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TUESDAY, NOV. 20, 1945

## THE PRESIDENT'S PROGRAM

The proposal of President Truman, just submitted to Congress for compulsory insurance for all persons who work for a living, indicates an important trend in national policy.

We shudder to think what would have happened had this proposition been made 20 years ago and we suspect that it would have had some rather severe criticism even as late as the beginning of the New Deal.

It may come under fire yet, but we venture to say that if it does it will be because of the methods used to carry the project out rather than the idea itself.

The idea that the community has some responsibility in the relief of the sick—compulsory health insurance would spread this sickness cost over the community—is not new. We have been recognizing this principle in North Carolina for some time and the last legislature undertook greatly to expand the medical care program in this state.

In this connection it is noted that one of the cardinal points of the President's program is federal financial aid to the states and localities for enlarging, modernizing and building new hospitals and other health facilities.

This is as it should be. It puts the specific burden of caring for the ill on the communities and states in which they are situated while at the same time spreads the financial burden over the whole country.

President Truman's program deserves the careful thought, not only of Congress to which it has been submitted but to the general citizenry as well. We all will presumably benefit from it, and certainly we all will foot the bill.

## EVERYTHING BUT THE CARS

OPA's establishment of ceiling prices for new automobiles would mean a sight more if there was any assurance new cars will be available in any number at all. Fixing of these prices came to an industry worried over its future and making no promises as to when new cars in volume will reach the general public.

The industry is described as being in an upset condition because of labor problems and with production programs still uncertain. In the forefront are the threatened strikes of the United Automobile Workers union in support of its demand for a 30 per cent wage rate increase. The manufacturers have rejected that demand claiming that the prices of cars must be raised if wages are boosted.

Commenting on OPA Administrator Chester Bowles' suggestion that the automobile industry would be turning out half a million cars a month by next June, George Romney, general manager of the Automobile Manufacturers Association, said this was the industry's estimate as of last August but expressed doubt as to its realization.

Then, too, we wonder if wage raises are allowed, will OPA be forced to do most of its calculating over again and give us a new set of ceilings.

We are only a little better off than the man who once said: "If we had some ham, we'd have some ham and eggs, if we had some eggs."

We do have automobile prices figured out to the decimal point. We lack only the automobiles. We trust they will be along fairly soon because reconversion in America is AUTOMOBILES.

