

Harry Truman, Quarterback

ONE of the prime qualities required for successful administration of the Presidential office in a critical time like the present is flexibility. Henry Steele Commager, the eminent historian, writes that "of all Presidents, Lincoln possessed this quality most fully. It was this quality that made him a great crisis manager; it was this quality that made him a great statesman; it was this quality that made him a great leader; it was this quality that made him a great man."

The historian does not discuss the example of Harry Truman but the American public in the last few years has come to recognize the fact that the Truman flexibility is no ordinary talent. Republican politicians currently are making this discovery. Belatedly they are realizing they have underestimated the amiable minority President with the disarming smile who has rather consistently outmaneuvered the majority party since last January.

Mr. Truman has a wonderfully disconcerting approach. He has a ready-made answer for the Rooseveltian variety on the razor-dangle that was used by Quarterback Roosevelt. Although the Truman hidden ball trick is not so elaborate or so spectacular as the Roosevelt surprise play, it is in some ways more effective. One good illustration is provided by the first-and-start which led up to the call for the special session of Congress. Few outside the White House were certain if or

when a special session was going to be called. When the summons came, they found Mr. Truman had allowed them very little time in which to protest or throw monkey wrenches into the machinery.

A more impressive example of this technique is given by Mr. Truman's concealment of his explosive price-wage-rationalization control program until the last hour, a surprise that was made all the more stunning by his statement of a much easier rat controls were the very, very last thing he wanted to consider.

Critics who complain that Mr. Truman is playing partisan politics by not taking the GOP into full confidence ignore the fact that we never would have had an extra session or a debate on inflation controls if he had depended on advance Republican consent. Critics who complain that he is inconsistent and opportunistic forget that a Republican Congress holds cards which compel a Democratic President to use finesse. Critics who cry that such tactics do violence to the bi-partisan symbol of America's freedom forget that a reactionary Congressional majority can easily degenerate into do-nothingism.

Observers who have been confused by Mr. Truman's darts to the right and left in the last year must look again and see where he is steering us smartly right at the middle-of-the-road, or as near that line as we can travel with the Republicans doing the back-seat driving.

World's Hope In ITO At Havana

WASHINGTON and London hold the international spotlight this week on Havana, Cuba, is the scene of an event which deserves equal attention. The delegates of 62 nations are meeting in a final effort to set up an International Trade Commission.

The nations represented at Havana do about 95 per cent of the world's trade and if they are able to agree on a set of rules for an ITO charter the world will have taken a long step toward establishment of true economic order. If that charter later is approved by the Governments which send delegates to Havana, it will have laid a solid basis for perpetuation of the peace which our statesmen have been trying to save in Washington and London.

America deserves the main credit for the ITO hope in Havana, and America will develop the role of this enterprise. America stands for the free world, and it is economic isolation and international commercial anarchy out of which grew the depression and the war that followed. The work began in 1944 under President Roosevelt and it has been continued by the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act passed by a Democratic Congress. That act, which was subsequently renewed, has made possible the progressive lowering of tariff barriers. It is the Reciprocal Trade Act that has reduced the average of 32 per cent in duties and encourage the flow of foreign trade upon

which our economy has become increasingly dependent. This year, our imports from other countries amount to about \$8 billion but our exports total about \$10 billion.

World War II and its aftermath interrupted the free trade movement but it has been revived by the Truman Administration and carried forward in the United Nations. Another big step was registered only a week ago with the announcement that the United States and 22 other countries had agreed on extensive tariff slashes after months of negotiation in the General Trade Conference.

We have come a long way from the isolation and cut-throat international trade rivalry of the depression 1930s. We stand on the threshold of a new era. However, the race between reaction and progress still is on. In Cuba, Russia stands outside this movement to create one world through mutually beneficial trade arrangements. The high-tariff Republicans, aided by some back-sliding Democrats, are marshaling forces for a fresh start on the reciprocal program and the future of world peace and progress advanced by Roosevelt, Hull and Truman is clouded by the possibility that the Republican Congress will not renew the Reciprocal Trade Act next June, and by the chance the GOP will win the election next Fall.

Communist Strategy In Europe

IN FRANCE, the Communists are following with slight variation, the strategy and tactics they employed in Germany during the crisis of the early 1930s, which produced Hitler and the Nazis that almost finished off the Soviet Union.

The Marxist masterminds expected that after a short run of Hitler and total reaction in Germany, it would be apple pie for the masses. They expected to lead the true Stalinist revolutionaries to lead the way to the barricades. So the Communist leaders instructed their followers to work more feverishly for the destruction of the Third Reich and other words, to use force and even collaborated secretly with the Nazis in order to bring about the condition that was supposed to be the prelude to the final victory of the proletarian under Moscow's direction.

