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A—14 * THURSDAY, April 22, 1948

District Loyalty Probe

The proposed investigation of the loyalty of employes of the District government suggests, on its face, that the District Commissioners have lost their sense of proportion.

It is one thing to check on the loyalty of people employed in such agencies as the Department of National Defense, the State Department and the Atomic Energy Commission. In these agencies and even in some of those less "sensitive" in character, the threat of espionage is ever-present. Persons employed there have custody of information, or at least have opportunity to obtain information, which, if passed on to a potential enemy, could endanger the security of the United States. Most certainly, these employes of the Federal Government should be checked with greatest care to make certain of their loyalty to this country.

A considerable straining of the imagination is necessary, however, to reach the conclusion that a comparable security risk is present in the case, for example, of employes in the District Water Department, or the Fire Department or the Police Department. If there were any reason to believe that the Communists had infiltrated these agencies an investigation might well be in order. For one might reasonably suppose that if the Communists are there, they are there for a purpose. But Commissioner John Russell Young says this is not true. The investigation of District workers, according to him, was prompted, not by any indications of disloyalty among the workers, but merely by the example of the Federal probe.

If this is correct, then the most sensible thing the Commissioners could do would be to file the District loyalty investigation project in the pigeon hole reserved for half-baked ideas. After all, this business of loyalty checks has to stop somewhere unless we are to have half the people in the United States investigating the other half. And in the absence of some tangible reason to suspect particular employes, it ought to stop at the point where there ceases to be a real security risk.

Peace in Costa Rica

The civil war in Costa Rica has ended in what looks like a settlement promising the restoration of genuine peace and stability. The victory of the insurgent Conservatives is complete. Their troops will dominate the situation while the opposing government forces are being disarmed and the government leaders are leaving the country.

But the change in administration will be bridged by a "caretaker" regime headed by an interim President who enjoys the respect and confidence of all parties. This man, Santos Herrera, will hold office until May 8, the normal termination of the regular President, Teodoro Picado, who has resigned and left the country. Meanwhile, the new Congress chosen at the general election last February along with the presidential candidate, will meet on May 1 and take the legislative action needed legally to validate the Conservative candidate, Otilio Ulate, as President-elect. It will likewise confirm Santos Herrera in his temporary administration. These procedures, following strictly the terms of the constitution, will leave no doubt as to the legality of the executive changes in prospect.

Thus terminates the longest, bloodiest and most destructive period of civil strife in Costa Rica's history. That is saying much, because this small Central American country has been relatively exempt from the cycle of revolutions and dictatorships which has plagued most of its neighbors. The struggle just ended was precipitated by the action of the "lame-duck" Congress dominated by the Liberals, which quashed the decision of the electoral tribunal that the Conservative candidate, Ulate, had been elected, and declared the Liberal candidate, Calderon Guardia, President-elect.

Not only were the Conservatives naturally furious, but unprejudiced observers tended to regard this congressional action as a political "steal." When the Liberal government took precautionary measures to buttress its authority, the Conservative leaders took to the hills and started a revolution. In this revolt they had unquestionably widespread popular support, because they have defeated the government forces, which were better armed and were aided by outside mercenaries, especially from neighboring Nicaragua.

The most unfortunate phase of the conflict was the part played by the local Communists. Though relatively small, the Communist Party in Costa Rica is led by an able demagogue, Manuel Mora, who sided with the government in a cynical plan to seize power after the rival factions had exhausted themselves. It is this organized Communist minority which may yet give more trouble before it is disarmed and put under control. Otherwise, the prospects for a restoration of peace and order appear good. A return to normal is badly needed, for the wounds to Costa Ri[illegible] economy inflicted by the civil war are serious. It is to be hoped that the traditionally intelligent and law-abiding Costa Rican people will profit by the ordeal it has just been through.

Victory in Italy

The rout of the Communists in the Italian election marks a first and enormously important victory for the Western Powers in their cold war with the Soviet Union.

