

UPSET ELECTION OF HARRY TRUMAN BIG '48 HEADLINER

**President's Defeat of
Dewey Tops All News
Stories. Editors Vote
'Battle of Berlin' Second.**

By **PAUL R. MICKELSON,**
General News Editor of the **Associated Press**

Seven out of the 10 biggest headlines of 1948 concerned foreign news but the one that topped them all was over the classic American story of the trim little man from Missouri who upset every prediction to hold on to the biggest job in the world.

Harry S. Truman's mother said he always ploughed a straight furrow as a country lad, and the one he ploughed straight into the hearts of millions by his winning fight for reelection to the presidency of the United States never will be forgotten in American politics. For human interest in this nation's publications, you can't beat the story of the underdog who won out against terrific odds. President Truman's victory was just that kind of a triumph, as close as it was, and editors of Associated Press newspapers voted overwhelmingly for it as story No. 1 in the annual poll.

As he fought and won reelection, carrying with him workable majorities for the Democratic party in both branches of congress, President Truman wrought the political miracle of the century. In the dust of defeat, he left once over-optimistic Republicans wrangling among themselves and expert political poll takers, who predicted easy victory for Thomas E. Dewey, stewing with explanations and decided loss of prestige.

The editors voted the "Battle for Berlin" the second biggest story of the year. There was millions of underdogs in Berlin, too, but there was no victory. The devastated city of 3,000,000 was a symbolic prize in the cold war between Russia and the Western Allies.

Caught in the devastation of war, caught in the middle of the East-West fight over the standard of money to be used, the rubble heap city was staggered in June when the Russians imposed the excruciating blockade of Berlin. Blaming it on "technical difficulties," though it was a counter thrust against the western currency reform to end inflation which was wrecking recovery plans, the Russians shut the rail lines entering Berlin from the west. The situation left but one answer. Unwilling to push armed convoys of supplies across the Soviet lines, the Western Allies took to the air. The famous corridor airlift was born and the story about it and the battle for the city was as exciting as prospects for peace were sad.

Winning third place in the poll of the big newspaper stories of 1948 was the birth of a nation.

Clearly victorious in bitter fighting and sniping that saw Count Folke Bernadotte, United Nations peace envoy to Palestine, fall to assassin bullets, the state of Israel was born in a proclamation of independence. It was the first Hebrew nation in 2,000 years, but strife seems to be a never-ending lot for the new nation.

A little brown man entered his prayer meeting grounds in India, looked at his watch and said when a man saluted him:

"Today I am unusually late."

He raised one hand to give the man a blessing when the assassin began to shoot. Three shots rang out. One punctured his bare chest and found his heart. Death came quickly to the emaciated body of Mohandas Gandhi, apostle of non violence and peace to India's millions, less than a year after he had achieved his life's main goal of India's independence for the teeming sub-continent of India. It happened January 30 and the story of the tragedy, voted the fourth biggest story of the year, was reflected in headlines throughout 1948.

The American dollar also fought along the cold war front in 1948 and fought what appeared to be in the closing months of the year an all-winning battle. The Marshall Plan, with billions for European recovery, was a continuing story that won many headlines and many Russian curses. It was a clean winner of the fifth spot in the year's best news stories.

The continuing story listed in sixth place in 1948 was the top subject of headline writers in 1947. It was the cost of living and inflation. There was no letup in inflation this year. Some food prices dropped ever so slightly while costs of almost everything else kept skyrocketing. However, news gets old quickly in America. High costs were "old stuff" comparatively, so the champ headline winner of a year ago fell far behind in the shuffle for news.

All year Associated Press reporters, most of them working under the worst possible conditions, won little space in American newspapers as they told the story of the swift pace of Communist hordes in China. But

(Continued on page 1wo)

Cotton Production In County Shows Increase Over 1947

The official census cotton ginning report shows that 17,727 bales of cotton were ginned in Laurens county from the 1948 crop prior to December 1, as compared with 11,914 bales for the crop of 1947 for the same date. This indicates an increase of 5,813 bales.

