

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

10th Anniversary Year

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"Pouring It On" Too Much

PRESIDENT TRUMAN, on his campaign tour, tells us we have the "worst Congress in all time. A Republican leader of the 80th Congress remarks that we have the "poorest President." We aren't inclined to accept either estimate as quite accurate but we are certain that Mr. Truman is conducting the worst Presidential campaign and the Republicans are offering the poorest rebuttal in the 1948 show.

To President Truman's crude jokes at Congress, the Republicans reply with an assortment of uncoordinated epithets, including "nasty little gamins" and "Missouri jackass" (Rep. Clegg), "incredibly stupid" (Dewey), "nincompoop" and "political crook" (Col. McCormick's Chicago Tribune).

As Mr. Truman says, he is "pouring it on pretty heavy" and this is not a national political debate but what the man from Missouri properly describes as a "brawl." He obviously has issued the challenge to this kind of a ruckus in the hope of putting some life and fire in a campaign tour that has played to empty chairs and indifferent audiences. He promises to keep "pouring it on" all over the country.

Republicans will be only too happy to fight out the campaign on this level, as is evidenced by the eagerness with which they have responded to the Truman slurs. The name-calling and pointing with scorn will relieve them of the necessity of meeting issues squarely and defending their record. The failure of the Republican Congress are matched by enough mistakes on the side of the Democratic Party and the Truman Administration to keep the Republicans from occupying the center of the Truman man's glass house from now until Nov. 2.

It seems to us the President is miscalculating the mood of the American people and the needs of the hour when he gives his "pouring it on" tour. The aspects of a political "brawl." His performance is a

Republican Aid To Stalin

THERE is a feeling in some quarters that the real villain in the Republican knifing of the Marshall Plan is none other than Joseph Stalin.

In support of this interesting theory, it is argued that the peace propaganda recently beamed from Russia convinced some of the Republican leaders that the world would be better off if the United States would need all of the \$5.3 billion that had been agreed upon for the European Recovery Program in order to hold off the Communists.

The GOP, ever easily hoodwinked by Stalin's soft talkers, proceeded to top more than a billion dollars off the funds already authorized for ERP.

Who could believe that it was Republican intransigence rather than Republican reaction that accounted for this assault on the Marshall Plan policy but the theory that the Russians tricked the GOP Old Guard into this operation simply will not hold water. Fact is that a Republican revolt against our foreign aid program has been brewing throughout this session of Congress.

The carving act on the Marshall Plan world of a broad insurrection against world co-operation in the economic, social and political spheres. This insurrection has been strong in the House and the Senate. It is concentrated in the House. It has no confidence in recovery programs and trade agreements designed to eliminate the chaotic economic conditions that produce Communist propaganda. It is placed in tariff barriers. American monopoly,

From The Detroit Westward

Don't Talk War

THE worst thing that can befall a peace-loving nation is to have war become the topic for dinner-table discussion.

True, we cannot ignore the possibilities of a third world war. We cannot, orichalcum, stick our heads in the sand and say, "If we just don't say anything about it, it will all go away." We must face the fact that Russia is reaching out and engulfing all of eastern Europe.

But the greatest dissipation of energy is in the eternal talking about something which is rather, everyone knows all about. It is not wise to do a great deal of talking about them before they come to pass. Talking creates a sort of mental confusion.

Steady, calm, about whom all the uproar and confusion is centering, is known for his reticence. Nobody knows what Joe is going to do until he does it. He doesn't waste energy and dissipate power with unnecessary talk.

Not long ago, we wrote an editorial on the power of the spoken word. Today, we realize even more how very true it is that the more one says about a situation, the more critical the situation becomes. If you keep reminding an ailing man how sick he looks, and how terrible he must feel, the first thing you know you'll be hating him for his misery. If you tell yourself in a difficult situation and then tell everyone you know, talk it over with anyone who will talk with you, and soon you'll find your credit is no good, your reputation is ruined, everyone knows all about your predicament and the situation is still far from being settled.

Let us not keep talking about war. It is

strange one, for some of his utterances indicate he has realized that his main opponent is not the Republican Congress but the apathy, weariness and confusion of the American citizen at a time when this country stands in the midst of perhaps its gravest crisis and is being propelled along uncharted trails in its role of world leader.

