

# Indianapolis-Born General May Be Marshall's Top Man

Washington Calling—

## W. Bedell Smith Expected To Return From Moscow

Army-Navy Merger Advocates Can Toss Hats in Air—But Not Too High as Yet

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—Look for W. Bedell Smith, Indianapolis native, to come home from Moscow soon; step into the state department as Gen. Marshall's top aid. Gen. Marshall made him secretary of the general staff during war, thought so well of him he let Gen. Eisenhower have him for chief of staff in Europe.

Two others sure to hold top state department positions under Gen. Marshall:

Col. Marshall S. Carter, now assistant executive officer in the office of assistant secretary of war. He was war department liaison officer with the state department during war.

Frank McCarthy, who was Gen. Marshall's aid and later secretary to the late chiefs of staff, with the rank of colonel. Secretary Byrnes made him assistant secretary of state for administration but poor health forced him to resign after brief stay.

### Army-Navy Merger

ADVOCATES of army-navy-air merger plan can toss their hats into air—but not too high, as yet. Four things to understand about it:

ONE: Whether it means much or little in improving the nation's defense organization and in providing savings, depends on whether the President names man of real force to be national defense secretary.

TWO: No important savings are likely soon. Initial cost of the new top layer of authority may increase costs slightly at first. Later, if it's real unification, economies should follow gradually.

THREE: Merger plan as announced by President forced all three to give up some aims and accept compromises they don't like—but, net, they regard whole move as constructive advance step.

FOUR: Congress will have final say on what's done. But with all the present defense heads expected to go to bat for plan, it should be enacted without too much change.

Army gave up more than navy. Navy keeps U. S. marine corps, land-based aviation, functions of reconnaissance, protection of shipping and navy air transport. (Army and air forces people had battled to take these air functions.) Also admirals will continue to have the right to go to congress to make case for navy budget.

But:

Navy yielded on giving the secretary of national defense real authority, which it had opposed bitterly. This top man, to be one of the most powerful in the government, will be able under the President's executive order to effect consolidations in procurement, research, use of facilities.

Plan's advocates say big thing is that a start has been made; plan has some drawbacks, but it's gain.

### Predict Red Faces

WATCH FOR publication of a book by Jan. Ciechanowski, wartime Polish ambassador to U. S. It's expected to be one of literary-diplomatic sensations of 1947.

Those who have seen proofs predict bumper crop of red faces in Washington, London, Moscow and other capitals over charges that Poland was betrayed by her allies. There'll be names, dates, and quotations.

### G. O. P. Surprised

SENATE REPUBLICANS, proud in their new power, are in for trouble. Senate Democrats have organized a sharp-shooting crew of their most nimble-witted members, men who know parliamentary tricks.

They are Democrats' policy committee. Barkley is chairman. Other members are Tydings (Md.), Russell (Ga.), O'Mahoney

### Hoosier Politics—

## New Convention Changes Sought

### Miller Would Bar Patronage Jobholders

By ROBERT BLOOM

New plans for reforming the convention system of nominating candidates for state office may crop up in the senate next week.

The battle of the state-wide primary versus the convention seemed to be developing into a contest to see who can give Hoosier voters the best deal.

Senator Robert Miller (R. Bloomington) has started the move to add another sweeping reform to the convention system. His change would be in addition to the comprehensive reforms already suggested by Governor Gates in his message to the general assembly.

The Miller proposal, already discussed with members of the senate elections committee, would forbid holders of political patronage jobs from seeking election as convention delegates.

**Curb on Machine Rule**

Such a step, Senator Miller believes, would eliminate the major club with which a political machine could control a convention.

The governor's suggestions include a secret ballot, strict limitations on proxies and reversal of the order of business to put the most important nominations last on the schedule.

TDYNGS, acting for policy committee, offered a substitute providing for all the inquiry Republicans want, but saying it shall be conducted by the regular committee on expenditures in executive departments. Tydings says issue no longer is whether there shall be inquiry, only who shall conduct it.

If the maneuver succeeds, Republicans will have lost first senate fight.

Policy committee's big problem, of course, is whether there will be strong co-operation from White House—whether President will keep committee closely advised. He hasn't always done this in past, thereby creating enmities.

