

TAFT

L.I. - P. & G. Thursday, Jan. 8, 1948.

Tonight in Washington, Senator ~~Robert~~ Taft ~~of Ohio~~ went on the air to assail Mr. Truman's State-of-the-union message to Congress. Taft, a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination, bluntly accused the President of trying to transform the federal government into a Santa Claus -- with a present for every special group, and every person.

He charged that Mr. Truman made these concessions directly as a result of the Henry Wallace bid for the Presidency on a third party ticket. "The President is apparently determined that the left wing of the American Labor Party and its labor union friends throughout the country, shall have no excuse to stray into the Wallace camp" he said, adding that Mr. Truman has raised "all the ghosts ^{of} the old New Deal with new trappings that Tugwell and Harry Hopkins never thought of."

The Senator from Ohio ^{went on to say} ~~declared~~ that the Republicans were just as concerned as ^{either} the Democrats ^{or} ~~and~~ Wallace with improving the conditions of the

people of the United States. But, he said, improvement in social and economic welfare depends on ^{(intelligent} ~~it is~~ planning, wise leadership, sound principles, and sound constructive work. "These, we have not had," ^{he continued} ~~said he~~. Then he went on to say ~~going on to insist~~ that the democratic plans for the improvement of social welfare as outlined by the President are ^{far} more likely to interfere with prosperity that bring it about, ^{because they} ~~these plans~~ ignore the fundamental economic principles necessary for prosperity. ~~Taft said~~ ^{the Ohio Senator:} — ~~charges~~ They promise something for nothing, and ~~they~~ ignore the vital necessity of maintaining the principle of freedom and justice.

Taft roundly denounced the President's cost-of-living tax plan, terming it "about as discriminatory a proposal as could be made" the proposed increase in corporation taxes, he asserted, would discourage the increased production needed for full employment and lower prices.

He described the President's message as featuring the New Deal's requirement ~~for~~ for more

power and more interference with the daily lives of the American people - rationing, price control, wage control - complete power to allocate the products of industry. ^{And he} ~~pointing~~ ^{ed} ~~out~~ ^{how} ~~the~~ control measures ~~not~~ ~~only~~ ^{and} destroy freedom, ~~but~~ do not get results.

Then the ~~chairman of the Senate~~ ^{leader} ~~policy~~ ~~committee~~ served blunt notice on the President that the Republican Congress intends to go on with its program. ^{He said} ~~saying that~~ the Republicans have consistently given Mr. Truman all ^{necessary} ~~the~~ powers ~~he needs~~ to stop inflation by what ~~Taft~~ ^{he} termed "American methods"--- everything except O P A, wage fixing and rationing - ~~the~~ police state methods. ^{Said Sen. Taft} ~~But, Taft asserted~~ the President has not used the ~~important~~ powers given him. ^{And he added that it} ~~In his own opinion, he said, it~~ ~~does~~ doesn't look as if the President wanted to reduce prices.

Taft then pledged that the Republican Congress would make every effort to cut taxes for good.

"We will scrutinize every expenditure" said he. "Including the Marshall Plan, so that it

may include nothing which is not absolutely necessary."

¶ He promised that Congress would proceed with a program of social legislation dealing with health, education, housing and Social Security; ~~But with~~ ^{with} ~~legislation of~~ state and local administration ~~control~~ ^{control}.

¶ "A program of progress along American lines, within the principles of freedom and justice, which we have followed for one-hundred-and-fifty-years," ~~was said~~ ^{said he}, ~~Taft described the Republican program in his pungent~~ ^{he denounced the Truman} ~~denunciation of the presidential~~ message.

CONGRESS

With the first shock of President Truman's opening campaign year state-of-the-union-message over -- Congressmen recovered their voices today, particularly the Republicans.

Some leaders even said today that Mr. Truman's ten year program would cost the country between fifty and a hundred billion dollars. Representative Rich of Pennsylvania said today that the tax and social measures that he wants, plus the Marshall program would cost the country twenty billion dollars a year.

On the other hand, President Green of the American Federation of Labor, was warm for the President's message, said it proposed a liberal program and that Congress cannot evade the issues.

A Conservative member of the British House of Commons called at the White House today and came away much impressed by the President's extreme calm. Mr. Truman, said Member of Parliament Beverly Baxter, wears the most untroubled face he has ever seen. He never saw a man in such a position of responsibility, whose face showed no sign of

strain from yesterday's important message.

