

Washington Digest

President Maintains New Deal Policies

Year-End Check Shows Some Change of Faces But Not of Any Principles; FDR Intimates Remain in High Posts.

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Sufficient time has elapsed since President Truman went into the White House to warrant a year-end inventory of his reconstituted federal setup, and the result adds up to many changes in personalities, but little switch of fundamental policies.

In its numerical aspect, the changes wrought by the President suggest more of a shakeup than actually has taken place, for there still are many intimates of FDR in high positions, some of them promoted by Mr. Truman.

James F. Byrnes, secretary of state and top man in the Truman cabinet, was lifted out of the relative obscurity of a "career senator" from the southland by Mr. Roosevelt. He came within reach of his present eminence under the guidance of the late President, who appointed him to the United States Supreme court, made him war mobilizer and economic stabilizer, and took him to international conferences which built him to the point where he was a "natural" for the state portfolio when Edward R. Stettinius Jr. was moved out by political party considerations. Byrnes was schooled in the Roosevelt ways and he continues along those paths.

Henry Morgenthau probably would have remained as secretary of treasury had the President who appointed him lived on. But while he was more a personal friend, he was less a political associate of Mr. Roosevelt than was Fred Vinson, the present secretary. And again, it was FDR who brought Vinson to the forefront—made him a federal judge, then took him into the White House to share Byrnes' multiple functions and burdens. He had little more than a passing acquaintance with Truman and his present post was a promotion for a "Roosevelt man."

Robert E. Hannegan, postmaster general, was slated for that office before Mr. Roosevelt passed away. It is political custom to award that plum to the winning party's national committee chairman, whether the Democrats or the Republicans win.

Robert Patterson, secretary of war, came in during the Roosevelt administration as assistant to Henry L. Stimson, creating a team of Republicans in the top spots of the department. He was advanced by President Truman when Mr. Stimson retired, although there were strong representations made to the White House on behalf of other candidates, practically all of them Democrats.

Original Roosevelt cabinet members retained by Mr. Truman are James V. Forrestal in navy, Henry A. Wallace in commerce, and Harold L. Ickes in interior.

Anderson Took Off 'Heat' on Food

Clinton P. Anderson, the secretary of agriculture, won White House entree during Roosevelt days by taking the heat off the administration with a food investigation. Labor Secretary Lewis B. Schwellenbach has been described as "more New Deal than Roosevelt."

Continuing, it was President Roosevelt who brought Tom C. Clark, the present attorney general, into government service, placing him in line for the advancement which Mr. Truman gave him. Paul V. McNutt, who left recently to become high commissioner in the Philippine islands, was originally a Roosevelt appointee.

Even in the intimate surroundings of the White House will be found several "hold-overs," notably scholarly William D. Hassett, a presidential secretary whose typewriter has turned out many of the lyrical speeches delivered by the late President, and whose skill can be detected by Washington newsmen in Mr. Truman's more formal addresses.

J. A. Krug remained at the head of the War Production board until it went out of existence, although the new President was often critical of WPB when he was presiding over the senate committee which bore his name.

Almost every move made by Mr. Truman in organizing his official family had underlying it a record of Roosevelt association. There has been only one notable discernible

departure from the administrative status quo so far as fundamentals go, and that was the appointment of John W. Snyder as chief of the office of war mobilization and reconversion. Snyder was a friend and military buddy of the President for a quarter of a century. But Washington hears that the OWMR director is being sidetracked, that the President is taking counsel with Secretary Vinson on subjects that rightly fall into Snyder's bailiwick and that a resignation has been offered.

There is nothing in the Truman appointments to indicate whether the President is turning to the right or the left of center—using FDR as "center." Mr. Truman is franker than most public figures and commentators — he says he frankly doesn't know what "center" is, imagines he's about the same as his late chief.

Opinion is growing in the capital that the government is "reconverting" too rapidly and that the force of speed without direction will have harmful results.

Except for a few generalized thrusts, the White House has shown no disposition to come to grips with the wage-price dilemma, hasn't attempted to develop a comprehensive program to eliminate the element of chance, and, in the opinion of critical congressmen, is simply trusting that things somehow will work out all right in the end if left to their own devices.

There is a striking example of the haphazard system which has been followed, and that is the retention of OPA while permitting the National War Labor board to go virtually out of existence. WLB exercised a fair degree of control over wage and salary levels, and with wages the largest single item of production costs, there is today no agency effectively operating in that field. Both management and labor agree the President's radioed speech on the subject clarified almost nothing. The result has been to cut the ground from beneath OPA in its efforts to maintain price ceilings.

Another example is the War Production board, which was permitted to go out of existence on November 3. Odds and ends fell to the newly created Civilian Production administration, but there is today no raw materials allocation plan and efforts are being made to create out of export licensing a means by which domestic industry might have its needs fulfilled. The theory is that refusal of export licenses for needed civilian materials will back those commodities onto the market here. But its effort upon restoration of foreign trade is making congress unhappy.

