

The Star-Telegram is an independent Democratic newspaper, supporting what it believes to be right and opposing what it believes to be wrong, regardless of party politics, publishing the news fairly and impartially at all times.

Lyndon Johnson for U. S. Senator

During the campaign before the special election in 1941 to fill the vacancy in the United States Senate caused by the death of Senator Morris Sheppard the *Star-Telegram* supported Lyndon Johnson.

After weighing the qualifications of the various candidates in the 1941 race we stated our belief that Mr. Johnson was the right man for the job.

Nothing has occurred in the seven years since the 1941 race to change our judgment of Lyndon Johnson or cause any regret that we supported him. On the contrary, the caliber of his services to his state and nation in the intervening years has further fortified our belief that he has the qualifications necessary to make an outstanding senator.

Now another senatorial campaign is under way and Lyndon Johnson again is a candidate for this position of high honor and great responsibility.

Taking into consideration the nature of the job to be done by the next United States senator from Texas and the qualifications of the various candidates, the *Star-Telegram* again believes Lyndon Johnson is the right man for the job.

Only 39 years of age, Mr. Johnson is youthful and energetic, well able to stand up under the stress and strain of the duties of the office. He is experienced. Despite his comparative youth, he now is in his eleventh year as a member of the lower house of Congress. He already knows his way around Washington and is intimately familiar with the intricacies of parliamentary procedure in Congress. He does not have to spend a large portion of his first term as a senator getting his feet on the ground and learning the ropes. He not only knows Washington, but Washington knows him, and respects him.

In addition to youthfulness and experience, Mr. Johnson has ability. He has demonstrated this many times, both in committees and on the floor of the House. He gets things done.

Lyndon Johnson is a fearless and aggressive fighter for the things in which he believes, as he showed when he took the lead in the scrap that ended in the passage of the 70-group Air Force bill.

His aggressiveness again was in evidence when he demanded that the War

Assets Corporation stop the sale of war plants which might be needed in the re-armament program. As a direct result of his efforts, 114 plants were stricken from the surplus list and American taxpayers thereby saved \$258,000,000.

Having dealt with them for 11 years as a member of the House from the Tenth (Austin) District, Lyndon Johnson already is familiar with many of the national and international issues upon which our next United States senator will have to pass judgment. In view of the rapid pace at which things move in Washington these days, this familiarity with what has gone on before would be a most valuable asset. It is an asset which Lyndon Johnson alone, of the several candidates in this race, possesses.

The high esteem in which Lyndon Johnson is held by those who know him best, his friends and neighbors of the Tenth congressional district, is evidenced by the fact that he was elected the first time out of a field of 10 candidates and has been re-elected five times since without serious opposition, sometimes without any opposition at all. To make such a record, he obviously has been representing his constituents well and capably.

While representing but one of the 21 congressional districts in Texas, Mr. Johnson's voting record indicates he is in tune with the responsible thinking of all Texas. His votes in the House have been in accord with the wishes of a majority of the people of this state on such vital questions as adequate national defense, international co-operation, opposition to all forms of monopoly, and conservation of all our resources, both human and natural.

Lyndon Johnson, having served his district well and faithfully, now is seeking promotion from the House to the Senate—the same kind of promotion which was given to some of the outstanding United States senators from Texas in the past, including John H. Reagan, Roger Q. Mills, Joseph Weldon Bailey, Morris Sheppard and Tom Connally.

The ambition for such a promotion is laudable. Giving it is the only way in which the people can suitably reward competent public service. In the case of Lyndon Johnson it would be a promotion well deserved and one calculated to pay rich dividends to the people of Texas.

OUR SURPLUS TECHNOLOGY

by Marquis Childs

PHILADELPHIA. — In all the welter of speculation and rumor, one thing has been true in this convention. Never before has the news of any event been so extensively and lovingly spread to a waiting world as the events in the drama occur.

In addition to the familiar techniques—press, radio, newsreels—is the new one of television. This complicated new technology, with the hundreds of specialists required for its operation, adds another dimension in reporting.

The television lights burn fiercely in the steamy hall. On either side of the auditorium are elevated platforms on which batteries of newsreel cameramen grind away. The awkward-looking television recorders are spotted high up about the galleries.

