

TRUMAN

LT - Sun - P+G - Wed - Nov. 6, 1946

President Truman today said -- no comment.

The President returned to the White House cheery and smiling -- he's an old hand at politics, the ups and downs of the game.

His last previous comment had been last evening, out in Independence, Missouri, his home town, where he had gone to vote. He then said the Democrats would win -- of course. That was before the returns had begun to come

in. When they did start coming -- it was ~~a deluge~~ ^{evident that} ~~most of the Democratic candidates were running in reverse.~~

Back in Washington today the President faced 2 questions based on the fact that, for the next two years of the Administration, he'll have to deal with a decisive Republican majority in Congress. He had a smile for that -- and no comment.

~~And, he~~ refused to say anything about the suggestion made by Senator Fulbright of Arkansas today, ^{That} Democratic ^{came out today with the proposal} legislator, ~~saying he believed,~~ that President Truman should resign; ~~and~~ turn the administration over to the Republicans. ^{Which Mr. Truman} ~~he~~ could do by naming a Republican Secretary of State, and then stepping out. In

the absence of a Vice-President, the Secretary of State is successor to the President. ^{Democratic} Senator Fulbright thought President Truman should name Senator Vandenberg to take his place in the White House -- Vandenberg being the Republican most prominent in international affairs.

^{This Democratic Senator's}
~~The Fulbright~~ idea is that if the Administration were turned over to the Republicans, a stalemate would be averted -- a stalemate caused by the conflict of a Democratic White House and a Republican Congress. He said: "Give the responsibility to the Party that has the power."

There's not much prospect of this -- ^{most} unlikely that President Truman will consider stepping out ~~and~~ ^{after} virtually appointing a Republican successor. So what are the prospects of a stalemate?

There won't be any on the subject of foreign policy -- the sort of thing that wrecked Woodrow Wilson. The Republicans are heartily in support of the Truman foreign policy -- which is Bi-Partisan.

In domestic affairs, there's likely to be a

decided cleavage of opinion. In the reorganization of the new Congress, the top posts will go to Republicans

who have been in strong opposition to the domestic ~~in~~

policy of the past

~~vogue for~~ sixteen years. ~~There will be a lot of~~

will be a lot of

Presumably there

investigations in connection with war spending, the

billions poured out in war contracts. Bills are likely to

be passed to abolish ~~the~~ wartime controls altogether, —

like the O.P.A. And, put an end to the war powers of

the President. Republicans were saying today that they

are going to cut expenditures, slash spending all over

the place, and reduce taxes.

On the other side of the Governmental fence, the White House side, the President will stand armed with his veto power. -- ~~But~~ it may be that Harry Truman will turn out to be not so violently opposed to many of the things a Republican Congress will do -- along the line of de-control, the abolition of war powers, and the establishment of a sounder financial policy.

ELECTION

The latest count shows Senate seats in doubt in West Virginia, Maryland and New Mexico. In each case the Democratic Candidate is slightly ahead -- the issue still to be decided. In West Virginia, Senator Kilgore has a small margin. In Maryland Democratic Candidate ~~Qix~~ O'Connor is slightly ahead, as the counting goes on. In New Mexico its been a seesaw race all day between Democratic Senator Chavez and Republican Candidate General ^{Pat} Hurley. The latest figures put Chavez ahead by ^{a mere} ~~the tiny~~ ^{couple of} ~~margin of three~~ hundred votes, ^R leaving those three still disputed races out of the calculation, the Republicans have elected fifty-one Senators, which gives them a clear majority of two in the Upper House. In their landslide victory yesterday, they picked up twelve Senate Seats.

To the House of Representatives they've elected two-hundred-and-forty-five Congressmen, and it takes only two-hundred-and-eighteen for a majority. The gain they made yesterday in the Lower House comes to fifty-three, at this moment -- and there will probably be more.

Four races for the House of Representatives are still undecided -- all in the West. And the Republicans are ahead in two.

Tonight Republican leadership is still astonished by magnitude of the victory won by the G O P. Montana, Idaho, Utah, Nevada, California, Oregon, Washington - all Republican.

In Utah the first G O P Senator and congressman since Nineteen Forty Two.

Idaho Republican after fourteen years.

In Nevada, the same story.

Montana to send a Republican Senator to Washington for the first time in thirty-four years.