History repeats in France and in Italy as well. There the Communists are driving Socialist coalition Governments toward the street right by creating industrial paralysis, public disorder and political confusion which compels the Government to resort to strong-arm methods. Both countries now are on the verge of chaos and revolution as a result of the strikes, the street demonstrations and the violence instigated by the agents of the Cominform, new version of the Communist International.

The resemblance between this campaign and the pre-war German operation of the

Communists is shown strikingly in the case of France, where De Gaulle has reappeared on the scene at a fortuitous moment for the Communists. De Gaulle's movement has been a fresh start on the reciprocal program and the future of world peace and progress advanced by Roosevelt, Hull and Truman is clouded by the possibility that the Republican Congress will not renew the Reciprocal Trade Act next June, and by the chance the GOP will win the election next Fall.

If De Gaulle should rise to power in this revolutionary turmoil, it is clear that the Communists would intensify their campaign to promote strikes and disorders, threaten the use of force and use increasingly repressive measures. In other words, the Cominform has set out deliberately to provoke an extreme reaction which will drive the people back to the left and keep Western Europe in a state of conflict which will thwart reconstruction efforts under the Marshall recovery plan.

In the present struggles in France and Italy, our main chance for peace and economic restoration in the world rests with the survival of the European Socialist and other middle-of-the-road groups.

From The Christian Science Monitor

Accent On Worth

ONE of the most heartening signs of growing wisdom in management-labor relations is the report of a study sponsored by the National Industrial Conference Board. Passing 40 is no longer an "omnibus" event for the worker, the NIOB believes.

The extraordinary premium placed on youth, and the resulting penalty on age, so cruelly characteristic of depression days, has not wholly disappeared. But the NIOB finds that 90 per cent of the firms co-operate in the study to reveal the value of the older worker while gathering information for his book, "What's On the Worker's Mind". Recorded the warnings of his fellow toilers, peace yourself for the future. He told him, or you'll be through with this young man.

Equally encouraging are the findings that almost all the firms are making job adjustments to fit the capabilities of older workers instead of dropping them—a vast advance in both humanity and efficiency over the old concept of labor as a commodity to be bought, used, and laid aside.

The new trend has yet to withstand the test of a business depression and an over-abundance of labor. There is reason to hope, however, that a substantial portion of the lessons learned will stick.

'We Now Bring You America's Answer—'



Freedom Train

America's Year Of Rededication

By CHARLES W. DUKE

(Reprinted from Editor & Publisher)

FREEDOM TRAIN is defined by its sponsors as the symbol of America's year of rededication to the ideals and practices of democracy. The year of rededication ceremonies through the entire United States was designed as a broad educational program to emphasize the blessings of the common American heritage of liberty for every individual citizen.

Never before in American history has such a tour been scheduled. The Liberty Bell has been out of Philadelphia on various occasions, its last trip to the Panama-Pacific Exposition in San Francisco, in 1915. But this is the first time a moving shrine has taken the documents sacred to the origins of American democracy on tour of the nation.

September 17 was selected as the date for launching the pilgrimage because it represents the 160th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States. Philadelphia was selected as the starting place for the tour because it was there that the Constitution was enacted there and adopted as the basic document of American democracy.

Actually the concept of Freedom Train is little more than a year old. In the summer of 1946, Altrone General Tom Clark was very much concerned with the apparent complacency of the American people at their hard-earned freedoms. He suggested a document exhibit which would dramatically and forcefully remind Americans of their place in the United States and which would instill in their minds and hearts the importance of their heritage.

Sponsored by the Attorney General and with endorsement of President Truman, a conference took place at the White House May 22, 1947, at which the vague conceptions of the movement were crystallized into concrete form. More than 200 important leaders of American business, finance, labor, industry and Government attended. General air of the program was outlined as a series of events which would make the people more aware of their heritage of individual rights and liberties, and of the need at this critical point of world history to recognize and cherish them.

To have a vehicular organization with which to carry out details of the American Heritage Foundation was set up, with national headquarters at 12 E. 45th St., New York City. Winthrop Aldrich, chairman of the Chase National Bank, New York, was elected chairman of the board of trustees. Dr. Brophy, advertising executive, was named president.

Officers and trustees of the Foundation are leaders of American business, industry, labor, and government. The Foundation is an administrative body of 26 members. The Foundation is financed entirely by industry, labor, private citizens and the Government. It is a bipartisan, non-partisan organization.