Committee, heavy with conservatives, probably won't always support the Truman program in all details. But it will be ready to twist G. O. P. tails with one hand, bricks with other.

Meanwhile house Democrats are organizing a steering committee, but whether it steers depends on Minority Leader Rayburn. When he was speaker, committee was just a fifth wheel. There may be some steam among young Democrats for use of committee to lay out Democratic program. Party could use caucus system to achieve this.

### Stassen-Ball Relations

RELATIONS between Harold Stassen and Senator Ball of Minnesota are so strained some of Mr. Stassen's close friends are talking of "purging" Senator Ball when he comes up for re-election in 1948.

Mr. Stassen's friends say Mr. Ball, whom Mr. Stassen appointed to the Senate in 1940, has proved more hindrance than help to his former mentor's presidential aspirations. For instance, Mr. Stassen is still finding it difficult to persuade G. O. P. leaders he had nothing to do with Mr. Ball's bolt to Roosevelt in 1944. Mr. Stassen recently dissociated himself from Mr. Ball's anti-closed shop bill.

**LOOK FOR Senator Tobe (R. N. H.)**—man who kept Ed Pauley from being confirmed as navy undersecretary — to tackle the federal communications commission. He asked for an investigation last year. Now he has more information on which to base inquiry, he says, will soon reintroduce the resolution. He'll ask that senate interstate and foreign commerce committee do investigating.

The tax would be used only to pay the bonus and would be removed, under terms of the Hines bill, as soon as every former service man of world war II had paid off.

The rate set was \$10 for each month of domestic service and \$15 for each month overseas.

High on the list of popular-interest proposals were measures to crack down on sports gambling and bribery. Others were a series of bills to curb labor by eliminating the ban on use of state police in strikes, outlawing the closed shop contract and banning mass picketing.

### Tot Survives Fall

ROME, Jan. 18 (U. P.)—Alfredo Orsini, 3, had only a few scratches to show today from his fall from a fifth floor terrace into the street.

## Immigrant Dies of Joy After 17 Years of Toil

Worked Through Depression, World War Before He Could Send Home for Wife

MILWAUKEE, Jan. 18 (U. P.)—This is a story about a man who died yesterday of joy.

Nearly 17 years ago Salvatore Giallanza came to America from Sicily. He planned to work hard for a few months, and have money. Then he would send for his black-eyed wife, Grazia, and their three children.

Salvatore became a day laborer, a something called a "depression." Mrs. Grazia wrote of the arrival of another child they had been expecting.

A year passed. Salvatore's callouses thickened, more years trudged by. Gradually things got a little better for him. After 10 aching years Salvatore was ready to send for the family. He had bought a little house.

According to immigration law, however, only two could come at first. He wrote Grazia. She sent

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## Promoter's Cash-Lease Remodeling Deals Trapped Homeless Veterans by Scores

(Continued From Page One)

dianapolis real estate market, although nobody appears to have been seriously hurt, except Hammond.

Had \$1000 in Cash

That Sunday in March, when Hammond rose from his radio filled with the resolution to make a better world for the homeless. G. I., he had assets of \$1000 in cash, a 1938 Cadillac automobile and access to his wife's estate, totaling about \$5000.

In a few months, he had pyramidized this into more than \$50,000 worth of property.

Hammond traded his Cadillac for equity in a house at 517 E. 12th st. On an agreement to remodel the building into four apartments, he collected enough cash rent in advance to make a down payment on another multi-family house at 1516 N. New Jersey st.

Bought a Home

Meanwhile, with his wife's inheritance, he was buying a property at 3045 Washington blvd. for himself and his family. Possession was delayed because the tenant couldn't find another place to live.

The promoter arranged for the tenant to move into the 1516 N. New Jersey st. house which consisted of four apartments he thought he could convert into eight. He then began to collect cash leases against the potential suites.

Before he could get them ready, the state fire marshal's office ruled that the conversion would be a fire hazard, he said, and stopped him.

With \$900 put up by a friend and \$600 in cash leases, he acquired a house at 1207 N. New Jersey st. on a \$1500 down payment. He planned to make the third floor into two apartments.

