

POLITICS L.T.P. & Q. Wed - Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup>. '52,

( Kefauver is in the race. Today, the Senator from Tennessee made his official announcement - he's out for the Democratic nomination, whether President Truman seeks it or not.) For weeks, the Kefauver boom has been building up - the Senator, however, not making it formal and definite.

He said he'd give his decision today, and he did - to a jam-packed news conference. He said he wouldn't consider any place on the ticket but the top, and he'll campaign for it -

"to the finish," said he. His name will go before the Democratic Convention, whether the name of Truman is presented or not.

H Kefauver is in the race as the Committee Chairman who presided over that sensational crime investigation, of television fame. Today he said the prime issue is - world peace. But, he'll bear down on organized crime and political corruption.

DI SALLE

Here's about a hard boiled citizen, who certainly is one tough hombre - Price Administrator DiSalle. He's well known for his roly-poly figure - and a benign beaming face. But that conceals a soul of super-hardened steel. (Today he announced - he's going to run for the Senate in Ohio, contesting the seat now held by Senator Bricker. He's doing it in spite of President Truman and in spite of his own wife.) He defies both the President - and the Missus. F

Today, DiSalle went to the White House, where President Truman urged him to stay on as Price Administrator - and not run for the Senate. Did that influence DiSalle? Not a bit. Upon emerging from the White House, he called Mrs. DiSalle by long distance telephone, and she told him - not to get into the political race. But that didn't make any difference either. The President said - "No." The Missus said - "No." So DiSalle said - "Yes." One tough hombre.

President Truman conceded, however - that, if

DiSalle insisted, the White House would agree. Wifie said the same thing too.

So now all DiSalle has to do is to crack down on the Ohio voters, the same way - and he's in.

( In Washington today, a California lawyer testified that he and thirty-two other attorneys ~~belonged~~ belonged to a Communist cell in the Lawyers Guild at Los Angeles. ) The witness was David Aaron, a one-time official in the National Labor Relations Board, who previously had been an Assistant States attorney in Illinois. He said his experience as a Labor Board official had convinced him that something was wrong with our economic system. So he became a Communist, and remained in the party for two years - quitting in Nineteen Forty-eight.

Today he told how the Reds, forming a "legal cell" at Los Angeles, had a scheme to take over the Lawyers Guild, and make it a spokesman for the Communist Party. However, they were never able to do so - were voted down by an anti-Communist majority.

Of the thirty-two other Los Angeles lawyers that he named, several were at the Committee hearing today. They are to testify - they, too, having turned against the Reds.

## **CORRUPTION**

Attorney General McGrath announces a clean-up drive headed by a prominent lawyer. President Truman, in his projects for a campaign to end corruption in government, finally appointed the attorney general to head it. McGrath's own department of justice has been involved in the scandal, and there have been demands that he be ousted. But he is heading the clean-up drive, and tonight states - that he will name a prominent lawyer to direct the campaign. He does not say who the prominent lawyer will be.

## CHURCHILL-COMMAND

The Truman-Churchill conferences ended tonight with a final agreement on a point of much dispute - the command of naval forces under the North Atlantic Security Pact. Churchill accepts an American commander for the combined warship squadrons of the North Atlantic power<sup>s</sup> - a thing that he has been objecting to. He still does not like the notion of an international naval command put over the proud British fleet - but he concedes that, when such an authority is established, the Commander shall be an American. U.S. Admiral Lynd McCormick is in line for the job.

## CHURCHILL

*And* Winston Churchill gets that steel he asked for yesterday. In Washington, the announcement is that the United States will provide Great Britain with a million tons of steel this year - metal to be used for British armament. In return we'll get an equivalent value in aluminum and tin. Both of which metals are needed over here.

Yesterday, the Prime Minister, addressing Congress, stated that he came - "Not for gold, but for steel." So he gets it - while we get aluminum and tin.

## LONDON

( In London there's criticism of the Churchill intimation yesterday that, if the Reds in Korea were to break a truce, Britain would join America in heavy retaliation. Which was an intimation that Red China would be bombed, if a truce were violated. The Labor opposition is quick in criticism, ) and some of Churchill's conservatives are critical too.

Meanwhile, in Washington, British sources declare that, if an armistice were broken, Britain would withdraw recognition from Red China.



## KOREA-TRUCE

The news in the Korean truce talks is that the Allied negotiators are preparing for a shift of policy. Something is brewing, behind a veil of censorship.

This emanates from a Korean apple orchard, where the truce team has its headquarters in tents among the trees near Munsan. There they were visited by Supreme Commander General Ridgway for a top level strategy talk, and report is that word has come from Washington - to take a new approach in trying to break the deadlock. That's the news from the apple orchard.

## FRANCE

From Washington, a disclosure on how American Military Construction is being taxed in France. Levies on the building of air bases and installations for West European defense. Which <sup>of course</sup> includes - protection for France.)

The Armed Services Committee of the House today stated that <sup>for</sup> every five dollars, we have to pay one dollar in taxes - imposts on construction material, on contracts for labor, on food. The tax total may come to one hundred million dollars.