The occasion is not one which calls for unrestrained rejoicing. Certain qualifying factors need to be kept in mind. The first is that it is a battle which has been won, not the war. The second is the fact that while the Communists were beaten their strength did not decline in any notable degree. Slightly more than 30 per cent of the vote was cast for Communist candidates, which is about the same measure of strength they have shown in the past. That they were beaten is due to the fact that a very large vote was cast and the new voters were against the Communists. The Communists remain, however, as a strong and important element of Italy's political structure.

But these considerations cannot detract significantly from the importance of the victory. To understand how important it is, one need but visualize the magnitude of the disaster which would have overtaken us if the Communists had won or if they had been able to seize power by force. Had either of these things happened Europe could have been written off as lost and we would be standing with our backs to the western wall. That it did not happen is due to several things. One was the influence of the Pope, especially with the women voters. The American letter-writing campaign was another contribution to success. Above all, however, was the impact of the Marshall Plan, of the demonstrated determination of the United States to come to the aid of those European nations which were able and willing to help themselves.

Against this the Communists had nothing to offer but threats and misrepresentations. The misrepresentations and the downright lies could not prevail because it was possible to get the facts before the Italian people and the threats were of no avail in the absence of the Red army.

The inference to be drawn from this is a heartening one. We have demonstrated to the world and proved to ourselves that we are not helpless in this struggle, that in a favorable setting we can tip the scales against the Soviets if we make up our minds to do it. The important thing now is not to let down. We should expect some counter move from the Communists and we should be prepared to meet it. Even more important, we must remember that hard days lie ahead in Italy. The victory at the polls was political in character. The economic battle remains to be fought, and if we do not assist in fighting it intelligently and effectively the political ground which has been gained can easily be lost. But we have learned at least this much: It lies within our power to turn back the Communist tide if we will do it.

Nathan Hale Statue

The Capital of the United States needed a statue of Nathan Hale and the generosity of the late George Dudley Seymour in providing one deserves acknowledgment. Repeated reminder of "the ideal patriot" of the American Revolution serves a useful purpose. He was one of the earliest to visualize the privileges and responsibilities of independence. When news of Lexington was received at New London, he publicly called for instant action throughout the Colonies and supported his utterance by volunteering for unlimited service. Breveted captain for gallantry at the siege of Boston, he subsequently captured a British sloop in New York Harbor and took part in the Battle of Long Island. It was in the darkest hour of the war that he was summoned by George Washington personally to the house of the Quaker merchant, Robert Murray, in Manhattan to "receive instructions for an important mission."

Hale's assignment was plainly hazardous and he realized that failure would mean ignominious death. In quest of detailed information about British operations, he attired himself in civilian dress, entered the enemy lines as a Dutch schoolmaster, made drawings of fortifications and finally reached a point on the Sound from which he hoped to cross to Norwalk and safety. But a Tory cousin recognized and betrayed him. The sketches hidden in his shoes were discovered. He then confessed his name and rank and General Sir William Howe ordered him executed without the formality of a trial. The hanging was carried out under conditions of shocking cruelty on Sunday morning, September 22, 1776.

All this is familiar to the average American. What is not so commonly appreciated is the prophetic significance of Hale's famous last words: "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country." A scholar who also had been a teacher, a writer and a librarian, he understood perfectly what he was saying when he declared that he was dying willingly for the Nation—not for any single portion of it, nor for any partisan group or class. The free federation of sovereign commonwealths proclaimed at Philadelphia less than three months previously was his inspiration. That was the aspect of his sacrifice that Attorney General Clark, accepting the statue on Sunday, had in mind when he said: "Every citizen * * * has a sacred duty to guard and help preserve, in time of peace as well as in time of war, the freedom for which Nathan Hale and other Americans have fought and for which many of them have died."

A Revolutionary Window?

Among the many interesting gadgets on display at the current National Home Show in New York is an invention that should lift up the hearts of all who regard window cleaning as one of the banes of existence. It is a thing that somebody ought to have thought up long ago. Certainly, if it is as good as reports indicate, it is going to make this a better world regardless of what the Russians do.

