



THE MISSOURI MOCKS US AGAIN

HERE we go again on the damned, un-damned Missouri. Year after year it's the same old story. The mighty river and its tributaries overflow their banks, carrying precious topsoil, homes and industries. The Army Engineers get out the sandbags, then the amphibious ducks to evacuate the homes and the Big Muddy mills on, carrying the lifeblood of the nation's heartland, mocking the American people who boast of their technical skill yet bow to the whim of the river because political overlords screech and stomp logic where the Missouri is concerned.

This year an eleven-man commission is studying the Missouri Valley, to the end that it will submit a comprehensive plan that will treat the land and water needs of the area as an integrated problem. Instead of a piecemeal basis. The establishment of this commission is long overdue, but is needed. As *The New York Times* aptly observes:

"What has happened in the basin so far is that many of these items—irrigation, flood control, hydroelectric power, soil conservation, pollution abatement, wildlife preservation, flood control, drought relief, and so on—individually, without thought or consideration for other and possibly conflicting needs. The Bureau of Reclamation, the Army Corps of Engineers and other agencies have each had their own axe to grind, as many local interests have had theirs. A makeshift

arrangement for the valley called the Pick-Sloan plan, embracing many dams, levees and other projects, is entirely inadequate. In fact, only a few of the haphazard approach of the Army Engineers was reworked again—for the second time in a row—in a sharp report of a House committee. Yet the Missouri problem can be solved; and a great responsibility now rests on the President's commission to help solve it in the interest of all the nation.

There are a couple of things needed besides a comprehensive plan from this commission. First is the removal of river and harbor and flood control work from the jurisdiction of the Army Corps of Engineers which, despite the proclivities of several members of the Carolina Congressional delegation for it, continues to be one of the most convincing, inordinate lobbies in the nation, working shamelessly with Congressmen for the authorization of pork barrel projects disapproved by the Executive Branch which supposedly rules the Engineers. Secondly, there must be a public realization that a co-ordinated plan for development of a valley and outposts river is common-sense economy.

Finally, there must arise a public indignation at those who blatantly shout "socialism" at comprehensive valley development proposals. A "planned economy" along the Missouri means much more sense than does this annual unlearned waste.

IT'LL BE DULL WITHOUT OLD TOM

IT SEEMS that Sen. Tom Connally wasn't trying to pull "Uncle Bob" Douglas's old trick after all. The Senator's intention was to be a "mediator" for the resolution that stood before the door wide open for the old-fashioned type draft. But now the Senator says he won't respond to any draft, so it appears that come Fall he will be heading back for the Pecos to crack nuts and swap stories with Cactus Jack Garner.

If this indeed is the twilight of the colorful and petulant Tom Connally's political career we view it with mixed feelings. Senator Connally was never a critical foreign policy messenger through the Senate, and was to the colleague who sought to trade barbs and sarcasm with him. Lately he has been given a roaring disapproval in his own party, individual, such as France or Averell Harriman, that incurs his displeasure. These actions have not added to his status as an international statesman, but he apparently believes these lusty outcries have been helpful in his campaign back home.

If the Senate would go Republican, which seems unlikely, his committee chair will be shared by Senator Wiley of Wisconsin, a rather unpredictable fellow. Next in line on the Democratic side is Senator George of Georgia, who may elect to continue as head of the Finance Committee, rather than take over Foreign Relations, then Senator Green of Rhode Island, who at 84 is about as ancient as his Senator McKellar, but nevertheless retains a zestful interest in the world about him. He led the Senate's delegation to the Strasbourg conference last Fall, returning to file a succinct and thoughtful appraisal of U. S. foreign policy in Europe. After Senator Green's committee came Senator McMahon, Fullbright and Sparkman, all of whom usually have been staunch supporters of Administration foreign policy.

When Senator Connally leaves a high of relief will slip up from the ranks. There have often been "insubstantial" names who have often served but seldom bested the Texas in sting debate. One such set-to deal with admission of Greece and Turkey to the North Atlantic Pact. Here's how it was set down in *The Congressional Record*.

"Mr. Watkins: I am talking about the words—  
"Mr. Connally: That is what is the matter. I have spent a long time in the chamber, and the fox is trying to escape me. What is it the Senator wants?  
"Mr. Watkins: I want to know if the statement of the Senator from Georgia is acquiesced in by the Senator from Texas.  
"Mr. Connally: Yes, he acquiesces. I do not think he would do that.  
"Mr. Watkins: ... The Senator does not yield because he does not like what I am saying.  
"Mr. Connally: Anyone who would not

DEMANDS FOR A BETTER MISSOURI VALLEY PROGRAM

LETTERS should be brief. The writers name and address must be given, but may be withheld from publication in the discretion of the Editor. The News reserves the right to condense.

Don't Bring Back The Fruit Jars

Mr. Watkins: Mr. President, by reason of the clear-cut interpretation that the treaty makers that all of its provisions must be implemented by Congress, and inasmuch as I had clear-cut interpretation, I am satisfied.

NOW NEW JERSEY

YESTERDAY in New Jersey, for the first time in the New Hampshire primary, the names of General Eisenhower and Senator Taft appeared on a ballot together. The General again scored an impressive victory, receiving about 60 per cent of the Republican vote (and more write-ins votes on the Democratic side than President Truman did). In New Hampshire he received a bare majority of the GOP vote.

Taft forces claim a "moral victory". Perhaps a little review of the Taft technique in New Jersey will help in evaluation of that position.