## TURKEY PER CAPITA

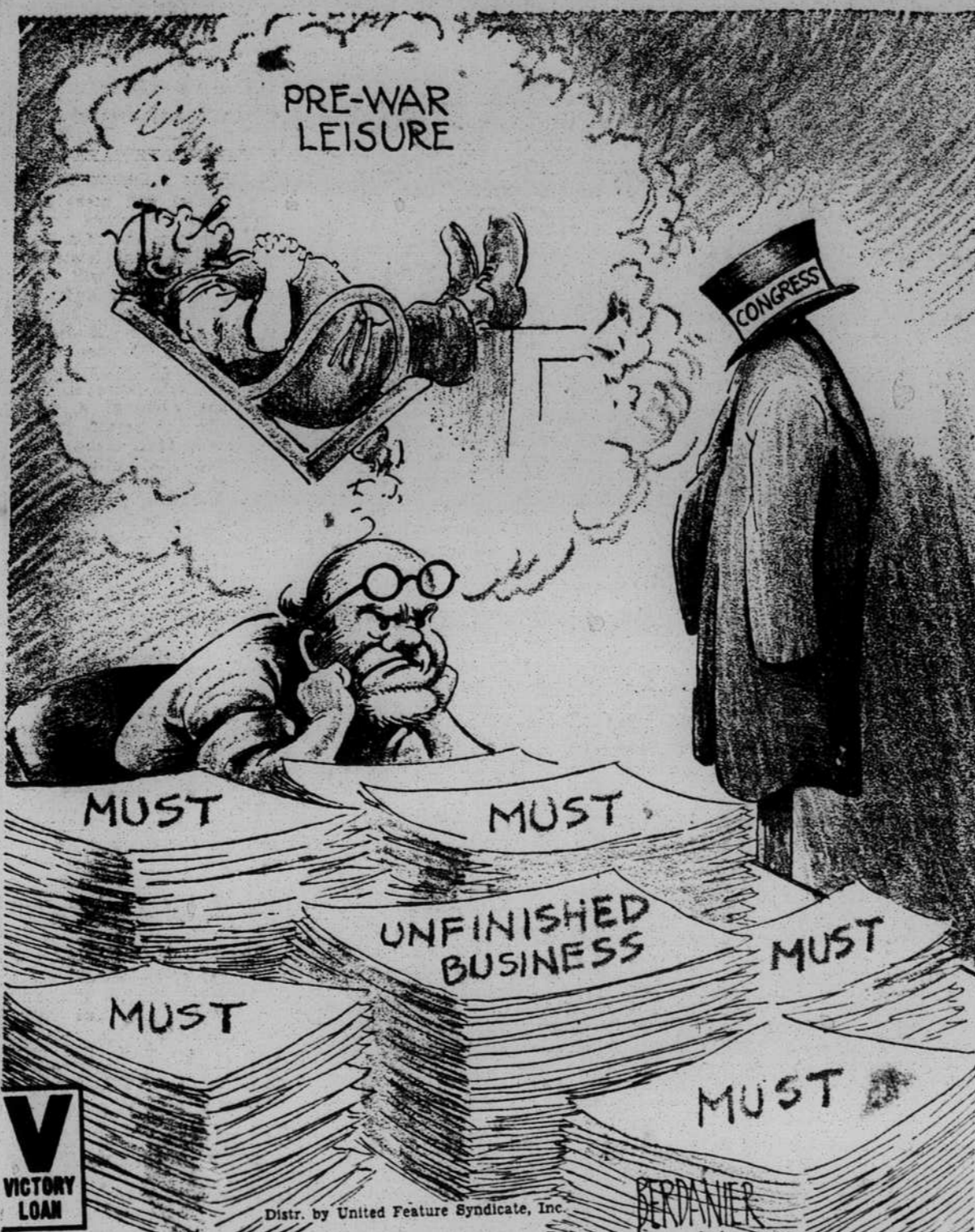
Not for one minute would we question the statement just made in advance of Thanksgiving by Secretary of Agriculture Anderson that there will be available for everybody in the nation five pounds of turkey Thanksgiving, not counting stuffing and gravy. He explained that the turkey crop is 22 per cent above last year and the army and navy are not taking as many birds as expected.

But regardless of how many turkeys lose their heads this season, what the crop is or anything of the kind, we are pretty sure not everybody in the country will get his five pounds. In the first place it isn't everybody that has a taste for turkey. Many prefer other forms of poultry. Not only that, but our distribution would not easily stand the strain of getting five pounds of turkey to each individual in the United States.

Finally and most importantly, even if there were laid on each person's plate five pounds of turkey—we'd settle for a drumstick—the country would have the awfullest composite stomach ache, it ever had, and our already over-worked doctors could not nearly get around.

The only point we are trying to make is that if Secretary Anderson's estimate is anywhere near correct we've got a surplus problem on our hands. Moreover we suggest that encouragement be given of dividing the five pounds per capita at least between Thanksgiving and Christmas and perhaps we might even ring in New Year's. Five pounds of turkey will go a long way on anybody's plate.

## ONLY A MEMORY NOW



VICTORY LOAN

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## The Everyday COUNSELOR

By DR. HERBERT SPAUGH

Why do more Americans die from heart disease than any other cause? Some light may be thrown on this by an Associated Press dispatch from Los Angeles, where many prominent physicians recently attended the Los Angeles Heart Association Symposium. Dr. Samuel Levine, assistant professor of medicine at Harvard University, and a heart specialist, stated that heart disease is practically non-existent in China. "A Chin-ese with angina or thrombosis is almost unknown."

Dr. Levine thinks that the lack of heart disease in China is due to their racial heritage, or to their calm and philosophical view of life, compared to our excitability. He is undertaking an intensive scientific investigation concerning this, with the view of applying the findings in the United States.

