

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.

# Attack on Gen. Eaker Shows Bad Taste

As most everyone knows, Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, retired deputy commander of the Air Force and chief of air staff, is a native Texan. He was born in Llano County and spent several years of his boyhood on a ranch in Concho County. His father still lives at Eden and his mother is buried there.

And it is hardly news to anyone that General Eaker was one of the key figures in the air war against Nazi Germany. As commanding general of the 8th Air Force in England and later as commander-in-chief of the Mediterranean Allied Air Forces, he directed much of the aerial bombing which helped bring the war in Europe to a successful conclusion.

It was General Eaker who planned, organized and participated in the first all-American bombing raid against the Nazis, personally piloting the lead plane. As a veteran of 30 years' service in the Air Force and its predecessors, he is one of the nation's outstanding authorities on aviation and the part air power plays in modern warfare.

Texans are justly proud of the record this one-time West Texas ranch boy has made and overlook no opportunity to pay him homage. Thus it was that he was invited to attend a barbecue and address a gathering of his former neighbors at San Angelo a few days ago. In his talk he urged prudent Americans to realize the danger this nation faces because "the most powerful tyranny which ever cursed the world rides today unchecked."

Recalling the grief which befell the French when they failed to choose vigorous leadership before World War II engulfed them, he urged Americans to select wise leaders. Giving the lesson of the French local application, General Eaker endorsed the candidacy of Lyndon Johnson for the United States Senate, giving an impressive list of reasons on which his opinion was based.

The senatorial campaign hit a new low point the following day when Mr. Johnson's opponent, Coke Stevenson, ques-

tioned the motives of General Eaker in taking a hand in the Senate race.

Mr. Stevenson, the candidate who has boasted he would have no part of a mud-slinging campaign, shocked the sensibilities of the intelligent people of Texas by implying that General Eaker had been sent to Texas by the airplane industry to speak for Lyndon Johnson as a payoff for the part Mr. Johnson played in getting Congress to approve a 70-group Air Force recently.

Red-blooded Texans who know Ira Eaker resent the suggestion that he would stoop so low. Candidate Stevenson should offer a public apology for his ill-considered remarks.

General Eaker's patriotism is above question. His understanding of the international situation certainly is superior to that of the candidate who raced off to Washington after the first primary to take a 14-minute course in foreign affairs.

As one of the most distinguished sons of the Lone Star State, General Eaker certainly has every right to take a hand in the Senate race in Texas. As one of the high ranking Air Force officials during all of the years Lyndon Johnson has been a member of Congress, he certainly is in position to know the contribution Mr. Johnson has made to the causes of preparedness and national defense.

As one who has watched congressmen come and go for years, General Eaker is in position to know that Lyndon Johnson, after more than 11 years' apprenticeship in the House, is better qualified for promotion to the Senate than any newcomer who would have to spend the major portion of his first term getting acquainted in Washington.

Mr. Stevenson's offensive remarks regarding one of the nation's most capable and highly respected war heroes indicate he is in a frenzy of fear over the prospect of losing the election next Saturday. We can account in no other way for his showing of such bad taste.

## Texans at Camp Hood

The Texas National Guard, which rendered outstanding service in two wars, is demonstrating its rightful place in post-war national defense in the Camp Hood training program this summer. The presence of 8,000 volunteer guardsmen likewise shows that this state is alive to the necessity of national security in such insecure times.

The training being given members of the 49th Armored Division, the 36th Infantry and the 56th Cavalry Group is basic instruction required to prepare soldiers for any emergency. Two weeks at Camp Hood are anything but play and restful vacation, but all participants will emerge with stronger bodies, a sound appreciation of national defense and a realization of the meaning of patriotism. Despite these boons the arduous training entails effort, personal denial and time that should be appreciated by the people of Texas.

The civilian soldiers of the National Guard, particularly its war veterans, hope that the world will be spared another conflict. Guardsmen realize that armed strength and preparedness are today's best insurance for peace. They will be ready for possible emergency. In such a tragic eventuality, the fine traditions of Texas' 36th Division during two wars will be upheld by the young men now in training at Camp Hood.

## FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

Trademark Registered U. S. Patent Office  
MORNING—EVENING—SUNDAY

Combining the Fort Worth Star, established February 1, 1906; Fort Worth Telegram, purchased January 1, 1909; the Fort Worth Record, purchased November 1, 1925. Entered as second-class mail matter at the Postoffice at Fort Worth, Texas, January 1, 1909, under Act of March 3, 1879.

Amon G. Carter  
President and Publisher.  
Bert N. Housar, James M. North Jr.  
Vice Pres. and Gen. Mgr. Vice Pres. and Editor.  
Harold V. Housar, James R. Record  
Vice Pres. Circulation Dir. Managing Editor.  
Amon Carter Jr., Treasurer

TELEPHONE NUMBERS  
Classified Department, 2-4131  
All Other Departments, 3-2301

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS  
The Associated Press is entitled exclusively to the use for republication of all the local news printed in this newspaper, as well as all of its news dispatches.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC  
Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in the columns of this paper will be rigidly corrected upon the notice of same being given to the editor personally at the office, Seventh and Taylor Streets, Fort Worth, Texas.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES—By carrier: One week, Evening only, 20c; Evening with Sunday, 30c; Morning, Evening and Sunday, 13 copies, 45c; Single Copies, Evening only, 5c; Morning 5c, Sunday 10c. By mail in Texas and Oklahoma, Daily and Sunday, per month, \$1.25; per year, \$15; States outside Texas and Oklahoma, per month \$1.50, per year \$18.

## New Economic Phase

The United Nations has raised an economic storm signal for its 58 member nations. It has notified them that the world is trading less although producing more each month.

This is the classical second phase of inflation in which production is ineffective because distribution fails, a familiar pattern in 1929. Money becomes so cheap that it buys less than is produced, and financial resources for consumption are exhausted. The maturing global problem stems from such causes and the dislocation is all the more grave since the United States between the end of the war and the advent of the Marshall Plan poured \$22,000,000,000 in loans and grants into the financial bloodstreams of foreign nations. Lack of American dollars or sound money can not be overcome indefinitely by such gratuitous, arbitrary means. Artificial trade barriers further hamper commerce between nations.

A superficial analysis of a condition as described by the United Nations would be overproduction, which by no means is the case with the world today. The stagnating factor is inability to satisfy demand or a failure in distribution from inflation. Reaching its crest, the wave falls back and creates a backwash of deflation with mass shutdowns and unemployment.

## SENATOR SOAPER says:

Congress looks into alleged espionage with a view to framing new legislation, possibly along the line of requiring foreign agents to wear uniform caps with "spy" in neon.

A question is raised: What does the future hold for an Olympic javelin champ, other than dart-throwing in some of the larger recreation rooms?

A Treasury surplus suggests we are paying as we go. This, though, gets us no farther with the question, where are we going?

Mr. Truman meant no disrespect to the turnip, a vegetable with an impressive record for keeping No. 3 companies of "Tobacco Road" alive.

A solution to China's troubles would seem to be largely a matter of inventing an edible \$1,000,000 bill.

## LABOR LAW AFTER 1 YEAR

by James Free

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21.—Has the first year of the Taft-Hartley act, which went into full effect exactly 12 months ago, brought peace to the labor-management front? Or has the comparative quiet since last summer merely been an armed truce?

Supporters of the Taft-Hartley act say it has been successful beyond their expectations. They cite statistics which, on the surface at least, add up to a fairly convincing case. And they forecast even smoother sailing in the future, after union officials have become accustomed to the rules and policies fixed by the new law.

Union leaders, with few if any exceptions, assert that the outward signs mentioned by proponents of the law are misleading. They declare that the relative tranquillity on the union-management front this last year has concealed the imminence of bitter industrial strife, that there is no more reason for optimism than there was at the end of the first year of the "phony war" on the western front in Europe in World War II.

First, consider the favorable figures quoted by proponents of the Taft-Hartley act.