What the American people are seeking desperately is leadership and a program which will inspire their imagination and hope, and on which they can unite for the monumental task ahead.

What Mr. Truman has prepared himself for greater leadership and has the program. He has indeed developed a liberal, progressive program which is capable of much more vigorous presentation than he has given it. That presentation isn't helped when he provokes a low-grade public quarrel between the executive and the national legislature.

It is right and proper for the President to hold Congress to account for its distressing record in the last two years but that record is damning enough without "pouring it on" too thick. Much of the effectiveness of his case is lost when he turns more heat than light on the subject.

The public will hardly be inspired to follow Mr. Truman when he advises the voters not to be "suckers" for the Republicans and declares, "If you people want to continue the policy of the 80th Congress, that will be your funeral." Such utterances hardly appeal to the intelligence and the loftiest sentiments of the citizens.

Perhaps the President will improve his style as he goes along, abandon his role as a lambaster, and show himself more clearly as an earnest man fighting for a great cause and a great future. It is more likely than he has to date, this tour may prove to be Harry Truman's political funeral.

A striking demonstration of this Congressional preference for American power over the Marshall Plan is given in the contrast between the quick approval for a record military budget and the knifing of the Marshall Plan. The slashing of the foreign aid funds when the GOP leaders were faced with a choice between more bombers and co-operation with democratic Europe.

The decision for bombers was made when the GOP, voting for a 70-group Air Force, ignoring the Administration's protest that it was putting an unnecessary strain on the economy. In this action, Congress actually increased the spending of \$22 billion more than President Truman himself had asked for. The House soon thereafter took its big cut in the foreign aid fund to make up the difference with a little to boot.

Even before this blow at the Marshall Plan, the House had launched its attack on our international program with its bill to limit the spending of \$200 million on the proposed Trade Agreements system. Faced with a strong public protest, the Senate is moving to remedy past mistakes. However, it is clear that a great damage already has been done. Foreign aid has been cut and American co-operation in their stand against the Soviet power have had their confidence in U. S. policy badly shaken. Although it cannot be said that Stalin has anything to do with either of the House actions, he clearly is the beneficiary of both.

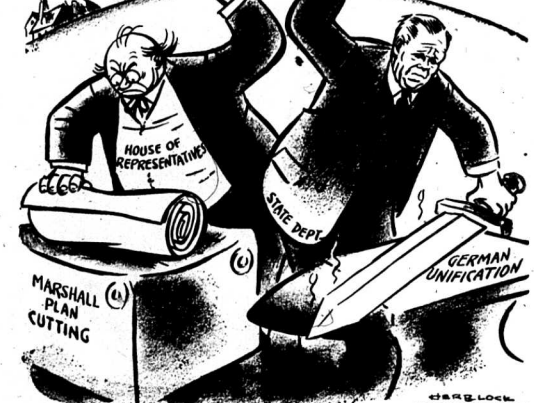
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Republican Heat Wave

Marshall Plan Cuts Up GOP

By JAMES MARLOW
Associated Press Staff Writer

WASHINGTON—An amazing sight, the heat wave among Republicans over the Marshall Plan, was seen today as the House voted to cut the plan.

A couple of months ago both House and Senate okayed the plan. They voted for it after the most searching examination any program has received in recent years.

All last Summer and Fall—six months altogether—thousands of experts here and abroad had studied the plan. Then around Christmastime President Truman handed it to Congress.

All the work done by the experts was then examined by the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. The committee's report was given to the Senate. Then they turned it over to both Houses for a vote.

But the Republican Party, which had been the main support of the plan, suddenly changed its mind. It went into the plan in detail. They had to deny largely that the plan actually would spend the money it was all right. So they voted for it, and at the same time, authorized \$5,300,000,000 on it the first year.

SINCE the Republicans control both Houses, the Republicans were responsible for the okay and the authorization. But authorizing the spending of money isn't actually voting the money. It is only authorizing it. Then Congress comes along a little later and votes to spend it. This is the "appropriating" money.

In short, "authorizing" money is merely telling the U. S. Treasury how much money he'll have to spend. "Appropriating" it tells him to go ahead and spend it. But before any money is appropriated in Congress, the appropriations committee of both Houses look into the plan for spending it. And it's always the House Appropriations Committee which starts the ball rolling.