The invention is a window of a new type. Apparently it never gets stuck. But that is the least of its virtues. What makes it important, even revolutionary, is that the glass in it can be taken out and put back in a jiffy. To clean it, in other words, the only thing a housewife has to do is tell her husband to take it apart and wash it in the kitchen sink. Or if he happens to be busy with something else at the moment, or if he is a brave man who refuses to be bossed around, he can tell her to do it herself, and she will have no trouble at all doing it.

Anybody who has cleaned windows will readily see that this is good news. Quite obviously it promises to make a hard job easy. No more sitting on sills to wash the outside panes! No more worry about falling from the third floor to the concrete walk below! No more uncomfortable reaching and stretching to wipe away the last streaks of soap and water! Just take the glass to the kitchen and polish it up along with the dishes! That is all that is necessary. The thing is simplicity itself—so simple, in fact, that professional cleaners may find their business falling off.

Clearly, if there are no serious bugs in it, this invention will come as a great blessing to a lot of people who hate window washing or who are tired of paying big money to have others do it for them. The development may not be in a class with what goes on at Los Alamos or Oak Ridge. If it really works, though, it may contribute a good deal more to the sum total of human happiness—like the similarly unspectacular but wonderfully helpful safety pin.

Neglected Safety Field

With the signing by President Truman of a bill to permit District high school students to receive instruction in automobile driving without complying with the usual permit requirements, only one hurdle remains to be surmounted. Funds must be provided to defray the cost of establishing the new safety courses in the schools.

Fortunately, it will not be necessary to invest in automobiles in which to give the instruction. Through the public-spirited offer of the American Automobile Association and the Chevrolet division of General Motors, fourteen special dual-control cars will be placed at the disposal of the school system. This means that the only outlay required will be for hiring of instructors and maintenance of the cars. It is estimated that $42,080 will cover these costs during the next fiscal year.

The President may have recalled, as he signed the local bill, that he urged the Highway Safety Conference to expand its Nation-wide program for teaching the youth of the country how to drive. He told that conference that more than two million young men and women reach legal driving age each year, yet only a small percentage of them have had the benefit of expert instruction at the wheel of an automobile. Traffic Director Keneipp, in advocating establishment of driving courses in all the senior high schools here, pointed out that a Chicago survey revealed that young people who were given such training were involved in 50 per cent fewer accidents than those who did not have formal instruction.

These facts indicate that Washington has been neglecting an important field in its traffic-safety efforts of the past. If the results of driver training in Chicago may be regarded as typical, no time should be lost in taking advantage of the offer of free automobiles for driving courses in the District high schools.

The national resources of apathy to a movie cutie's reasons for being for this presidential candidate or that have scarcely been scratched.

This and That

By Charles E. Tracewell

"I want to run down to the drugstore, my dear," said Templeton Jones.

"I will be back in about 10 minutes," he continued.

His wife heard the old car chug away. The pharmacist was about two miles distant, but what is two miles nowadays?

Jones felt the pressure of the night around him. It was 10 minutes to 9 o'clock. The darkness hemmed him in. The light glowed at the corners, and then gave way to black satin.

He would just run down to the drugstore, purchase a magazine, and be right back.

* * * *

He buzzed along.

At the store, he found a crowd of customers as usual.

The modern pharmacy is now used to its role of country store.

There is a little of everything for every one.

Jones always liked to browze around in a druggist's shop.

The bottles of perfume, the candy, the magazines, the drugs, the medicines.

One did not have to be a "narcotic," as the lady said, to like to see the items in drugstores.

* * * *

When Templeton Jones came out, he looked across the street.

There was a radio shop over there, with a television set going.

A crowd was on the sidewalk.

Jones thought he would go over and take a look.

He had never seen a television set in operation. The prices of the things had kept him distant. Those funny looking antennas, with their dipoles and the like, had nonplussed him.

He did not want, he had said, to make his house resemble a radio station.

Well, tonight he would go over there and take a look, just for a few seconds.

* * * *

Let us now transfer the scene to the home of Templeton Jones, where his fair wife awaited his arrival.

Mrs. Jones did a little knitting, expecting almost any moment to hear the sound of the Jones car.

She listened to a far-off bell, wondering about bells.