MARSHALL

Congress should adopt the Marshall Plan in full, or reject it in full! No half measure will do! That's what the Secretary has just told the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate. He says an inadequate program would involve a waste of our resources -- the result ineffective. Either meet the problem squarely or don't undertake it.

Secretary Marshall appeared today as the first Senate witness on behalf of the program for help to Europe. He wants Congress to begin with the appropriation of six-billion-eight-hundred-millions to take care of the first fifteen months; and appropriated by April first.

On top of that he wants the statesmen on Capitol Hill to authorize, immediately, the complete program - authorizing Uncle Sam to continue sending food and raw materials to sixteen nations ~~in~~ of Western Europe until June Thirtieth, Nineteen Fifty-Two. The entire cost to run to fifteen billion, maybe even seventeen billions -eight-hundred millions -- it being impossible at present to set an exact figure.

As for the first six billion, eight hundred millions, this is not an asking figure, said the Secretary. It is the rock bottom sum essential for the accomplishment of the job, if we are to tackle it at all. He reminded the Senators that this sum is less than the cost of ~~the last war for~~ one single month ^{of world}

ar II. And if we do not comply, he added, we must prepare for

~~a~~ ~~the third~~ World War ^{III}

^ He went on to say that

^ If we decide against helping Europe, ~~he said~~

~~further~~, we shall be as good as living in an armed camp,

our lives under constant controls and regulations. He ^{TP}

made no attempt to deny that this project would entail

serious sacrifices on every man, woman and child. He

admitted ~~that~~ ^{too;} it was a risk, but a calculated risk. ~~But,~~

^{TP} ~~said he,~~ "The way of life that we have known is
— those were his words,

literally in the balance," ^ Then he explained that so

long as hunger, poverty, desperation and chaos threaten

the two-hundred-and-seventy millions ~~of~~ people in

Western Europe, social unease and political confusion

^{TP} In his opinion ^{all this} will develop on every side. ^ We should look upon ~~that~~

money as an investment in peace. And ~~he submitted~~ that in those terms the cost is low.

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In London today, two newspapers came out with editorials against the Marshall Plan so far as Britain is concerned. One of them, as you might expect, ~~was~~ the Daily Worker, the Communist ~~sheet~~ ^{paper.} But the other, surprisingly enough, was Lord Beaverbrook's Daily Express. "The Beaver," as the British call him, ^{is} ~~was~~ not against America. ^{He merely takes} ~~but he took~~ the position that the British can recover without ~~any~~ help, and should recover alone.

PROPAGANDA

After all these years of doing without a Ministry of Propaganda, Uncle Sam ~~is~~ has had to give in. The man to take this on is George V. Allen, with the rank of Assistant Secretary of State; provided of course, the Senate approves his nomination by the President.

His most important task will be to direct Uncle Sam's radio programs -- beam them to all parts of the world; in twenty-four languages.

Ever since the war, there has been a heavy drive on in Congress to approve this departure from our historical precedent. Hitherto, we ^{have} taken the position that ~~there was no need for us~~ ^{Uncle Sam didn't need} to talk about ourselves. But, post-war events and the world-wide drive of Soviet propaganda has changed the world picture so drastically that just about all opposition has died down. *And Geo. V. Allen, as Asst. Sec. of State will have charge of what we do.*

Months ago Secretary Marshall asked Congress for funds ~~for~~ to offset the anti-American propaganda put out by Russia and her satellites. The lawmakers turned him down. Then last summer, a number of

Congressmen went ~~abroad~~ abroad and what they saw and heard gave them much to think about. They returned almost unanimously sold on the necessity of a foreign information service for Uncle Sam.

George Allen is described as a career diplomat. For the past two years he has been our ~~ambxx~~ Ambassador to Iran, where he has had ~~an~~ ample opportunity to see how persistent and ^{insidious} ~~insidious~~ the propaganda attacks on us have been. ~~In fact he himself was under heavy Soviet verbal fire after the Iranian Parliament refused to hand over valuable oil concessions to Moscow. The Soviets blaming him for that.~~

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Great Britain's labor government has given up all idea of trying to reconcile Uncle Sam and Soviet Russia. This was made clear in a plan which Foreign Secretary Bevin laid before Prime Minister Attlee and his colleagues today ^{— a plan that} ~~It~~ covers every part of the world where the western powers and Russia face each other. So said a spokesman for Downing Street.