There still are agencies in Washington "winding up" the business of World War I, and it seems entirely possible that history will repeat after World War II is officially over. That day will be fixed by President Truman unless he carries too long and congress steps in to do the job. Dissolution of the Office of War Information may supply an insight into what happens when bureaus which came into existence since Pearl Harbor cease to exist. Except for changes in the top positions and discarding of the domestic branch, which always was a minor part of the operation, OWI seems to be a very live corpse.

Blanketed into the state department may be upwards of 5,000 OWI payrollers. They will continue, and expand, a worldwide plan of information dedicated to the purpose of teaching other nations more about this country, its people, their aspirations, their accomplishments. About 2,000 more have gone into the bureau of the budget to continue their present assignment, which is publication of the United States government manual. Closing of the domestic branch actually affected fewer than 200 jobs in Washington.

Larger, actually, than OWI's foreign branch will be the informational office of the state department, for it will include also the public relations section of the office of coordinator of Inter-American affairs, which beams its material to points south of the Rio Grande and which heretofore functioned independently of OWI.



Nitrogen Lack Shows In Farm Crop Colors

Pale Green Often Means Low Protein Content

The culprit responsible for the pale green color and spindly growth of many pastures and fields of small grains last spring was lack of nitrogen, according to W. H. Pierre, head of the agronomy department of Iowa State college.



Corn shows nitrogen application.

And nitrogen deficiency was also to blame for the "firing" or drying up of the lower leaves of corn in many other midwestern fields, Dr. Pierre asserted.

"Nitrogen is the plant food element that gives crops their normal, dark-green color and their fresh appearance," he declared. "Without enough nitrogen, plants become pale green and spindly. In corn when nitrogen hunger develops about mid-summer, the older or lower leaves of the plant turn yellow near the midrib and may gradually die."

"Farmers sometimes mistake nitrogen-hunger signs in corn for drought injury. Where small grains and grasses are concerned, a lack of nitrogen not only results in pale-green color but later maturity and lower yields."

"One of the other serious effects of nitrogen deficiency is a low protein content in crops, for proteins cannot be formed without nitrogen. This has an adverse effect in meat and dairy cattle raising, for low protein crops have a low feeding value."

Dr. Pierre pointed out that there are three ways in which nitrogen can be added to the soils so that crop needs can be met. One is through the growth of legumes, another is through the use of manures and crop residues and the third is through the use of fertilizers containing nitrogen.

Humidity for Storage Apples Is Important

The successful storage of apples depends on the ability of the individual to read the danger signs. When apples show signs of wilting or shriveling, it is an indication that the surrounding atmosphere or humidity is low, according to Purdue university. The dry air is absorbing the moisture from the produce, thus the apple shrinks.

Sprouting and rotting results from warm and moist temperatures and lack of proper ventilation. Containers should be open and kept off the floor and away from the wall. Apples should be stored at 34 to 38 degrees and 75 to 80 per cent humidity. Ventilation, sound produce, proper temperature and humidity are essential.

New in Machinery Hole Digger



Jeep serves as post hole digger.

The new improved Jeep, adapted for peacetime work, combines the four basic functions of tractor, light truck, mobile power unit and passenger conveyance.

Among the many and various farm applications is its use as a post-hole digger as shown in illustration above.

Aluminum on Farms

Aluminum paint, which because of its high radial heat reflectivity gives dual service as a long wearing surface preserver and a temperature reducer, has long been used widely on farm property. Among the newer developments are portable aluminum chicken coops, non-rusting aluminum fencing and screen wire.

For the dairy, such aluminum items as milk pails, separator parts, waterers, milk vats, ice trays and milk tanks are now being made.

Fabulous Fur Hats Add New Note Of Luxury to Winter Costumes

By CHEREE NICHOLAS



EXCITING, enchanting flatterers! That's what the new fur hats are, and nothing less! One marvels at the artistry in furcraft and millinery design expressed in the eye-catching fur headwear which is tuning so dramatically to the present winter scene.

Even the most extravagant adjectives could scarce do justice to these masterpieces milliners are turning out this season. However, since pictures often speak louder than words, we are showing a group of choice new hats which speak for themselves to the latest trends in sumptuous fur millinery.

Note above to the right a stunning toque. This handsome hat, which has a dash all its own, is of soft brown beaver combined with pale beige tweed. The fur is softly folded over in front in a manner best speaking striking individuality and style distinction. Ideal for wearing with a coat of matching beaver, or with a smart beaver muff!

A towering toque of black Persian lamb by Jeanne Tete is shown to the left above. A dashing bow of wide blue satin-ribbon accents the tall vertical line. This hat will look charming with a coat of matching fur or worn with a black cloth wool suit trimmed with Persian lamb.