H. G. Wells in his latest book "Mind At The End of Its Tether," says that man's mind developing out of proportion to physical and spiritual ability, is surely destroying man himself. Many scholars, scientists and writers have said the same thing concerning the discovery and use of the atomic bomb.

Heart disease is killing chiefly men, but also women, at a startling rate in the United States. As soon as women assume the places of responsibility as men in the business world, you will see the death rate from heart disease rise with them. Man's mind is overloading his body with a mounting death toll as the result.

An important cause for this will probably be found in increasing lack of spiritual resources among the American People. Peace in the heart is a powerful antidote to mental strain. Spiritual resiliency is a great shock-absorber for the tenseness and emotional strain of modern life.

Eller, in his book "Houses of Peace," commenting upon the peaceful atmosphere of eighteenth century Bethlehem, Pa., a strictly religious settlement, says, "In this age Europe was beginning to heed the cry of atheists and other bitter, idle, aimless men, but here in Bethlehem was almost incredible peace and happiness. There was peace because the brethren knew beyond doubt that God was with them. There was happiness because each of them had found a purpose in life, reason and need for work."

There was no lack of hard work in Bethlehem, but the brethren knew how to carry the strain of it. With the love and peace of God in a man's heart, he can carry tremendous burdens. Furthermore, his best efforts are not turned toward creating instruments for the destruction of man; instead, his desire is to help them.

EDITOR'S NOTE - Dr. Spough's new book, "The Pathway to Contentment," will come from the press about December 1st. It is being published in response to the request of many readers, and contains material which has appeared in this column. The price is \$1.00 post-paid. Orders may be sent to The Everyday Counselor, Box 4145, Charlotte, N. C. Advance orders will be autographed.

## Washington Speculates On Next Governor

By LYNN NISBET

RALEIGH, Nov. 20—Your reporter does not cherish any such big ideas of his own capacity to size up a situation as was manifested by a radio commentator the other day. After spending about a week in the Hawaiian islands a commentator came back with the answers to all the questions about Pearl Harbor, army and navy administration and the future of the Pacific. A reporter that good could spend a short weekend in Washington and get all the dope; this one couldn't, but he did pick up a little stuff that frankly is more intuitive than factual.

All except a few governmental offices are closed tight Saturday afternoon and Sunday, and very few of the working newspaper gang showed up at National Press club offices. Let's put this in first person singular for sake of easier writing.

I wish I could quote what the President said, or report interviews with senators, congressmen and other big time Tar Heels in the national capital. There is no such report because there were no such interviews. It was extremely difficult to establish contact with lesser secretaries and newspaper folks in the few hours available. Some thirty telephone calls and personal visits yielded a total of four contacts, and these were not among the policy makers or real powers that be. Sometimes, however, the office boy or stenographer has a better story than the big boss. They are not inhibited by responsibility and are proud of the chance to tell what they think they know. With all that qualification, here goes on impressions gathered.

These small fry expect that the Republicans will organize the next Congress and that a good many southerners now in position of influence will be relegated to minor posts on congressional committees. Because of that some of the North Carolinians are looking homeward and may be more interested in the next state election than they have been since 1932.

The clerks and stenographers were frankly more concerned about their own jobs than about who would hold the big offices. What they wanted to know was their chance to get a good state payroll berth cinched as a sort of hedge against possible let-out in Washington. None of them was quite that frank about it, but there was manifest evidence of home-sickness; they just wanted to get back to North Carolina.

Office gossip among the Tar Heels in lower salary levels is that General Kenneth Royall of Goldsboro is definitely a candidate for governor and Lindsay Warren may be. The Washington contingent seems to think Royall's appointment as under secretary of war put him in the gubernatorial

race rather than took him out. As for Warren the gossippers just can't understand how a man with assured annual income of \$15,000 a year would be interested in four years at \$10,500 and prospect of having to spend a good bit of that to get the nomination. Experience of eating and sleeping in Washington on \$1200 to \$2400 a year has made them money conscious.

There is striking similarity between attitude of government workers in Washington and state employes in Raleigh. They think because they are at the seat of government they know a lot about what's going on in the background—and are wrong more than half the time.

