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INSIDE WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON — President Truman is devoting much time these post-election days to consideration of the cabinet which will serve him in his second administration.

Top Washington observers, with access to White House sources, believe the president has as yet made no definite decisions about replacements — which loom eventually in the spots now occupied by Secretary of State George C. Marshall, Defense Secretary James Forrestal and Interior Secretary Julius A. Krug.

The other cabinet posts are more likely to remain as they are—with Treasury Secretary John W. Snyder, Postmaster General Jesse M. Donaldson, Agriculture Secretary Brannan and Labor Secretary Maurice Tobin more or less certain to stay.

Marshall wishes to retire after formation of the North Atlantic Alliance. The president may ask Supreme Court Chief Justice M. Vinson to step down from the bench and take the job, draft Supreme Court Justice O. Douglas, or, perhaps, even turn to a Republican, such as Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg of Michigan.

There has been no decision on who will succeed Forrestal. When Forrestal goes, Army Secretary Kenneth Royall and Navy Secretary John Sullivan probably will go with him. Missouri-born Air Secretary Stuart Symington is likely to remain. Mentioned as a possible Forrestal successor is Senator Chan Gurney (R), South Dakota, Senate defense committee chairman.

Krug may be succeeded by defeated Gov. Mon C. Wallgren of Washington—or the president may reappoint former Interior Secretary Harold Ickes, who did yeoman service for the Truman campaign in its closing days.

CHINESE PUZZLE — Certain Washington strategists are far less upset than might be expected concerning the Chinese government's military reverses.

They do not like to see the Communists making such headway against Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalist troops in northeast China, but they think it may all turn out for the best.

Withdrawal of Chiang's forces from Mukden, capital of Manchuria, was long urged by these strategists before the capital's fall.

They contend that Chiang should consolidate his forces, knock the Communists out of central China, and then move northward and finally take over Manchuria.

In fact, these strategists are firmly convinced that the weakness of the Nationalist armies to date is simply that they are spread too thinly over a large area. This is one of the reasons for opposition in Washington to larger aid grants to China.

Now, however, it is anticipated that China's Nationalist forces will consolidate—of necessity. If the generalissimo decides to make a fight along the lines of American strategy, there may be a sharp change in the administration outlook on aid.

TAFT SWITCH — Don't be surprised if Senator Robert A. Taft (R), Ohio, takes the Senate minority floor leadership—despite predictions of the experts that he would not be interested.

It is true that if the Republicans had won the Senate, Taft would have refused the majority floor leadership. Under those circumstances, he could have exerted more influence as GOP policy committee chairman.

His situation shapes up differently, however, in a Democrat-controlled Senate. A minority policy chairmanship is not a strong position in relation to party affairs.

On the other hand, Vice-President-Elect Alben Barkley, as minority leader in the last Congress, was by all odds the strong man on the Democratic side of the aisle.

So it seems highly likely that Taft will take the Republican floor, rather than policy leadership. This will be a jolt to some of his colleagues, particularly Acting Floor Leader Kenneth Wherry (R), Nebraska.

Only a few saw that first flight. And the rest of the U. S. wouldn't believe it even after reading it in the papers.

It wasn't long though before even the die-hard dissenters admitted they'd rather be one of the Wright brothers than president.

Retailers Agree —

President Truman, in a telegram to a retailers' conference, said that the reduction of distribution costs is especially important today in order to help reduce prices and make the consumer's dollar go farther.

That point of view is fully shared by the great majority of the retailers of this country. And they haven't just paid it lip service. They have shown, by tangible and aggressive action, that no group is more aware of the dangers of inflation, and none is more eager to combat it to the limit of its abilities.

The policy of typical retailers, chain and independent alike, has been to reduce prices whenever possible, to resist price increases as long as possible, to avoid high-priced goods when suitable, lower-priced substitutes are available, and to hold down overhead and operating costs to the lowest practical level. They work on very small unit profits — and earn an adequate total through heavy volume. Their contribution to the economic welfare of this country is immeasurable.

Good Farm Management —

Some first-class advice for the American farmer recently came from Dean William Myers, of the New York State College of Agriculture at Cornell, when he said: "It seems today that good farm management . . . calls for farm people to continue to build financial reserves in United States Savings Bonds rather than to enlarge their farm businesses beyond the size needed for efficient operation. The possibility of speculative profit from buying farm land or livestock when prices and incomes are high is seldom worth the worry and risk of losing everything if a drastic drop in farm incomes should follow."

