

Westbrook Pegler It's Rat Week For Unioneer At Parley

ALMOST unnoticed amid the horror of the week in Philadelphia which had wrought the utter dissolution of Roosevelt's Balkan empire, the boss unioneer were flat on the lot, and totally discredited. They couldn't agree on any Democrat and they had faltered and denied the little guy in the White House when an indorsement would have taken courage and might have done his morale and the ticket some good. They had rejected Tom Dewey four years ago and ever since, and so he owed them nothing.

Now, for all their burly arrogance and their vulgar display of millions, the union bosses had come to the end of the Roosevelt era and their own era without a political friend of any importance. Their clamor for the repeal of the Taft-Hartley Law has lost the power of a threat.

THEY congress with the great organizers run by the unions of both the CIO and the AFL, as auxiliaries of Roosevelt's party in 1944, was equal to the decline of the party itself. In 1944, the Political Action Committee of the CIO enjoyed an exaggerated reputation as a menace to the freedom of the ballot.

With the help of the Communists, under orders from the Kremlin, no doubt, the PAC workers put together clear across the country, and particularly in the war plants, an organization as thorough as anything that Tammany, Ed Kelly or Tom Pendergast ever had. Mr. Baldwin ran the show under the somewhat sinister genius of the late Sidney Hillman.

In California and elsewhere, locals of many unions adopted resolutions through their executive boards, calling on all members to pay a dollar to the Roosevelt campaign fund. In Hillman's own union, the Clothing Workers, some of the loyalists published formal orders to all members commanding their presence at Roosevelt rallies under penalty of a dollar fine for failure.

AFTER the triumph, a Bessarabian convert to the glories of Roosevelt's new freedom, a sea-lion named Fishman now known as Joseph Geer, composed an excellent handbook full of justified pride, telling how they had done it, and with practically all the unions linked to Roosevelt the deplorable prospect appeared of more and more thorough conquests of the natives by the political guile of the greenhorn.

Now, like so many frightening things in our politics, like the Know Nothings and the Ku Klux, the PAC has practically disappeared. Jimmie Roosevelt appears to maintain some personal connection with a California chapter, but the great show has lost its power. It never will revive. Meanwhile, Baldwin has followed a natural drift from the PAC into the campaign headquarters of Henry Wallace.

AT THIS convention the name of Dan Tobin was called in vain. The king emperor of the Teamsters Union had loafed on President Truman during fateful months and he didn't dare declare that the Teamsters would back him for re-election. His union had gathered literally hundreds of millions through the help of Roosevelt and certainly Mr. Truman had not let Tobin down in his three years. After all, Truman vetoed the Taft-Hartley Law. This year, in this strange congress the unioneer have only a few "observers" and no consultants.

IN 1944, Francis Biddle, the Attorney General of the U.S.A., was caught by reporters sneaking up a backstairs to a hotel penthouse in Chicago to pay homage to Sidney Hillman as the delegate of Franklin D. Roosevelt. He said he never had thought he would come to this and there the dust of ignominy was on his knees as he said it. The next day, Henry Wallace was turned down for re-nomination and Sidney Hillman was supposed to have decided on Senator Harry Truman for Vice President. History will say he did. Where were they now? The CIO was represented by a petty functionary and political pensioner, James Carey. A Displaced Person from behind the iron curtain of his own old union, the Electrical Workers, had little authority, and in his person, the CIO was being ignored so soon after the day of its great power.

WITH all their millions, for all the armies of goons brandishing clubs with nails in them which once terrorized Ohio and Michigan, for all their hollow boasting of their power to control the "labor" vote, the unioneer were defeated and done. The Hollywood trash were missing, too, the political illiterates, who took a sip of politics in 1944 and got reeking on a wine too rich for their intelligence. Their ideology had not been political at all, but the neurotic crush of lesser hams for a premium ham. This was their rat week in Philadelphia.