Why were there bells any more, when every one had a clock and especially a radio?

Some one was always shouting out the time on the radio.

* * * *

Half past 9 o'clock came, and then 10 o'clock.

"I wonder what has happened to Templeton?" She said, at last, half aloud.

Not nervous, but just wondering.

After all, Templeton Jones was a punctual man. When he said 10 minutes, he meant 10 minutes.

Half past 10 o'clock came.

Mrs. Jones by now was getting really nervous.

* * * *

She pictured her good man in a wreck, or lying helpless along the street.

"If he doesn't come by 11 o'clock," she said to herself, "I will call the police."

She looked out into the inky night.

And then that familiar sound.

The old car chugged to a stop, and Templeton Jones, himself, appeared suddenly on the steps.

"Where have you been?" asked Mrs. Jones, between relief and mock indignation. How quickly one's indignation fades, at times!

"Well, my dear, it was this way," said the culprit. "I stopped to watch a television set, and——"

"I thought you said you wouldn't have one of those things?"

"Well, I wouldn't," he grinned. "But that prize fight was a pippin!"

Pioneer Forest Makers

Systematic Tree Planting Started by a Few Men Who Realized Its Need and Value

By George A. MacDonald,
Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture.

The time is coming when trees will be planted—like this "stand" in the De Soto National Forest—as regularly and systematically as wheat or corn.
—U. S. Forest Service Photo.

This Arbor Day season foresters and nurserymen report greater interest in forest tree planting than ever before in the Nation's history. State foresters in 40 States, Hawaii and Puerto Rico declare that the demand by farmers and others for planting stock at State nurseries, financed in part by the Federal Government under the Clarke-McNary Act of 1924, far exceeds the supply. Last year these nurseries produced and distributed 90,000,000 seedlings; this year they aim to produce 220,000,000, according to figures given the Division of State Forestry in the United States Forest Service.

Behind this increasing demand for planting stock, of course, is a growing public realization that the United States is nearing the end of its once-vast supply of virgin timber so fast that from here out we must more and more rely on what timber trees we can grow. Many lumber, pulp and paper, public utility, and other companies and thousands of farmers and other owners already are planting steadily, and planting techniques and equipment have been vastly improved—much progress having been made, for example, in the development of tree-planting machines. This activity has behind it a tradition of pioneering and persistence in the face of obstacles distinctly American in character.

Morton and His Crusade for Planting.

Outstanding among the early planters was Julius Sterling Morton who was born in Adams, N. Y., April 22, 1832, and who migrated to Nebraska soon after that territory was opened up in 1854. On Nebraska's treeless plains Morton missed the trees of his boyhood home. So he not only tried to grow them on his Nebraska property, but campaigned for tree planting in his newspaper, the Nebraska City News. Finally, in 1872, he induced the Nebraska State Board of Agriculture to offer cash prizes to the individual or society who "on April 10 shall plant properly the largest number of trees." This was the first Arbor Day, and it saw a million or more trees planted throughout the State. Now Arbor Day is observed everywhere in the United States. Observance ranges from November in Hawaii to May in Maine. In honor of Mr. Morton, who became United States Secretary of Agriculture under President Cleveland, Nebraska observes Arbor Day on his birthday, April 22.

Broad-scale planting of thousands of forest acres for the production of timber and forest products was begun by the old Bureau of Forestry, forerunner of the United States Forest Service, in 1903. Fittingly, this beginning was made in Nebraska, and the writer had the story of it, recently, from Ira N. Bovee, who was camp cook when Uncle Sam's foresters began their forest-making three or four miles west of the village of Halsey—population 147—on the middle fork of the Loup River.

Seventy-six years old, Mr. Bovee sat in his blue overalls on a cracker box in Wirz's grocery store. His apple-red cheeks were remarkably unwrinkled, his forehead serene and white; his blue eyes twinkled amiably. He "remembered it all" as if it were yesterday. Yes, he had worked all his life around the forest—and he still did.

