

POLITICAL SCOREBOARD

Truman's Popularity Declines Some, Recent Tabulation Shows

By GEORGE GALLUP Director, American Institute of Public Opinion PRINCETON, N. J., July 10 — President Truman's general popularity with the voters has declined in the last two weeks.

But the drop from May has not been sharp. In late May 57 per cent of the nation's voters polled by the institute approved of the way Mr. Truman was handling his job as president.

Today, 54 per cent say they approved, while 33 per cent disapprove and the rest express no opinion.

Thus, one year before the 1948 national conventions, Mr. Truman in spite of his troubles with Congress continues to enjoy substantial support from the people.

Two powerful voting blocs account for a large part of his popularity and for the general strength of the Democratic party — labor union members and farmers. Among these two groups Mr. Truman's popularity is greater than among any other major groups in the population.

The President went to bat for organized labor by vetoing the Taft-Hartley act, expressing his opposition in vigorous language. Today's survey, which gives full reflection to the post-veto mood of organized labor, finds that as compared to May the President has held his own with this group, and anything has gained a little.

In the case of farmers, the long period of farm prosperity undoubtedly has a great deal to do with the present popularity of the head of the Administration in power.

During his two years in office, Mr. Truman has had rises and falls of popularity that resemble a ride on a roller coaster. Starting in July, 1945 from the dizzying height of 87 per cent — higher than Franklin D. Roosevelt ever polled — he plummeted to 32 per cent in the short space of 15 months.

That low point coincided with the meat shortage of the summer and autumn of 1946, confusion over O.P.A. and over foreign policy.

Then early in 1947 the President's popularity began to turn upward, partly as the result of his handling of John L. Lewis and of the new firmness with Russia. The rise continued through March, when the line again turned downward, sliding to the present 54 per cent.

The trend follows: "Do you approve or disapprove of the way Mr. Truman is handling his job as President?"

Table with columns: Ap-prove, Dis-ap-prove, No Opin-ion. Rows: July, 1945; Nov., 1945; Feb., 1946; July; Oct.; Jan., 1947; Feb.; Mar.; May; TODAY.

MR. TRUMAN'S popularity (1) nationally, (2) among union members and (3) among farmers is shown above, based on findings of the latest Gallup Poll. The poll was conducted after the Taft-Hartley veto.

Self-sealing gasoline tanks are underlined with a special material that expands and closes a hole when gasoline seeps into it.

Through An Error In Yesterday's Editions WILLIAMS DRY CLEANERS Address Was Incorrectly Listed! The Correct Address Is 808 S. 17th. St.

ANNOUNCING THE OPENING WHITEVILLE AUTO AUCTION LOCATED AT SOUTH WHITEVILLE HIGHWAY 701—WHITEVILLE, N. C. FIRST SALE MONDAY JULY 14 --- 12 O'CLOCK PLEASE PARKING SPACESALES FEE \$5.00—AM LUNCH COUNTER Call Tel. 2571, Whiteville For Reservation Owned And Operated By A. W. BALDWIN—WHITEVILLE, N. C. C. W. MILLS & SON BENNETSVILLE, S. C.

Matter Of Fact

By Joseph And Stewart Alsop

Dragons Are Old-Fashioned WASHINGTON, July 10 — The great flying disk scare is a curious commentary on our times. Even until ten years ago, the ancient nightmares—dragons, sea serpents and their relatives—served very well.

The trouble is that the man-made horrors are quite real, quite imminent possibilities. And so the scare of the flying disks raises a perfectly serious question.

Most people assume that this question takes the rather simple form: "How shall we know when the Soviets have an atomic bomb?" Oddly enough, there is a way of learning of the explosion of an atomic bomb, even in the distant fastness of Siberia.

As every one knows, the explosion of an atomic bomb releases a gigantic cloud of radio-active particles, which mushrooms upward into the stratosphere. Here, in the calmer upper air, the radio-active cloud remains for some time, until it is gradually dissipated or precipitated.

Expert, although unofficial, opinion gives these remarkable facts a simple meaning. A really adequate net of watching stations, designed to detect the presence of a radio-active cloud in any latitude, will announce the explosion of an atomic bomb anywhere on earth.

NEW HANOVER GIRL TO COMPETE IN 4-H CONTEST ON JULY 24

Eulaila Hewlett, winner in the New Hanover county 4-H health contest, will participate in the District review which is to be held in Goldsboro on July 24.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. Hewlett of the Oak Hill community, Eulaila will compete with 19 other county winners for the Southeastern district title.

Tintoretto, one of the greatest painters of the Venetian school, was named Jacopo Robusti, Tintoretto was a nickname, "little dyer," because of his father's occupation.

SHOOTS HIMSELF

LENOIR, July 9—(UP)—Police today reported that a 50-year-old restaurateur borrowed an officer's revolver "to scare the cook," and shot himself fatally in the yard of the cafe.

STETSON HATS Gibson's Haberdashery North Front Street SEE KAMER AND SEE BETTER Eyes Examined, Glasses Fitted DR. W. A. KAMER Optometrist Bulluck Building

Dulany QUICK-FROZEN FRUITS • VEGETABLES • SEA FOOD • POULTRY A complete line of FRESH FROZEN FOODS under the one DULANY LABEL—assuring you the highest quality Frozen Foods—are available in this area at the following stores:

THE FIRST TASTE TELLS YOU IT'S GOOD TO THE LAST DROP! TRUST MAXWELL HOUSE to make a better INSTANT COFFEE!

1. It has the true coffee flavor and true coffee aroma you've looked for in instant coffees. 2. It's the world's most popular blend of coffee! 3. It's produced by coffee experts who have made coffee their sole profession for more than half a century... Thrift Tip! You'll find that a jar of Instant Maxwell House makes fully as much as a pound of regular coffee.