The number of strikes in the months for which official records under Taft-Hartley experience are available represent a decrease of about 43 per cent in comparison with a similar period before the law became effective. From September 1947 to June 1948, there were 2,195 strikes noted by federal authorities, as compared with 3,634 in the same months prior to enactment of the law.

On this same period comparison basis, supporters of the labor law point out that unions, between September 1947 and June 1948, won "as large a proportion" of collective bargaining elections as they did in the same months a year earlier. In the period since enactment of the law, unions won 1,771 elections and lost 628 as compared with a pre-Taft-Hartley record for a similar period of 3,796 elections won and 1,308 lost.

Finally, backers of the law cite press announcements of the AFL and the CIO purporting to show that these two organizations at least have more members now than they had last summer.

Union spokesmen do not deny the statistics cited, but charge that these figures tell only one side of the story.

Walter Mason, member of the AFL's national legislative committee and former member of the national wage stabilization board, summed up labor's view pretty well, as a later check with CIO and United Mine Workers authorities made clear.

"The new surface record for the past year looks fairly good," said Mason, "but it must be remembered that employment is running at an all-time high and that most companies are making record profits. For that reason employers, or most of them, have not chosen to take advantage of the Taft-Hartley act in their relations with their workers. They have been making too much money to want to take a chance on upsetting their profit-bearing apple carts by fighting against some wage increases.

"The real showdown on Taft-Hartley will not come until corporation profits fall off or until demands for labor decrease until the supply more than catches up with the demand."

Mason said that most working men are not fully aware of the fact that the Taft-Hartley act has, to a large degree, nullified gains made by labor under the Clayton antitrust act, the Norris-LaGuardia act (covering the use of injunctions in strikes, etc.) and the National Labor Relations act (covering collective bargaining rights).

There can be no doubt that organized labor plans to spend a lot of money and campaign effort this year in trying to defeat those members of Congress who voted to override President Truman's veto of the Taft-Hartley act. Next year, and afterward, the unions will continue their efforts to get the law repealed or drastically amended.