For the first time in fourteen years, Republicans will head the California Congressional delegation, Republicans scoring sweeping wins by taking fourteen of California's twenty-three seats in the House, also picking up a Senate seat and important state offices in addition.

Said a Republican county committeeman in

Oregon tonight: "This was a vote of protest by the laboring class against bureaucratic government."

And he added!
The workers are dissatisfied with strikes and spiraling prices.

Republican disappointments, all over this nation, were few and far between - the principal one being the re-election of Congressman Marcantonio of New York, who had been opposed so vigorously on the charge that he followed the Communist Party Line.

ADD ELECTION

In Nebraska, South Dakota, and Arizona, the electorate voted for changing the basic state laws. From now on, the closed shop ~~will~~ no longer **t** be the law.

Nebraska had the strongest proposal - a proposal prohibiting written or oral contracts establishing a closed shop. And that went over with a heavy vote, to become effective immediately, without further action by the State Legislature.

South Dakota more than two to one for an amendment strengthening the present State law banning the closed shop. **I**n Arizona, the vote isn't quite all in yet. But the anti-closed shop amendment seems to have a safe lead with a veterans' "right-to-work" committee, favoring the bill.

DEWEY

An election night is one of the great hurly-burly events of American life -- especially for people connected with the news, who go spinning around in a maze of returns, figures from everywhere. Last night was all that, plus! as the picture of the Republican sweep developed in the confusion of returns and figures. Hurly-burly -- is the word. Then in the middle of the assorted excitements came a note of superb contrast, an expression of political philosophy, calm and thoughtful -- somebody just summing it all up in his own mind and trying to get the meaning of it according to his own lights.

This ^{from} ~~was~~ Governor Dewey of New York; -- his ears ^{still} ringing with the news of his dazzling triumph, the piling up of the immense majority that he won. He was called to the microphone on a nation-wide hook-up to make a victory statement -- and it would have been only human if Tom Dewey had done a bit of gloating, had let his jubilation get the better of him, ^{if he had} spoken in a tone of personal elation.

But not at all. ^{The Young New York Governor} ~~Tom Dewey~~ had been summing up in his own mind what all this meant, and here's how he saw it. "In this election," he said into the microphone "Our people were making a choice between two different kinds of Government, involving two different political philosophies. Quietly and firmly, but overwhelmingly, the peoples have spoken, and I believe this is what they said."

Whereupon ~~Tom~~ Dewey quoted the people as saying "We want a government that has both a heart and a head. We want a Government that can be both progressive and solvent. We want a Government that can make social advances and still be responsible. We want a state Government that is effective but does not try to control the lives of its citizens."

And then he summarized: "In short, our people want a Government that will serve the people without trying to become their master."

No tone of gloating at all. Instead, genuine humility. Spoken e a statesman. ☞ That was the way the Governor of New York interpreted the hurly-burly of the news on election

night - - thinking in American terms, with the mental habit of a people who are reared from the cradle on up ~~on~~ the idea ^{that} ~~of~~ the most precious blessing ~~that~~ a Government can give is liberty, the right of free citizens.*

CHICAGO

In any large and varied phenomenon, you're likely to find some one point of which you can say -- this just about tells the story of the whole thing. That's the case with the election -- and the point in question is Chicago. What happened in the windy city gives a clue to the Republican triumph in particularly graphic fashion.

In Chicago, for sixteen years, the Democratic political machine, headed by Mayor Kelly, has been dominant and invincible. The Kelly machine seemed as enduring and unshakable as the Rock of Gibraltar. Yes, the Republicans might sweep the nation, but they'd batter their heads in vain against the Democratic Organization in Chicago. -- That's what you'd have thought.

But the facts are otherwise. The ~~nationwide~~ nationwide Republican tidal wave made almost a complete sweep of the Kelly machine, so far as this election was concerned. In the city of Chicago, Cook County, every Democratic City Candidate lost out but one. And that lone victory was being attacked today -- with charges

of crookedness at the polls.

The Kelly Machine lost out in the case of County Sheriff, County Treasurer, President of the County Board, County Superintendent of Schools, Clerk of the Probate Court, Judge of the Probate Court. Those are mere city offices, but they are of decisive importance for the city political machine.