Washington Background 2 Parties Give Wallace A Fast Convention Deal

By The Inquirer Washington Bureau Staff

WASHINGTON, July 14.—PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S personal troubles in the Labor Department are mounting. Since the death of Secretary of Labor Lewis B. Schwellenbach, the President has been under pressure to appoint a successor, but up to now he has publicly refrained from making a choice.

At present three or four posts in the Labor Department are vacant. There is no Secretary, no Undersecretary, and an Assistant Secretary is missing. John W. Gibson, an Assistant Secretary, is the Acting Secretary. However, even that post may go begging soon because it is reported that Gibson is ready to resign.

Mr. Truman will have to go down deep in the ranks of the department to pick a successor.

Good old Henry Wallace. He never had a head for figures, as he well demonstrated on numerous occasions.

The latest boner of the third-party candidate involves some financial ledger-dream which the chairmen of the Republican and Democratic Parties pulled on him. When Philadelphia won both conventions, the Democratic and Republican committees decided to share the cost of decorations of Convention Hall.

The bill amounted to \$20,000 and both parties agreed to share the cost—\$10,000 each.

At this point Henry was really "going places." He also wanted Convention Hall for his party. He queried the Republicans and the Democrats and they informed him that it cost them \$10,000 each. Wallace, anxious to get Convention Hall, immediately mailed a check for \$10,000.

The decorations are costing the two major parties \$5000 each, and the third party \$10,000.

Jawaharlal Nehru, India's Prime Minister, has an admirer who gives him \$1.51 a month as "pocket money." In 1921, the 60-year old Thakur Prasad of Ayodhya heard Nehru speak and was so impressed by the latter's patriotism that he began sending him about 60 cents a month.

This was up to 1944. After that Prasad increased Nehru's allowance to \$1.51 in view of the "increased cost of living." Nehru always inquires about the donor's welfare when he visits Ayodhya.

Pennsylvania ranks third in Federal tax payments. Corporations domiciled in Pennsylvania and wage earners poured a total of \$3,218,822,000 into the Treasury's coffers in fiscal 1948 which closed on June 30. This was \$237,000,000 more than in the preceding year.

Only New York and Illinois exceed Pennsylvania's total tax payments. While Republicans and Democrats alike are claiming credit for the \$8,419,000,000 Treasury surplus in 1948, the largest in history, no one is coming forward to point to the deficit for fiscal 1949.

The Treasury reports that the deficit in the first nine days this month totals more than \$407,000,000, or about \$107,000,000 above the deficit for the same 1947 period.

The other day when the Democrats were trying to convince Senator Alben W. Barkley of Kentucky to accept the Vice Presidential nomination, the office of Representative Edward H. Rees (R., Kan.) called The Inquirer.

Rees, who is chairman of the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee, had prepared a blast against Oscar E. Ewing, Federal Security Administrator, who had been mentioned as a possible V-P dark horse.

The Kansas had charged that Ewing was "continuing his political activities despite his appointment as FSA chief." "But Ewing hasn't got a chance to be nominated Vice President," we told our informant.

"As a matter of fact Barkley just got the nod from President Truman," we said. "Well," the voice said, "Rees will still issue the blast."

Now that United States Steel Corp. and other large concerns in the industry have abandoned the basing point pricing method for their products, the Commerce Department is right on the ball to help those manufacturers who want to move to the steel areas in order to avoid high rail costs.

The department has prepared a map showing distribution of steel producing plants in the country. Single copies of the map can be obtained by writing the Iron and Steel Section of the Commerce Department here.



JOHN W. GIBSON

Walter Lippmann Sen. Barkley Looms as Key Man of Party

ALTHOUGH this article must be written and out of my hands before the nominations are made at Philadelphia, I am assuming that the predictions are correct and that the ticket will be Truman and Barkley. If that is it, the convention will have made the best it could out of Mr. Truman's refusal to step aside.

It will have made it possible for Senator Barkley to become the caretaker of the party once Mr. Truman leaves the White House. For while Mr. Barkley is only the second man on the ticket, he will be the first man of the party when it becomes the opposition.