## Literary GUIDEPOST

By W.G. Rogers

MOLDERS OF OPINION, edited by David Bulman (Bruce; \$1.75). The columnists, arbiters of our morals, politics and economics, are investigated here.

Thirteen men and one woman: Mallon, Heatter, Lippmann, Lewis, Welles, Pegler, Kaltenborn, Swing, Pearson, Lawrence, Kennedy, Winchell, Sokolosky and Dorothy Thompson are taken apart to see what has made them click.

The short chapters devoted to each were written by 11 different persons described as "for the most part outstanding journalists." Some of the authors confine themselves strictly to the facts and refrain from passing judgment. Others are as vitriolic as the columnists on whose vitriol they allege they choke.

Here's a sample of opinions: Dorothy Thompson's fault is "philosophical haziness," Pegler has by far the largest intelligent following among the columnists. "Swing suffers from a surprising immaturity."

One writer has no criticism of Lippmann's desire for a U. S. - USSR understanding; another agrees emphatically with Sokolosky that capitalism and Communism can never get along together in one world. Welles, the blue blood, is praised, while Winchell is scathingly accused of only a sixth-grade education.

Any one of these may be true but there's no single point of view from which they're all true. If this is a book needing to be written, it needed to be done in some other way, on some general standard. There are as many personal opinions as there are writers. This is "philosophical haziness" and "immaturity"; this is the kettle calling the potboiler black.

MODERN MAN IS OBSOLETE, by Norman Cousins (Viking; \$1). The expanded text of the Saturday Review of Literature editorial is put between boards so you can save it for as long as this mended globe continues to support human life.

Cousins' subject is ethical man against scientific man. The atomic age is of our own making and way well be our undoing. "Man is asked to adjust himself to an Atomic Age before he has caught up with, let alone mastered, the age ushered in by electricity and steam," Cousins says. He warns: "The greatest obsolescence of all in the Atomic Age is national sovereignty."

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## Merry-Go-Round

## Atomic Bombs Could Ignite Entire Planet

By DREW PEARSON (Lt. Col. Robert S. Allen Now On Active Service With the Army)

WASHINGTON - Public and congressional opinion regarding the atom bomb has moved so rapidly that the Truman-Attlee statement just barely caught up with it. A few weeks ago, the Truman-Attlee plan to share the atom secret if other nations reciprocated would have been considered revolutionary. Now some senators and many scientists think it doesn't go quite far enough.

Chief reason for the rapid change in public opinion has been the educational campaign staged by the scientists and some senators.

For instance, scientist Milton Burton of Oak Ridge, Tenn., went to see Senator Chas. Gurney of South Dakota. Gurney, a sincere and able gentleman, devoutly believes that the sun rises and sets in the War department's Pentagon building across the Potomac. Some of his friends suspect that he takes out a prayer rug and does obeisance in the direction of the Pentagon every morning. To him a brass hat can do no wrong. Thus the army's plan for airtight control of the atom bomb to him was perfect.

However, he listened politely to Oak Ridge scientist Burton. Burton wanted to outlaw the atom bomb altogether, but the senator from South Dakota remained unconvinced. Finally, Burton pulled his trump card. He unfolded the danger of setting off the nitrogen chain. This is one thing the scientists have been deadly afraid of.

"You realize, senator," explained the scientist, "that if enough bombs were dropped, of sufficient size, they might set off the nitrogen chain and the entire world would go up in flames. We would simply be another flaming star in the heavens, later a barren desert. People from other planets would look out and say 'Aha, Nova! A new star!'"

Scientist Burton was deadly serious. So are other scientists. They say it is quite possible that a sufficient number of atom explosions would ignite the nitrogen in the atmosphere and the entire earth would be burned up, just as other planets are today.

Another Oak Ridge scientist, Charles D. Coryell, went to work on the family of Senator Kenneth McKellar of Tennessee. So also did William Pollard, a professor at the University of Tennessee, but now working in New York.

