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The New Deal and the Atom

Few positions in our government entail greater responsibilities than those which face the members of the Atomic Energy Commission. It is not necessary to emphasize the vital importance of guarding our secret knowledge of atomic fission, and of directing that knowledge toward peaceful and useful ends.

Nor is it necessary to argue that the members of the commission should be of the highest caliber obtainable. They—and perhaps their chairman in particular—should first of all be men of incorruptible loyalty to the United States. They should possess, among other things, the highest personal integrity, executive and administrative experience, and the capacity to receive a workable knowledge of the intricate matters that they must deal with.

It cannot have been easy for President Truman to choose the men for this job. All of those sought could not or would not serve. For those who accepted membership renounced personal ambition, severed business connections.

Mr. Truman's choice of commission members was generally regarded as excellent. But, according to the Constitution's wise provision, his selection of important executive assistants must have the Senate's approval. It was particularly proper in this case that the Senate should give thorough, statesmanlike, nonpartisan consideration to the nominees.

The Senate members of the Congressional Atomic Energy Committee began their consideration with Mr. Truman's choice of commission chairman, David E. Lilienthal, former head of TVA. But how serious was their approach?

First came Sen. Kenneth McKellar's attack upon Mr. Lilienthal's fitness for the post. This was scarcely a surprise, for the Tennessee veteran bears an old political grudge against the nominee. He sought to show, by implication, that Mr. Lilienthal has communistic leanings. The latter's eloquent statement of belief in American democracy was an impressive and unquestioned answer.

But Mr. McKellar, who at first stood alone in opposition, began to collect supporters. Senator Moore of Oklahoma did not accuse Mr. Lilienthal of communism, but charged that he was a New Dealer. And the New Deal, he added, "was polluted with Communists and... sympathizers."

Senator O'Daniel of Texas expressed similar sentiments.

It would seem that to these gentlemen the New Deal is the question. Though it is no longer a power in Washington, its opponents still smart from their old wounds. Resolutely turning their backs on the future—a future in which the very life of this republic may be at stake—a few senators seem intent on paying off old political scores.

These gentlemen have the power to reject Mr. Lilienthal if they choose. But at least let them do it with minds free of old animosities.

Q—What is "Guy Fawkes Day"?

A—British holiday somewhat similar to our own Independence Day. It is the anniversary of the attempt to blow up King James I and his ministers to avenge harsh treatment of Catholics 341 years ago and is celebrated

The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—It looks as if the old Army game of power politics was just as flourishing as ever.

One indication is the latest promotion list, featuring the name of John C. H. Lee for permanent promotion to Major General. In the Army, Lee is nicknamed "Court House" because of his two middle initials and the fact that he stands in with the courthouse gang.

During the war he was famous for having his own private railroad train, always standing in a London Railway Station with steam up. To GI's who visited Paris, he was also famous for the sign in front of the swank "George V Hotel," which General Lee commandeered for himself. The sign read: "This is the personal residence of General John C. H. Lee. Officers billeted here will consider themselves his personal guests."

Much more important—and serious—as far General Lee's operation of transport between the French Channel ports and the fighting front. Slowness of bringing up supplies and ammunition made him the target of vehement criticism. Some of the delay was unavoidable, and had it not been for General Lee's grandiose manner, the criticism would not have been so violent.

One illustration of his high-mindedness, hitherto unpublished, took place at Havre where a German bomb had struck a U. S. Munitions ship, leaving it belching smoke, largely above water, its live ammunition a serious menace to other shipping. It was expected to explode any minute.

A Heroic Colonel

Despite this, Col. T. R. Snyder, in charge of the Port Operation, went aboard the still smoking ship with one assistant. Ordering his launch to stand some distance away, Snyder spent three hours examining all of the ship above water. He then decided that the ammunition, desperately needed at the front, could be unloaded.

So for two days a GI detail worked aboard the ship under Colonel Snyder, finally got all the ammunition except for some big shells below the water line.

By this time, the sea was running high, the ship was in greater danger, and Colonel Snyder ordered his men ashore. There he met General "Court House" Lee, who, instead of praising the men for their bravery, gave Snyder an oral order to take his crew back aboard ship and unload the shells under the waterline.

Colonel Snyder could not argue with a Lieutenant General. Instead he took out his notebook, scribbled something, then turned to General Lee.

