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INSIDE WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON — CIO and AFL political leaders are expected to avoid an early commitment for President Truman and the Democratic party such as was voiced by A. F. Whitney, president of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen.

Ultimately, the two major labor groups are expected to support the incumbent administration, but they are likely to delay such an announcement for bargaining purposes. They want a hand in writing the 1948 Democratic platform.

Whitney showed no such reluctance. Almost a full 11 months before the election, he plunged wholeheartedly into the Democratic camp and pledged his organization's support in re-electing President Truman.

CIO leaders showed great interest in Whitney's move because the railroad labor chieftain has worked very closely with the CIO Political Action Committee in past political moves.

BETTER PAY FOR EXECUTIVES— President Truman may ask Congress for emergency legislation permitting him to pay government aviation executives as much as \$25,000 a year to avert a threatened collapse of federal aviation control.

Two men are trying to handle a volume of work with which a five-man Civil Aeronautics Board admitted it was unable to cope, and the director of the Civil Aeronautics Administration has resigned.

CAB is responsible for allocation of all airline routes. CAA is charged with supervising the operation of all the airways.

The President's dilemma is caused by unwillingness of capable executives to go broke slowly in the expensive national capital on \$10,000 a year. Every resignation from both organizations has had as a prime or contributing factor, a flattening purse.

Mr. Truman thought he had found a way out of the problem of the CAB chairmanship when he nominated capable Maj. Gen. Laurence Kuter, but Congress would not allow Kuter to retain his military perquisites while in the job.

Only former Senator Josh Lee and Oswald Ryan remain on the CAB. Both are conscientious, but neither is outstanding.

PROFILE OF A DIPLOMAT — Undersecretary of State Robert Lovett, a New York banker, may be denounced any moment as the Wall Street representative in American diplomacy. He has been so called by the Moscow radio, but it is doubted that even such a denunciation by someone closer home would bother him much.

Actually, Lovett's associates find him the most democratic of the brass hats in the State department. He himself makes no bones about being overwhelmed by the splendor of the private office he occupies.

Built for War department bigwigs before hostilities made the Pentagon necessary, the offices of the secretary and the undersecretary would overawe any but the most profligate of industrial tycoons.

Lovett laughs about the heavy drapes, picture windows, private baths, high ceilings and panelled oak walls. The Undersecretary dresses neatly but unostentatiously, works night and day and indulges in salty, homespun Americanisms.

When minor lights about the department call his office and ask for him the secretary switches them through immediately if Lovett is not actually tied up.

When word is left for him to call back, he does so promptly and usually opens the conversation by saying, "Hello, this is Bob Lovett." Lesser State department executives, by contrast, are approachable by appointment and after long explanations of the why and wherefore of the conversation.

After looking over the prices at the New York motorboat show, Sadok Dumkopt says he will continue to confine his yachting to sailing a half-a-walnut in the kitchen sink.

In England there is a controversy over what sort of facial contortion a night owl makes when it lets out a cry. Who gives a hoot?

The man at the next desk says he knows a millionaire who has just returned from a Florida vacation with a beautiful coat of tan. Cheap. Only \$100 a square inch.

THE OLD HOME TOWN By STANLEY

ANOTHER GAS STATION ON ROUTE 9 CHANGED HANDS AGAIN LATE LAST NIGHT

The Everyday Counsellor
 By REV. HERBERT SPAUGH, D. D.

By the clock of destiny, it is later than we think. According to one of America's top ranking psychiatrists, this nation is on the brink of disintegration. His reasons for making this statement are the increase in divorce, juvenile and adult delinquency. Dr. Edward A. Strecker, chairman of the psychiatry division of the National Research Council addressed a post-graduate assembly of gynecologists and obstetricians in Los Angeles. According to the Associated Press, which reports on his address, he blames mothers for the growing tendency to cling to the maternal apron strings long after they should release their children as independent individuals. He indicated fathers also:

"Fathers are too inclined to neglect the psychological rearing of their children. After the second child, a father tends to desert his wife emotionally."



