

Owned and published daily by Indianapolis Times Publishing Co., 214 N. Maryland St., Indianapolis 4, Ind. Member of United Press Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance. NEA Service and Audit Bureau of Circulation.

Price: In Marion County a cent a copy for daily and 10c for Sunday; delivered by carrier daily and Sunday 35c a week, daily only 25c Sunday only 10c. All rates in Indiana daily and Sunday \$10.00 a year, daily \$5.00 a year, Sunday only \$5.00; all other states, 10c a copy, Sunday 15c. Canada and Mexico daily \$1.10 a month, Sunday 15c a copy.

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Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way

Russell's Reversal

IT MUST have been a profound shock to many of his friends in Congress when Sen. Richard B. Russell of Georgia declared for repeal of the Taft-Hartley Law.

When this bill was before Congress, Sen. Russell not only voted for it, but also voted to pass the bill over President Truman's veto. Now, as an aspirant for the Democratic presidential nomination, the Georgian has reversed himself.

But before we condemn the Senator, let us examine his position.

Dick Russell is one of the most respected and influential members of the Senate. He was born a Democrat, as most Georgians are. He has remained a Democrat, as most Georgians do. But during the 31 years he has been in public life, the national party gradually changed its character, if the party in Georgia and the rest of the South did not.

When the national party emerged as a farmer-labor party, with socialistic undertones, Sen. Russell accepted the farmer part of it in good grace because his is an agricultural state. Now, seeking to lead the party as a whole, he seems to be going the rest of the way. His new position on the Taft-Hartley Law is not, however, as inconsistent as it may appear.

HE FEELS that the five years of operation of the act have demonstrated many weaknesses and inequities. "We have learned much since the passage of the Wagner Act and the Taft-Hartley Act," he said. "The first was weighted against management. The second is weighted against labor." So, he says, the act should be supplanted by new legislation to stabilize labor relations. There is nothing earth-shaking about this conclusion, since Sen. Taft himself admits there should be some changes in the law.

It would further clarify his position, however, if Sen. Russell would explain in more detail just what kind of a labor relations law he thinks we should have.

Sen. Russell's statement probably has made him more acceptable to middle-of-the-road Democrats. But it is not likely to appeal to those union bosses who want a law weighted in their favor. They will seek a rubber-stamp candidate and they know Dick Russell well enough to know that he doesn't fit those specifications.

Europe's "Dollar Gap"

THE fact that the current month saw the official end of the Marshall Plan probably escaped the notice of most Americans. Such was not the case in Britain and Western Europe, however.

Even persons who did not wish to see the system of subsidizing American exports made permanent are not sure what their countries are going to do, now that the program has terminated.

The Marshall Plan succeeded in lifting industrial production above prewar levels. It also brought about increased co-operation between nations participating in the program. But it failed to close what is known in Europe as the "dollar gap." And that gap is undermining Europe's whole economic structure.

"THE ECONOMIST," the London magazine, thinks it was false to assume that restoration of Europe to prewar levels would of itself restore the prewar balance and pattern in world trade. That balance had been precarious all through the Thirties, and the war years only hastened a trend observable for at least two decades—"the emergence of the United States as the great creditor nation in world trade."

When Britain held a similar position in the world, it did no harm to the international economy because crowded industrial Britain was compelled to seek abroad food and raw materials, markets for its manufactures and opportunities for its capital. But since the United States does none of these things to an adequate extent, American sales to Europe must be paid for in gold, instead of by the exchange of goods and services. We in our turn are burying the gold, instead of putting it back into circulation.

This poses a basic problem which has had too little attention at home or abroad.

IT IS EASY enough to say that we must buy as well as sell, if we wish to remain in the world market. It is not so easy to reform buying habits or to change the thinking steeped in the protective tariff doctrine. Yet these obstacles must be overcome if we are to escape commercial chaos.

Presently, something very like the Marshall subsidy program is operating under the guise of a defense measure, through economic assistance to the nations associated with us in the rearmament effort. But however essential such aid may be, when the end results are considered, it is at once a stop-gap and a subterfuge which only postpones the day when we must face up to the basic problem.

Drastic adjustments must be made in Europe, as well as in the United States. Ways and means must be found for the free world to co-operate commercially, as well as politically and militarily, on a sound live-and-let-live basis.

The Olympics

THE dream of world brotherhood has taken quite a beating during the past few years, but it is revived this week with the opening of the Olympic Games, most ancient of international competitions.

The decision to hold them in Helsinki was made years ago. But as it turns out, that is probably the most appropriate site in the world. Little Finland's capital city is literally under the guns of Russia. Yet it has maintained its freedom and its democratic institutions with a courage that is an example to the free world.

