at Flanner & Buchanan mortuary for Harry K. Reed, who died Wednesday at his home, 3553 Kenwood ave. Burial will be in Crown Hill.

Mr. Reed was employed at the New York Central railroad shops in Beech Grove.

He is survived by his wife, Mabel; stepson, M. L. Norton, Martinsville; two sisters, Mrs. Hazel Refnel, Indianapolis, and Mrs. Alameda Hammond, Cincinnati, O., and two brothers, William and Charles Reed, both of Indianapolis.

CARRIE SMOOT

Services for Mrs. Carrie Smoot, who died yesterday at her home, 45 N. Mount st., will be held at 2 p.m. tomorrow at the West Side Church of the Nazarene, of which she was a member. Burial will be in Floral Park.

WALTER EUGENE APPLEY

Memorial services for Tech. 5th

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