

TAFT


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Senator Taft offers to "compromise" in such matters as the <sup>bitter G.O.P.</sup> dispute over the Texas delegation. The Lone Star State, with a bitter dispute among the Republicans, sends two slates of delegates to the Chicago Convention. One pledged to Senator Taft. the other to General Eisenhower. So now the Senator offers - a "compromise." Willing -- to split the delegates from Texas. He made the offer in the following words: "I'd like to compromise all contests in which there are serious legal differences."

The legal differences in Texas arise from the fact that the State convention, with Taft people in control, tossed out Eisenhower representatives, who had been chosen by a majority. The Taft people said -- these Eisenhower adherents had really been voted in by Democrats, who provided the majority.

Today, Taft was asked -- did he mean an even split in dividing the disputed delegates? Well, he wouldn't say that, explaining -- that he wanted to look into the matter further to determine -- what would be a fair basis.

This draws an immediate blast from Texas ~~in~~ -- from ~~in~~ Houston. There the State leader of the Eisenhower campaign says -- ~~in~~ nothing doing. He says: "Thirty-three Eisenhower delegates and five Taft delegates were elected in Texas. He stands on that, and wants -- thirty-three to five.



FOLLOW TAFT

Here's the latest. (Eisenhower campaign headquarters in Washington gives a flat refusal. Saying -- they'll not compromise on such questions as the Texas delegation.)

POLITICS - RADIO

The political battle of radio and television came to a thorny question today. Is a one three-network-broadcast better than three one-network-broadcasts?

All resulting from (that Eisenhower address at Abilene, Kansas, ~~which~~ was broadcast and televised on three networks. Both Senator Taft and Senator Kefauver demand the same kind of time.) This is based on a familiar ruling by the F.C.C. - concerning any political speech that's put on radio or television, free. Rivals are to be given "equivalent" facilities.

The F.C.C. replies that, while General Ike was in Europe, both Senators were given free radio and television time. Equivalent - to that accorded to the General at Abilene. But Senator Taft replies that speeches of his were carried on one network at a time.

So that's the question. Does three times one equal one times three? Sounds like some new-fangled arithmetic.

## SCANDAL

(A new blaze of scandal in Washington today - as a Congressional Committee brought forward evidence of corruption in defense contracts of the Second World War.)

In the testimony, the names of three former close associates of President Truman appear. Two of these are former Attorney General Howard McGrath and former Democratic National Chairman William Boyle. But in their case - the story takes a surprise twist.

(One witness today was Frank Weitzel, chief assistant to the Comptroller General.) He told how they went back to defense contracts in World War Two, and found "fraudulent payments", for a total of twenty-one million dollars. But this is only a beginner, (Weitzel estimating that the war contract frauds probably came to as much as five hundred million dollars.)

Another witness told of Army officers accepting bribes, kick-backs and bonuses, from contractors, who were defrauding the Government.

( There was testimony concerning former White House Counsel Clark Clifford - said to have received a fee from three "schools" in Detroit, schools teaching trades to veterans under the G.I. Bill of Rights. "Schools" - accused of swindling the Government.

Clifford answers by saying that the money was paid for legal services rendered by his law partner - paid to the law firm, not to Clifford directly.)

But the curious twister comes - in a note introduced as evidence today. A message - naming former Attorney General McGrath and former Democratic National Chairman William Boyle. Seeming to show - that they were consulted by a contractor, trying to settle a fraud case by paying back twenty-five thousand dollars. This was denied, and then came the disclosure that the note was false, written by a former Assistant U.S. Attorney. He himself, George Petzer of Detroit, told the Committee that he wrote the message, linking the two former high officials to the contractor in the fraud case. And

admitted - the statement in the note - was untrue. The ~~former~~  
former Assistant U.S. Attorney gave no reason why he wrote  
the falsehood. As of now, it's a strange puzzler.

## SOCIAL SECURITY

For this next bit of news, which comes from Congress, the band will play that familiar tune - "The Old Folks at Home." In the House of Representatives, the lawmakers are going to reverse themselves on a bill, which they rejected recently. A proposal to raise old-age insurance benefits, by about five dollars a month. They've been hearing from people on the old age pension rolls - a flood of letter<sup>s</sup>.

The Republicans were foremost in the rejection - because of one angle, which looked like "socialized medicine." They have been getting more than their share of the mail. So now, they <sup>are</sup> the most anxious to bring the bill back and pass it. There are some four and a half million people on the old-age pension list. Each one has a vote - and this is election year.

So, let the band play - "The Old Folks  
at Home."



## STEEL

Secretary of Defense Lovett says the armed forces may place contracts for steel with plants now tied up by the strike. Such contracts for defense might make <sup>it</sup> ~~is~~ possible to seize the plants - under the draft law. Stating this, the Secretary declared that the strike was a grave threat to the nation's armament program. "Just about as serious a blow as you can get," said he.

~~Meanwhile, talks for a settlement are on in Washington. Companies and Union in wage negotiations - and the hope continues to be expressed that there may be a settlement over the weekend.~~

This afternoon, Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon predicted: "The steel strike will be settled within the next few days." Saying to reporters: "I've heard enough to satisfy me that there is going to be an agreement."

The same sort of optimism - expressed by other members of Congress.

POTATOES

*Extra*

Potato prices - going up. Price restrictions lifted, and the American housewife <sup>(was)</sup> ~~is~~ paying more money today for potatoes. The supplies will increase - the housewife promised plenty of "spuds", next week. The rise of prices - bringing greater quantities to market. Then the prices will decline - so say Government officials.