It is encouraging to see athletes from Russia and its Communist satellites competing in the Olympics on friendly terms with their Western rivals.

As Americans, we wish the best of luck to our own athletes at Helsinki. Whether they win or lose, we know they will show by their sportsmanship that the desire for worldwide friendship lies deep in the hearts of the American people.

GERM WARFARE . . . By Ludwell Denny

Chinese Reds Setting New Trap For Allies

WASHINGTON, July 19—Stalin's Red China puppets have prepared another boobytrap for the Allies. Secretary of State Dean Acheson is properly suspicious of it.

Just how the Reds will try to use the trap is not entirely clear from the Peiping radio broadcasts, which are the only descriptions available of it so far. According to those two broadcasts, Foreign Minister Chou En-lai announced that Red China is ready to recognize the old Geneva agreements banning germ warfare and protecting war prisoners, but with certain reservations.

This trick could be used for any or all of the following purposes:

ONE—As a simple propaganda device to put new plausibility into the smear campaign which

Stalin has been waging against the United States, in the United Nations and elsewhere, on the germ warfare and prisoners issues. That campaign of lies is definitely lagging, and needs something fresh to pep it up.

TWO—To fool some of the "neutrals"—like India—who originally gave the Reds the benefit of the doubt in Korea, but who are now getting restive. The alleged evidence of American brutality in Korea, which the Reds have shown to the neutrals in Peiping, has not been convincing. And Peiping's refusal to let the International Red Cross investigate, as demanded by Washington, is beginning to smelt so much that the neutrals can't take it.

THREE—As a face-saving move to get a rigged Korean truce out of the present deadlock.

FOUR—If that fails, then as a razzle-dazzle to cover preparation for a new military offensive and later as justification of that aggression.

While we must await developments to see precisely how the trap is used, it is already clear that Stalin's man Chou is not acting in good faith.

One proof, as Secretary Acheson recalls, is that the Reds made a similar promise early in the war. They said they would live up to the Geneva rules for prisoners of war. Of course they have not done so.

If they had a change of heart, that would show first in deeds rather than in more words.

Among their outlaw practices are: Refusal to allow international inspection of their prison camps; failure to publish periodic prisoner lists

of those of the sick and wounded; refusal to mark prison camps so they may escape destruction, and in the neglect and inhuman treatment of prisoners.

Further proof of trickery is in Chou's reservations. These largely nullify the Geneva requirements which he says he is willing to accept.

His first reservation would allow him to substitute a pro-Stalin "neutral" agency for the International Red Cross. His second reservation could make the United States liable under his trumped-up charges. And his third reservation would exclude from Geneva benefits all prisoners convicted of war crimes by the Red terror called courts.

Allied acceptance of such conditions not only would perpetuate but exonerate Red barbarism.

DEMOCRATS . . . By Paul R. Leach

Truman May Run the Show

CHICAGO, July 19—White House conferences may go far to decide what happens in next week's Democratic National Convention.

Sen. Kerr of Oklahoma, who blandly regards himself as a 5th or 6th ballot winner of the presidential nomination, was trying to see Mr. Truman Tuesday in Washington to find out whom the President will support.

Other candidates, in person or through trusted agents, are doing likewise. Meanwhile, Democratic National Chairman Frank McKinney is no further from the oval office that looks out toward the Washington Monument than the direct telephone line on his Conrad Hilton desk.

He could be the medium of transmitting the President's wishes.

The whole field of avowed candidates wants very much to know the answers to these three questions:

Will Mr. Truman change his mind and accept a draft?

Will Gov. Stevenson of Illinois, now that the Republicans have nominated Gen. Eisenhower, agree to accept a draft nomination?

Who is Mr. Truman for anyhow?

Sen. Kerr tried Monday to see the President. He was told all appointments were canceled because "some sort of virus" had attacked the chief executive.

Back to Washington

SO THE 6-FOOT, 3-inch, 220-pound, 55-year-old Oklahoma oil millionaire flew to Chicago for a hastily called press conference.

Thus he got under the wire as the first of the nomination aspirants to do that. Thereupon he made reservations to fly back to Washington, hoping those viruses would allow the President to see him.

Did he agree, he was asked, with Sen. Ed Johnson of Colorado, manager of Sen. Russell's campaign, that 74-year-old Vice President Alben Barkley is the man to beat?

Well, Sen. Kerr drawled, he figured there were four men to beat.

As he sees it, Sen. Russell and Sen. Kefauver will be the leaders on the first roll call. There won't be much to choose between Averell Harriman, Mutual Security Administrator and the Veep for second rank.