In Paris, the statement is that French and American officials are working out a plan to lift the levies. Difficult, because of the complicated system of French taxation. (~~There's a tax on every phase of the manufacture of goods - like the materials purchased by the Americans. Paris declares that an agreement has been reached, whereby the United States may withhold~~)

## TUNISIA

In the North African City of Tunis the left wing labor unions have ordered a general strike. This in protest against the arrest of a Communist leader, together with the head of the Nationalist Independence Party and other agitators.

Tunisia is a French colony, with a combination of Moslem Nationalism and Communism - the Reds being in the middle of the trouble, as usual. Yesterday, there were anti-French demonstrations by the Independence Party, violent riots. Today the leaders, Moslem and Communist, were in jail - and in retaliation, a general strike was called. The French authorities have mobilized the police - and barricaded all roads leading to the City of Tunis.

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## EGYPT

In Egypt, a state of emergency was proclaimed today, and the police throughout the land of the Nile were ordered on the alert. All the result of a new, strange outbreak. We know that the lands of Islam are stirring with excitement and fanaticism. Outbreaks against the West - as in Iran, and now in Egypt. Hard to figure - some of those Moslem twisters.

(The new outbreak, in the cities of Egypt, takes the form of men in masks attacking restaurants, bars, cabarets. They rush into luxury places and night spots - where they smash tables, chairs, bars and glassware.

Driving out customers - and wrecking the whole place.

The gangs belong to the fanatical Moslem

Brotherhood, with Communists playing a part in the

violence.) *The idea behind it?* They are protesting against the business of

gay entertainment, while Egypt is in a struggle with

Britain over the Suez Canal. The grim zealots declare

that all merriment should cease - until the British are driven out.

Hence the violence by raiders - who, wearing masks, are smashing up the pleasure haunts of the night spots. The Cairo Government is afraid of revolutionary possibilities in this outbreak of Moslem Puritanism.

Hence, today's proclamation of a state of emergency, with the police ordered on the alert.

## GRAIN

There's a Washington uproar about government grain sold from elevators in which it was kept. This applies to vast quantities stored under the program of buying up grain to support agricultural prices - and there are reports of shortages. Elevator operators are said to have speculated with government grain, selling it - so that now the shortages come to more than three million dollars.

~~(Today, Secretary of Agriculture Brannan told a Senate committee that the amounts of grain missing are relatively small - not one-twentieth of one per cent of the total. Moreover, he said the money will be recovered.~~

~~However,)~~ Senator Aiken of Vermont declared

that some of the elevator operators, having sold the grain, continue to charge the government for storage. Appropriating the stuff, and going right on with the storage costs.

The government is in a campaign for - bigger and better mink coats. Sounds like a laugh - after all those headlines - about government ladies in mink.

The Department of Agriculture has a program in partnership with the University of Wisconsin - for the development of new types of fur. An annual report, issued today, states that they've crossed a "platinum" mink with a "steel blue." The result - a "sapphire" mink. Which is a color highly desired by the fur trade.

All this is being done at an experimental farm, where they're now trying to cross a "brown-eyed pastel" with a "green-eyed pastel", to produce a "topaze" mink.

More coats for the ladies, especially those government ladies - in mink.

## BUREAUCRACY

Here's good news - the abolition of four federal agencies. All four - in the Comptroller's office.

Everybody knows that the bureaucracy in Washington is so huge and complicated, *that as Congressman Ralph Swinn says* it might end by suffocating the whole country. So the Comptroller General, Lindsay Warren, is doing his bit to simplify. Today he announced that he is making an end to - the Audit Division, the Corporation Audits Division, the Postal Audit Division, and the Reconciliation and Clearance Division. Hereafter their job will be done by one single agency.

So all that now remains is to abolish about *- I mean 999 -* ninety-nine <sup>^</sup> other divisions of the bureaucrats.



## NICKEL

~~Here's the story of a nickel - the most intricate lot of complications ever caused by five cents. All in the business of income tax.~~

Kent Freeland, ~~a~~ a science teacher ~~in a school~~ at Boyne City, Michigan, ~~in Ninety-Fifty, the~~ *has some caustic remarks to make on the subject of bureaucracy.* In 1950 withholding tax taken out of his salary came to more than he owed the government. So he had a refund coming - sixty dollars. After a while he got it - double, two checks, each for sixty bucks. Somebody had made a mistake. He knew he'd get a notice to send back the extra sixty dollars. So he put the money in the bank, and waited.

And sure enough, the notice came from the office of Internal Revenue at Kalamazoo - demanding, not only the sixty dollars but an extra two dollars and sixty cents, for interest. Freeland thought that a bit cheeky, since it wasn't his mistake. But he didn't want

to get into any long argument - so he sent along that extra two dollars and sixty cents.

Whereupon he got another notice, saying that he owed five cents more - extra interest for the time it took to complete the transaction. So that was - the nickel, the fateful five cents.

Freeland was mad about it by now, and he refused to pay. He sent a letter, and he got a letter back. There were three exchanges of correspondence, and this finally wore him down. He surrendered, and forwarded five cents.

That brought back another letter - saying that the nickel was too small a sum to put into the bookkeeping. So the tax officer was donating that nickel to the Salvation Army, as a contribution. Did the taxpayer agree? Yes, the taxpayer did agree. But that was not all. He was informed that he could deduct the five

cents from his income tax this year.

But he wont. The bedeviled science teacher is afraid it would only lead to more letters. He doesn't want a second <sup>beurocratic</sup> installment of the epic of the nickel.  
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