

C.T. - P. G. Tuesday, April 6, 1948.

POLITICS

Early scattered returns from Wisconsin show Stassen in the lead, MacArthur next, followed by Dewey. Only a fraction of the precincts of the state have reported thus far, so the figures are too early to indicate any decided trend. The returns ^{are} from rural areas, where Stassen is known to be strongest. ^{So} it was not surprising to find MacArthur and Dewey running neck and neck for second and third place. The big city vote, from Milwaukee is yet to come - and it is supposed to favor MacArthur.

^{TP} Wisconsin voting was heavy today, ^{and} a record for ^a spring election is believed to have been set in Milwaukee.

Today at lunch I was chatting with a former presidential candidate, Alf Landon of Kansas, and talk got around to the Wisconsin primary. Landon made the prediction that in today's Wisconsin vote, the overwhelming victory would go to the favorite son. That is, to General Douglas MacArthur.

~~West Point as a Wisconsin cadet. So he's the favorite son
all right.~~

Which calls to mind a political analysis by
Arthur Krock in The New York Times ^{today} ~~this morning~~ - an analysis
of a primary election accident. Arthur Krock points out that
in Nineteen Forty-Four, when Dewey won so decisively in
Wisconsin over Wilkie - each contestant knew all along who
his rival was, and could plan accordingly. But this time it
was different. When Dewey of New York entered the Wisconsin
primary, his opponent was Stassen of Minnesota, making it
look like a straight out two-way battle. Then came the
surprise, ^{and} the picture changed suddenly - when General
MacArthur announced, unexpectedly, that he would accept, if
nominated, throwing that scrambled egg cap into the ring.
That put a favorite son into the contest - turning things
upside down. Which was a perilous accident for the New York
Governor - because it's considered bad politics to contest
a primary with a favorite son. But, Dewey was in it -

Arthur Krock referring to a report that the New Yorker would have stayed out of the Wisconsin primary, had he known that MacArthur was coming in.

But such are the fortunes of the political wars.

SUBSTITUTE COAL STRIKE

In the coal strike the mine owners tonight agreed to meet with John L Lewis tomorrow - but not on the terms that Lewis laid down. The chief of the coal ~~miners~~ union said today that he would join a negotiating party tomorrow, if the representatives of the employers included Benjamin F Fairless, president of the United States Steel Corporation, and George M Humphreys, president of ~~the~~ Pittsburgh Consolidated Coal. They are two industrialists who figured in the negotiations that brought about the coal contract last year, ^{and} John L Lewis wanted them in again. [#] But soon after that news was released, along came a statement from Fairless of United States Steel, who said that he would not take part in the negotiations that Lewis proposed for tomorrow. So now Lewis can have his meeting - but not on his own terms.

SUBSTITUTE FINLAND

(The treaty between Finland and Soviet Russia pledges Finland to go to war only to defend her own territory. ^{This} ~~It~~ seems to be clear from a fuller disclosure of the terms of the pact - which was signed in Moscow tonight, ~~that~~ Finland guarantees to join the Soviet side in war - only if there is an attempt to attack Soviet Russia through Finland.) In that case the Finns agree to defend their own territory. Which terms will seem to be not as drastic as had been anticipated. The Soviets wanted more, wanted to tie up Finland more completely, but the objections of the Finns appeared to have held the treaty down to ^{an} agreement based on that pledge - that the Finns will fight if there is an attempt to attack Soviet Russia ~~through~~ ^{through} their country.

At The signing of the treaty in Moscow tonight Stalin was present, ^{and} toasts were drunk with festive champagne.

FOLLOW FINLAND

A reflection ~~within the~~ ^{of the Finland} news appeared promptly ~~at the Security Council of the United Nations~~ ^{this evening} ~~where this~~ ^{- when} ~~afternoon~~ ^a Soviet Russia asked for re-consideration ~~for~~ ^{of} the membership applications of Finland, Italy, Bulgaria, Rumania, Hungary, Albania and Outer Mongolia.

¶ The last five of these have all along been outright Soviet satellites, their admission to the United Nations blocked by the western democracies, just as the Soviets were blocking liberal nations like Italy and Ireland. But now, right away, the Soviets come forward urging that Finland, among others, be taken into the fold of the United Nations - this following the signing of the Soviet treaty with Finland. ¶ As for Italy, the western democracies, on Saturday last, proposed that that nation be admitted ~~and~~ ^{the} ~~and~~ Soviets now follow suit, a Red counter move. This, of course, is in view of the critical Italian elections.

BRITISH BUDGET

The new British budget calls for a - capital levy.

That is, it will hit people who have incomes from investments.

