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INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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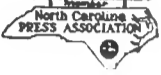
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THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 1945



President Truman

The American people have the confidence to believe that our new president, Harry S. Truman, is an able man, else he could not have succeeded in election to the second highest office in the land.

However, in succeeding President Roosevelt, for more than 12 years chief executive and with wide knowledge of world affairs, President Truman stepped into tremendous responsibilities.

His first public utterances to the people of this country and the world were contained in a brief policy address Monday before the Congress of the United States. People everywhere listened eagerly in order to size up the man who is destined to have such a powerful place in national and international affairs during the critical period ahead.

What they heard was a straight-forward address, containing commitments to the course American people everywhere are fighting for. There was nothing in his address to cause any disunity, but on the other hand was calculated to unite the American people as never before.

The people of America today feel better because of what his address contained, and better still for what it did not contain. There was nothing in his address to cause disagreement or strike among the American people or those of other allied nations.

Because of the striking sincerity so apparent, we quote here the concluding remarks in his address to Congress:

"We have learned to fight with other nations in common defense of our freedom. We must now learn to live with other nations for our mutual good. We must learn to trade more with other nations so that there may be—for our mutual advantage—increased production, increased employment and better standards of living throughout the world.

"May we Americans live up to our glorious heritage.

"In that way, America may well lead

the world to peace and prosperity.

"At this moment, I have in my heart a prayer. As I assume my heavy duties, humbly pray to Almighty God, in the words of Solomon:

"Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great people?"

I ask only to be a good and faithful servant of my Lord and my people."

Thumb Screws On Liberty

How often the complaint is heard that the main trouble with our wartime regulated way of living is that the present rule writers don't know what they are doing! The assumption is that if we had a sensible bunch of rule writers things would be different. Acting on this assumption, a lot of people are laying plans for a permanent regulated existence (with the right kind of regulation, of course). The CIO, for example, has come forth with a plan for the establishment of a national production council as a top governmental agency to direct reconversion and then to control the entire American economy through sub-councils for each industry. No new business could be started without the permission of the appropriate council. Prices and production would be controlled permanently.

Labor spokesmen are not alone in blindness to the fact that it is impossible in a nation the size of the United States to write rules which will at all times be fair to all people in all sections. Plenty of business men and farmers have complained bitterly at this or that rule and yet advocate perpetuation of the system generally. One group has proposed that processors and distributors be made agencies of government.

It might as well be said bluntly that these people, as long as they speak favorably of living under a centralized system of ruthless regulation, may as well shut up insofar as criticizing the inequalities. As long as they favor the system, they will have to suffer the inequities. They will also have to tolerate other things such as a permanently lowered standard of living, the gradual disappearance of competition, less progressive distribution and selling. Why should any merchant strain himself to do a better job than the merchant across the street when the businesses and profits of both are fixed by political decrees thousands of miles away? And lastly, these people will have to submit to the inexorable extension of the rules until their very political liberty is squeezed to death.

These are but a few of the things that a nation may look forward to when, through fear of unemployment, inflation or some other bogey, it abandons the safeguards of freedom in favor of humiliating restrictions that have no higher goal than a specified level of material comfort for a specified number of people.

WAR AGAINST CANCER TAKES GOOD TURN DESPITE RISING DEATH RATE

New York—Eighteen million Americans now alive—one out of every eight—are doomed to die of cancer at the present rate, Fortune magazine points out.

Yet, despite the fact that the cancer death rate has been going up year by year, Fortune finds a "changed and encouraged outlook" on the part of scientists. This article, "Cancer: Notes of Hope," follows by eight years Fortune's first report on the subject, "Cancer: The Great Darkness," for which the magazine was awarded the medal of the American Cancer Society's New York committee in 1937.

Today, says Fortune, new research foreshadows "the first original cancer-control principle since a frightened Egyptian doctor had the notion, about three thousand years ago, of burning out the cancer cells.

"The new principle: to prevent or reverse abnormal cell growth by feeding or injection.

"Such a development might entirely eliminate surgery and radiation as cancer treatment, routing cancer as easily as penicillin routs hosts of bacteria and sulfa drugs rout pneumonia. True, such cancer magic (or science) is in the future, a future to be reached, if at all, only after the organized, rational expenditure of millions of dollars and the energies of the best scientific brains the race can muster.

"This month the American Cancer Society launches its first decently ambitious money-raising drive. Eric Johnston heads it, and will try to get from the American public five million dollars for education, prevention and research.

"For polio research, about \$500 per polio death becomes available," Fortune points out. "For cancer, not more than \$5. What is needed is emphatically not a cut in polio funds, but an increase in cancer-research funds. But that is not enough.

"Cancer research, like much other medical research, is badly organized. Too many well-intentioned donors make grants with some hopefulness but little plan. Projects struggle to get started, lose support, bear no fruit. Most operations in the war against cancer are brave sorties crippled by lack of rational strategy as well as by supply defects."

But there are signs of improved organization, Fortune adds. "Last fall scientists and doctors interested in cancer-genetics research laid down a program of voluntary co-ordination to be developed under a national committee. When such a committee gets going, any good scientist planning research in cancer genetics, whether on public or private funds, will want to have its encouragement and guidance."

One reason for the rising cancer death rate, Fortune explains, is that more and more people every year are saved from other diseases by serums, plasma, sulfa, penicillin—only to die of cancer on reaching middle age. On the other hand, early detection is playing its part in the cancer war:

"If treatment is delayed, chances of cancer cure are as low as one in ten. But cure begun early enough may in some types run up to 75 percent. In the last half century the percentage of recoveries in some types has risen

to a level earlier undreamed of. In not too long it should rise even higher, if only as a result of the detection clinics, of which there are now only about ten.