HAD the party expected to elect Mr. Truman, it would not have turned to an elder statesman to be its running mate. The choice of Barkley, who is older than Truman but is a highly experienced legislator and a trusted party leader, is as frank a recognition as the circumstances and the rules of the game permitted that the Democrats have written off this election, and are looking beyond it.

The managers and the orators of the revived game as near to saying this as they could. I HAS been said, notably by Mr. Farley, that the Democratic leaders and bosses did a disservice to the party by manifesting their opposition to Mr. Truman.

Mr. Farley is, I think, too preoccupied with the orthodox routine of party organization. The opposition to Truman did not tear down the party for 30 years, and there would not have been the wide and varied opposition if the Truman leadership had not already broken down. For the different factions to have pretended that they were happy and harmonious would have done no one, least of all the disaffected rank and file. It would not have built up the Truman Administration.

But it would have stifled the one best thing in the Democratic party, the very thing which will enable it to survive and to recover. That is its vitality and freedom, its enterprise and adventurousness, often undisciplined, sometimes reckless but, nevertheless, the secret of its hold upon those who look forward and want to go forward.

THE new generation of Democrats will not be ready and available for some years to come. Nor, unless there is a national or international catastrophe, are the Democrats likely to get back to at least eight years, perhaps for 12 or 16. Under Dewey and Warren there is every reason to anticipate a long period of Republican rule.

For Dewey is not only likely to be an extremely competent President, but an active party leader as well, quite capable of holding the conservatives while he reaches out for the progressives.

The new generation of Democrats will be educated by serious competition. That is something that an active party leader, who has one of the main reasons why, after Roosevelt, they have no great national figures today.

AS THE Democratic Party relinquishes its power, it is torn by factionalism. Yet I think there are both general and specific reasons for this. The general reason is that American parties do not die.

The factionalism of the Democrats today is not, it seems to me, so much a result of the party's long period. There are no controversies so apparently irreconcilable as were those which raged over the Ku Klux Klan, Prohibition, Al Smith and Bryan.

The country, all of it, may, therefore, be in a state of confusion, but they relinquish the power they have held so long and the heavy responsibilities they have borne through dangerous days: "Hail and farewell... We shall meet again..."

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These viewpoints often contradict one another. They have no connection with the editorial policy of this newspaper and sometimes, in fact, may represent exactly an opposite opinion. The opinions and views expressed belong solely to the writers.

THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME By Jimmy Hatlo



THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME

:- Gossip of the Nation :-

Walter Winchell

HERE'S STAR DUST IN YOUR EYE.—Lionel Barrymore's quotable quote: "An actor must live his roles and love them. He must be another fellow. Ridiculous must pass him by. If by any chance it grazes him, the actor must view it with pitying kindness. His last week's failure must be more than forgotten—never happened."

Above all, the actor must have no sense of humor. When he looks at himself in the mirror, he must do so through a telescope. And everything that he reads or sees or hears must be his lot. The most profound, the most classic line fall from his lips, he must be unconscious of the fact that he is not the author of it.

Ethel Merman is never afflicted with first-night jitters. "She has a comforting philosophy: 'If anybody in the audience is better than I am, they would be on the stage instead of me.'"

Few performers have ever matched the fabulous Lillian Russell's fame and fortune. Oddly enough, she considered herself a failure. Her big ambition was to succeed in politics. She once ran for Mayor of Pittsburgh and was defeated.

CAREERS of stars are not all perches and cream. They must be spunky enough to overcome galling failures and the most trenchant criticism. Lily Langford appeared in London in a play called "Between the Nightfall and the Light." She was hooted from the stage, and police had to escort her to her hotel. But she had faith in the drama. She took the same play to America and scored a tremendous financial success.

Oso, M. Cohan had a brief, unhappy fling before the Movieville cameras and vowed never to return. "If I had my choice between Hollywood and Atlanta," he said, "I'd take Leavenworth!"

John Barrymore gazed enough woof-water to float a battleship. Yet he was aware that you could not find happiness at the bottom of a bottle. "Unhappiness increased the drinking," Barrymore said, "and drinking increased the unhappiness."