Today's figures show the Kelly Machine victorious only in retaining the County Judgeship. And late news pictures the Republicans starting attempts to reverse that result -- on the charge that the one lone election day victory for the Kelly Machine was fraudulent

Thus has the Rock of Gibraltar toppled in the realm of city political machines -- the Rock of ~~Gibraltar~~ Gibraltar simply washed away by the Republican ~~tidal~~ tidal wave, at least so far as this election is concerned.

PACIFIC ISLANDS

Notice was served today that ^{definitely} we intend to keep the Japanese Island possessions that we conquered during the war. We intend to hold them under the trusteeship of the United Nations -- hold them exclusively. This was announced by President Truman today.

There have been American demands that ~~we~~ we annex the islands. There have been foreign suggestions that we should share the trusteeship of them with other countries. President Truman takes a middle course and says that we're asking for the sole trusteeship. This applies to islands that ring in ~~the~~ American memory, like Okinawa, Iwo Jima, the Marshalls, ^{the Marianas,} ~~and~~ the Carolines, and others.

GANDHI

In India today, Mahatma Gandhi uttered a threat -- that he'll starve himself to death. This is not an unusual idea for India's far famed seer and saint to propound. A hunger strike is a normal part of the Gandhi strategy. He has, more than once, gone on a fast of protest -- usually the means of bringing pressure on the British. This/time the object is something else again -- the rioters of Bihar.

next to the Province of Bengal
In the Indian State of Bihar, [^]savage fighting is going on between the Moslems and Hindus, a new outbreak of ferocious violence -- following previous disturbances in Eastern Bengal. The latest word is that a thousand people have been killed during the past few days -- Moslem versus Hindus in the State of Bihar.

The Gandhi threat of a hunger strike is aimed at the rioters. He tells them that, if they don't stop the murderous disturbance, he will fast unto death.

Gandhi has, in fact, been on a semi-fast for some days. He says he went on a reduced diet for the benefit of his health. Gandhi, the Ascetic of India,

who never does eat much -- is reputed to dine on goats' milk and bird seed.

He reduced even that for the sake of his health -- cutting out a few bird seeds, I suppose. And now the decrease of the Gandhi dinner acquires a new purpose.

Today the Mahatma said, "That diet now continues as a pennance, after learning of the Bahari tragedy. The low diet," he continues, "will become a fast unto death -- if the erring Baharis have not turned over a new leaf."

I wonder how much effect/~~this~~ threat from Mahatma Gandhi, the Hindu Saint, will have on the Moslems of Bihar -- those enraged Mohammedan fanatics, who are assailing Hindus.

SAILOR

The Philadelphia police are glad to get rid of Sailor Bill Long. Sailor Bill has them mystified and puzzled, and they're happy to turn him back to the Navy. His talents are extraordinary and disturbing. Sailor Bill has a knack of climbing to high places, and then forgetting how he got there.

The perplexity began when someone was seen lying on ~~the~~^a ledge, on the Seventh Floor, of the Philadelphia City Hall. Whereupon the police found it was Sailor Bill Long, sound asleep on that dizzy ledge overlooking the street. If he had happened to turn over while snoozing, he would have gone plunging down seven stories. They awakened him and got him inside, and he ~~appeared~~ appeared to be as mystified as they were. He said he couldn't remember how he ever got out on the ledge. There was further mystery in the fact that Sailor Bill didn't have any shoes on -- just his socks. He also couldn't remember what he had done with his shoes. The final puzzle came when the sailor's shoes were found neatly placed on a ledge at the Sixth Floor.

He had visited the Sixth Floor ledge, had taken off his shoes there, and had proceeded to the Seventh Floor ledge. This was all the more remarkable because the arrangement of the building is such that that part of the Sixth Floor does not connect with the Seventh Floor.

With all the evidence in, the best guess is that Sailor Bill climbed up, outside, from ledge to ledge -- climbed up the ^{Face of the} building wall all the way from the street to the Seventh Floor, ^{like a human fly, and} there ~~he~~ went to sleep -- tired no doubt. *And now Nelson, if you are not too tired --*

The cops have turned the absent-minded Mariner over to the Navy with a sigh of relief. They figured they never could tell where they ^d ~~would~~ find Sailor Bill the next time. I don't know what the Navy will do about his forgetful exploits of climbing, but he certainly would have been a valuable asset to the fleet in the old days of sailing ships, when Jack Tar was required to shinny up the main mast.