Rep. John Taber, white-haired New York Republican, was the first to speak. He spoke with eagerness to cut down Government spending, in chairman. So for one month, after the House Appropriations Committee had heard of its own plan, the Marshall Plan. This was after all the work already done on it and after both Houses had voted for the plan.

Even though the Republican-controlled House had already spent \$200,000,000 on the plan the first year, Taber's committee decided to cut it down by over a billion dollars. Did the committee decide to cut the plan? No, it decided to cut the money that was going down the line in detail. No it was to be a general cut.

But this cut wasn't final unless the Republican-controlled Senate also agreed to top the billion or so dollars off the plan.

RIGHT away Secretary of State Marshall said what Europe got on its feet to a mere relief plan.

Dr. Pearson's Merry-go-Round

WORKED FOR THE KAISER

THE amazing thing is that Rumsley has so much influence.

Nowadays, they say money isn't anything. —Arkansas Gazette.

'Magnifique'

WASHINGTON

RUMORS persist of an impending change in the government of Greece that will provide new embassments for the United States in its struggle against the Communists. Today, one year after the start of the U. S. program, progress has been made in the struggle.

The achievement is almost wholly a negative one. Greece has not gone Communist and the government in Athens is not an outright dictatorship.

But it is not enough, as Greece should illustrate, that a Communist government should not win over Europe. It is not enough that the government is investigating the terrorist activities of the extreme right. Presumably this would include the activities of a secret terrorist society with its own armed bands.

There are unhappy signs that America's policy in Greece are in a frame of mind to accept almost anything, yielding to the red-flying view that all and all forms of repression are justified in the war against Communism. And Communism, by this definition, becomes any expression of the Communist Party, as William Jennings Bryan.

Should the U. S. be put in the position of a government in Greece, the United States would be beyond that stick nation. The European Recovery Program, on which Greece is dependent, is renewed in the coming Winter. So, Greece is not to be cleft in the middle. The program should be shut off.

Col. Grady and the newly appointed U. S. Ambassador to Greece, Henry P. Grady, will have to make this situation as soon as they get to Athens. Above all, they will have to make the idea that they can do what they please in their view of the U. S. needs more than Greece needs the only "strong" government can

Staunch Republican supporters, like the New York Herald Tribune, denounced the action by the House and urged that the cut be put back. And four of the possibilities for Republican nomination for President urged the same thing. They were Governor Dewey of New York, Governor Earl Warren of California, Senator Arthur Vandenberg of Michigan, and Harold Stassen of Minnesota.

There may be some of the biggest guns in the Republican Party denouncing what Taber and the House had done. Taber said he won't budge. But all this pressure probably will persuade the Senate to restore the cut, or most of it, with the House agreeing.

People's Platform

FEPAC As An Aid To South

NEW YORK, N. Y.

Editors, The News.
DO NOT quote me as saying that the Southern States are so strongly opposed to a Federal Fair Employment Practice Act to forbid racial discrimination in job opportunities when it is clear that such a measure if enacted would be to the economic advantage of the South.

Southern statesmen often say that one reason why the average man and woman of the South is less than the average in some other parts of the country is because the South is kept in a state of artificial bondage to Northern bankers and industrialists. They cite as proof of this argument the fact that a good many of the industries in the South are owned by corporations whose top officials and most of whose stockholders live in the North. Congress has been spending millions of dollars in the labor of Southerners and spend these profits mainly in the North.

There may be some exaggeration in this picture, but there is also certainly a good deal of truth in it. The proposed Federal Fair Employment Practice Act applies to industries hiring fifty or more people. Agriculture and the small locally owned industries in the South, therefore, would naturally be exempt. If the Southern States were to be freed from the burden of their Negro employees equal pay for equal work, and had to give them opportunities for better paying jobs if they were qualified, the money mainly would come out of the pockets of Northern bankers and industrialists.

It is not surprising that even this early the British have already approached the United States with a request for a larger allocation to Britain and the sterling area. The height of the Palestine crisis, when anti-British feeling in the United States was most bitter. At first the U. S. government was certain that the request would be rejected, but the matter has instead now been shelved for future consideration. Meanwhile,

Alfred Baker sends

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Marquis Childs

Reaction In Greece

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