Oh, surely, the Nebraska forests came along fine. The trees cover more than 20,000 acres now. Jack pines Mr. Bovee himself planted 40 years or so ago are 40 feet up and 12-14 inches through. But they had their troubles in the beginning—the foresters. First, they planted "wildlings," little trees dug up in the woods of South Dakota and Minnesota, but these didn't do very well in Nebraska. So the foresters harrowed ten acres and tried sowing the seed like you do grass. And was that a caution! The mice, ground squirrels and birds got the seeds at one end of a plot while a forester was scattering the seeds at the other.

Pioneer Nursery Started.

After that, the foresters built one of the first two or three federal tree nurseries in the United States and began growing seedlings from seed in the beds and after a year or two transplanting them to the forest area. These seedlings were stronger than the "wildlings," with well-developed root systems. The forest grew steadily after that. Surely, there were bug epidemics and fires, but the foresters kept watch and put them down. On sunny days, now, this old man of the forest lived by cutting dead, sickly or crowded trees, marked by the foresters, and selling them to farmers for 75 miles around for poles, fence posts, turkey roosts or farm lumber. And every one was "sold" on the forest, coming from miles around in that treeless country for family picnics and the like. One time or other, Mr. Bovee guessed, pretty near every man in the county had worked there. Did I see the women weeding, down there in the nursery beds?

With Mr. Bovee much in mind the writer next day went with Jay Higgins, first supervisor of the Nebraska National Forest, now retired, to Scott Lookout, which towers 90 feet above ground almost in its center. Over the low, rolling plains in every direction were the planted pine and cedars, criss-crossed with broad fire lanes. Beyond on all sides the treeless plains stretched away to the horizon. Voices of swimmers at the pool in the grove down by the nursery came faintly in the wind. A deer moved lazily out of sight among the sun-splashed pines. A youthful bride and groom climbed the tower; they had a camera and Jay took their picture against the sky. He said, "It's a custom for newlyweds to come up here. You can't realize what these trees mean to folks out this way. Of course, we can't grow timber like the Northwest and from that standpoint this isn't much of a forest, but there's a whale of a lot more than timber in trees."

Today, National Forests have thousands of these man-made forests, occupying in the aggregate more than 1,200,000 acres in 38 States. Most of them are being cut for pulpwood, posts, chemical wood, etc., and furnishing jobs for woods- and mill-workers. They spread along the road to Pike's Peak in Colorado, clothe thousands of cut-over acres in the "rain forest" country of Oregon and Washington, drowse curatively on worn-out cotton fields of the South, green-up patches on the dry sandplains of Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota, rise in the tall brush country on the shoulders of Mt. Shasta in California, and thrive on the vast and eroded cut-overs around Elkins, West Virginia. While many are only a few years old, each has behind it a story of pioneering because old Mother Nature in each locality fights the planters endlessly with special combinations of weapons from her arsenal of lightning fires, big winds, bugs, blights, mice, gophers, deer, rabbits, drought, frost, heat and mysteries of soil and water.

Letters to The Star

Letters for publication must bear the signature and address of the writer, although it is permissible for a writer known to The Star to use a nom de plume. Please be brief.

Volunteer Palestine Force

To the Editor of The Star:

These lines are written by one who lost in the gas chambers of Hitler's Germany a brother, a sister-in-law and two beautiful and intelligent young nieces who, as graduate nurses, dedicated their lives to render aid to ailing humanity.

I am one of the millions who similarly suffered at the bloody hands of a Christian nation while the rest of the world stood idly by untouched, unconcerned, lifting no finger to stop the frightful carnage.

The remnants of my relatives, together with hundreds of thousands of others, who miraculously escaped the gas chambers and crematories, still are lingering in the concentration camps of Europe. Their only hope of salvation was the Promised Land—promised by God, by the Balfour Declaration, by the Congress of the United States, by both American political parties at their national conventions, as well as by many other nations.

The British government which was intrusted by the League of Nations to realize this promise, has, within the last 10 years especially, made every effort to frustrate that realization.

More than a hundred thousand British troops have occupied Palestine and brutally hampered all efforts at free economic and political development of the Holy Land.