The situation that followed World War I is in point. Prices and land values were high then, as now. In instance after instance farmers mortgaged their property in order to buy more. A disastrous break in the prices paid for farm produce came along — and a tragic number of farmers lost not only their new holdings, but their old places as well.

Everyone hopes that this will not be repeated. At the same time, it is only the part of wisdom for farmers to place a substantial part of surplus income in liquid assets — assets which can be immediately turned into cash if the need arises. Here is where U. S. Savings Bonds perfectly fill the bill. They are the safest possible investment. Depending on the type purchased, they either appreciate in value as time goes on or pay a good rate of interest. They are as liquid as cash in the bank. And, last but not least, they give the farmer and everyone the opportunity to own a financial share in his government.

UNCLE SAM can now relax. The Wright brothers Kitty Hawk plane has come home. It should never have gone away in the first place.

The plane is being housed in Washington's Smithsonian Institution where, to every patriotic American, it is strictly Exhibit A.

The Kitty Hawk may look to the younger generation like a motorized boxkite but it's the honored great-great-grandpa of all sky canoes.

Just 45 years ago the Wright plane took off on its first flight from Kitty Hawk hill in North Carolina and man had at last caught up with the birds.

THE KNOT EXPERTS



The Everyday Counsellor

By REV. HERBERT SPAUGH, D. D.

Have you developed a rhythm to your everyday living? This is most important, and necessary to successful living. Nervous, neurotic, irritable people have never learned a rhythm of living. If we are physically well, we have that rhythm in the regular actions of breathing, and of the heart pumping blood throughout the system. This is part of our natural physical endowment.

But mental and spiritual rhythm has to be acquired. Most of this takes real effort and consistent regular practice.

Another illustration of this was brought to my mind the other day when I met a man by the name of Frick. The name immediately brought to my recollection a well known Corliss steam engine which carried that name, and which was very popular in the cotton mills of the south a number of years ago before the majority of them turned to electric power. Steam engines have always interested me from boyhood and I used to frequently prowl around factory engine rooms and railroad yards.

During the era of the steam engines, popularity there were two general types of engines. The first of these was the so-called slide-valve engine which was used in small plants and ran rapidly with considerable vibration and was very wasteful of steam. The other was the Corliss engine which was largely operated with much slower motion and more regular rhythm. The needed speed was developed by using a very large flywheel to the engine, which was some times 15 or 20 feet in diameter.

I have often compared people to these two types of steam engines which were so common in my boyhood which I used to watch with admiration.

There are people who live much like the old wasteful slide valve engine. They are always in a hurry, work by fits and starts, waste much physical and nervous energy. The old slide-valve engine would slow down when you put a heavy load on it, because it wasted much of its power in vibration and in steam which went rapidly out of the exhaust pipe.

There are others who have learned a rhythm of living, and operate much like the old Corliss engine. They have reserve power which they do not waste in rapid erratic motions and in emotional upsets. When an extra load comes upon them, they have the power

to carry it. The peace of God in our hearts furnishes the greatest known power reserve for everyday living. Those who have it can say with St. Paul, "I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me . . . I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content."

References: Philippians 4.

G. A.s Meet With Sybil Warren

The G. A.s of the Sylva Baptist church met for their regular meeting with Sybil Warren on Saturday afternoon with six members present. Mrs. Claude Campbell is the group counsellor. At this meeting the Lottie Moon offering was made.

The Christmas motif was carried out in the refreshments. White iced cup cakes iced with green holly and red berry designs and chewing gum Santa Clauses were placed on the papkins bearing ole Santa. Also coca-colas were served.

Those presents for the meeting were Dolly Mae Rice, Betty Jones, Gracie Nell Bost, Geneva Sorrolls, Sybil, and Mrs. Campbell. Mrs. M. Warren was a guest.

Singing At Old Savannah

There will be a singing convention at the Old Savannah Baptist church on Sunday, Dec. 26, beginning at 1:30 in the afternoon. All singers are invited to come. The public is also cordially invited.