## SOVIET AMBASSADOR

The Soviet Ambassador to Washington is being recalled. Alexander Panyushkin announces - that he has been summoned home. Which might have a jittery sound - in the Cold War. But Moscow, simultaneously, names a new Ambassador to Washington. Zarubin - until recently stationed in London.

It seemed ominous, a few days ago, when the news came - that Red Ambassador Zarubin had been recalled from London. Which gave the impression of a Moscow move in the war of nerves. But Zarubin was merely being transferred to Washington - in a shift of diplomats.

Today, in Washington, Ambassador Panyushkin had a twenty-five minute conference with Secretary of State Acheson - saying good-bye. Panyushkin said he was leaving with what he called - "really friendly feelings toward the American people." Which does not sound like the Cold War either.

## GERMANY

We are protesting to the Soviets again -- this time because Red jet planes buzzed an American Ambassador. Walter Donnelly, American emissary to Vienna, was flying to Paris - when Russian flyers took dives at his plane. Dangerous buzzing - but no harm done.

From Berlin - news of four German mayors *who* have led a mass flight from the Soviet zone. Heads of communities behind the iron curtain - they've sought refuge in the western zone together with twenty families. This - as reports increase of Germans escaping to the West, after a tightening of Red restrictions, in East Germany.

KOREA

( American Jets won another battle in Korean skies today - shooting down seven Migs, damaging two more. ) This time, our Saberjets out-numbered the enemy. The Migs, in smaller squadrons than usual, were trying to sneak down <sup>to</sup> ~~and~~ get at U.S. fighter-bombers, ~~who were~~ blasting rail communications and Red supplies. But they were trapped - sixteen Migs caught by thirty-six of our Saberjets. Six enemy planes destroyed.

Later - twelve of theirs, twenty-eight of ours.

Another Mig shot down - in combat w that ranged up to forty thousand feet, more than seven miles.

## ATOMIC-MOUSE

Those atomic experts are great scientists; but, they'd better stick to the atom. In their latest experiment, they made a humiliating display of ignorance. Ignorance of - z̄oology.

The atomic explosion was handicapped - by a mouse. One of the technical gadgets went out of gear - photographic apparatus. A mouse had crawled into the telescopic mechanism, a tiny mouse of the desert. So how to get the critter out?

Then and there the scientists of the atom displayed abysmal ignorance. They tried to tempt the mouse out - with a piece of cheese. Not realizing - that the rodents of the desert never get within smelling distance of any such luxury. The tiny mouse inside the telescopic device paid no attention to the - rat bait.

It was two hours before the rodent left its hiding place - crawling out and paying not the slightest attention to the piece of cheese. Scampering back to the sand and cactus of the desert.

CONVICTS

Extra

In Florida ~~today, three escaped convicts put up~~  
~~their hands, and surrendered - although they were heavily~~  
~~armed.~~ <sup>3 convicts</sup> They escaped from a prison gang on Wednesday. Five  
getting away - with a posse of one hundred searching for them  
through the swamp land. The police got word that <sup>the</sup> three stole  
an automobile, and were on a wild, speeding dash.

An alarm sent out - and at Palatka, Florida, two  
local officers, on the lookout, spotted the car. The fugitives  
tried to get through with a burst of speed. But the officers  
had a machine gun, and opened fire - at the tires of the auto.  
The hail of bullets knocked out three tires. That escape car  
sure did some fancy bumping.

The convicts then surrendered. They were armed with  
shotgun and pistol, but what good were these - against a  
machine gun?

## GIRL

Here's one of those stories, so intensely dramatic - you can hardly believe it happened. At Stouffville, Ontario, there was an automobile accident - a girl injured. James Davis rushed to her, ~~and~~ picked her up, and held her for twenty-five minutes <sup>— held her that long</sup> before he knew the girl was his daughter. Her face had been cut a bit, nothing too serious, but her features were covered with blood. <sup>Enough</sup> so that - her father did not recognize her. Holding her and carrying her for nearly half an hour, getting help for her, and only then realizing <sup>that in his arms he had his own</sup> - ~~his~~ daughter.



LONDON BOBBIES

Here's a dispatch intimating that - London won't be the same any more. At least the London Bobbies won't - in their helmets and chin straps. Long a trade-mark <sup>of</sup> London and the Bobbies; - but now the traditional headwear is being changed.

*So say, Toobad old chappie, but*  
The Bobbies wearing caps. - ~~and~~ London won't be London any more.

## CANDY

I have a request from the National Confectioners' Association, asking me to say that this week is dedicated to the sweet subject of - candy. So I waited for an appropriate bit of news to come along, on which to hang the mention. Well, patience has its reward - and here's a dispatch from Chicago.

Today Judge George M. Fisher is considering a quarrel for the custody of two boys, nine and five. The father complains - that the mother has them working in a candy shop she operates. He says, the two lads are gorging themselves with candy - to the detriment of their health. The mother claims the diet of chocolate and peanut brittle, has "actually improved their health."

The Judge listened, and a far away look appeared in his eyes. His Honor sighed and said: "it was one of the greatest ambitions of my childhood to get a job in a candy store - but I never could swing it."

CANDY - 2

So how's that as an excuse for mentioning - Candy Week. I might add ~~that~~ I'm enthusiastic about that new diet the mother says has improved the family health: chocolates and peanut brittle.

At our house we all too seldom are allowed to have candy, But N-- I think I'll ask my wife if she'll put me on that new diet, chocolate - and peanut brittle!