"General," he said, "under the articles of war you have the right to give me an oral order. But I also have the right to write out that order and ask you to sign it. I have written out your order that these men return to the ship. I must ask you to sign it."

General Lee, however, wretched. He refused to put his name to an order that he was quit willing to give orally.

That is the man, who, while scores of other first-line fighting officers were passed over, got his promotion the other day as permanent major general. The Courthouse game still seems to pay.

Rootin' Tootin' Rankin

One welcome result of the Republican control of Congress is the insignificant role which "Silent John" Rankin of Mississippi now plays on the House Veterans Committee, which he headed while the Democrats were in power. GOP Chairman Edith Nourse Rogers of Massachusetts apparently has decided that the best way to handle the garrulous gentleman from Mississippi is to ignore him.

This nettles Rankin far more than if Mrs. Rogers called his hand on every occasion, as she did in the old days when she was the committee's Ranking Republican.

The other day, while veterans administrator Omar Bradley was testifying on GI legislation, Rankin protested against Mrs. Rogers' system of random recognition of members who wanted to question general Bradley.

"We're wasting time," he contended, demanding that the chairman choose questioners in order around the table. What irked Rankin was that some freshman Congressmen were getting a chance to talk ahead of him.

"Some of the older members can give you the benefit of our views," he declared grandiosely.

Mrs. Rogers smiled. "The chairman will continue to conduct the meeting," she said sweetly, hardly bothering to glance at Rankin.

Truman Stands Pat
Some of President Truman's backstage comments regarding the Lilienthal fight would seem the case of both Democratic Senator Kenneth McKellar and the Republican colleagues who have backed him.

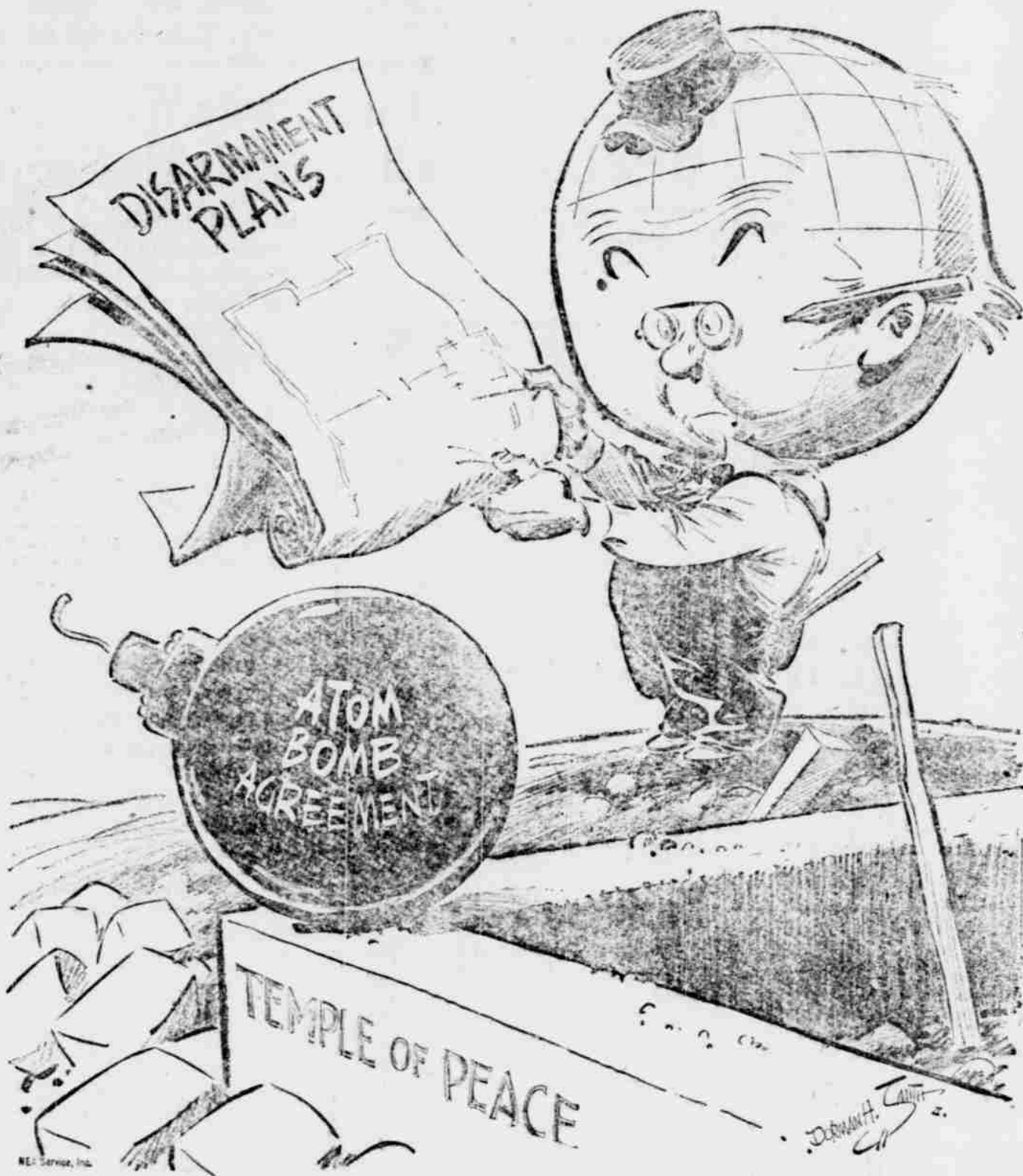
Never during all the muddling has Truman wavered an instant or even considered the withdrawal of Lilienthal's name. In fact, Truman's chief concern has been that Lilienthal might want to step aside to avoid "embarrassing" the White House. In this case, the President said he would refuse to allow the withdrawal.

