

# The Daily Record

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## These Days



### THE ATOM'S THE THING

In all the excitement over the trivial, little notice has been taken of the fact that the Atomic Energy Commission is minus a commissioner and that there seems to be no anxiety to appoint a successor to Sumner T. Pike, who resigned. Mr. Pike was regarded as a Republican—an affiliation which is so variously used these days that its use is often subject to controversy. The commission is supposed to be headed by five commissioners, but now has only four: Gordon Dean, chairman; Henry D. Smyth, scientist; Thomas E. Murray, engineer; T. Keith Glennan, scientist. This commission possesses vast power over all atomic matters, for peace or for war. The commissioners are important because all decisions have to be unanimous, which, in the present circumstances, is very good.

There is also a joint Congressional committee to watch what the commission does. This committee is headed by Senator Brien McMahon, who seems to have familiarized himself with the subject beyond the general capacity of most laymen. The top Republican of this committee is Bourke B. Hickenlooper, a very devoted Senator who studies deeply. In fact, on the Republican and Democratic sides, this committee, consisting of Senators and Representatives, is exceptionally ably manned.

Summer Pike was on the commission ostensibly as a businessman; his departure leaves that body without such specific representation, although Thomas E. Murray has been more experienced and successful in that field than most. As the commission engages in vast enterprises, many of which it operates by contract with industrial firms, it is found to have members of the most substantial industrial experience.

It appears, as one delves into this problem from the outside—and one is always far on the outside because of the secret nature of this commission's work—that many of the scientists are emotionally disturbed by the atom bomb. Those who were closest to its discovery are perhaps most horrified by the consequences of their research. Now that the Russians have the bomb, due entirely to betrayal of our secret by British scientists, there seems to be a feeling among these American scientists that the humanitarian purpose of their endeavor has failed. By that they mean that peace has not been attained by the threat of possessing the bomb.

On the other hand, no matter what Russia does, and we know little enough about that, the more bombs that are stockpiled, the safer we are. For some time, tales have been going the rounds that the fissionable material becomes obsolescent, dies, and that therefore stockpiling is a waste of money. I have run this rumor down and am certain that there is no foundation whatsoever to it. The carrier, made of metal, may deteriorate, but the essential elements are permanently fixed and can forever be used for peace as for war. From that standpoint, should peace ever come to us we shall be able to take the plutonium out of the bombs wherever they may be stored, and we shall be able to use it for power or for such other peaceful purposes as we come to know more about that.

The suggestion of some scientists that because a few have been accused of Communism, many scientists will not work for the Atomic Energy Commission, is bunk. That reminds me of the movie publicists and lawyers who denounce any accusation against Communists in that industry, lest innocent men also suffer.

Actually, most American scientists are anti-Communist and the few who got themselves enmeshed in that conspiracy ought to be ashamed of themselves, ought to confess and sin no more. Young American scientists despise the thieves who stole our atomic bomb, and despise even more their non-anti-Communist associates who cover up for the Communists on the theory that "We scientists must stand together."

The Atomic Energy Commission requires keen and courageous leadership. Its peril lies in its essential secrecy. Behind that cloak of ten hide incompetence, inefficiency and even cowardice. Yet, secrecy is necessary at this stage when we are at war with Soviet Russia, Soviet China and Korea.

Scientists like to avoid secrecy on the academic theory of the universality of knowledge. We may return to that some day and the scientists may again be enabled to read learned monographs before learned societies on abstract subjects. Meanwhile, we have to remain secretive.

The younger scientists, who have had experience neither with Hiroshima nor with Dr. Klaus Fuchs, are preferable for this employment. They can do their work without emotional involvement.

promising to keep the compartment doors locked. Now his lady kangaroo was sick. (Continued On Page Five)

## MISTER BREGER



"Strange—it's SUPPOSED to be a rabbit!"



WASHINGTON.—One unpleasant shadow lurking over the Churchill-Truman conversations is that American taxpayers are to be called upon to pick up the tab for the closing down of the Abadan oil refinery.