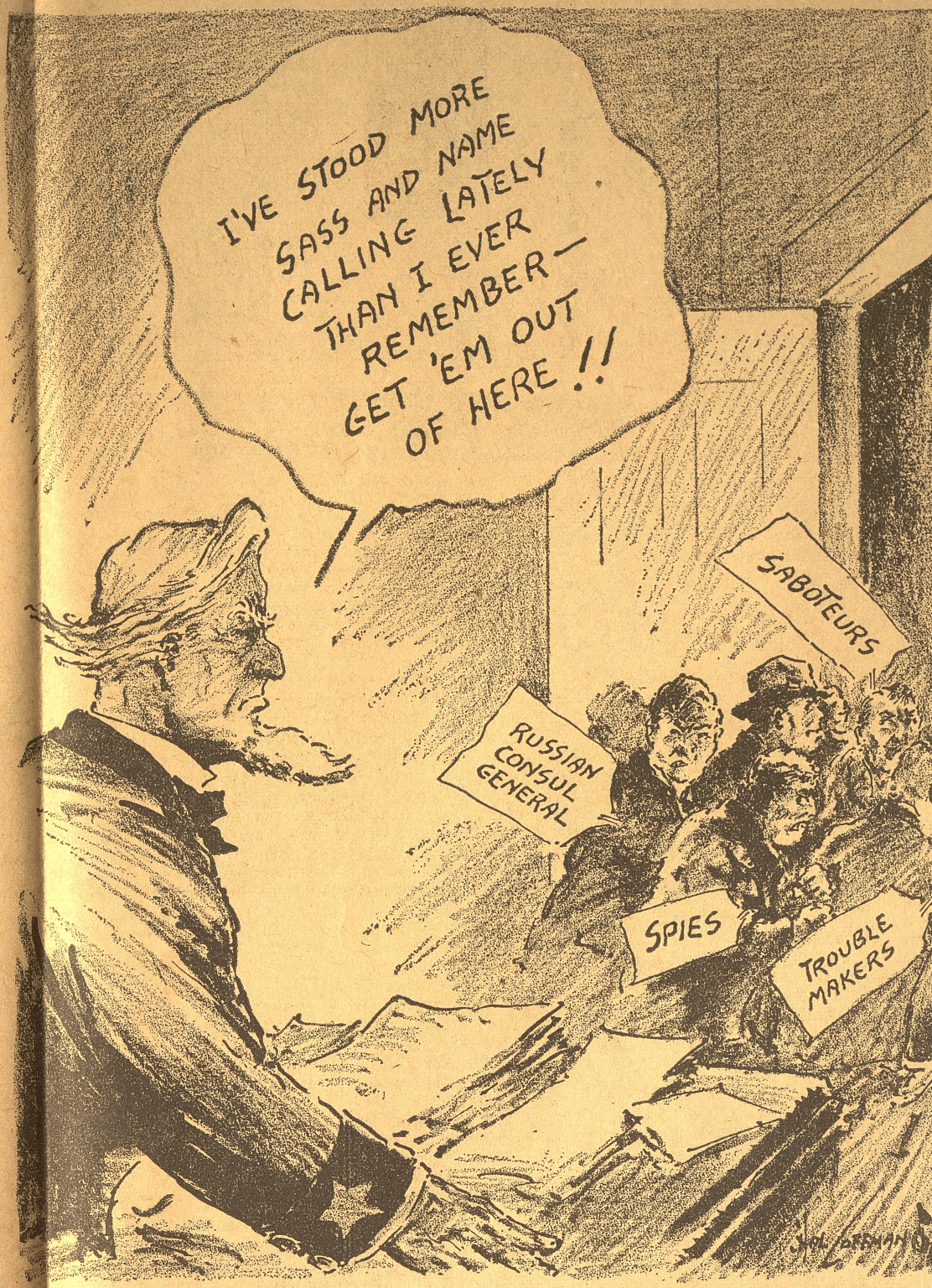
John L. Lewis' UMW has been in a favorable position since coal mines are operated on a union shop basis, but Lewis is unalterably opposed to the Taft-Hartley law and has ordered his followers to ignore the statute to the fullest extent possible.

The AFL in general has shown more willingness to comply with Taft-Hartley requirements than has the CIO, but is equally determined to fight it to the end. Philip Murray, CIO president, has, like John L. Lewis, refused to sign a non-Communist affidavit. Murray maintains that the first year of Taft-Hartley operation has "brought chaos into industrial relations." It has, he continued, "strengthened the hands of the most arrogant, the most anti-labor portion of American industry in its determination to destroy organizations."

The neutral but vitally concerned public probably will have to wait a while to get an unbiased answer to the success of the Taft-Hartley act.

## ENOUGH TO RILE ANYONE

by Hal Coffman



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

## Behind the Traffic Death Decline

by William J. Conway

CHICAGO, Aug. 21 (AP)—The U. S. traffic death rate has dropped to a record low.

Behind that is the story of hundreds of men and scores of organizations who joined forces and went to work.

The rate began to go down and, at the latest count, stood at 7.2 deaths for each 100,000,000 miles of travel, the lowest point ever registered.

Donald S. Berry, director of traffic and transportation for the National Safety Council, says two big reasons for the better showing are:

"1. The intensified educational program carried out in the press and on the radio.

"2. The tremendous amount of work states and cities have done to improve their accident prevention programs."

The line of death began to dip in 1946.

Let's go back and see what happened. President Truman's highway safety conference was held May 8 to 10, 1946. There were 2,000 delegates. They represented federal, state and local governments and all traffic safety groups.

They adopted a program based on three time-tested "E" techniques: Educate driver and pedestrian. Engineer hazards out of vehicles and roads. Enforce the laws. And a fourth "E" was added—energy in using these tools.

The gospel of safety was preached in newspapers, magazines and theaters; on the radio, billboards and car cards.