Press and radio have been dealt with most generously by the GOP committee on arrangements. Of the 13,106 seats in the hall, more than 2,000 are given over to men and women writing and broadcasting. They stretch out in serried ranks on either side of the platform and the runway that gives onto it.

Back of the platform in glass-enclosed cages are the broadcasting booths of all the major networks. Here broadcasters and technicians, sweating like galley slaves, pour millions of words into the ether.

Never at any convention before have there been so many correspondents of foreign newspapers and press associations. By cable and wireless telephone, more millions of words are going out to every corner of the globe.

Back of the men and women who put the words down on paper or into a microphone is an army of technicians. Twenty-four hours a day they work sending out the infinite variety of electrical impulses that spell out what is happening, or what someone thinks is happening in this assembly.

In a small grass plot just outside the press entrance to Convention Hall is a helicopter belonging to one of the newsreel companies. It rushes newsreel prints and television recordings to the airport where they are flown by chartered plane to the Middle West and the West Coast.

Listening to an anxious politico work his way through a mediocre speech, wiling in the glare of light beating down on him, you can't help but wonder if we haven't overdone this business of technology. With all these fantastic new devices for magnifying the human voice to infinity, there is the dark suspicion that no one has anything much to say.

The instruments of the new technology are so demanding, so insistent, that they get in the way of the kind of expression that seems to carry weight and conviction. That is true particularly of television in its present stage of development.

I watched Gov. James Duff of Pennsylvania try to conduct a caucus of his delegation in a smallish hotel room, which was packed with delegates and spectators. At the back of the room a television and newsreel operation was going on. There were shouts back and forth from operators in front near the rostrum to operators in back to turn on lights, turn off lights, add new lights.

Now it would be hard to imagine a man more forthright, simple and direct than Governor Duff. But this intense, hothouse atmosphere seemed to shrink him, to make him self-conscious and ill at ease. It reduced the whole thing to a rather poorly contrived performance that no really alert television producer would dream of putting on his network.

When the first telegraphic cable was opened between London and India toward the end of the last century, the newspapers made a great fuss about it. They invited comment from famous persons, among them the philosopher-critic, John Ruskin. He said:

"The cable is an interesting device. But what do you have to say to India?" That question is pertinent here and now. The world is waiting today to learn what this assembly does. People everywhere want to know how well representative government works in these United States.