When the heroic Jews of Palestine courageously refused to be crushed, Ernest Bevin finally decided to turn the Palestine question over to the U. N., promising to abide by its decision. How he lived up to his promise is common knowledge. He arms the Arabs led by the Mufti—a war criminal let loose for the purpose of drowning nearly a million Jews of Palestine in their own blood. He disarms the Jews, arrests the defenders of the Haganah and renders Palestine Jewry a helpless prey to the feudal Fascist overlords and ferocious Arab mobs.

Mr. Bevin, however, is not alone in this pernicious attempt to put out the light of hope of suffering Israel. He is in an unholy alliance with some newspaper editors in our country as well as with some high officials in our State Department who are fed and nourished by the Arab-British propaganda campaign.

You suddenly have discovered that the decision of the U. N. is against the interests of our Nation, against the interests of our oil companies and against our strategic and political interests. So you advocate that our government wash its hands of the entire matter, if I correctly interpreted your recent editorial opposing the forcible partition of Palestine.

Of what importance are the lives of a million people, of what value are the resolutions adopted by Congress, of what significance are the statements in support of a Jewish homeland made by every President since Woodrow Wilson and by every national convention of both parties, when the profits of our oil magnates are in imaginary jeopardy?

All your arguments concerning the unworkability of partition are baseless, because the British government scuttled it in advance. Lift the embargo, send in a token force of volunteers and give partition a chance before you make the first U. N. decision a scrap of paper.

A token force of volunteers would remove all fears of Russian penetration of the Middle East and do away with all the jitters about Communistic infiltration. Where there's a will, there's a way. Appeasement of aggressors will bring about another Munich and an end of the young, struggling U. N. JULIUS PAPIER.

White Majority Like Monkeys?

To the Editor of The Star:

Chief Grey Eagle of the Ottawa tribe of Indians was asked his views on evolution and whether he believed that men originated from monkeys. He drew himself up proudly and said: "Give Indian something, he gladly share with brothers, especially less fortunate ones. Indian come from Great Spirit, God."

The noble red man continued: "Give monkey something, he want it all for himself, unwilling to share. Paleface same as monkey. He must come from monkey."

Whether or not we accept Grey Eagle's version of evolution, we must confess that the game of "grab" and "hold" is the favorite pastime of the great majority of white persons. The less fortunate brother, or sister, is, sad to say, often forgotten or neglected.

EDMUND K. GOLDSBOROUGH.

The Political Mill

'Big Shots' Hold Dim View On Stassen Candidacy

Top Politicians Say Two Victories Hurt as Much as Helped Him

By Gould Lincoln

Professional Republican politicians—including some of the "big-shot" officeholders—still maintain they are not taking the Stassen candidacy for the presidential nomination too seriously. The victories of the former Minnesota Governor in the Wisconsin and Nebraska primaries, they contend, may have hurt him as much as helped him—on the theory that the Stassen opposition is now solidifying. As one of them put it a bit cynically: "The Wisconsin primary killed off three candidates—two because they lost and the third because he won."

That, however, is largely just talk. Mr. Stassen has shown he has an appeal to a lot of the run-of-the-mine voters; he has taken on Gov. Dewey, Senator Taft and Gen. MacArthur and distanced them all, in these primary elections. Further, he has shown that the Stassen organization has been developed to a high degree and is hitting on all cylinders. The campaign he is waging throughout the country is costing money—a lot of money. The former Governor is pretty canny—he is not spending money without having it. All of which shows that he has the backing of some of the wealthy ones—some of the same wealthy ones that put the late Wendell L. Willkie across in 1940.

Favorite Question.

A favorite question of the anti-Stassen Republican politician today is: "Where is Stassen going to get the 548 delegate votes in the Republican National Convention necessary to nominate him for President?" They still do not believe he can do it. They say he got 19 delegates in Wisconsin and the first-ballot vote, probably, of 15 delegates from Nebraska. He already had 25 delegates from Minnesota and 2 from New Hampshire—and is claiming delegates in Maine and Iowa. This is 61 plus. They say, too, that Gov. Dewey and Senator Taft will divide the delegations from the Southern States—and Stassen can hope only for a few from Florida. In addition, Gov. Warren will hold the big California delegation, Senator Vandenberg the big Michigan delegation, Gov. Green will have the Illinois delegation, and Senator Martin the Pennsylvania delegates. Massachusetts delegates will go for Senator Saltonstall, with Speaker "Joe" Martin as their real choice if and when the Speaker gets a ride. House Majority Leader Halleck will have Indiana.