The deadening feeling of insecurity is rampant in show biz. A career that takes decades to erect will topple after one or two flops. They sing your praises one year, and the next you may be left alone to sing the blues.

This witty observation by actor John Drew underlines one point: "After you build a successful reputation in the theater you must remember that you can't live on your reputation alone. You must have a talent."

BROOKLYN mobsters again are sticking up book-makers, to raise dough for the appeal of Weiner slayers. Latest A L prices, in Stern books: Yanks, 3-to-2 favorite; Cleveland, 8-to-5; Red Sox, 4-to-1; Athletics, 6-to-1; Boston, 6-to-5; Cardinals, 7-to-1; Pittsburgh, Brooklyn and Giants, 8-to-1. Reminds us of Bob Crosby's wistful dream of Bing's Pittsburgh club facing Bob Hope's Cleveland team in a World Series. "I can just see it," says Bob, "Bing and Hope behind the dugouts, sitting 'way up high on their wallsets.'"

IN TOOTS SHORT, Jack Kelly, Sr., and Junior scanning the sports manuals which will decorate the new extension, opening in August. Most of them date back to the 180's, first horse race, first fight, first golf match, etc. It's anyone's guess or picture of Dr. James Naismith's first basketball court at Springfield YMCA College. Toots would love to have the Kellys off for the Olympics, but he's a single sward, in which young Jack faces a 6-ft-4 Australian wizard. Toots remembers nostalgically

what sort of week this has been; it even ends by muddying the question of who has been bad for whom. Anyway, the virtue hunt is on. It is being found that Truman is courageous and also serene. And it is among Republican observers here, and in Republican editorials, that I have found some of the strongest and earliest statements to the effect that Truman is not such a bad candidate and is in some ways a good one.

STRANGELY enough, I do not feel that it is because they consider Truman to be their pigeon that Republicans say these things about him. I think they have been really shocked by the liberal clamor which has been raised within the party against the President, and I sometimes wonder whether they have not been disturbed by it, as by the sight of something new, something which upsets the complacent assumption that explicit liberalism is a past phase in American life.

This has been a convention with the cover off, and to those in a hurry to get back to normalcy, there may be something shaking in the sight of the hot right versus left conflicts which have been going on here, an intimation that perhaps there is some unfulfilled business before the country.

THIS convention has offered a little balm to those who would like to believe there are no such pending questions; it has been like the popping open of a hatch which had been considered battened down. The fumes and vapors not visible at the Republican meeting were visible here.

The little outbursts of Republican sympathy for Truman have represented, I think, a desire for a kind of tidying up; the prospect of Democratic disintegration has looked perhaps like too big a Republican victory, one which changes too many things, and unsettles the perspectives.

And in beginning to say nicer things about Truman the Democrats are also pushing doubt out, out of sight, and in their own way, paying tribute to the widespread but somewhat anxious belief in the return of tidiness and political normalcy.

Hollywood Row Looms At Universal International

By Dorothy Manners

HOLLYWOOD, July 14. NEXT HOLLYWOOD studio battle looms between Abbott and Costello and Universal-International. Coming on the heels of David Selznick pulling Valli, Louis Jourdan, and Bob Mitchell out of Bill Bacher's picture. It looks like July 4 came too early.

First volley fired between the comics and the studio came when executives canceled preparation on Bud and Lou's next comedy. "About and Costello and the Invisible Man." Writers Hugh Wedlock and Howard Snyder were ordered to cease typing.

There was a preliminary skirmish before "Mexican Hayride" started and the two comedians are now saying loudly that they are just waiting for the current picture to be finished before the battle starts in earnest.

What it all amounts to is that Bud and Lou want more money spent on their pictures, and U-I, along with other studios, is on an economy drive.

Billie Burke is back after two years away from the screen, and July Garland and Fred Astaire get her for "The Barkleys of Broadway." Once again, Billie plays one of her own, a girl who charms wily-foes after saying, at one time, that she was tired of them. But these sluttish brains have been her forte all during her screen career.