While this has not been spelled out in so many words during the Churchill visit, it remains a fact that the U. S. government has been euhed into a position where it is going to pay for British mistakes in Iran and the closing of an oil refinery which produced 20 per cent of all refined products outside the U. S. A.

No real steps to solve this situation have been taken during the Prime Minister's visit. Meanwhile, though the American people do not realize it, the United States is helping supply to the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company 500,000 barrels of refined oil products daily in order to make up for the loss at Abadan.

Meanwhile also, dollars are being drained out of Britain at the rate of \$600,000,000 annually to pay for this oil. Reports from London have told of the alarming exit of British dollar reserves in the last few months, but they have not fully explained the reason for this increased drain. Chief reason for the increase is the shutdown of the Abadan refinery.

Previously the oil sold by the Anglo-Iranian Company—owned and operated by the British government—represented important revenue for Britain. But, with the refinery closed, Anglo-Iranian has had to buy 300,000 barrels of oil daily from the Caribbean and the United States, plus 200,000 barrels from other sources. This has to be paid for in dollars.

American companies have formed a foreign petroleum supply committee, under the sponsorship of the State Department and the Interior Department, to step in and make up the Iranian oil deficit. This means that we are not only drawing on our own oil reserves, despite a national policy to discourage exports, but simultaneously we are put in the position of soon having to make up Britain's cash reserves now being exhausted because of the Anglo-Iranian oil crisis.

There are two other tragic aspects to the British-Iranian dispute: No. 1—The Abadan shutdown could have been prevented had the State Department taken the advice of Justice William O. Douglas who visited Iran two years ago and clearly warned what was going to happen.

No. 2—Premier Mossadegh and Iran are being driven into the arms of Soviet Russia. Mossadegh happens to be a long and courageous battler against

## CUTIES



"It's a snap course, all right. The teacher is snapping at me all the time!"

## Walter Winchell

In New York

Momentous political events are also intense personal dramas. They have elements of tragedy and humor. There are plots and counterplots. . . . The diverse factors surrounding White House aspirants are the stuff of history. And it is always fascinating to detect seemingly insignificant quirks of fate that play vital roles in major events. History's tapestry is composed of many tangled threads.

Horace Greeley was a giant in politics as well as journalism. It isn't generally known that he was one of the Republican Party's founders. . . . Greeley had no intention of running for President until foes accused him of that ambition. The accusation gave him the idea.

Others are frantic because their skin is itching in spots as in the condition called cilligie (leukoderma). . . . Some women say they feel like committing suicide because they have flat chests or big ankles or pipe stem legs or cross-eyes or excessive hair on their upper lip.

Greely's most important political act was a behind-the-scenes maneuver prior to the 1860 election. . . . A political leader named William Seward and Greeley were bitter enemies. Seward's nomination seemed assured until Greeley arrived at the convention and went into action. He pressured delegates into changing their minds. The result was they switched to another candidate—Abe Lincoln.

It is traditional for leaders to publicly express reluctance to seek the presidency until the decisive moment arrives. Some are sincere. But the purpose is generally psychological: It is an attempt to convince voters that their candidacy was inspired by public support rather than personal ambition.

W. H. Taft was a reluctant candidate. . . . He declared: "I should like to occupy myself with something more attractive than a presidential campaign or dodging office seekers in the White House. . . . He could hardly be a weaker candidate than I would be. The horrors of a presidential campaign and the political troubles that come to the successful candidate rob the office of the slightest attraction for me."

When Charles Evans Hughes was publicly discussing the White House possibility he firmly objected. His determination against running was so strong that at one time he threatened to sue a State for nominating him! But he ran—and was an also-ran.

General Sherman's historic statement: "I will not accept if nominated, or serve if elected," is frequently used as a model of abolute rejection. But the fact is Sherman had White House aspirations. He removed himself from the race because his brother was also a contender and the General refused to compete with him.