The Advertising Council, an organization representing all phases in advertising, started a "stop accidents" campaign in co-operation with the National Safety Council. This campaign has caught the eyes and ears of millions.

Movies with a safety theme—"Traffic With the Devil," "Highway Mania," and "Devil on Wheels"—were shown across the nation.

Local safety councils, state and city officials shifted their accident-curbing machinery into high gear.

The International Association of Chiefs of Police put on a check of vehicle mechanical condition. Nearly 3,000,000 vehicles were inspected. One out of three had at least one defect.

The national committee for traffic safety threw the weight of 85 co-operating organizations (American Newspaper Publishers Association, Red Cross, General Federation of Women's Clubs, etc.) into the drive. The chief aims are:

- 1. Driving instruction in high schools.
- 2. Adequate driver license laws, with adequate examinations and administration.
- 3. Improved traffic courts.
- 4. Uniformity of traffic laws, signs, signals and markings.

The American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators pressed for better driver licensing laws, more efficient administration and stricter enforcement. The American Automobile As-

sociation worked for better driver training and better protection for pedestrians.

Many more cities turned to the National Safety Council for free yearly checkups on their operations. The number of cities participating rose from 130 in 1946 to more than 500 this year.

The mileage death line went down despite factors that could be expected to push it up. Through the war, with motoring restricted, it hovered between 11 and 12.

Controls have been lifted. More cars and trucks than ever before—40,000,000 of them—are in use. Travel is at a peak.

What has the slump in the mileage death rate meant in actual lives saved?

The death toll in 1947 was 1,111 below 1946. If the current trend continues, 1,300 fewer men, women and children will be killed this year than last. And one of those lives saved may be your own.

## The Richest Man

by Frank Tripp

Beside old Seneca's rugged shore, where great falls tumble down, there stands a cozy little shop, right smack upon the beach. Morning glories climb the front. Happy children play about. Its like, I doubt, elsewhere exists.

To a stranger this humble main-spring of a tiny lakeside community could seem at best just a curiosity shop. There is barely room to walk around antique affairs, the chests of drawers, cranky lawnmowers and gadgets gone askew. Each is in one state or another of expert repair—from a tricky cabinet job or an armature in the lathe, to a missing bolt in a kiddie car.

The browned ceiling and rough board walls are almost concealed by all manner of strange treasure. There are pieces of rare woods salvaged over the years, queer lanterns, muskets, a Civil War drum, a coffee mill, stocks of iron, pipe and chain. There are rope and tackle, boat supplies, bait traps, a basket of nuts for thieves squirrels, another of snacks for neighbors' dogs. 'Tis an intriguing array of useful or curious things, which connect a friendly man with the many cloistered years he has been accumulating them.

The cheerful master of this shop, Will Gardner, has built or rebuilt almost everything on Glenora Point, from the biggest build-

ings to the children's hobby horses. He's waiting upon the third Glenora generation now, the best-loved man on all the lake, the most unforgettable character I ever met.

We part-time dwellers who depend upon Will to do everything from cutting junior's hair to setting a kitchen sink, have yet to find a thing he can not do, or hasn't the tools to do it with. I know and love tools. That's how Will and I got drawn together. The workman doesn't live who has better tools than he, or better kept. Except that in this maze of things they seem lost to all but Will, who in pitch dark can lay his hand on any one.

They are his pals. He's lived with them since a boy. To many a one a memory clings, each an epoch in his life—and romance lurks there too. "This saw belonged to so-and-so," he'll say, then chuckle into tales about the past, mostly weird or humor yarns in which both he and that quaint countryside abound. A sample depicts the amours of a native sheik who gained his heart's desire by taking his neighbor's wife in swap for a pig—and got stuck." Will proceeds to prove.

This tolerant sage of whom I write has, comfortably and unbeknown to him, taught me more of how to get sunshine out of life than all philosophers or books that ever crossed my path. We whiled away much of two summers together rebuilding a good sized boat. It was more to be with him, to see his craftsmanship and learn; and to drink in his sound philosophy of life. Contentment oozes out of his patient soul—and reverence, without long face. Just radiant reflection that this resourceful, mirthful man, who can make or grow anything he likes, yet does neither beyond his needs, has lived the real life after all.