Bulk of the actual assistance comes from the American Association of Railroads and the 35 railroads which are carrying the train on their tracks. The diesel-electric locomotive was provided by the American Locomotive Co. and General Electric Co. of Schenectady, N. Y. The Pullman Co. provided three cars to carry personnel; the Santa Fe an express passenger car. The Pennsylvania Railroad Co. rebuilt three all-steel coaches into exhibit cars to house the documents.

Every exhibit in the seven-coach train, except the documents, is fireproof with the installation of a

special fire-extinguishing system employing carbon dioxide.

Each document is placed in a plastic envelope fitted to the individual book or sheet. The envelope is waterproof, fireproof and shatterproof. Most manufacturers claim the material is so strong it would require a 100-pound ball traveling at 50 miles an hour to pierce the surface. The covered documents are then placed in cases of steel plate covered by the special shatterproof double glass sheets. The glass is treated to discourage ultra-violet ray penetration as the rays are harmful to the old fragile paper of the documents.

Thirty-six Marines, most of whom saw combat in the late war, and who average 22 years of age and six feet in height, have been chosen to guard the display 24 hours, night and day. They will live in the Pullman cars and travel the entire year.

The train will actually operate 362 days. It will make all of its runs by night, usually between 1 A. M. and 6 A. M. Since there is no diner, all meals must be secured away from the train. The red, white and blue color scheme of the train will make it a conspicuous exhibit wherever it goes.

Responsible for the publicity which will herald the arrival of the train is a national communications committee of ten executives named by American Heritage Foundation. They are: Frank Bruchner, president, National Broadcasting Co. of America; Judge Justin Miller, president, National Association of Broadcasters; W. Brown, vice-president, Western Newspaper Union; R. T. Rutman, general manager, United Features Syndicate; Fred Ferguson, president, Newspaper Enterprise Association; Frank Stanton, president, Columbia Broadcasting System; David W. Howe, president, American Newspaper Association; William Trammell, president, National Broadcasting Co.; Edgar Kokob, president, National Broadcasting Co.; and Mark Woods, president, American Broadcasting Co.

Co-operating is the Advertising Council Inc., with Charles G. Mortimer Jr., chairman; Herwin H. Fulton, Paul B. West and William Reilly, vice-chairmen, and Frederick R. Gamble, secretary-treasurer.

Quote, Unquote

A driverless car ran wild in the business section of Charlotte the other day. Shucks, cars with drivers in them can do that—Greenville Piedmont.

The price of a suit is so high that it can be bought for the low and the rest in twelve easy payments—Louisville Times.

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Samuel Grafton

Postwar Vignette

NEW YORK

HARRY did not regard himself as unduly sensitive, but he was sensitive whenever the boss sent him on an errand. The errand boy stuff hurt his feelings; it made his work in the office seem unimportant.

Today the summons had come at 3:30. He was to go to the office and get somebody to sign something. He had gone well. The client had a lot of money and was very important. And at 4:10 Harry had the summons to go to the office. Then suddenly it hit him, what he called his luxury mood.

He knew the feeling well. By some he could save it by having a long cold drink in the office, or by buying a new hat. It was the desire to have something perfect and good in his mind.

The mood was likely to cost him a few dollars, whenever he struck and he was, by now, wary of that.

He was on the upper East Side, and he became aware of a neighborhood movie house churning quickly away across the street. That could be it. The boss would hardly expect him to be in a hurry to go to work. He could see the film, an old Hitchcock, and still have time to go to the office for dinner. Two pleasant hours in the dark, with something going on that was important to the theater, and examined the posters. Some came out of an ashtray next door to him and he saw a sign that said "Hello, Harry," said the man. He was wearing an usher's or ticket taker's suit.

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'Nation's No. 1 Problem'

(Reprinted From The Chapel Hill Weekly)

PROBABLY not one person in a million outside of New York City knew that the city had a serious problem on its hands until a committee of education and labor leaders met in the city last week. Even in the city itself relatively few people were aware of it.

Immigration quotas restrictions do not apply to Puerto Ricans. The Islanders are American citizens and many of them are highly educated. They have been flooding into New York City since 1945, and now there are twelve years. This influx of people of an alien race has created tremendous difficulties in housing, health, education, and police control.

The nature of these difficulties is indicated by the following startling passages in the committee's report: "The influx of Puerto Ricans has reached gigantic proportions; it appears inevitable that this will continue to increase rapidly. The committee predicts that the number of Puerto Ricans in the city will double in the next decade."

"Migration due largely to the illusion that there is abundant housing and employment for Puerto Ricans in New York, and that if employment is not obtained the Government will care of them."

"Report of high money wages in the U. S. . . . Distorted idea, developed in Puerto Rico, that the friends in their already overcrowded apartments."