Until Mr. Stassen makes a dent in one of these big State delegations they are unwilling to give the Minnesotan a look-in for first place on the Republican ticket.

Nevertheless, Mr. Stassen, by his victories at the polls—plus his very evident money support—has shaken the professionals. They admit that he has made the path of Senator Taft of Ohio very difficult, that he has set Gov. Dewey of New York back on his heels. The one thing they seem most sure of, however, is that Mr. Stassen himself cannot make the grade.

Ohio, Oregon Vote Waited.

They may have to revise their estimates still further after the Ohio and Oregon primaries, if Mr. Stassen shows well in them, too. He has a chance of taking a considerable number of delegates in Ohio and, if he does, Mr. Taft will be vastly weakened. Gov. Dewey thinks so seriously of his race with Mr. Stassen in Oregon—the race there is confined to him and Mr. Stassen—that he is spending 10 days in the State for intensive campaigning before the primary May 21.

Of course, if Gov. Dewey defeats Stassen in the Oregon primary and Senator Taft allows Mr. Stassen no more than one or two delegates, or even four, in Ohio, Mr. Stassen's size will be trimmed down greatly. Indeed, he would be back to just about where he was when he came in. There remain, however, a lot of "ifs" in that supposition.

The professionals agree that the Republican race has become more than ever a free-for-all—in which anything might happen, except Mr. Stassen.

Questions and Answers

A reader can get the answer to any question of fact by writing The Evening Star Information Bureau, 316 Eye street N.E., Washington 2, D. C. Please inclose three (3) cents for return postage.

BY THE HASKIN SERVICE.

Q. What is the origin of the name Bayberry Day?—L. P. D.

A. In New England, in Colonial times, there were many stormy discussions in town meetings concerning the date upon which bayberries could be picked. It was finally decided that September 15 was the day "unless it fell on the Lord's Day."

Q. How is it that the "soapless soaps" leave no ring when used with hard water?—D. E. N.

A. These so-called soaps are synthetic organic chemicals which combine with the minerals in hard water to make salts. The salts dissolve and thus leave no ring.

Q. Why were oak leaves chosen as insignia by various corps and ranks in the Navy?—D. O'H.

A. The use of oak leaves as a device probably originated as a symbol of the excellent oaken ships of the Navy. Live oak was used for shipbuilding in the early days, and at Boston and other navy yards huge oak logs were preserved under water for years for this purpose.

Q. What does the term "house organ" mean in referring to a magazine?—C. McH.

A. A house organ is a publication issued by a business concern for some business purpose. Some are published to promote esprit de corps among employes; some to enlist customers' good will, some to carry news to dealers.

Q. In what States have diamonds been found?—G. W. I.

A. Diamonds have been reported in practically every State. However, the Arkansas area near Murfreesboro in Pike County is the largest producer, and over 10,000 diamonds have been recovered from this area.

Q. What are the duties of a camp counselor at a summer camp?—M. D. E.

A. The counselor teaches a variety of subjects that may include athletics, crafts, gardening and nature study. He may also tutor in regular school subjects and coach plays. In the larger camps these duties are divided among counselors.

Country Store

The world without has changed, so here within
The country store there is an atmosphere
Of modern living; gone, the wooden bin,
The dried corn hanging ear on golden ear.
White porcelain, electric lights and glass
Replace the smoky lamp, the leaning chair;
The floor is spotless, polished as you pass,
The hand of change has fallen everywhere.
Progress must come and here it came to stay,
Yet sometimes earlier scenes come back to me,
The dim disorder of another day,
The jumbled stock piled so untidily
And I would have things as they were before
Untouched, unchanged inside the country store.

LOUISE DARCY.