"The city building commissioner refused a permit," he said. "I guess he doesn't believe in third floors."

Makes a Trade

Meanwhile, he had traded a house in Greenfield for an apartment at 217 N. State st. This he planned to remodel, but to date the remodeling has not been completed.

In addition to these properties, he acquired houses on Caroline st., Park ave. and an apartment on N. Alabama st.

In order to make restitution on the illegal cash leases, he was compelled to sell all his properties, he said.

Not only did he collide with the fire marshal, the building commissioner and the OPA, but he didn't miss the city board of zoning appeals.

He remodeled the Washington blvd. house into three apartments without checking the laws. The neighbors complained and the zoning board refused to permit him to rent the apartments, since the remodeling was a violation of neighborhood zoning.

" Didn't Know Regulations"

"I just went into these things without knowing what some of the regulations were," he said.

Asked how he expected to make mortgage payments after he had committed a year's income on his properties in the down payment, Hammond said:

"I didn't worry about that seriously. I'm not a poor businessman, Mister. It's this whole damnable set-up."

The OPA investigation showed that Hammond had, in addition to accepting a year's rent in advance, charged illegal rents.

Still in a Snarl

The Indianapolis OPA rent office has not yet untangled the snarl he left. Tenants in at least one of the properties he operated and has since lost are still paying nearly double the maximum legal rent.

They say it looks as though OPA has forgotten about them.

OPA Rent Director Robert M. DeWees replies: "This is the worst mess I've seen. We're still trying to straighten it out."

Hammond is a dark, stocky man in his early forties, with a pleasant round face, crisp thin mustache and well modulated voice. He is the father of two children. His wife expects another next month.

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"Children, now be careful, now, or you'll get into trouble."

He smiles and explains: "Sometimes you have to be severe with children."

A one-time contractor at Camp Atterbury, Hammond has farmed, has operated a soldiers' laundry in Florida, has written and published privately a book on Florida land-

scaping and hopes to be elected some day to the Indiana legislature.

Once he was arrested for burglary when he entered one of his tenant's apartments to show it, he said, to somebody else. The charge later was dropped.

"Now let me tell you what started Hammond in cash leases," he said.

"Mister, you are looking at the most abused fellow in the world."

"Why, sir, payment of a year's rent in advance ought to be a law. At least it would keep a roof over the heads of these young fellows who go out and squander their money at hockey games."

"I told these veterans, 'bow' is taking your money to make these places habitable. That's what I told them."

"But I guess I was trying to cover a little too much territory."

Three Teen-Age Group: Join in Polio Benefit

Three teen-age groups will join in an infantile paralysis benefit tonight at Rhodium center. A boxing exhibition between Eagle Creek and Shag Shanty will be held at 7 p. m. with Gene Bland and Jerry York in charge.

Eagle Creek's team will include John McCloskey, Andy Bowman, Bill McCloskey, John Donl, and Clyde Pruitt. Shag Shanty's team will include Gene Thomas, Charles Cooper, Gene Packer, Junior Thomas, Pat Pranger, Bud Law, Gene Viles, Fred Carol, Joe Williamson and Charles Brown.

A dance with Ed Hall and his orchestra will follow with a floor show featuring Harriet Boller, Norma Van Zant, Natalie Lingley, Dorothy Howard, Donald Edwards, Sharon Haput, Shirley McCord, Paula Hawkins, Jean Jerry, Ruth Stevenson, Betty Irick and Libby McDaniel. Mrs. Mary Lou Morey will be master of ceremonies.

Bug a Boo Inn at Rhodium will be in charge with Marjorie Shatto, Marvin Snodgrass, Esther Frye, Alvin Minton, Ray Cobb, Delores Brandt and Bob Hatfield on the committee. All proceeds will be given to the polio fund and all teenagers are invited.

**'Oldest Man' Dies**

DUBLIN, Jan. 18 (U. P.)—John Faherty of Renvyle Village, Eire, who died yesterday at the age of 112, was believed to be the oldest man in the British Isles. He attributed his long life to hard work and "an occasional drink."

The three brothers will picket, out the general strike to prevent or to agree to or to

Carl Muller of Labor presented the three labor agreements to the government.

The proposed misdeemeanor laws prevent or to

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