The tall turban below to the left is sleekly molded of black felt. A swath of luxurious silver fox across the top of the crown adds height and softness to the silhouette. Wear this chic chapeau with a handsome silver fox stole for style distinction.

A swank halo breton is pictured below to the right. It has a bulky brim of glossy black Persian lamb. Most unique, and sounding the glitter note is the open mesh crown. A dazzling medallion of pearls and

colored "jewels" accents the tip of the crown.

Centered in the group is an elegant off-face mink hat of Russian inspiration, presented at a showing by the New York Millinery Designers league. It is fashioned with an open crown to accommodate a fashionable up-sweep hair-dress. These new fur halo brims sans crowns are the "last word" in millinery chic. Here the a la Russe "czarina" halo is lined with Persian printed taffeta, highlighted with sequins, and it has wide taffeta streamers at the back.

It's good to know that the season's collection of fur hats include charming little pillbox types, also calots and simple styles in furs to match one's coat, neckpiece or muff. They are priced most reasonably. Better still, if you happen to have a swath of fur or perhaps a scarf or muff which has outlived its usefulness, take it to your furrier or milliner and have it made into a modish fur halo or hat. You can have this done at comparatively little cost, considering the returns it brings in way of a stunning new hat. Be sure to save the scraps for a fur corsage bow, which, together with your nifty chapeau, will give you a charming ensemble that will look smart with many a costume. A big vogue is on for white fur hats with matching neckpiece or muff. Thrilling are the cunning sets of hat and muff made up in the sporty spotted furs, either ocelot or leopard.

If you have some leftovers of fur after the hat is made, perhaps you could induce your furrier to piece them together for a smart pouch handbag with drawstring top. This would be ever so chic.

Released by Western Newspaper Union.

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Chap at dance—Yes, I love dancing. Guess it's in my blood. Hostess—Then you must have had circulation. It hasn't gotten to your feet yet.

Foul Deed
"Who're you looking for?" asked the chairman of the concert.
"A guy named Schubert," replied the village constable. "Somebody phoned me he was being murdered here."

Some political oratorical timber is just plain bark.

Here, Kitty
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Mr.—Feel there is a cat there, too, my love, and go to sleep.

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Chic Daytime Dress



Here's a grand office-to-date gown that will always rank its wearer among the best-dressed. It is in a charming soft violet basket-weave rayon crepe. Notice how beautifully it is styled with an unusual neckline, big pockets and the new round-shoulders with stitched-on self-fabric border about all the edges. It takes on added significance in that the crepe that makes it bears a label of quality guarantee. Which is why you can wear it at the office or for dress-up. It can be depended upon to give perfect service and it dry-cleans to perfection.

Exotic Decor on New Lounging Slippers

And now it's lounging slippers that are going all out for glamour and novelty. It's new vogue this winter to wear fanciful and unique types made ornate with beadwork, embroidery, sometimes studded with colorful stones, and other exotic decor. Such are the gay Tyrolean scuffs platformed, cushiony, colorful and lavishly embroidered. Less pretentious, but just as eye-appealing, are hand-woven wedges from Mexico, made of fabric. A noted designer creates a luxurious felt slipper with a bright contrasting satin lining and a huge felt rose on the instep. The popular ballet slipper comes in plaid and colors as well as black. Alaskan Indian boots of white reindeer skin are colorfully lined and are trimmed with hand-worked beaded flowers. Fine soft kidkin slippers built for comfort are good-looking and give excellent service.

Satin Dress First Choice Of Fashion-Wise Women

Satin dresses are in the limelight now and their importance will hold good throughout the midwinter season. It's satin in the evening and it's satin for daytime wear that is a first choice among women who know their fashions. Of course, black and brown satins come first, but the real sensation is the rich beautiful colors that are seen in the satin style parade. At fashionable gatherings the scene is made colorful with stunning satin gowns in such delectable colors as a dark subdued sapphire blue or perhaps a deep plum shade or a bronzy beetle green. The color that is newest is a radiant copper shade that makes up beautifully and is ever so flattering with mink fur. Deep pewter gray is another new color for satin.

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BARBS... by Baukhage

The British tried paying a head bounty for every rat killed in rat-ridden Hong Kong. They gave it up... the enterprising Chinese started rat breeding farms to make more money.

The Japanese women's federation suggests that every Japanese woman give up her kimono to raise funds for food imports. Strip for warmth.

It is the boast of the Koreans that it was through them that Chinese culture reached the Japanese and led them out of the Dark ages. The Japanese idea of repayment was to return the Dark ages to Korea.

Faver Castle in Nuernberg was "modernized" by a rich wife. Now, during the Nuernberg trials, 200 guests share the three bathrooms.