Foreign Office experts have been at work on ^{the} ~~this~~ plan ever since the conference of Big Four Foreign Ministers broke up in confusion on December Fifteenth. If it is adopted which seems a foregone conclusion, John Bull will work hand in hand with Uncle Sam in Germany, trying at the same time to keep within the ~~Potsdam~~ Potsdam Agreement so as not to give the Kremlin any legitimate reason for grumbling. In Greece, the British will cooperate with us in maintaining the Greek government against Red pressure, [—] also ⁱⁿ liberalizing that government.

In the Middle East, ^{the British} ~~John Bull~~ will try to build ^{their own} ~~up his~~ position to offset Soviet activities, and

in particular ~~will~~ try to avert a big league war between Jews and Arabs, ^{TP Also,} ~~in Palestine~~ Britain will cooperate in the Marshall Plan, but the details haven't been worked out yet.

And finally in the Far East, Britain will work in harmony with United States policy ^{on that matter} ~~in respect of~~ a peace treaty with Japan.

In other words, John Bull ^{to} goes all-out, ~~in~~ ^{working with} ~~support of~~ Uncle Sam, ^{everywhere in} ~~policies throughout~~ the world.

GREECE

(The Greek Army will have the benefit of the advice of a Corps of American Officers in its fight to wipe out the Guerillas. One of our Brigadier Generals and twenty Lieutenant Colonels are now on their way to Athens as professional consultants) to the descendants of Socrates and Themistocles.

Of course we have a mission there already, with a military attache, Lieutenant-General William Livesay who has just been in Washington reporting to the President and to Secretary Marshall. General Livesay returned to Athens last night, having persuaded Mr. Truman to send all those officers to Greece.

The Greek Army has already received ninety-six million dollars worth of supplies from Uncle Sam; the British are sending forty thousand more rifles; and General Livesay recommends the partial reorganization of the Greek Army, with more machine guns, more mountain artillery --- better fire power.

The name of the Brigadier General now heading for Athens is not revealed, but it is known that he is an

Air Force Man. Which suggests there may be aerial operations against the Guerillas in the mountains.

General Livesay also reports that thirty-two commando companies of Greek fighters have been organized, trained in Commando tactics and in amphibious operations. He sees no reason why the Guerillas in Greece cannot be cleaned up by late spring or early summer.

WALLACE

(President Phil Murray of the C.I.O. today cracked down on member unions who have announced themselves in favor of candidate Henry Wallace.) He sent a telegram to the heads of all unions, with ~~x~~ specific instructions to make no pledges supporting any political candidates ~~x~~ until a political program to cover the entire nation has been drafted by the Executive Board of the C.I.O. political action committee. (The ^{C.I.O.} ~~P.A.C.~~ ^{has} ~~has~~ already expressed itself as opposed to the support of a third party. Its principal goal in the election ^{being to} ~~is to be the~~ defeat of ~~every~~ every member of Congress who voted for the Taft-Hartley ~~labor~~ Law.)

President Truman's choice of a man to head the Civil Aeronautics Board^s has fooled all the soothsayers in Washington. When James B. Landis resigned as Chairman and his resignation was accepted, there were wild prophecies that the President intended to make a political appointment. Instead, ~~of that~~ he has selected Major General Laurence S. Kuter, the officer who planned the strategic bombardment of Japan, ^{— an air officer who} ~~He~~ is highly regarded ^{in all aviation circles.} ~~by the people who know what's in civil aviation,~~ General Kuter at this ^{U. S.} moment is ~~United States~~ Representative to the ^{meeting} International Civil Aviation Organization[^] at Montreal.

Congress will have to pass a special law, giving ^{Pres.} ~~Mr.~~ Truman authority to nominate General Kuter. He has written to the President of the Senate, Arthur Vandenberg, and to Speaker Joe Martin, asking for a passage of this legislation at the earliest possible moment. Under this bill, General Kuter will retain his rank and status in Uncle Sam's Army, but ~~he~~ will not be under military control in his civilian job.

LAWSUIT

An inventor wants two-hundred-and-fifty-one million dollars from the Ford Motor Company. His name, Harry Ferguson, a former garage worker born in Ireland. He brought suit for that tidy little sum in the United States District Court at New York today, and accused the company of having grabbed an invention of his, a hydraulic device for hitching plows, ~~xx~~ harrows and other farm implements to tractors.