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MUGGS AND SKEETER



Mrs. Cope Hostess To Presbyterian Auxiliary

The women of the Presbyterian church met last Friday evening with Mrs. Grayson Cope for their monthly meeting and annual Christmas party. After a lengthy business session, presided over by the president, Mrs. C. C. Pettit, Jr., presented the program theme of the month, Christmas and its real meaning. Mrs. F. B. Houston of Lewisburg, Tenn., was a guest.

A social hour was enjoyed during which gifts were exchanged. Mrs. Cope, assisted by Mrs. Alline Bryson, served a salad and sweet course with coffee. The Christmas colors of red and green predominated in the refreshments.

Mrs. McKee Loved By Colored People

Mrs. E. L. McKee was the best friend we colored people had in Jackson county. When the sick and poor, motherless children needed help we went to her and got help. Then Mrs. McKee had the missionary ladies of her church to go to Maize Chapel Methodist church and spoke words of encouragement to us, and also gave us money to help us in our work. We have received as much as \$24.00 in one night. Then she had the ladies to go to the Baptist church also to help them. She gave five colored women a dollar each year at Christmas for a number of years. The many good things she has done for us. Blessings on her memory.

Written by Ada M. Howell.

Christmas Carols To Be Sung In Dillsboro

Due to circumstances beyond our control, there will not be a community Christmas tree in Dillsboro this year. Instead Christmas carols will be played over an amplifier in memory of Mrs. Gertrude Dills McKee on Thursday afternoon, Dec. 23, from 3:30 to 4:30 o'clock.

Cake Making And Cake Decorating Demonstrations Well Received

Miss Rita Dubois, Extension nutritionist of Raleigh, gave a very interesting demonstration on best methods of cake making last Friday afternoon in the Allison building. Before the meeting she prepared a devil's food cake with cooked icing which was served to those present. Miss Dubois mixed and baked another cake during the demonstration.

Mr. William Blalock, of the Home Bakery in Sylva, also demonstrated fancy cake decorating. He decorated two cakes which were very beautiful. The women present envied Mr. Blalock of his artistic and unusual talent, also the ease and swiftness which he demonstrated in his work. He used uncooked icing for his dem-

Lovedale Baptist To Have Play On Christmas Eve

On Christmas Eve at 8:00 p. m. the Lovedale Baptist church will give their annual Christmas program. The play, "The Search For The Christ Child," is under the direction of Mrs. Claude Stanford and R. O. Vance.

The characters in the play are Child; Peggy Middleton; Boy, Edward Henson; Little Girl, Irene Angel; Mother, Mrs. Ralph England; The Girl, Dorris Middleton; First Reveller, Blanche Monteith; Second Reveller, Jack Alexander; Carolers, Christine Angel, Doris Alexander, and Doyle Alexander; Scientist, Claude McConnell; Gentleman, Clyde Vance; Lady, Claudia Stanford, and Bell Ringer, D. V. Frye.

Following the play the junior department, under the direction of Mrs. G. E. Scruggs, will give a short program.

Everyone is invited to come.

See Firemen For Your 1949 City Auto Tags

The Sylva Fire Department has ordered 250 Sylva city tags for sale at \$1.00 each. These tags have arrived and a number of people have already purchased their tags. The firemen announced this week that quite a few tags remain to be sold and request city auto owners to get a tag as soon as possible. These can be had at Campbell's Electric Company or from any of the firemen.

There is nothing compulsory about whether you buy a tag or not, this is just one way the fire department has of raising funds with which to carry on their work for our protection. Since there are no taxes levied other than public funds for the operation of the department it is necessary that all of these tags be sold. The department is now in need of funds for supplies and equipment. Your \$1.00 for a tag will help them carry on.

Births

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Jamison have announced the birth of a daughter, Charlotte Nell, on Dec. 4, at their home.

Mr. and Mrs. John Martin, Jr., have announced the birth of a son, Gary Tyrone, at their home on Dec. 11.

Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Rice announce the birth of a son, Alvin Eugene, on Dec. 8 at their home at Candler cabins.

A new artificial breeding barn has recently been completed on the State College dairy farm near Raleigh. The structure will house 18 bulls and will be the center of research and teaching activities in artificial dairy breeding.

The women were delighted with the cake making and icing demonstration and expressed a desire to have such a demonstration at least once a year.

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"T.D.S."

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