Talking with close friends the other day, Truman remarked that he knew where "the body was buried" in the Lilienthal controversy—that the real issue went deeper than "personalities" and involved the power trust. The big utility interests, Truman confided, are worried over the threat which a man of Lilienthal's known exercise as chief of the government's atomic power program.

"This is a fight over whether the people or special interests shall control atomic energy," the President remarked. "David Lilienthal has demonstrated that he is on the side of the people."

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The Cornerstone



Legal Notices

Smith & Lebens Attys.
Plattsmouth, Nebraska.

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF CASS COUNTY, NEBRASKA, IN THE MATTER OF THE TRUST ESTATE OF ANNA M. HESSE, DECEASED, No. 1177 NOTICE.

TO: MATHIAS KIEMES, ELIZABETH LIESCH, VERONICA VATHUEER, the nephews and nieces, names unknown, of ANNA M. HESSE, deceased, and all other persons interested in said Trust Estate:

You and each of you are hereby notified that Tom C. Clark Attorney General of the United States, as Successor to the Alien Property Custodian, has filed his Petition herein praying that the assets of said estate be surrendered pursuant to Vesting Order Number 5008 executed by the Alien Property Custodian on June 7, 1945 under the authority of the Trading with the Enemy Act as amended and Executive Orders relating thereto; that Estella L. Rutherford, Trustee, has filed her report and an application praying for allowance of fees and for instructions of

this Court with reference to the Petition mentioned above; that said matters raised by said Petition and Application have been set for hearing in the Court Room of this Court at Plattsmouth, Nebraska on March 6, 1947 at 10 o'clock A. M.

Dated this 7th day of February, 1947.

Paul E. Fauquet,
(SEAL) County Judge,
No. 450, Feb. 10, 17, 24.

Murdock

Mrs. Florence McDonald

Mr. and Mrs. Victor Thalman and sons of Bellevue spent the weekend in Murdock.

Miss Shirley Towle who is in nurses training at the General Hospital spent Sunday with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Rase and family of Bellevue spent Sunday visiting the Lawrence Rase family here and relatives at Elmwood.

Miss Arlene Rusnoge former teacher spent the week end visiting friends in Murdock.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Magouian

and family of Lincoln spent Sunday at the L. E. Gorthey home.

Russell Gorthey and Herbert Klemme who are attending the University both spent the weekend with their parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Emory Paap of Beatrice spent the week end at the A. J. Neitzel home. On Thursday the Ladies Aid met at the home of Mrs. Elsa Hornbeck assisting hostesses were Mrs. Alvin Bormeyer, Mrs. George Braun and Miss Viola Everett. Miss Viola Everett went to Oteo Friday night to stay until Tuesday evening.

Mrs. Emma Ward and daughter and husband of Lincoln spent Sunday afternoon visiting friends in Murdock.