And now Hugh will you shinny up to this milex - and tell us about our friend Dinnah - Fuel!

DEWEY

The latest figures give Governor Dewey a majority of six-hundred-and-eighty thousand votes. And, with that huge majority, there's immediate talk about Presidential prospects -- the leading figures being Dewey, Bricker of Ohio, who won a corresponding victory for Senator, and Governor Warren of California, the story of whose election is told by the fact that he was the candidate of both parties. — which is by not necessarily ~~an~~ an advantage in going out for the Presidential nomination.

HORSES

England is having ^a scandal, ^{with} ~~and~~ the police ~~are~~ looking for crooks, -- ~~it's~~ a nefarious affair that concerns one of England's most revered institutions. The turf, horse racing.

In several recent races, odds-on favorites astonished and confounded the public by running out of the money ⁻⁻⁻ ~~favorities~~ coming in last. This happened in the twenty-five thousand dollar steeplechase at Nottingham, at the New Market Races; and ^{at} ~~in~~ still other ~~prominent competitions of~~ ^{big race meet.} ~~thoughtbreds.~~

In each case something odd was noted afterward -- the horse had a curious kind of rash. The favorite that did so badly showed evidences of burns on ribs and legs -- this was so much the case in the Grand Sefton Chase at Liverpool last week, that the favorite had to drop out, couldn't finish.

So the police are investigating, and they recall a thing that happened ten years ago. At that time a gang of crooks operated at the British Race Tracks and cleaned up a fortune by fixing races in a particularl

ugly way. As the horses were paraded in the paddock for an event, they'd be in the forefront of the crowd scrutinizing the thoroughbreds. They'd get in close -- and, hidden behind programs and race cards, they'd have squirt guns with acid. With these they'd contrive to spray the favorite -- spray the horse with stuff to cause ~~cause~~ irritation and lameness during a race.

Apparently a similar gang of crooks is operating in the same way -- bringing about a scandal in Britain's favorite sport, the sport of kings.

BYRD

In Washington today, a decoration was bestowed, and a project was announced. The decoration-- for service in the war. The project -- an expedition to the South Pole. The ~~one who figured in these was~~ *central figure in both* Admiral Byrd.

In neither case, are we given the details. The Navy bestows its gold star on Dick Byrd for what it called ^S~~it~~ -- secret war missions. We are merely informed that these had to do with the charting of islands in the Pacific during the war. ^RAs for the expedition to the Antarctic, Admiral Byrd will announce his plans later -- just what kind of expedition he will take and for what specific purpose.

It will be his fourth adventure in the South Polar Regions -- his first ~~having been~~ *was long* long years ago -- Nineteen Twenty-Eight to E Thirty. -- and *Floyd Bennett* Previously, in Nineteen Twenty-Six, Byrd ^A had flown over the North Pole, ~~was~~ followed by his headline Trans-Atlantic Flight in Nineteen-Twenty-Seven, ~~with~~ *with* *Balchen, Acosta and Norville. Well,* Dick Byrd is ~~fifty~~ fifty-eight now -- and ~~is~~ getting

ready to start on his fourth trip to the Antarctic.

His secret exploits of wartime, which won the Navy decoration today, can be clarified a bit by noting that during the conflict in the Pacific, the Navy made much use of experienced explorers, charting little known sectors of islands and reefs - on into Jap territory. When we wntered the war, there was a lot we didn't know about the more obscure geography of the Pacific, uninhabited islands vastly remote, reefs of coral on which a warship might impale itself, and oceanic secrets kept hidden by the Japs.

I happen to know a couple of Dick Byrd's former comrades in ~~the~~ South Polar exploration, who were on those ^{island-atal} charting jobs in the Pacific. One was Commander Dick Black, who commanded half of the last big American expedition to the Antarctic, which was organized by ^{Adm.} Byrd. Black is still out there on those islands in the Pacific. And, Finn Ronne, who was with Byrd both in the Arctic and ~~in~~ the Antarctic. Finn

Ronne, ~~is~~ the son of a famous explorer, who was Amundsen's right hand man on ~~the~~ great adventures at both Poles. ~~Right now~~ ^{I believe,} Finn Ronne is in the Arctic ^{now,} going through the northwest Passage, making the far northern trip from the Atlantic to the Pacific, one of the classic adventures of exploration. Before he left, he told me that he was going on a South Polar trip, as well -- after completing the Northwest Passage.