In 1909 the county had 101,829 acres planted in cotton, averaging 181 pounds of lint per acre, producing 38,566 bales (500 pounds) and in the year 1919 there were 104,000 acres in cultivation, averaging 235 pounds of lint per acre, producing 51,200 bales.

The year 1940 had the highest yield per acre of 411 pounds lint, producing 37,000 bales from 43,800 acres. Based on the above figures, the farmer had 58,029 less acres planted and produced only 1,566 bales less than the 1909 planted acres of 101,829 acres.

In 1947 there were 32,500 acres planted to cotton, averaging 228 pounds of lint per acre, producing 15,500 bales. The year 1945 had the smallest cotton acreage, 30,300, since 1909, producing 24,800 bales. The year 1919 with 104,000 acres was the largest cotton acreage since 1909, producing 51,200 bales. In 1931 there were 68,600 acres planted to cotton, with 302 pounds average lint per acre, producing 43,400 bales.

The value of cotton for South Carolina in 1940 was \$41,364,193 as compared to \$90,593,993 for 1945. The value of cotton seed in 1940 for the state was \$8,312,703 as compared to \$18,138,109 for 1945. The value of dairy products sold in the state in 1940 was \$3,976,757 as compared to \$8,416,257 for 1945.

The above figures, released by County Agent C. B. Cannon, are taken from the United States census of agriculture.

\$75,000 County Taxes May Be Unpaid At Year End

Approximately \$75,000 in county and school district taxes may remain unpaid December 31 unless taxpayers make an unexpected rush to pay off at the last moment, it was estimated yesterday by County Treasurer Sam M. Leaman.

Those who fail to make the December deadline, he pointed out, are required to pay a one per cent penalty during January. The penalty rises to two per cent Feb. 1, to three per cent March 1st, and seven per cent April 1 and stays at that rate until April 15 when executions go into effect.

The treasurer stated that of the approximately \$405,000 to be collected this year, \$227,000 had already been paid in and another \$100,000, principally from corporations, is expected by Friday night.

Taxpayers have been unusually prompt in making their remittances this year, Mr. Leaman said.

Christmas Seal Sale Lags Behind Quota

Leaders in the 1948 TB Christmas Seal sale report that the Clinton area is about \$100 short of the \$2,000 quota. While the campaign is conducted throughout the nation from Thanksgiving day to Christmas, the final report for the local drive is being withheld until New Year's day to give those who overlooked making their contribution a further opportunity to do so.

It is hoped that every Clintonian who has carelessly neglected the matter will mail the contribution in, so that the fight against tuberculosis in Laurens county will not be hampered during the coming year.

Services Held For Cody Infant

Graveside funeral services were held here yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the Presbyterian cemetery for George Cody, Jr., infant son of Mr. and Mrs. George Cody of York. Dr. D. J. Woods was in charge of the service.

The child, born early yesterday morning at a York hospital, lived only a few hours.

He is survived by his parents and one sister, Katherine. Mrs. Cody was before marriage Miss Rosa Bailey Little, daughter of Mrs. Arthur P. Little of this city.

FOOD

Is An Important Item With Housewives

You will find helpful Grocery and Market News in THE CHRONICLE every week from leading food stores in the city. Read the advertisements—they tell you about changing prices each week and where you can buy to advantage.

Happy New Year

Here we are again with the sun rising upon a brand-new year. Our entire staff joins in wishing everything good for our large family of readers and customers in 1949.

The Chronicle
"Your Family Newspaper"

Census Reports 37,300,000 Families In United States

Washington. — The census bureau here reported there were 37,000,000 families in the U. S. in April, 1948.

The average-size family had 3.6 persons. Forty-eight per cent of the families had no children under 8 living with them.

The bureau said the families included 34,000,000 married couples. In about 5,000,000 cases—roughly 4 out of 100—either the husband or wife had been married more than once.

The figures, obtained by a sample survey, showed 2,500,000 families were doubling up on living quarters with someone else or occupying "transient hotels and lodging houses." The median age of family heads was 45 years—half were older, half younger than that. About one in five of all family heads was a man who had served in World War II.

Nine-tenths of the entire U. S. family population of 145,000,000 were family members—that is, in parent-and-child or husband-and-wife families.