The lawyers for ~~this~~^{the} irish inventor are evidently well versed in the technique of publicity. When they filed their papers in one of the largest civil suits ^{ever} brought in the United States, they also handed reporters a boiled down version of the complaint, full information about the relations between Ferguson and the ~~late~~ Henry Ford Sr. together with pictures of Ford and Ferguson smiling at each other over a model of a tractor.

Usually it takes days even weeks, for the defendant in a lawsuit to reply. But not in this case. Henry Ford the Second, President of the Ford Company,

had a pat answer within a few minutes. The highlight of it is that in the deal involved, the loser was not Ferguson but Ford. He also ridiculed the charged made by Ferguson's lawyers that the inventor had been deprived of his rights by a conspiracy. The blunt truth said *Young* Henry, ~~Rare the Second~~, is, that it made Mr. ~~FurxxFug~~ Ferguson a multi-millionaire and cost the Ford ~~Motor~~ Company twenty-five million dollars.

EMPLOYER

A Chicago sheet metal operator has been voted the most considerate employer in the U.S.A. His name, Milton Sachsel. And the people who voted for him were his own employees. The reason? He has ~~xx~~ set up a place of relaxation and entertainment in the back room of the plant, with choice beverages - all at the disposal of the men for free.

Milton Sachsel explained today that he did not do this to promote an increased consumption of ^{beverages--} ~~alcohol~~ ^{milk, shakes, or whatever it is the boys want.} ~~he did~~ it as a measure of protection, and it has paid off in increased production. ~~Thxxxx~~ Then he explained that, ~~before~~ he put in this room he had constant trouble. The men kept ducking out the back door to go down to the pub on the corner, and when he watched the back door, they used the front door. All this time, production at the Sachsel plant was decreasing. So, he decided he would save working time by making it unnecessary for ~~thxxxx~~ the men to walk those two blocks ^{the} to/drink emporium on the corner. And, his guess was right it appears. The men don't abuse the privilege.

said Sachsel, and it makes quite a hit with the customers too. He adds that only yesterday they settled up a big deal in that unusual factory tap-room.

COW-CATCHER

In Paris today a distinguished white-haired old gentleman with the red rosette of the Legion of Honor - France's highest decoration - was hauled before the judge on a charge of ~~misconduct~~^{misdemeanor.} The charge - riding on the cow-catcher of an express train. A railway inspector told the judge that he had found the old gentleman installed on the cow-catcher with his lunch basket and his umbrella.

The judge frowned when he heard the evidence "and what have you to say" he asked the delinquent?"

"Nothing" replied the distinguished white-haired gentleman. Thereupon he announced himself as a retired colonial administrator from Madagascar, and he insisted that where he came from everyone rode on the cow-catcher - the front of the locomotive being more comfortable than the coaches. "Further" he argued "a cowcatcher never/catches a cow these days, so it makes an admirable observation car."

The wise judge bowed to the knowledge of the colonial administrator, but he upheld the railways

officials for bringing him to the court. ~~***~~ "After all" said he, "how can we expect our railway workers to know the travelling customs of darkest Africa?"

And now from the dark into the light; -- will you en-lighten us, Nelson.

MAYOR

There is harsh grumbling among the ladies of East Carondelet, Ill., on the banks of Old² Man River. The grievance of the ladies of the Mississippi River Town is that their new mayor is of their own sex, Mrs. Dorothy Pugh. ^{But,} ~~While~~ the men of East Carondelet think it's okay for Mrs. Pugh to have the job.

~~Therexxy~~ She got ^{it} ~~the job~~ because of the resignation of the former Mayor, ^{George} Riebling, who said ^{it} ~~the job~~ was too big for one man. How was that? Oh, ^{George as mayor} he had to cut the weeds along all the streets. A Commissioner Bill Carey-and-all-his-sanitation-white-wings ^{all} rolled into one. He even had to borrow money from his brother to operate thirteen street lights. And, it took ^{George} ~~him~~ months to talk the council into furnishing funds to operate all thirty lights in East Carondelet. Ex-Mayor Riebling points with pride to his record of putting in four new street lights.

The new mayor, ^{Dot} ~~Dot~~ Pugh, is the wife of an engineer on the Missouri-Pacific. She is raising three children, works nights as a railroad clerk and days

waiting on tables at Jake's Tavern. And now, mayor as well.

~~Nelson,~~^H There's my candidate for cover girl of the week. Dot Pugh who is mayor of a town on the banks of Ol' Man River surely ought to make the cover of some magazine, Nelson.