"To these clinics come many persons who think themselves in perfect health but who have the good sense to seek periodic check-up. Among the ostensibly healthy who come to the Strang clinics in New York City 1.5 percent have cancer.

"Treatment continues to rely, as it has for centuries, on elimination of diseased tissue by removal or destruction—radiation, with the new one-million volt precision violet energy, backed up by plasma, penicillin and the sulfa drugs. Yet even after the best of treatment some cancers recur."

The current scene in the real cancer drama is laid in the laboratory, where scientists are looking for "cancerogens" (agents which cause cancer, such as certain tars, organic dyes and oils, and arsenic), in the hope that learning how to cause cancer may teach them how to prevent it.

"Scientists have now identified 284 cancerogens—including a whole group of substances related to tar that are extremely potent producers of cancer in rodents," Fortune reports. "And all in this group share one molecular base. Strangely enough, this molecular structure is also basic to such substances as the female sex hormones and the male sex hormones.

"Some laboratories are investigating heavily in hormone research. The notion is that perhaps in the body's manufacture of hormones something may go wrong. Then what are produced may be not proper hormones but others so closely related as to affect the growth of the very tissues affected by proper hormones."

Another attack is being made (See CANCER—Page 8)

ABNORMAL ABSURDITIES

By DWIGHT NICHOLS et al



A CURSING SUBJECT—

It is difficult to write about this subject without using profanity; but anyway, we'll try.

With hardly enough gasoline for the needs of barest necessity, and with the supply of tires for civilians being cut month by month, we still have any number of nitwits who deliberately waste gasoline and destroy tires in reckless, fast driving.

There are still those who brag about how they can start off with a Ford and spin the wheels on dry pavement. There are still those who brag about turning corners on two wheels, leaving precious rubber scraped off on the pavement. There are still those who brag about making speeds of 90 or more miles while going nowhere with all the time there is to get there in.

Suppose you can spin the wheels in starting off with a car? Suppose you can make the tires squall at every corner? Suppose you can drive at 100 miles an hour?

What we ask in all sincerity is what in the h— do you think you have accomplished when you do?

All right, we'll answer that question for you. You have demonstrated that you don't have enough brain to rattle if it were placed in a peanut shell.

FRIDAY, THE 13TH—

This was written on Friday, 13th.

Which reminds us that if you didn't have any bad luck today, and Friday, the 13th, didn't come up to expectations, you might try any one of the following 13 ways the next time Friday, the 13th, rolls around:

1. Fall—out of bed or down the stairs.
2. Burn yourself while, for instance, using gasoline for dry cleaning.
3. Get in the way of a flying or falling object.
4. Cut or scratch yourself—and don't do anything about it.
5. Show your strength by lifting a stove or ice box.
6. Gulp medicine in the dark without examining the label.
7. Eat food that looks bad and smells worse.
8. Walk right into an open door.
9. Get something in your eye.
10. Poke your fingers into a wringer.
11. Handle guns without determining whether they're loaded.
12. Forget to turn off the gas jets.
13. Tease the dog until he bites you.

CHITTER CHATTER—

There are three sexes: male, female and insects. . . The last word in airplane is—jump! . . . Kleptomania is not catching; it is taking. . . One come hither looks and the sap begins runnin. That's

what makes a pretty girl remind one of spring.

PREDICTIONS—

The first of every year we usually come out with a lot of predictions. We are only a little over four months late, but better late than later, or sumthin'. Our predictions cover a field of endeavor altogether too large for our single-track mind, but you won't mind, will you?

As for business, we predict there will be plenty of it, including monkey business. As to travel, most people not in draft age will stay close to home.

The war: We predicted in 1941 it would be a long, but not permanent war. It will end this year or the next.

As for food rationing, it will continue until housewives buy enough in frantic effort to use all points until their pantry shelves are full and running over. Sugar rationing will continue and no one except moonshiners will get much.

Weather: It will be hot in summer, cool in fall and cold in winter. You can talk about it all you want to and still not change it one degree, nor cause one more or one less drop of rain.

A MONKEY'S MEDITATION—

A monkey, musing in his cage, Upon the progress of the age, Half-whispered, as I happened by, "This Evolution is a lie."

Surprised to hear him speak so plain, I paused, profounder truths to gain. Unconscious I was there to heed, He thus continued with his creed: "For mortal man to try to trace Descent from our illustrious race Is rank injustice to our clan. The monkey much surpasses man.

"In bloody wars, men butcher men. They slander both with tongue and pen. They cheat, they lie, they swear, they steal; And wild with wine, they rock and reel.

"They trample justice in the dust. They loll in luxury and lust. They sell their very selves for gold, The men, their women, young and old.

"They laugh at law, they twist the truth, They crucify the dreams of youth, Their hearts are hard as solid stone,

Sirs, what must I do to be saved? . . . Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.—Acts 16:30, 31.



"Afraid?"

That earthquake would scare anyone! It tore open these iron doors! I knew the prisoners had escaped! My head would soon come off!

The way you two Christians took that beating yesterday turned me sick. I reckon I began then to want something that now I know I must have.

Later, in your stocks, you talked with Someone I couldn't see. You even sang. And now you beg me not to kill myself.

I can't go on the way I've been—selfish, and mean, and cruel. I want what you've got. What must I do to get it?

NOTHING? Nothing I can do to get it? Then I can't save myself?

Oh, Sir, must I only believe that there is One whom you call Jesus who can and will save? And depend on Him to do it?

I will— I do believe on Him NOW!

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.—Ephesians 2:8, 9.

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