Harding was not eager to run for President. His name was scarcely mentioned in that respect before the 1920 convention. He entered the Ohio presidential primary solely for the purpose of gaining prestige in his campaign for re-election to the Senate.

A deadlocked convention made Harding the dark horse candidate. The political bosses chose him as their standard-bearer for this incredible reason: They believed he LOOKED like a President.

Among marathon-runners in presidential races was William Jennings Bryan. He was a three-time loser. So was Henry Clay, who coined the classic: "I'd rather be right than President." That statement was not inspired by any lofty concepts. It was pure sour grapes.

A newspaperman once informed Bryan he was appalled by the many politicians gripped by presidential fever. "It's a political sickness," he groaned. Bryan cracked: "And what a flattering disease!"

## The Worry Clinic

By DR. GEORGE W. CRANE

If nature didn't give you the most attractive nose or mouth in the world, don't sit around gloomily and revel in your misery. Add a few psychological asides to your personality and you can thus offset your physical drawbacks. Take a lesson from the light robe walker, moreover, if you wish to be happy and popular.

CASE C-347: Eugene P., aged 22, is worried over a common male problem.

"Dr. Crane, I've always had thick black hair," he began moodily, "but for the past year it has begun to grow thin around the temples. . . . I'm afraid I am going to be baldheaded before I am 30 years old."

"It has me so worried that I am embarrassed when in a crowd. As a result, I have been dropping out of social affairs. . . . I am afraid girls will not want a date with me. Isn't it terrible for a person's life to be ruined so early?"

USE PERSPECTIVE  
Eugene's life isn't ruined, but he is like thousands of other young men and women who magnify minor flaws until they make mountains out of molehills.

Every day I receive letters from many of you readers who think your chances of marriage and happiness are ruined just because you have premature baldness or a big nose or a large mouth or breasts that are too large or too small or unequal in size.

Others are frantic because their skin is itching in spots as in the condition called cilligie (leukoderma).

Some women say they feel like committing suicide because they have flat chests or big ankles or pipe stem legs or cross-eyes or excessive hair on their upper lip. . . . Others imagine they are ruined for life because their sexual organs are small or, they have lost a gland by operation. The size of sex organs has little to do with marital success.

GET WISE TO FACTS  
An attractive personality is the sum total of hundreds of merits or

## "Mary Haworth's Mail"

By America's Foremost Personal Affairs Counselor

AFTER EXPERIENCE WITH SEVERAL PSYCHIATRISTS, WOMAN THINKS THEY DO MORE HARM THAN GOOD

DEAR MARY HAWORTH: I am a woman of 49, married 27 years, with no children. In 1945 I had a severe nervous breakdown and was reviewed and pushed around by several psychiatrists in the following year. Finally I met one psychiatrist who had enough insight to get to the cause of my trouble in a few months. But still I have recurrent spells of depression every so often, for one reason or another.

I wish you would tell me why psychiatrists never offer constructive advice on how to overcome a neurotic condition, once they have diagnosed it. Long ago I stopped going to them—except once in a great while—because when I ask help, they only focus my attention on the very worst features of my character, thus driving me to more work when I am already doing my best.

Then when I get so low that I am seriously considering suicide, they say that I have accepted myself as I am, therefore nothing can be done. Consequently I feel I've wasted the money spent on them.

I thought the aim of psychiatric therapy was to help people find a tolerable way of life, not to tear down one's confidence to a point where there is nothing left, and then say there is nothing they can do. Surely that is wrong. Did I hit on very poor doctors; or are they all the same?

How do I learn to love my neighbor, or myself, when all my life I have lived in fear of my own impulses, and my neighbor's too; and also in fear of God? Admittedly I am afraid of rejection and punishment; but also I am afraid to let people get close to me, because I have had to carry some hateful dependent person on my back all my life. I am more afraid of that than of being rejected. I can't seem to escape it, nor can I accept the necessity for it. I would like to do some leaning myself occasionally; but if I try it with my husband we both go down, as he leans hard. I am completely confused about everything. Have you a word of advice?