The doctor acknowledged that people are basically the same today as they were years and years ago when family ties were stronger, "but forces outside are at work on them, and in the most materialistic civilization the world has ever known, spiritual values have been swept away." He referred to the divorce rate of one to three marriages and in some densely populated areas, one to two marriages, lax marital relationships, falling birthrate and soaring delinquency of adults and juveniles, which he classified as "surface symptoms of national decay".

In an interview with the press, Dr. Strecker said that as parents, most Americans are failures. They fail to instill self-reliance in their children. Children grow into emotionally immature adults, unable to meet responsibilities. "Somewhere along the line," he declared, "we have lost our spiritual values. Through technological advance we have achieved a highly materialistic civilization, but underneath we are straw."

Ministers, priests and rabbis have been warning the nation of this

growing spiritual decay. Now psychiatrists are sounding the same alarm. Dr. Stanley Jones quotes one prominent west coast psychiatrist as saying that most of his patients needed the mourners bench and God far more than they needed him.

All the while we seek substitutes, and look for scapegoats. We blame prohibition for national corruption, and now drunkenness is at an all-time high since we have dispensed with them. We say we must have more recreation, so we are gradually giving over Sunday, the Lord's day, to commercialized recreation, Sunday picture shows, Sunday commercial games are being accepted over the country. Saturday night dances are running well over into Sunday morning. Now public dances on Sunday night are being offered. Truly, like Nero, "we fiddle while Rome burns."

This nation came to greatness on the home, the church and the school — no amount of military preparedness will suffice if we continue our course of spiritual decay which leaves us morally weak and unprepared.

Ella Mae Masingale Has Birthday Party
 The doctors and nurses on the staff of the Harris Community hospital gave a birthday party Thursday, February 19, at 2:30 o'clock for Ella Mae Masingale, a young girl from Argura, who has been a patient in the hospital for about three months recovering from burns.

Ella Mae, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Whitney Masingale, was celebrating her 8th birthday anniversary. The birthday cake was decorated in blue and pink and had eight blue candies.

Other children attending the party were Lois Slagle, Billy Kilpatrick, Michael and Bucky Strong, and Sheila Ann Kirchberg.

SAVANNAH NEWS
 Guy Sutton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dave Sutton of Gay, and Miss Margie Green, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leman Green of Green's Creek, were married Saturday, February 4, in a quite ceremony performed at Clayton, Ga. They will reside at the home of the bridegroom's parents, at present.

Mrs. R. O. Higdon and daughter, Joanne, went to Franklin Sunday to visit a family. The father of the bride is John Murray. He was 83 years old.

PERSONALS

Mrs. Bill Wilson was taken to Asheville Tuesday where she entered Mission hospital to receive treatment for a broken vertebra which she received in an accident last week.

Mrs. Lucile Painter will arrive Friday from Greenville, S. C., to spend the week-end with Miss Beatrice Cagle.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Walker and children will return the latter part of the week from a two weeks vacation with relatives in Tifton, Ga.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Garrett of Louisville arrived Saturday to spend a few days in Sylva. Mr. Garrett is a student in Radio-Radar Training school at Louisville. Mrs. Garrett is the former Miss Joyce Chester of Sylva.

Mr. and Mrs. N. R. Beacham and children spent the week-end in Greenville, S. C., on a combined business and pleasure trip. On Sunday Mr. Beacham was guest speaker and soloist at the Presbyterian church.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Erwin and daughter, Jane, Mrs. Deitz, and Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Montietr were in Gaffney, S. C., Sunday attending the funeral of Mrs. Laura Williams.

Patrolman and Mrs. W. T. Houser went to Rutherfordton last Saturday to attend the funeral of his nephew, Gerald Houser. They returned to Sylva that night.

HOSPITAL NEWS

Mrs. Mary Buchanan, Greens Creek, recovering from operation.

Miss Julia Davis, doing nicely after appendectomy.