"Without training for an industrial machine, the Puerto Rican has no training for an industrial machine. He lives here in overcrowded dirty houses, without proper light and ventilation."

"High frequency of illness."

"Many instances of hygiene, reluctance to take medical care, and inadequate clothing and food."

"Many contracted tropical diseases before coming to New York."

A reporter for The New York Herald Tribune, after a visit to the Puerto Rican community, described by the committee, writes:

"The neighborhood is typical of the city's worst slum areas. There are few wide streets, no sidewalks, littered streets and rubbish-filled backyards. There are the dark and crowded tenements, where children are playing in the streets and the parents are too busy to care for them. Here and there are little vacant lots where condemned buildings have been torn down. There are also houses which are crowded and boarded up, waiting for demolition. There are numerous families on relief, and all the other

Red Cross Elects

GARTHA—Col. G. P. Haves and Mrs. Haves have been elected chairman of the Moore County Chapter of the Red Cross. Other officers are: Mrs. M. M. Haves, Southern Pines, vice-chairman; Mrs. M. M. Haves, Southern Pines, treasurer; Mrs. M. M. Haves, Southern Pines, secretary; and Mrs. M. M. Haves, Southern Pines, executive secretary.

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Drew Pearson's Senate & House Differ On European Aid

WASHINGTON

THE Senate and House are slowly drifting apart in their plans for stopgap aid to Europe. First hint of the rift came in a closed-door session of the Senate and House Foreign Committees pulled out of joint conference and went to their separate chambers at the opposite ends of the Capitol.

On the House side, Ohio Republican John Vorys hit upon the idea of tacking stopgap aid on to the European Recovery bill passed last summer as an amendment. Vorys told fellow Republicans Charles H. Hefner of Massachusetts that this was a "very effective" way to get the bill passed. Chairman Charles Eaton of New Jersey then pulled members of his House Foreign Affairs Committee and telephoned Senate Chairman Vandenberg to urge the House to favor Vorys' suggestion. When Vandenberg reported this to a closed session of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the House bill was rejected.

Senator Albert Thomas, Utah Democrat, and minority leader Alben Barkley of Kentucky, both of whom argued the soft-spoken Utah, "is a preface to the Marshall Plan. We should make a clean break with the past."

His arguments were so convincing that by unanimous vote the Senate Committee rejected Vorys' idea of an amendment to the European Recovery bill.

impossible anyway."

NOTE—Senator George had in mind the sale of bulk wheat to Europe, but the House bill is for the sale of wheat to Europe.

Private Aid To Europe

PRIVATE TRUMAN is digging deeper than the Marshall Plan to find money for Europe. Not only is he calling on Congress, but non-Government agencies as well. When he heard that several private relief agencies were joining forces in an effort to get the endorsement of both the CIO and the AFL, he called on the co-ordinating body, to the White House. This over-all agency is called American Overseas Aid and it works closely with the official United Nations Agency for Children.

Writing to Marshall, who is also head of the Continents Bank Co., President Truman declared that the American Overseas Aid program has "my official endorsement and the enthusiastic support of all of us who know that peace and security cannot be built on war and privation."

While the letter to Marshall was not sent with the idea that it would help the President's war effort, it was just as stirring as if addressed to the entire nation.

"Millions of people, particularly children helples and suffering in lands laid waste by war, need assistance now if they are to survive," he wrote. "We must try to help them through this crisis."

Later Marshall called at the White House and explained that American Overseas Aid was working on an ambitious program to collect one day's wages from every worker in America. It had the endorsement of both the CIO and the AFL. He said, "I am sure that the President would be very pleased to have this program."

Here is a letter from the United States to show what they can do for the world, compared with what Russia is doing for the world.

Truman, who is careful what he says in public about Russia, readily agreed. He said there was need of a better feeling of the world. He said that the United States should do much to build good will "on account of what you are doing for the children."

He added, "this and the Red Cross are the only private relief projects I have endorsed."

Marshall Lauds Hollywood

SECRETARY of State Marshall, who ought to know something about Communist propaganda, takes an opposite view of Hollywood. He said that the American Film Institute, which is a non-profit organization, is doing a great deal of good in America.

At an informal luncheon with Sam Goldwyn and movie stars, Marshall recalled an incident from his own days in Hollywood. He said that the American Film Institute, which is a non-profit organization, is doing a great deal of good in America.

One evening he invited Clio En-lai, the No. 3 Chinese Communist, to a dinner. He said that the American Film Institute, which is a non-profit organization, is doing a great deal of good in America.

Marshall admitted it may have been given an overdose of technicolor but explained it gave a fairly accurate picture of conditions in China. He said that the American Film Institute, which is a non-profit organization, is doing a great deal of good in America.