Who is a sly "tying" kills an actress. During her two years' vacation, Miss Burke has been doing radio and commercial pictures. But she says it is nice to be back on the M-G-M lot where her last appearance was with Ann Sothern in "Dulcy."

It is a good thing the Hindriem Nerman Bel Geddes has a sense of humor. When the great theater artist announced that he was coming to the coast to visit his attractive daughter, a local columnist hummed on away here to visit with the "Vid" and "Vid" eye.

Bel Geddes was designing great stage sets and completely revolutionizing theater technique before Barbara was born.

Round-ups: Look for an elongation between Nancy Walker, star of "Look Ma, I'm Dancin'," and John H. Bateman, star of the "Allegro" troupe in New York.

Buff Cobb (the ex-Mrs. Bill Rytba) has been back to Hollywood. She will make her permanent home in Chicago.

Lullie Ball Dennis, who has been in the past rumor that she and Deedee Arnez are "expecting" anything—except a vacation next month.

Tacturn Gary Cooper delivers the longest single split of dialogue he has ever made on the screen in "The Fountainhead." Silent "Coop" utters 942 words in his own defense in the trial scene.

Robert Stack, the skeet shooter champ, spent 812 knocking down clay pigeons at the beach last night.

Chatter in Hollywood: Robert Walker's two sons are in military school in Carlsbad while he is honeymooning with Barbara Ford. The newweds were at Angelo's Saloon Room the other evening—alone, as usual.

To friends who have known the John Fords a long time, there was a heart-tug about their absence from the wedding and the wedding pictures of their only daughter, Johna, who has the reputation of being "the most beautiful girl in the world." Ergogee believes he would have given her anything in the world but matrimony to her marriage to a boy who has been divorced.

Hollywood Shorts: Horace Schmidaupp dining quietly at Ocean Brooming with Carol's closest friends, the Lou Wassons. When the place began to fill, the Schmidaupp group left.

Same place—same night, Nancy Valentine with her fractured arm in a splint. But she kept it glamorous with a diamond pinned on the arm.

Rhonda Fleming was with Otto Preminger again. Mariano Sayer, the artist, whose paintings have attracted so much attention lately, was in the party. He is young and very good looking.

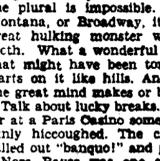
The host of the party was Edgar Allan Poe, former aide-de-camp to King Carol, of Rumania, who seems to have thrown a party every night he has been in Hollywood.

In another party were Kay Williams, Brookshire, Carol's closest flume. It was Kay's first public appearance since she and Adolph separated.

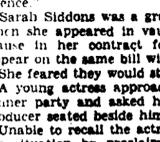
Tony Martin brought a gala crowd to his opening at Slappy Maxie's. This boy is "Bugsy" again, and bringing Tony back again and again were Perry Como, Evelyn Knight, Danny Kaye, Gracie Allen and George Burns, and the Robert Youngs.

Plenty of broken hearts over the flare-up between David Selznick and Bill Bacher, after the latter pulled all of his stars out of "If This Be My Harvest," the Bacher production.

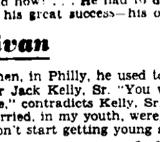
Dorothy Manners is substituting for Louella Parsons, who is on vacation.



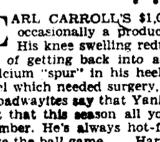
ETHEL MERMAN



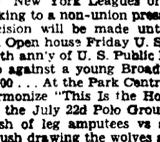
SARAH SIDDONS



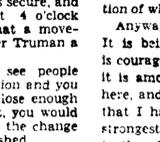
BILLIE BURKE



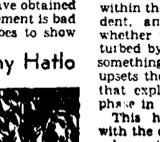
BARBARA STANWICK



NANCY WALKER



JOHN H. BATEMAN



HORACE SCHMIDAUPP



RHONDA FLEMING



TONY MARTIN



KAY WILLIAMS



BROOKSHIRE



LOU WASSONS



SLAPPY MAXIE



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