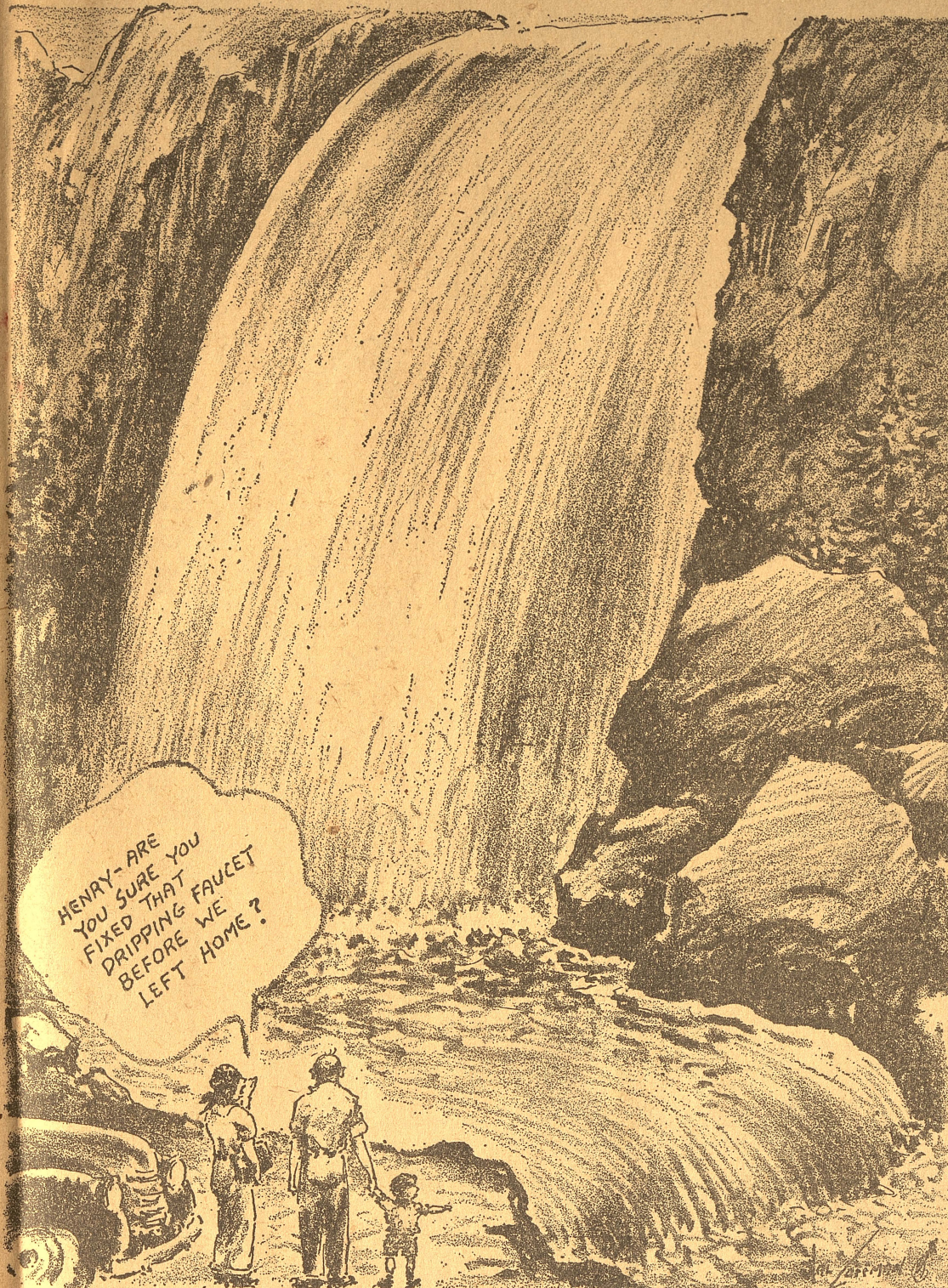
They will get cold comfort from some of the speeches that are being made. Gov. Dwight Green's keynote address, with its evasions, its platitudes, its remarkable contradictions from one sentence to another, its wistful backward glances, leaves a great vacuum that no amount of amplification and magnification can possibly fill.

A long time ago another assembly met here in Philadelphia. The men who met in that constitutional assembly lacked radio, television, even the telegraph. Yet their words echoed around the globe. Perhaps there's a moral in this for us today, with our vast and costly apparatus that transmits the slightest whisper of thought.

The Bay City, Mich., small boy who gave away \$1,500 of his grandmother's savings to his friends has a bright future ahead of him as a New Dealer.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

WATER CONSCIOUS FORT WORTHERS

by Hal Coffman



—Hal Coffman's Cartoons Appear Exclusively in the Star-Telegram.

PULL UP AN EASY CHAIR

by Neal O'Hara

Now that sugar is plentiful and cheaper, makers of nickel candy bars are peeved that retailers continue to sell them for six cents, but there isn't much that can be done about it. . . Hey, girls: A survey of 1,000 women who are interested in beauty hints shows that 25 per cent of them are using less rouge today than in 1941, but on the upside, 16 per cent more use bath powder and 13 per cent more anti-perspirants.

A Boston company has a thriving business in making phonograph recordings of wedding ceremonies. On each set of records, which last a lifetime, are pasted this advice to the newlyweds: "Play me when you feel a spat coming on," and "Play me ten times before calling a lawyer." . . . When a Scranton, Pa., spinster recently celebrated her 101st birthday by sliding down a bannister, the Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch also reported that "the medical society presented a plaque to Miss Dolph in recognition of her age."

You get an idea of how federal functions have expanded on learning that the U. S. government today is the biggest research agency in the world, accounting for 54 per cent of all American research expenditures last year, with industry having 39 per cent. But in 1930, industry's part in research was 70 per cent as compared with the government's modest 14. . . Today's favorite gag: English Teacher—"Who saw the handwriting on the wall?" Little Elmer—"The landlord."