Sen. Kerr said he would be the leader on the final ballot. He said he'd have at least 150 votes on the first call. Sen. Sparkman, Alabama, figures Sen. Russell will lead with about 300.

"What do you want to talk to Mr. Truman about?" Sen. Kerr was asked.

"Well," he grinned, "he's a delegate from Missouri. I've been seeing many delegates in the last 10 weeks and I don't want him to think I'm slighting him."

'One of Three Things'

THE OKLAHOMAN said "The President will do one of three things . . . let the convention take its normal course, exert some influence or exert quite a lot of influence."

"Who is Mr. Truman for?" he was asked.

"If I find out before you do maybe I'll tell you. He's not against me so far as I know."

The Oklahoman put his finger on one of the puzzles of the convention—where the majority of delegates listed as unpledged are going, especially the big city vote.

That vote is supposed to be anti-Kefauver because the crime buster "looked too closely into some big city machines."

And the North is not whooping it up for Sen. Russell.

Sen. Kerr said he is going to get votes from Pennsylvania and Illinois, votes from as far northwest as Washington and as far northeast as Maine.

No Boss Control

"OUTSIDE of Mr. Truman who will have the most influence?" a reporter asked.

"No one man or any 10 men are going to control this convention. No convention in my time will see the individual delegates playing so important a role as they will in this one," he said.

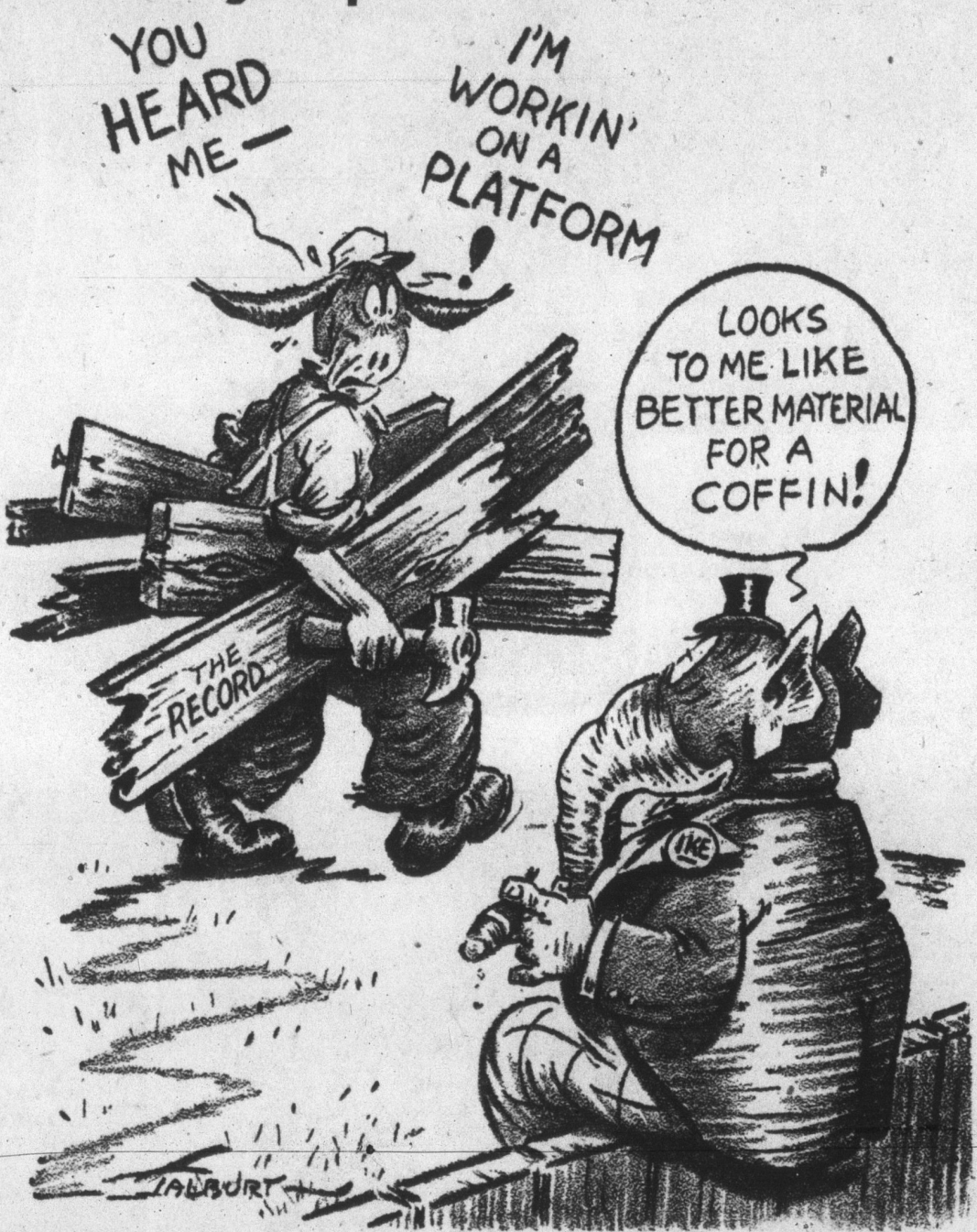
As for the GOP foreign affairs plank, Sen. Kerr said it was a mystery to him how Sen. Taft and Gen. Eisenhower could advocate exactly opposite policies "and then when someone drafted a plank both said they agreed on it."