Back a month or so ago General Eisenhower and Senator Taft (and Mr. Stassen, who is still a-running) were all entered in the New Jersey primary. Governor Driscoll of that state announced that he would support General Eisenhower. Senator Taft, asked for comment, said he figured as much, and gave no indication that this action would change his plans.

That was a day or two before the Minnesota primary. After the huge write-in vote for the General there, Senator Taft suddenly decided Governor Driscoll was being very unfair to take a candidate that he would support just party leaders for Taft did in other states, such as Wisconsin, so he (Taft) would not campaign. A court ruling kept his name on the ballot, and his supporters worked for his candidacy.

Thus the New Jersey primary was probably one of the most balanced primaries, as primaries go, with both top contenders on the ballot and neither campaigning in the state.

We see nothing especially moral in the results for Taft, who is not victorious. But no matter, the loser is entitled to what soldiers he can. Mr. Truman's "How To Get Elected" lecture, complete with the text of a "give 'em hell" speech. And Dr. Thomas Burton, who resigned from the head spot in the local Eisenhower movement to run for Congress on the Democratic ticket, could take some good notes from Mr. Truman's discourse on "The Need For Party Regularity".

Come on down, Mr. Truman. There'll be plenty of people, young and old.

People's Platform

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Car Cheaper Than Bus

AS for the "fair proposal in a business-like manner" regarding the Charlotte transit lines the City Council can have my part of it. How can earth can be, the citizens of Charlotte, afford such a rate increase? Do they realize that there has just been an increase permitting only three rides for 25 cents compared to the usual four?

G. I. Seeks Pen Pals

I AM writing to your newspaper in regard to my letter in your issue of April 11, 1952, in which I asked you to put in your newspaper for me—I'd like to get acquainted with some pen pals—I would appreciate it very much.

CPL. ROBERT HEALY, #162223  
27th O. M.  
APO No. 301, Care P. M., San Francisco

Yankee Against 'Magnolia Malodor'

NOTICED quite a letter to you Thursday, April 10, from Rev. Ora Wilbert Eads under a Matthews, N. C. address.

This man is quite a character in that he, or somebody else, has quite a command of the English language to be so unintelligent.

Now, I am speaking as a transplanted Yankee and I would not stand up for this "magnolia in smelting" artist in Hong Kong.

In my home I have never practiced segregation. For a Democrat out of Nevada has suddenly found that his vindictiveness has got him into trouble—namely, into a million-dollar suit for the restraint of trade.

Last month, McCarran got on the long distance telephone to Las Vegas and gave an ultimatum to gambling friends to rank their advertising out of the Las Vegas Sun. Reason was The Sun's support of a young Democratic candidate for the Senate, Tom Meckling, who has dared challenge McCarran and his former law partner, Alan Bible, also aspiring to the Senate.

Following McCarran's phone call, the gamblers, hotels, bars and restaurants did not want to be part of the Sun. But Hank Greenspan, publisher of The Sun, is not a man to take things lying down. Last week he fired back and issued a challenge to McCarran to sue the Secretary Eva Adams, plus various members of the Las Vegas gambling world. It's a conspiracy in restraint of trade suit which may be hard for McCarran to best.

V. For Vindictive

THIS is not the first time McCarran has shown that his "mild initial shock" is...

U. S. Foreign Policy In Sias Shape Over China Situation

Another reason frequently given for the failure to investigate the National lobby is that the traitors, in some instances, to prominent ex-New Dealers. The Reporter's account of the lobby to be printed thus far, shows how Thomas (Tommy) A. Brantley, a Communist, worked with V. S. Young, Chiang's brother-in-law, who has amassed a large fortune now lives in a New York suburb.

It is profoundly disturbing that on both sides of the China dispute Americans have apparently been willing to serve interests other than those of the United States. They have worked for the Nationalists or the Communists. And while they may have deluded themselves into believing that it was in their own interest, it is highly questionable.

The McCarran Committee has concentrated exclusively on trying to show that Americans were aiding the Communists in China. The committee has had some success. Pro-Communists who were officers of the Communist line and who declined to testify on the ground of self-incrimination.

But at the same time, committee agents have used industrial espionage to bait government officials into admitting that they were motivated by Communist sympathies. This is a double-edged sword. It achieves some sort of balance in the midst of the Chinese earthquake.

The real failure on Capitol Hill is the refusal to look at what Americans were doing on the ground. Some for hire, others for ideological motives have worked in advance of the Nationalist Chiang Kai-shek and the Nationalists. The most unpleasant aspect of all this is the reported use of large sums of money from Chinese sources to determine the course of American policy.

Some of this money is reported to have found its way to Capitol Hill. These are people who clean up and many believe they explain the failure of Congress to investigate the so-called China lobby.

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Gloomy Palace Guard

BOYS continue to hang over the palace guard—the boys immediately around the President—who now see themselves out of office, out of limousines, out of other lush perquisites come next year.

Gloom was deepest immediately after the Jackson-Jefferson Day Dinner when their chief brook the bomb-bombardment of the Justice Department. They were gloomy and talking hopefully of another possible candidate on whose coattails they might cling.

Only prospect that appealed to them was Gov. Adlai Stevenson. He was the only one who agreed that the Governor of Illinois had two good handicaps: 1. His divorce. 2. The fact that he testified for Alger Hiss under two factors, they believed, might prove the political suicide.