Crudely painted on the wall of Will's shop is the motto of his tranquil life. When he put it there years ago it may have fitted him all around, for he never will be rich in worldly goods. It is Marcus Aurelius' words: "Thou seest how few be the things, the which if a man has at his command, his life flows gently on and is divine."

Will explains, "that's the long way to say blessed be nothing."

## FORGOTTEN HERITAGE

by Marquis Childs

(Note: Marquis Childs, well-known Washington correspondent, is exploring the great new empire of the West. He is analyzing first-hand the relationship between this vast new development and the rest of the country, and observing just how politics in this election year will fit into the picture.)

McCALL, Idaho.—As we rode through wilderness country along the high mountain ridges in the Payette National Forest, we felt the presence of two vigorous ghosts. They hovered benignly over the dark, wooded slopes and the clear running streams that they saved from blight and destruction.

These were the ghosts of Theodore Roosevelt and Gifford Pinchot. Pinchot was the father of conservation in America. Roosevelt was the political godfather of the movement that saved large areas from ruinous deforestation and the disastrous erosion that eventually means desert.

Working together 40 years ago, they got Congress to put the mountainous watersheds in federal ownership under supervision of the Forest Service. Out of the move, linked with other conservation measures, has come the whole development of irrigated farming and the industries related to it.

This is the heritage of the Republican Party if it only had the sense to know it. In laying the cornerstone of conservation, Roosevelt and Pinchot set a high precedent.

The Republican candidate for president, Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, is planning to tour the West next month. He will have an opportunity to take hold of the conservation issue and restore the heritage of his party. And in reality he will be taking the popular side not only among convinced conservationists, but among most people in the West who understand how vital it is to preserve the base of the West's permanent well-being.

In my opinion, conservation ranks as one of the three most important issues before the country. First, of course, comes the question of war or peace and the way in which America's foreign policy has been directed.

If a third world war should follow quickly upon the one that ended three years ago, then there would be little use in talking about conservation. The demands of a new war would carve so deeply into remaining resources as to jeopardize for all time the American standard of life.

But assuming that a fairly long period of peace is at least a possibility, then the issue of conserving and broadening our natural resource base ranks with the question of trying to control inflation and prevent a depression. The plundering of "our plundered planet" must be halted if mankind is not to be reduced to the level of starvation existence.

On his western trip Dewey can, of course, evade this great issue. He can pay lip service to conservation while at the same time talking about the need to relax overly severe bureaucratic controls.

That would please a few big ranchers and stockmen—the same little group that set out deliberately to undermine the public land policy. They are out to make a killing in this era of phenomenally high prices.

One can understand the force of this motivation. The boom is something! A lamb on the hoof brings \$30. A big sheep operator expressed it by saying that he felt as though he were growing orchids.

Some of the money to feed the boom comes, ironically enough, from government sources. This potato state will get a sizable share of the millions being paid out in subsidies to potato growers.

Part of it will go to such big time boys as Idaho's Jack Simplot whose millions made during the past seven or eight years are already a new get-rich-quick legend. The government pays \$2.40 a hundred pounds for "surplus" potatoes and sells them for \$2 a ton to be converted into animal fodder.

If Dewey evades the conservation issue, he will leave a feeling of puzzlement and anxiety among those who are hoping that he will provide leadership. It will take some courage to speak out. Dewey will have to go against those Republican senators and congressmen who have followed the wishes of the minority—the big stock raisers.

In all this is a challenge to Dewey, the administrator, the skilled public servant, should welcome. It is a challenge for a big man.

Written in sky-high letters is this impressive fact out of history: No civilization has ever been able to organize a watershed-irrigation system so that a permanent way of life could be based on it.

In the book of history the page of failure is written with a record of desert and famine, swift decay and obliteration beneath the shifting ocean of sand. Here is a challenge, not for one man alone, but for a whole society that stands at the dividing line.