Maybe it would hearten Mr. Truman to know that after Vice President Calvin Coolidge became president on the death of Harding, many of the GOP bigwigs had planned to ditch him as their candidate in the 1924 election—but Cal outfoxed them and won in a walk. . . The big distilling companies have an unwritten rule never to advertise whisky in Sunday newspapers. . . Developed for the canning trade is a salt tablet that prevents canned tomatoes from breaking into pieces during processing and while in transit.

The Soviet government has good reason for making its rather absurd claims that such items as radio, caterpillar tractors and penicillin were really invented by Russians—while the rest of the world laughs. It's to prod Russian genius to inventiveness. There's not much inspiration for any sort of genius under the Communist system. . . Country editor speaking: "You're an old timer if you remember when in a campaign year like this the politicians were weeping for the 'downtrodden' working man and the 'poor' farmer."

Maybe it's human nature (when you're in the upper brackets) that one of Mr. Winchell's chief reasons for quitting his current radio sponsor at the year's end is his displeasure at one of the commercial plugs inserted in his Sunday evening programs. . . The capital of one country in Africa is named in honor of an American president—Monrovia, capital of Liberia, for James Monroe.

A nationwide survey of motorists' attitudes toward filling stations shows about two-thirds are satisfied with the way most gas stations' rest rooms look now—and of those who are dissatisfied, most say they'd be willing to drop a nickel in the slot if it would make accommodations cleaner and more comfortable. . . Harvard's famed Nieman Fellows, newspapermen from all over the nation who take a year off to study and cogitate at the university, are paid their usual wages by the fund, with a limit of \$110 a week set—but it's free of federal income taxes.

From *Erie Magazine*: "While we all think we are getting too much 'government,' just think what would happen if we got all the government we are paying for."

Republican Platform

The 1948 Republican platform, as submitted to the Philadelphia convention, is a declaration of broad generalizations that cover a wide area within the purview of steadily expanding federal authority. This broad sweep of national government is a matter of sobering concern to many outside the pale of party politics.

Texas and the rest of the South may well be disappointed by the civil rights plank and the omission of any stand toward states' rights in their tidelands. To all intents and purposes the Republican platform favors the FEPC by enactment and enforcement of federal legislation to assure the right of equal opportunity to work to all races or creeds. It opposes racial segregation in the armed forces, favors abolition of the poll tax and passage of anti-lynching laws.

Foreign policy and defense planks are sound in general form. The United Nations would be strengthened by progressive establishment of international law, be freed of any veto in the peaceable settlement of disputes and be provided armed forces contemplated by the charter.

Steady development of the nation's water resources for "navigation, flood

control and power" is favored. Likewise federal aid to the states for low-cost housing and slum clearance is recommended in those instances where the needs can not be met by private enterprise or by the states. Such manifestations of progressiveness are couched in some double talk to obscure their meaning which will be clarified only by legislation or administrative action.

The labor, anti-monopoly and related planks embodied in the platform may elicit smiles from those who have followed the records of previous Republican administrations and the last Congress. But all these generalizations are nevertheless capable of snaring votes in every group. That is the fundamental purpose of the platforms of both parties.

What about inflation? Well, the GOP platform glibly fastens the blame for high prices upon the Democratic administration, which is charged not only with not effectively using its powers to combat inflation but with deliberately encouraging higher prices. The platform pledges the following attack upon basic causes of inflation: reduction of cost of government; "stimulation of production as the surest way to lower prices"; fiscal policies to increase incentives for production and thrift; a sound currency, and reduction of the national debt. There can be no quarrel with those broad affirmations.

Party platforms deplorably have degenerated as outlines of principle that would be followed by the political group in power. To the credit of the Republican Party it has progressed from the years when it actively espoused economic isolationism and narrow nationalism. Whether the party and its leaders have matured economically with the times is highly problematical.

But clearly both parties are committed to the dangerous policies of colossal government and superlative spending, which are in the direction of socialism and economic collapse. The sympathies of the people may be extended to the party which inherits federal power and responsibility for the next four years. The Republican platform with all its promises and broad sweep of foreign and domestic objectives is an omen of the shoals ahead. For the present it is disturbing that the party of conservatism is accepting big government and enormous federal budgets as settled national fixtures.