McKellar, a powerful, energetic figure in the senate, had not even wanted to appoint liberal young Senator Brien McMahon of Connecticut as chairman of the atomic bomb study committee, even though McMahon introduced the resolution. And when McKellar finally consented to go along with McMahon's appointment, he stacked the committee with reactionaries.

However, when scientists Coryell and Pollard finished explaining the dangers of the A-bomb, the Tennessee senator actually got down from his presiding officer's chair to make one of the most statesman-like speeches the senate has heard on atom control.

Another senator who has seen how a cut-throat international race to get control of the atom might wreck all civilization is Republican Senator Alexander Smith of New Jersey. Smith spent several weeks on a New Jersey speaking tour both educating and sounding out public opinion regarding the bomb. He reports that the people generally are ahead of Washington in believing that the secret must be used as a means of working out international cooperation and permanent peace.

Meanwhile, scientists and some senators make two chief criticisms of the Truman-Attlee control plan. They say (1) that the plan must be worked out by the heads of states, not by the foreign ministers who just failed miserably at London; (2) that it was a mistake to put future control in the hands of the United Nations, since the United Nations already has proved a disappointing skeleton, inadequate to cope with the intricate problems of peace.

U. S. S. MISSOURI PAPERWEIGHTS Just before the giant battleship Missouri was about to leave Pearl Harbor for the East Coast last month, it was published that she was held up by "trouble." Here's what the trouble really was:

The spot on the deck where MacArthur signed the surrender consisted of wooden deckboards. Under orders from someone, the navy yard tore up the entire section of the deck and replaced it with new wood.

Then the old boards on which MacArthur and the Japs had stood were turned over to the wood-working shop at the navy yard and made into paperweights.

But what burnt up enlisted men was that the paperweights were then given to the brass hats. Not one enlisted man was able to get a souvenir of the memorable surrender occasion, though thousands of them had given their lives to help achieve it.

CAPITAL CHAFF Navy explanation of why General MacArthur's photo was omitted from the official exhibit of war leaders is that they sent a naval officer recruited from Hollywood to Brisbane at \$7 per diem

## Behind The FRONT PAGE

By HOLT McPHERSON Managing Editor

PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S FIVE-POINT HEALTH PROGRAM presented to the Congress yesterday is not something to be dismissed lightly as "socialized medicine" but rather is recognition that national health is challenged to utilize its resources to promote health of all its people.

It needs to be studied thoroughly by Congress and the people, because in it is the seed of a social consciousness that the country's status in health is an investment not only in better living but also against poverty, disease and problems of relief which ride in that company. A nation that has just seen millions of its young men rejected as physically unfit for armed service is painfully aware of price of past neglect of health. The interest in health needs be as vital in peace as in war; the time to set up the structure is in advance of trouble, for to be forwarded is to be forearmed.

The Truman program, carrying with it compulsory health insurance, may not be exactly the answer to a vast and growing problem, but it challenges the nation to a broad and effective health program. Happily, too, it is something on the beginning of which our state government had already embarked—the national concern for it fits well into that while commending Tar Heel forethought and action.

ANYONE WANTING TICKETS TO THE SHRINE BOWL game at Charlotte—and they carry the Vox Pop attendance privilege, too—can get them from W. D. Lackey, chairman, or any member of the committee. I have a batch of them I'll be glad to make available to any wanting such.

SAM M. GREENE, JR., SEAMAN 1/C, SON OF MR. AND MRS. SAM GREENE of Mooresboro, sings at the world's tallest church, Chicago Temple, First Methodist, Seaman First Class Greene sang first as guest soloist for the regular service, then later was invited to give a personal program, which he did by singing ten songs. After which Greene was immediately offered a position with a very good salary, but he refused because he plans to complete his education before starting out on his life's career.

The Chicago First Methodist Church has occupied its present site for 106 years. The spire, floodlighted at night, is one of Chicago's most inspiring sights. The chimes are heard throughout the downtown area. The air-conditioned sanctuary accommodates 1,200 worshippers, with additional seating provided in the chapel. The organ, complete with an echo organ and 6,300 pipes, is considered one of the largest and best in the country. Visitors from an average of thirty states worship there every Sunday. The church is open daily for meditation and prayer.