Asked if he had picked his running mate, he replied:

"If those delegates nominate me, I will be so convinced of their common sense and good judgment that I'll be willing to accept their vice-presidential nominee."

He said he had not got to the point of considering himself for second place.

He's a Big Help



POLITICS . . . By Andrew Tully

Gov. Paul Dever Is Massachusetts' 'Favorite Son'

WASHINGTON, July 19—The legend is that a Boston dowager expressed surprise, the day after the 1948 election, to discover that Paul A. Dever had been elected Governor of Massachusetts.

"Mr. Dever?" she asked her husband, "do we know him?"

"No dear," replied her husband sadly, "but all the Murphys do."

That pretty well summed up the political appeal of the man to keynote next week's Democratic Convention. Paul Dever's successes during 24 years in politics have been due primarily to his ability to persuade the Murphys and the Smiths—and an occasional Lowell—that he is a good guy.

Terms like "Champions of the Underdog" come easily to Paul Dever's lips and he has, in fact, fought many a battle for the so-called plain people. But his biggest asset has been his own personality—one of the most politically fortunate in the country.

'A Big Grin'

GOV. DEVER is a large, well-groomed man of 49 with a big grin, a hearty handshake and an enormous store of good cheer. There is an attractive air of laziness about his movements;

"WHEN WE'RE ILL"

When we are ill the world seems dark . . . and skies above are gray . . . and though we try somehow it seems . . . like nothing makes us gay . . . we're almost always prone to look . . . upon the darker side . . . for when our bones are aching . . . the pain is hard to hide . . . for sickness is just like a mask . . . that shuts out good and cheer . . . and that is why . . . when we are sick . . . our joys are cloaked with fear . . . now I don't know what I can say . . . that might make aches seem light . . . except to say keep smiling and . . . all things will come out right.

—By Ben Burroughs.

Fought Loan Sharks

MR. DEVER went on to a succession of crusades in behalf of "the little fellow"—against what he called "widow-robbing" bucket shop loan sharks, fraudulent stock promotions and operators. He was re-elected in 1936 and again in 1938—and became the obvious Democratic gubernatorial candidate in 1940.

But Mr. Dever had grown fat and lazy. He confined his speech-making largely to radio, while homespun Leverett Saltonstall—now a U. S. Senator—personally canvassed the small towns. Mr. Dever ran ahead of the rest of

Comfortable Margin

TWO YEARS LATER, he unseated the Republican incumbent, Robert F. Bradford, by a plurality of nearly 380,000 votes. He was re-elected in 1950 by a margin almost as comfortable.

Today, still an amiable bachelor, Gov. Dever is Massachusetts' favorite son candidate, with 36 votes. Conceivably, he could emerge as a dark horse nominee. But Gov. Dever himself admits to a more modest goal. His lifetime ambition, he says, is to be U. S. Attorney General.