As presented by Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Stafford Cripps,

the new Labor Government program would impose heavy taxation on capital.

At the same time, the budget provides for a cut of income tax - in the lower brackets. Still other measures are included, but the sensation in London tonight is - the capital levy.

April 6, 1948.

Today's deed of terror in Palestine ~~is~~ given in detail by the late news - (a Jewish raid on a British Army Camp, and blazing guns killed the Camp Commander and eleven British soldiers.)

(It happened to the north of Haifa, as the Twelfth Anti-Tank Regiment was preparing to evacuate today, part of the British withdrawal from ~~the~~ Palestine. A party of Jewish raiders came speeding in military vehicles. They seized the gate sentry and three other guards, lined the four against a wall in a guard room and shot them down with machine gun fire. Whereupon one of the military vehicles drove to the center of the camp, and raked the barracks with machine guns. The Camp Commander was killed as he rushed from his office to see what was happening. A soldier lost his life and others were wounded. While the shooting was going on another unit of Jewish raiders drove up, ^{and loaded their} ~~unloaded an~~ automobile with machine guns and ammunition cases, which were ready to be shipped back to Britain in the British evacuation.)

^{this}
~~was~~ a well organized blow by Jewish Extremists ~~and was~~
one of the most violent and terrifying in the whole history
of Palestine violence.

DEFENSE

In Washington, a Congressional sub-committee makes a request of President Truman - a request for a request.

The President is asked to ask more money for the Air Force.

The sub-committee voted a resolution calling on the President

to present a program to increase this country's air power by

more than twenty-five per cent.- ~~which would add two billion,~~

~~three hundred and eighty eight million dollars to the estimate~~

~~of eighteen billion placed before Congress by Secretary of~~

~~Defense Forrester~~. Congress used to complain about the funds

needed for the armed services. Congress ^{is} still complaining,

but, it's the other way around. Congress protesting ^{that} it's

not enough.

HOFFMAN

One of the most important posts in this present-day world ^{has been} ~~was~~ filled ~~today~~. President Truman named an administrator of the European Recovery Program. He is Paul G. Hoffman of the automobile industry -- who now will supervise the task of dispensing to the free nations of Europe the billions of dollars under the Marshall Plan. Paul Hoffman right now is President of Studebaker. Fifty-nine years old, he worked his way up through the Sales Department. He is listed as a Republican, which raises the prospect that his appointment would stick through any change of administration in Washington.

ARMY DAY

I wish that, on this Army Day, I could present an inspiring picture of the Army putting on impressive displays of power in the foreign lands it occupies - Japan, Korea, Germany, Trieste. But, the picture ^{is} ~~today was~~ not one to make ^{us} ~~you~~ sit back with an air of ease and confidence. From the American citadels of Japan, Korea, Germany and Trieste, the news tells of thin lines of G.I's, American military forces depleted, far under strength - at those critical points of peril. Our commanders celebrated Army Day by putting on display all they could; - but, it wasn't much.

CIRCUS

It would seem to be too much ^{when} ~~that~~ the circus
~~bleachers~~ ^{bleachers} collapse, not once but twice as they did today
at Redwood City, California. Bailey's Circus is playing
there, and the ^{first} collapse ~~the first time~~ was just ~~xx~~ before
the afternoon performance began - ~~somebody~~ ^{no one} injured. The
bleachers were fixed up, and were crowded, when - toward
the end of the afternoon performance they collapsed all
over again. Twenty-two persons injured.

URANIUM

(In the wilds of northern Canada, there's a new treasure hunt - but it's no gold rush. Something more modern, something more in the mood of this atomic era, - a uranium rush.

(Northern Canada, as has often been stated, is the place from which we got much of the radioactive metal for the development of the atomic bomb, and from time to time there have been reports of new strikes of uranium - away out there in the midst of northern desolation.)

This latest emanates from a town that has the quirky name of Flin-Flon. That's near Lake Judique, in northern Manitoba - and it's along the lake that the uranium rush is on.

The story is that two years ago, a couple of prospectors, John McClelland and George Branscombe, discovered deposits of the material for atomic bombs and atomic power, But they were not permitted to make this public - Canadian security regulations. Last week, however, the ban was removed, and the uranium strike disclosed. So today the news comes out from Flin-Flon, that ~~scattered local trappers and~~

~~prospectors are excited at the prospect of making an atomic fortune, and~~ scores of uranium hunters ^{are streaming} ~~have come~~ in from the outside. Every day airplane loads have been flying to Flin-Flon, and already fifty uranium claims have been staked, ~~out~~. To which the news dispatch adds a picturesque detail: "Old gold prospectors," it says, "are learning the new techniques of searching for atomic ore." Which does have a tone of modernistic romanticism - the grizzled prospectors of long tradition, learning new, atomic era tricks in quest of the radioactive stuff in the Twentieth Century fantasy of science.