MRS. LELA MAE RAGAN COMES TO HER 25TH ANNIVERSARY with the telephone company and will be honored at a dinner and dance next Monday night here. As the efficient chief operator of the local office, she is largely responsible for the efficient and courteous service which distinguishes the telephone operation here. She didn't tell me, but I'm thinking her two years here—with the trying help shortage and overload of work incident to V-E and V-J days, the Junior Legion championship and other things which cause folks to ring the bells off their phones—entitles her to medals almost as much as the 23 preceding did. She has lifted her job above the work level and definitely into the service—with a capital S—classification and she must have started very, very young in telephoning.

THAT ROOSTER WHICH HAS GOTTEN NATIONAL ATTENTION because he continued to live and function even after his head had been cut off from his body hasn't so much to crow about, for his case was matched right here a long time ago and probably explains what happened, too. Rev. John W. Suttle recalls that back when Professor Burns was running old Piedmont academy and Frank Elam handled livestock operations there was a fine looking hog marked for slaughter. The day of his killing came, a rifle shot was put into his head and it didn't seem to faze Mr. Hog at all; another shot was squarely placed and he registered only puzzlement where he should have fallen over dead; several more shots into the vital spot of the brain made a pepper box of the hog's head but didn't topple him, so an axe was swung with no more effect than to bring the porker back up startled at all this strange activity that to him seemed little more than some bees swarming about his head. Unable to stop him with bullets or brain him successfully with the axe, he was caught, held and stabbed so that he finally bled to death. Frank Elam called for a post mortem to see what made the hog so indestructible and the startled onlookers were amazed to find no brain where the brain should be, but rather it was located down near the shoulder and thus clear of the lethal efforts of his killers. The rooster's brain likely survived similarly, Brother John thinks. That's no hog-wash!

"IT'S A SAD, SAD WORLD," SAYS DOVIE LOGAN Lamenting the loss of her black Chesterfield coat, velvet collar and all, which somehow got lost in the course of the reception Saturday night. Someone will brighten that gal's heart by reporting it was taken by mistake.

HAPPILY, NO ONE GOT HURT WHEN ONE OF THE BIG Frederickson trailer trucks got out of control Sunday morning and jack-knifed to plow up a Dover street lawn before coming to a stop after brakes had failed because power from the stalled engine wasn't there to hold them. It occurs to me, after seeing the danger in such, it's exceedingly bad business to drag along too closely behind one of those big behemoths on a steep hill. Give 'em plenty of distance and live longer!

to get the picture. It was explained to MacArthur's headquarters that when all the photos were collected they would be presented to the nation at FDR's library at Hyde Park. The photographer waited a couple of weeks at \$7 a day, but MacArthur refused to pose. "That was why Mexican, French, and British generals were included in the navy's photo exhibit of war leaders, but not MacArthur. . . . Gen. Clayton Bissell, chief of army intelligence, is now on a trip to South America. The State department asked him to steer clear of Argentina, because they didn't want it to appear we were sending them any distinguished visitors at a time when we frowned on their fascist form of government. But Bissell ignored the request, went to Argentina anyway. . . . Walter Winchell, who starts his 15th consecutive year on the air Dec. 2, offered \$1,000,000 in cash for a 12 1/2 percent share in the ABC network. He wasn't bluffing either. He had the cash in small bills in a strong box.

MERRY-GO-ROUND Mrs. Truman took a long-delayed step toward mending her relations with the ladies of the press by inviting them to a White House supper. . . . However, a lot who were left out were more miffed than ever. . . . The dinner was delicious—turkey, sweet potatoes, three different kinds of ice cream. . . . Mrs. Truman went out of her way to be informal. There was no head table, she just plunked herself down among several guests and started eating. . . . Dress at the dinner was optional. Mrs. Tru-

NO PROBLEM ALBUQUERQUE, N. M. (P) —It was night when Ernest Benjamin's car stalled in a ditch and some spilled gasoline went unnoticed in the dark. A friend, studying means to extricate the vehicle, struck a match. Assistant Fire Chief Milton Grande said there wasn't enough car left for Benjamin to worry about.

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