Mrs. Mildred Shuler, Tuckaseegee, recovering from appendectomy.

Mrs. Evelyn Turpin, Sylva, Rt. 1, recovering from operation, doing nicely.

Mrs. Lewis B. Allen, Sylva, receiving treatment.

Miss Betty Cable, Tuckaseegee, appendectomy, doing nicely.

Mr. Robinson Cagle, Sylva, Rt. 1, recuperating after operation.

Mr. Nathan Ward, Whittier, Rt. 1, in for treatment.

Richard McLean, Cherokee, recovering from burns.

Ella Mae Masingale, Argura, recovering from burns.

Dan Phillips, Dillsboro, improving following an accident.

Presbyterian Church Plans Being Drawn
 Rev. W. H. Wakefield, pastor of the Sylva Presbyterian Church has been in Salisbury for the past several days consulting the architect employed by the Synod in regard to plans for the Presbyterian church soon to be erected in Sylva. It is hoped that construction of the church may be started immediately after the plans have been approved.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Doyle Thomas, Bryson City, a son, on February 21.

Mr. and Mrs. Payne Jones of Cullowhee announce the birth of a son on February 24.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Claude Melton of Sylva a son, on Feb. 21.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Dillard of Cashiers announce the birth of a son on February 22.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Dillard of Webster, a son, on Feb. 18.

Mr. Austin Hooper, Tuckaseegee, improving following an appendectomy.

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No One Wins

It is regrettable that the misunderstanding between employees and management of the Sylva Laundry has caused a ripple of discord in the long-standing good record of labor-management relations in Jackson county at this time. Our citizens, the workers, and their employers have been able to boast of such splendid cooperation up to now. The Herald hopes that the strike, now in progress, can soon be settled to the satisfaction of both parties concerned. Should there develop a long strike in which tempers grow hot and strife occurs, no one will gain very much in the end.

Missing Number

"McGrath handled himself pretty well," said Governor Cherry of the conference in Washington between Southern governors and the Democratic national chairman. We think so, too. We think also that the delegation of excellencies put a good front on their argument. And if "there was just a lot of talk, talk, talk," as Mr. Cherry, adds, why then a ventilation of viewpoints hasn't hurt anybody.

However, question No. 13 in the lengthy colloquy is somewhat revealing. "Will you, as chairman of the Democratic national committee," asked Governor Thurmond, "use your influence to restore the two-thirds rule in the 1948 Democratic national convention?"

Senator-Chairman McGrath said no, but the question gets us down to hardpan. It is the two-thirds rule. And that, perhaps, is the missing number in the whole equation of the Southern revolt.

The two-thirds rule provided that "two-thirds of the whole number of the votes in the convention shall be necessary to constitute a choice." This language was written long ago, as the Baltimore convention of 1832 when Andrew Jackson sponsored it to give added weight to the naming of Martin Van Buren as candidate for Vice President. It was abandoned in 1936 at the instance of President Roosevelt, who met no party opposition that year and who opposed it on the grounds of majority rule.

But it is the two-thirds rule which was the traditional veto available to the South in naming a candidate. For the sake of political realism there is some defense in this veto. In the past it has served as a sort of reward to the solid South for remaining solid.

We suspect that this is, in reality, the issue behind the issue of 1948 as raised in various guises by certain politician. Whatever may be said for or against it, that issue has now been clarified. There is all the more reason now for heeding the calm counsel of the moderates, such as Governor Cherry, who are not disposed to work themselves into a lather for reasons heretofore deviously designated.

—Asheville Citizen.

Political note: Some of the professionals now think that, with Eisenhower out of the running, Taft and Dewey will deadlock at the convention, and open the way for Stassen or Warren. There is also more and more talk of the merits of Vandenberg.

When the colored preacher said to Brother Jones that he should give a small donation for a fence around the cemetery, Jones replied: "I don't see no use in a fence around the cemetery. Dem what's in there can't get out, and dem what's sho doan wanna get in."