SHORT SHOTS

by Robert Quillen

Experts say noise can make people sick. Then what's the idea of providing it while customers are eating dinner?

His taste is good if he would rather have a few perfect things than dozens of cheap, fourth-rate things.



A widower, living alone, gets no attention when sick. Women can't take care of him without starting talk.

Life is very pleasant after you stop expecting other people to do exactly as you desire.

Do relations impose on you? Well, everybody rides a free horse to death if it isn't smart enough to buck.

Another handicap of democracy in Europe is that the rich, foolishly hoping to save their money, won't help to fight the Reds.



Correct this sentence: "It was her turn to entertain the club this week," said another member, "and she made no excuses."

Hurtful lobbying requires two things: A smart and loaded lobbyist, and public servants who, for some mysterious reason, can be used.

If rearming is the only way to halt Russia all right. But is it wise to starve vital peace-time projects and thus weaken ourselves for war?

LOOKING AT LIFE

by Erich Brandeis

It was around two in the morning.

I was fast asleep. Suddenly I heard a shriek and another one.

Half-awake I rushed into her room—I am parked in the guest room during my illness—although I have strict orders from the doctor to be completely still.

But, heart or no heart, wouldn't you rush to your wife's bedside if you heard her shrieking in the middle of the night?

I turned on the light and there she was looking scared to death.

"Where is the hyena?" she asked me.

"What hyena?"

By that time she was awake and aware that the hyena wasn't a real one but simply the apparition of a nightmare.

It seems that this hyena had attacked her and buried its claws in her body. To get rid of it she had bitten the beast in the leg, and apparently her counterattack had been successful because the hyena disappeared and both my wife and I went back to sleep.

I am thinking of that nightmare right now because of another nightmare—a picture I just saw in my paper.

It is the picture of a "contemporary bedroom" and I can best describe it to you by quoting the caption:

"Mitered moulding gives a shadow box effect to bleached oak bed and night tables in this contemporary setting.

In the same chateau fabric as the draperies.

"The Chinese motif in the charcoal background wallpaper echoes draperies and bedcover. A touch of rose appears in fringe and still-life over the bed."

Now, mind you, this bedroom is shown in a furniture store in one of New York's Westchester County suburbs where colossal houses predominate and where the great majority of the population consists of lawyers, sales managers, executives and other substantial men and their families who make up the typical country club membership.

Can you imagine that kind of bedroom in a hard-working American businessman's home? And if it gets there, who will be to blame? Certainly not the man.

For some reason we seem to be discarding American tradition and leaning more and more toward the modernistic, the contemporary, the functional, as it is called.

I grant that a piece of furniture which is a combination of a bed, cocktail bar, television set and writing desk may be functional, space-saving and very, very bizarre and original.

But I prefer beauty and grace and tradition and harmoniousness in my home.

A home should reflect the character of those who live in it. There is a big difference between a furniture showroom and a home.

What business has the "Chinese motif" in a hard-working American businessman's home?

CRACKS AT THE CROWD

by Claude Callan

Cousin Minnie's children, including even her boys, use a lot of ugly words, some of them being downright swear words, so it is evident Minnie isn't using the right kind of soap with which to wash these words from the mouth. This modern soap is gentle and perfumed and will not remove swear words. Back in the old days when mother used homemade lye soap to cleanse the mouth of a child who had picked up a bad word from evil associates, the bad word was really washed out and made no effort to get back into the child's mouth. Many children of today are using language that would have horrified people of the not too distant past, and this condition never will be remedied until mother begins making lye soap at home, so she can give each child's mouth the thorough cleaning it needs.

If you spend everything you make you will be doing a great service for your children. You will have no trouble making money for them to inherit.

Nora clings to her old church, although the building is small and the members poor. Her church really has nothing to offer except religion.

Cousin Minnie was sick last week, but now she is sound and well again and able to go to the doctor every day.

OFF THE RECORD

by Ed Reed



"But, dear, I only wanted you to fix a broken picture cord!"

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