"About 8,200,000 were living as individuals not in families and about 1,300,000 were inmates of institutions," the bureau reported.

Citizens Pays Regular Dividend

The Citizens Federal Savings and Loan association of this city, will pay its usual dividend as previously announced by the board of directors, on December 31, at the rate of 3 per cent per annum.

The dividend to be distributed amounts to \$21,222.68.

Miss Sumerel To Join Greenville Church

Miss Virginia Sumerel, for the past two years minister of music and educational director of the First Baptist church in Chester, has resigned to accept a similar position with the San Souci Baptist church in Greenville.

Miss Sumerel is spending the holidays at home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Sumerel. She will enter upon her new work January 1.

Merchants Report Good Christmas Business

Clinton merchants and business firms report a big Christmas business several days preceding Christmas and right on through Christmas eve, which was the busiest day. Several merchants interviewed said that there was heavy buying through the entire holiday season.

Hamilton's Now In New Location

The well known Hamilton's firm moved this week from their former location into the store room until recently occupied by the Citizens Federal Savings and Loan association.

The building has been renovated and remodeled throughout. New fixtures have been installed and their new home is an unusually attractive and well arranged jewelry store.

W. M. Scott Passes At Easley Home, Last Rites At St. Charles

William Marion Scott, known here by a number of acquaintances, died at his home in Easley last Saturday after a period of declining health. The funeral services were held in the auditorium of the Easley high school Sunday morning by his pastor, Rev. I. M. Bagnal of the Presbyterian church of which the deceased was a ruling elder. Interment followed in the family plot of the Mount Zion Presbyterian church cemetery near St. Charles in Sumter county.

Mr. Scott had served as superintendent of the Easley schools for the past 25 years.

Mr. Scott married Miss Dorothy Owens of this city in 1914, a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. W. Edgar Owens, one of the community's pioneer and beloved families. In addition to his widow, he is survived by one son, William M. Scott, Jr., of Easley; two daughters, Mrs. Dorothy Scott Carr of Charleston, and Miss Mary Scott of Easley; two grandchildren; two brothers, J. W. Scott of St. Charles, and Ben F. Scott of Greenville; one sister, Mrs. A. K. Weldon of Bishopville.

Delegation Holds Meeting Concerning County Road Problems

A meeting between the county delegation and officials of the state highway department was held in Laurens last week, the meeting being described as "successful" by Senator Ralph T. Wilson, elected in this summer's primary for a four-year term.

The two groups went over the problem of unpaved state highways in Laurens county and discussed them at length, the senator said.

Senator Wilson quoted the highway officials as saying that the plan of the county building roads and being reimbursed for them later was unusual but that it might be done in special cases. Mr. Wilson said the county hopes to topsoil some of the state roads and have the highway department surface them later.

Last Rites Held For James Erskine Knight

James Erskine Knight, 54, died suddenly last Wednesday at his home near here while cutting wood. He was a native of this county where most of his life was spent.

Funeral services were held Friday afternoon from the Hurricane Baptist church, with Rev. J. H. Darr as the officiating minister. Interment followed in Rosemont cemetery.

Survivors include his widow, Mrs. Evie May Knight; two sons and one daughter, W. E. and B. J. Knight and Mrs. Evelyn Mims, all of near here; three brothers, Jeff N. Knight of Columbia, Clarence Knight of Charlotte, and Rutledge Knight of Greenwood.

Dr. Jacobs Becomes Clinton Resident

Dr. Thornwell Jacobs, a resident of Atlanta, Ga., for many years, and a frequent visitor here, has moved to the city for his future residence. He will make his home with his nephew, J. F. Jacobs, and Mrs. Jacobs, and his friends will be interested to know he has returned to "his first love."

Dr. Jacobs, a native Clintonian, is a son of the late Dr. and Mrs. William Plumer Jacobs. He is spending his time writing.

'49 City Licenses Due This Month

The 1949 business license ordinance, as passed recently by city council, contains only a few minor changes. It appears in THE CHRONICLE today for the information of local firms.

All licenses become due January 1, and must be paid on or before January 31.