R. B.  
ASTUTE APPRAISAL OF SOME BUMBLERS  
DEAR R. B.: Your protest against destructive psychiatry is quite astute. You have written a recognizable description of poor (in fact

where's my pa? Going to the White House, ha, ha, ha!" (Continued On Page Four)

## A. H. Harper

The death of A. H. Harper came as a blow to his great host of friends throughout the Dunn-Erwin section and beyond and also comes as a great loss to this community.

An employee of Erwin Mills for the past 47 years, during which time he served for 19 years as Chief of Police Mr. Harper had made an outstanding record in his chosen field.

He had also made a splendid record as a leader in the Masonic Lodge, the Junior Order, his church and as a public-spirited citizen who was always ready and eager to do anything he could for his community and his fellow man.

Few people have as many friends as A. H. Harper enjoyed. He was held in high esteem and affection by all who knew him. He was a gentleman of the old school who lived by the Golden Rule.

Our community is poorer indeed because of the passing of this valuable citizen.

## State Control

Several times recently we have noticed articles in the papers about rows and squabbles over the location of school houses.

One of the most recent instances was in neighboring Sampson County.

The Sampson Independent reports that "The matter of consolidating the Garland-Taylor's Bridge-Ingold high schools and erection of a new building to house the schools has been argued for several months."

The State Board of Education has approved the Smith Hill site for the location of the controversial Taylor's Bridge-Ingold school and has allowed Garland to keep its school for the time being.

But the matter is still unsettled and the wrangling still goes on. Former friends have become bitter enemies and there is plenty of heat and passion in the row.

Under the new set-up, since State money is involved, the State Board of Education has the final say-so. This is despite the fact that all the money the State possesses still come from citizens of the various counties.

The point we're making is that counties are giving up more and more of their power to a centralized State government, just as the States have already been robbed of their power by the Federal Government.

Usually, there is the lure of State money or Federal money. And, all too often, citizens forget the never-changing fact that you just don't get something for nothing.

Anytime a community gets anything from the State or Federal government (even though they paid the money into those treasuries originally), there is always the necessity for surrendering some freedom or say-so.

And anytime a private citizen gets something from the government to put in one pocket, the government usually finds a way of taking it out of the other pocket.

One of the things which disturbs us most about present day government is the centralization of power in the hands of a few.

And we all forget the fact that government is not creative or productive. Governments merely tax and drain off the earnings of the individual. Under the tax system, the government does take from some and give to others.

An interesting—and disturbing situation—arose last summer during the terrible Kansas City floods. The government was unable to help the flood victims. There was no money for the purpose and the task was left up to the Red Cross and other relief organizations.

A short while later, the Po River flooded in Italy and, in developed, the United States sent plenty of money to that foreign country to relieve the situation.

What a strange parody. No money for our own citizens and neighbors in Missouri, but plenty of tax money for flood victims in Italy.

Many of our southern statesmen have been sounding the cry against Federal control and pleading for the return of States' Rights. Their cries as yet have not been loud enough.

We believe it is time, also, to show some concern over the rights of the individual counties as opposed to so much control in Raleigh.

## Frederick OTHMAN

WASHINGTON.—Last I saw of my old friend, Blake McVeigh, he was in a compartment of a Pennsylvania Railroad car, arguing with a kangaroo over who got the lower berth. The kangaroo used a kick in the teeth for a persuader. McVeigh took the upper.

Two doors down the car McVeigh had a female kangaroo (suffering from the head cold) in an adjacent compartment with three little ones. One was Australia's most beautiful woman. One was her chaperone. One was the kangaroo's wife. What went on in there I can't know; all I could hear was some thumps and a muffled scream.

Over McVeigh I think I'd better tell you about him in case you may have any mistaken ideas about taking on a life of ease in the movie business. McVeigh came from Hollywood some years ago and had a battle with the railroad about kangaroos as passengers. McVeigh went out by