Long legend has glorified the old time gold pan of the treasure hunting miner. - Well, you pan for gold, but you don't pan for uranium.

Today I wanted ~~some~~ more information about this futuristic fantasy of the new northern quest - so I put in

a telephone call, a long one, all the way to Hope Sound, Florida.

The opposite direction from Flin Flon,
Gene Tunney is down there, and the news of late has been telling

how the former heavyweight champion of the world has acquired a uranium mine up in northern Canada. Talking to Gene by long distance, I asked him - what about this uranium rush, the gold prospectors taking the atomic trail? ^R He replied - that was only to be expected; ~~The~~ ancient race of prospectors is dying out in the United States, but thrives mightily in Canada, with its vast frontier of the north. Having been among them recently, ^{Gene} ~~he~~ said they ^{are} ~~were~~ an extraordinary crowd, hard bitten veterans of the wilderness, ~~who are~~ eager to endure the bitter hardships of the frigid north, ^{- in fact} ~~who~~ thrive on the rugged ordeal, the cold, the danger, the frightful living conditions. All they want is some ^{enticing goal,} ~~glittering gold,~~ some rainbow hope, some eldorado - to lure them on. And they sure have a gamble to lure them on - in the uranium chase.

Gene told me - the gamble is twofold. First, there's the question, will they find any uranium? The same old question - will they strike gold? Secondly, there's the price of uranium. The radioactive metal has only one market, the

Canadian Government, which fixes the price. That price right now is two dollars and seventy-five cents a pound. AT which rate, it's a problem of finding uranium in paying quantities. But the uranium prospectors believe the present price is entirely inadequate, and will be raised. Some talk of seeing the figure go up to a hundred dollars a pound - thirty or forty times as much as now. They see visions of immense atomic developments, the dream of science, which will vastly increase the demand for uranium. So, in addition to the gamble of finding pay dirt ~~of discovering uranium~~, there's an even more fabulous gamble - ~~of the price~~ ^{of the radioactive stuff.} All of which is enough to start the gold prospectors on their ultra-modern treasure hunt - the uranium rush.

~~After which Gene Tunney gave a warning - anyone who~~
~~adventurers up there had better be veteran, hard-bitten~~
~~prospectors. It's no place for the inexperience of the lamby~~
~~tenderfoot, not up there in the rugged hardship and frightful~~
~~winters of northern Canada.~~

ENGLAND

From Brighton in England, comes the news of the death of the daughter of the coach-maker to Queen Victoria. She was a recluse who for thirty-five years had never left her house in Brighton. And now we have the singular story.

The father of Mrs. Anne Channon was the Queen's coach-maker, a post of eminence in trade and a virtual guarantee of wealth -- in those Victorian days. So Mrs. Anne Channon inherited a fortune. She lived at the gay seaside of Brighton, and life was happy, until one evening, thirty-five years ago.

She went to the theatre - with her husband. Between acts, he went out, while she remained in her seat. She dropped her program. A gentleman passing picked it up courteously, and handed it back to her, with a polite remark. At that moment her husband returned, and saw her talking to the stranger. He became jealous - and that night, when they returned to their Brighton home, he upraided her in jealous anger. The young wife grew angry too. She stamped her foot

and cried - "I will never leave this house again."

Nor did she. Never once in the years that followed did she break that petulant vow - never to leave the house. Her husband died, and she stayed on, a recluse - and so it was until the end of the life of the daughter of the coach-maker to Queen Victoria.

And now, Nelson -

In the Berlin air tragedy -- the Soviets did not give notice that they had a fighter plane in the air in the vicinity of the British air transport that was coming in to land. This was stated to the London Parliament today by Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin.

π Routine regulations require^d that the Russians should ~~have~~ given such notice. But they didn't; -- and the result was the crash between ^tthat Soviet fighter plane and the British sky transport, with a loss of fourteen lives. *π* The Soviet command, apologizing, has promised that hereafter the Russians will give warning if any of their planes are in the vicinity of the air lane assigned to the Western Allies.

Talking to Parliament today, Bevin was cautious, and ventured no explanation of the crash -- gave no hint that the Soviet fighter might have been buzzing ^{the} British transport.

EGYPT

(More savage rioting in Egypt -- at the ancient port of Alexandria. ~~Further~~ Disturbances broke out as a result of an Egyptian police strike -- which walkout has ended. But still the rioting went on in Alexandria, four killed and scores injured, when soldiers fired on rampaging mobs.)