What Others Say—

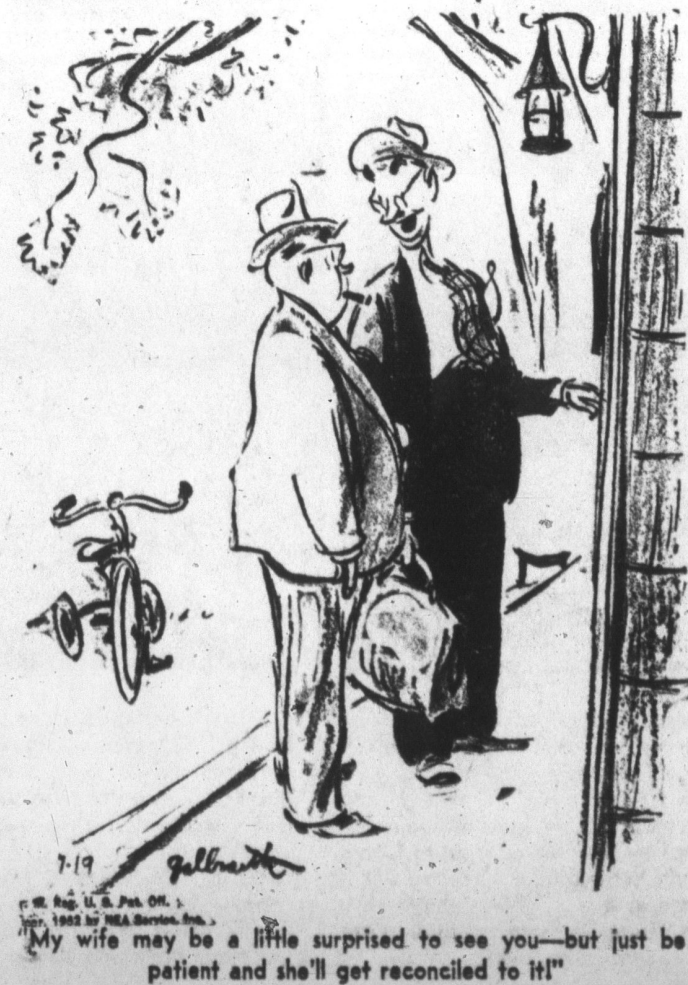
IF ELECTED PRESIDENT I will lead the nation in a campaign to eliminate the evils of drink, the use of tobacco in human consumption and the obsessions of gambling. Church of God Bishop Homer Tomlinson, Nashville, Tenn.

WE'RE STILL got more speed up my sleeve. We were just cruising—Com. Harry Manning, as the SS United States set the Atlantic speed record.

THIS (Newport, Ark.) happens to be the first whistle stop of 1952. There are going to be a lot more of them.—President Truman.

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



COMEBACK POSSIBLE . . . By Peter Edson

Republican Old Guard Is Down But Not Out

CHICAGO, July 19—The Republican Old Guard, licking its wounds after the battle of the stockyards amphitheater, is also counting its numbers.

A careful muster made by Republican Party experts in a position to know its inner workings, comes up unofficially with an estimate that the Old Guard is still a powerful factor. It is down, but not out.

The best place to measure this strength is said to be on the new Republican National Committee. It is now made up of 138 members. It is divided roughly as 75 Eisenhower Republicans and 63 Taft Republicans, for lack of better classifications.

THIS COUNT may not be absolutely accurate. It was not made on the basis of an actual poll of the National Committee members. It represents a check on their known sympathies and the voting record of their state delegations in the recent Chicago convention.

The Old National Committee was made up of two members—a man and a woman—from each of the 48 states, the District of Columbia and the four

territories—Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands. Total membership, 108.

To this have now been added the 32 Republican state chairmen from the 32 states that have Republican governors and/or a majority of their congressional delegations made up of Republicans.

THIRTY-SIX members of the old National Committee retired or failed to win re-election by their state organizations. To say that the 36 new members who replaced them, plus the 32 new state chairmen represent the Eisenhower strength on the National Committee does not present the whole picture.

Some of the old members who stayed on the scene include Ezra Whitia of Idaho, Harry Sommers of Georgia, Werner Schroeder of Illinois, Mrs. Bertha D. Bauer of Illinois, Harrison Spangler of Iowa, Jacob France of Maryland and Ralph Calk of Oregon.

There still remains on the Republican National Committee a hard core of over 50 veterans of the Old Guard. They have stood their ground firmly and faithfully—most of them for a good many of the 20 long and lean years the GOP has been out of power in

been counted in the Taft ranks. The breakdown on these 32 state chairmen is roughly 20 for Eisenhower, 12 for the Old Guard.

The 36 retiring members of the National Committee are, however, largely from the Old Guard ranks.

Four members of the old executive committee, all from the Old Guard, won't be around any more. They are: James F. Dewey of Vermont, John E. Jackson of Louisiana, Cyrus L. Phillips of Wisconsin and Mrs. Charles S. Hickman of Iowa.

OTHER OLD GUARDERS retired from the scene include such party wheedlows as Ezra Whitia of Idaho, Harry Sommers of Georgia, Werner Schroeder of Illinois, Mrs. Bertha D. Bauer of Illinois, Harrison Spangler of Iowa, Jacob France of Maryland and Ralph Calk of Oregon.

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Washington.

Barbs—

WE PREDICT that if all the polls are correct, everybody running for office this fall will be elected.

WHEN YOUR smiles spread sunshine to your friends, they'll likely warm up to you.

IT WOULD be interesting to know how many acres of skin will be scratched by vacationists this summer.