After January 31 a 10 per cent penalty will be added on unpaid licenses, with final action by the police department February 15 against firms or individuals doing business without a license.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS HONOR ROLL

Welcome and thanks to these new subscribers on our Honor Roll this week:

- MRS. R. O. ROSS,
South Bend, Ind.
- MRS. LOREE C. BURGESS,
Clinton.
- MRS. LOWELL McCALL,
MRS. J. E. LIPSEY,
West Clinton.
- LUTHER COTHRAN,
MISS PEGGY BALLARD,
South Clinton.

10 TOP STATE NEWS STORIES CITED FOR YEAR

Revolt From National Democratic Party Led the List. Other Top Events Given.

Columbia, Dec. 27.—Revolt of the Democratic party of South Carolina against the National Democratic party, the first time since 1860, led the top news stories of the year in South Carolina. The final result of this action has not been seen yet.

Other top stories of the year in the order of their importance as selected by Columbia reporters are:

1.—Negroes vote generally for first time in the Democratic primaries in South Carolina upon direction of U. S. court.

2.—Supreme court restores J. Stanley Williamson to his former position as chief highway commissioner.

3.—Supreme court rules that the \$700 legislative extra pay is unconstitutional.

4.—U. S. Senator Burnet R. Maybank reelected in first Democratic primary over four opponents.

5.—Revolt against the Democratic party of South Carolina by Anderson and Spartanburg counties.

6.—Voters overwhelmingly approve granting of divorces in the state.

7.—The rise and fall of the South Carolina National Democratic party.

8.—Two public hydro-electric projects gain headway.

9.—Santee-Cooper loses fight to buy South Carolina Power company at Charleston.

10.—The Democratic party of South Carolina served notice on the National Democratic convention in Philadelphia that it would bolt the party if President Truman were nominated or any other person advocating his civil rights proposal.

This was a mandate from the state convention and later the state Democratic executive committee instructed electors to support Governor J. Strom Thurmond and Governor Wright of Mississippi for the presidency on the States Rights party ticket. The state's eight votes went to the Thurmond-Wright ticket.

For the first time in more than 50 years Negroes voted generally in the first and second Democratic primaries after Federal Judge J. Waties Waring of Charleston directed party officials to re-open enrollment books to Negroes and to permit them to vote. His decision to admit them to party membership is on appeal to the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals.

The third on the list is the decision of the state supreme court restoring J. Stanley Williamson to his former position as chief highway commissioner, pointing out that his discharge by the highway commission last year was invalid.

The highway commission then named C. R. McMillan as executive secretary of the commission. Williamson failed to return to the office and later resigned while in South America.

A ruling by the Supreme Court—a special court—that the \$700 extra pay voted by the Legislature last year was illegal should hold fourth place on the list. When the regular court disqualified itself because some members were legislators in previous years when extra pay was voted Governor Thurmond named a special court which held the extra money was illegally appropriated. Many have returned the money but a large number had failed to make a move along this line.

Sen. Maybank surprised South Carolinians when he walked away with the Democratic re-nomination in the first primary over four opponents, Bryan Dorn of Greenwood, Neville Bennet of Clio, Alan Johnson of Newberry and Marcus Stone of Florence. Maybank had a majority of about 10,000 votes when the final returns were reported.

The Democratic party of South Carolina had the tables turned on it when two large counties refused to follow its teachings and revolted against the state party, giving a majority of their votes to the National Democratic nominees, President Truman and Senator Baarkley.

This came as a surprise to party leaders as Anderson county gave Truman 2,381 votes to Thurmond's 1,342 and Spartanburg gave 6,741 votes to Truman while giving Thurmond only 4,660. All other counties gave Thurmond a majority.

South Carolina will relinquish its record as the only state in the nation prohibiting divorces if the Legislature follows the mandate of the people. The voters voted overwhelmingly to amend the Constitution so as to permit divorces in the state. The Legislature must ratify this action and then pass the necessary legislation to permit divorces.

The National Democratic party in South Carolina succeeded in garnering about 33,000 votes for President Truman. However, little has been heard from the organization since that time. A reliable source in Washington told this reporter

(Continued on page two)