Murdock Basket ball teams went to Louisville Friday evening where they won both games.

Miss Darlene Reichman and a friend who are taking nurses training at the Bryan Memorial Hospital spent Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Reichman.

Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Backmever and Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Stock entertained at a Valentine party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Backmever for their Sunday school class on Wednesday evening.

up and walked through the park. At the corner of River Avenue and Clark Street, Rose paused. "You mustn't take me all the way. Of course, I want you to meet my people; but Mamma would think we ought to have been introduced. Mamma is queer about some things. Maybe we can find somebody to introduce us."

He understood at once, but shook his head. "Until he was better acquainted in the town, an introduction would have to be postponed. But that won't keep me from seeing you, Rose."

"No," she said. "Tomorrow, then? In Lafr's arcade, at three?"

STIFF-CORSETED and stately in her attire, Miss Amy entered the parlor. "If only Sidney would hurry—"

Rose turned. "You look lovely, Mamma. You've got your hair in bangs!"

Miss Amy beamed and patted the curly bangs under the velvet brim of her hat. To hide her pleasure, she repeated: "If only Sidney—oh, here you are, dear. Let me see whether you're buttoned; you seldom—Sidney, your red dress? Wearing it to Mrs. Earle's? Do you think—"

"Yes, Mamma. A dash of red will do the Daughters good."

Miss Amy gathered up her purse and gloves. They would get the 8 o'clock trolley. But as they stepped out the door, they saw Basil driving up in his mother's tassel-topped surrey.

"Am I in time?" Basil said. "Swell! I'll spare you to this thing. And I want Mrs. Cameron up with me!" He handed her in, settled her on the front seat. "Children in the back. Rose? Mind those red skirts on the mudguard, Sid! All in, my dowdabels!"

"This is so thoughtful of you, Basil," Miss Amy said. "It's nothing at all. But," he said, taking up the reins, "I have been thoughtful tonight and I believe I've snaffled onto a revolutionary idea—concerning you, Mrs. Cameron. I told Mother at dinner and she agrees. Now, if you'll just agree, too..."

(To Be Continued)

Edson's Washington Column

BY PETER EDSON
NEA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NEA)—It has been nigh onto nine months since George Edward Allen became a director of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. If the name doesn't immediately register, he's the controversial character from Mississippi who ranks as one of President Truman's intimates and advisers.



Allen says that he loves his new work. He thinks RFC is a great institution. He believes that through its unlimited lending authority for bank participating loans, RFC could stop a depression if one got started.

BUT RFC's powers expire next June 30, and sometime before then the directors must go before the Republican Congress and get authority to continue operations.

Allen isn't worried for himself. He gave up \$50,000 a year to take the RFC job at \$10,000. He says he still doesn't know why he did it, except that it's so hard for the President to get good men. He has resigned only two of the ten or a dozen directorships which he held before appointment to RFC. The two he gave up were with companies that had direct dealings with RFC. Allen says that when some matter comes up in which one of his other companies has an interest, he disqualifies himself and doesn't vote. There are five directors for RFC—three Democrats and two Republicans. Their rule is that they don't do anything unless there is unanimous agreement. Allen is in a somewhat unusual position on the RFC board itself. He is not chairman of the board; ex-Senator Charles B. Henderson is that. Nevertheless, most of the meetings are held in Allen's office.

ALSO, when the President wants to talk about some phase of RFC business, it's Allen he sends for—not Chairman Henderson. Allen goes over and gets the word, then comes back and calls the Board to his office.

He is completely loyal to Truman. Allen is a little amazed at that himself, because he says he "believes" he was for Wallace at Chicago in 1944. He never knew Truman till he was assigned to aid Truman in his campaign for the Vice-Presidency. But that's the way to get to be an intimate of the great—get to know them when they aren't.

The top executives at RFC had a pool on the election. They all wrote out their predictions and sealed them in envelopes. When the votes were in, the envelopes were opened. Allen won. But the result of the election doesn't dismay him at all. Maybe Taft and some of the others were right about the need to take off controls, Allen says.

The Murdock Town Basket ball team went to Greenwood Thursday evening for a game and added another victory to their list.

Rev. Oahlerking underwent major operation at the Bryan Memorial hospital Thursday morning.

The Young People from the Trinity Lutheran Church presented a

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