All of which is a sign of how, in this post-war period, the adventure of exploration is back with us again.

BUS

At Detroit today, a crowded bus was driving along, when dark tragedy loomed with a sudden threat of black disaster. The big bus, with every seat occupied, was crossing railroad tracks, ^{— in fact} ~~and was~~ right in the middle when the big iron gates closed down on both sides. The bus was trapped, and down the line a fast passenger train came speeding. It looked like horror.

But the bus driver acted with skill and speed. He swung the bus, long and bulky, for a quick turn -- swung it around and ran it down a track on the side, -- and the train roared by a few feet away.

That should have ended the story, but it didn't. The passengers, terrified by what had happened, were in a panic. Though all were safe now, they stampeded out of the bus, piling over each other to get to the door -- ~~and~~ one of them sustained ^{ing} a sprained ankle. That was the extent of the casualties ~~when~~ the bus crossing the railroad tracks was trapped by the gates -- ^{with the express} ~~and the~~ train was coming.

FOOTBALL

In New York City tonight its the eve of the football game. Usually you'd only make that kind of remark about some college town - the night before the big game. But that Army-Notre Dame fracas which is to be staged at Yankee Stadium tomorrow, is one of those miracle affairs. I don't suppose any other foot-ball extravaganza has ever excited such tense and widespread interest -- with New York, the Big Town reporting on the eve of the game.

~~They say~~ The city is jammed tonight with football fans, as never before. Hotels booked to capacity. Nightclubs, restaurants and theatres expecting their greatest weekend football business. Hotels crowded to capacity with out-of-town people pouring in to see the game. Many fans, unable to get hotel accommodations are stopping over as far as Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington. The weather man predicts cool and cloudy weather for tomorrow which means - a dry field, and that's supposed to favor the Army, with Blanchard and Davis.

The focus of attention is on ~~my~~ Johnny Lujack, the Notre Dame star with the sprained ankle. Will he be able to play tomorrow? If so, will he be handicapped? Tonight Lujack is quoted as saying "it still hurts when I step down hard -- but there's nothing to worry about." No, all he has to worry about is a sprained ankle, as he goes into a football game that promises to ^{be one of the} ~~set records for hard,~~ ~~rough play.~~ ^{great games of this or} any season.

MYSTERY GIRL

In New Jersey they have released the mystery girl. The latest on the wire says they've turned her loose -- and ~~that~~ they still don't know who she is. There was a national sensation on the detention of the twenty year old blonde who called herself Susan Bower -- which she admits is not her right name. She didn't say who she was. Failing to find out, the authorities have released her late today. They picked her up hitch-hiking to Jacksonville, Florida and she says she is going to continue her journey on to Jacksonville, still unknown.

COTTON

In Washington, measures are recommended to control the fluctuation of cotton prices - King Cotton being off on a series of wild gyrations, featured by nose dives. Today Secretary of Agriculture Anderson urged that restrictions should be placed on cotton speculation. He suggested that ~~speculators~~ speculators should not be allowed to deal in futures in an unlimited degree. So restrict all futures to thirty thousand bales, says he.

ELECTION - 4

international affairs is called to mind by news that Secretary of State Byrnes has been talking things over with Senator Vandenberg of Michigan. Byrnes and Vandenberg have been colleagues in bi-partisan foreign policy and now Vandenberg of Michigan will become head of the Foreign Relations Committee - doubling his importance.



ELECTION - ADD

Here's the latest. Senator Vandenberg has just informed the Assembly of the United Nations that the political change will make no difference -- the Republican victory in the election will ~~in~~ not alter American foreign policy in the least.

ITALY

Today in New York the Ministers of the Big Four were trying to figure out some solution of the problem of Trieste. Presumably they were ~~talking~~ taking notice of the offer made by Jugoslavia's Marshal Tito, who said that he'd give Trieste to Italy, if he were allowed to take Gorizia, the strategic town to the north of the great Adriatic Port.

In Italy today, the newspapers were unanimous except for the Communists, in rejecting Tito's proposal. And in London it is noted that, if Tito got Gorizia, he would control Trieste - Gorizia being a central point controlling communication lines to the seaport.