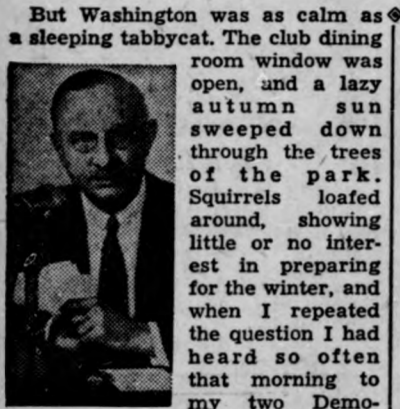


Washington Digest

Parapsychology Could Do Just Fine on Election Bets

By BAUKHAGE,
News Analyst and Commentator.

WASHINGTON.—It won't be long now before you'll be able to settle those election bets. A few days after the release of the official record of the negotiations with the Russians over the Berlin situation, I was sitting in the club with a couple of members of the Democratic administration. Talk had grown pretty tall in Paris and that morning, every other person I met, it seemed, asked me: are we going to have war?



But Washington was as calm as a sleeping tabbycat. The club dining room window was open, and a lazy autumn sun swept down through the trees of the park. Squirrels loafed around, showing little or no interest in preparing for the winter, and when I repeated the question I had heard so often that morning to my two Democratic friends, it aroused very little interest. Said they: "The Russians want Dewey. So we won't have war now. The Soviets know if they started a war at this time, it would cinch Truman's election."

Naturally my friends didn't indicate that they had any doubts as to the outcome of the election, but when we started talking odds, I noticed the conversation was confined largely to the race for the senate. After all, said my friends, even some Republicans concede that Dewey might face a Democratic upper house.

It wouldn't take much of a push either way. The Democrats have 45 seats now, and the Republicans only 51. The Democrats are confident that only one or two of their candidates are in danger.

On the other hand, there are a number of stiff state fights in progress in which the Republicans are being pushed pretty hard. The Democrats feel that if they can get out a large vote in these uncertain states, they have a chance of winning the four seats that would give them the edge.

In other words the count then would be: Democrats 49; Republicans, 47. That two-vote margin wouldn't assure Democratic dominance on all senate policy matters, of course, because too many senators are given to leaping out of the party corral these days. On the other hand, many issues are bound to be settled along purely partisan lines. But far more important, the party of the majority gains control of the senate committees.

The pre-election battles in which the Democrats seem to have the edge are in Oklahoma, West Virginia, Wyoming, and Kentucky. About in that order. Also Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa, and Idaho.

The Democrats admit their weakest points are in Montana and Colorado. The Republicans by no means concede New Mexico, Rhode Island, and Tennessee, but the Democrats don't seem too worried about those states.

At this writing, it is useless to make predictions, for even between this calm moment and the time these lines are in print, skies may fall or some individual may stub his toe. Bets are collected after, not before, elections.

It is fortunate, of course, that all writers as well as all bettors are not equipped with extra-sensory powers. If and when the day comes when we are, the fun will be taken out of reading, writing, and betting.

And that day may come, believe it or not. I feel quite positive from the scientific proof offered, that most of the various forms of the supernatural are untenable. But, after attending a couple of lectures and reading considerable material on "parapsychology," I have become convinced that certain things MAY exist which are at present considered impossible.

I refer to extra-sensory perception, clairvoyance, and psychokinesis. And I see no reason why more scientists shouldn't give these subjects a more thorough looking-into than they have deemed to indulge in up to now. Some have.

Dr. J. B. Rhine, director of the parapsychological laboratory at Duke university, has been conducting experiments along these eerie lines for nearly two decades. He is a very modest man, and he leans over backward to avoid offering any conclusions or making any flat statements concerning these experiments.

I have read his book (heard him speak to an intimate group, take part in a forum and later answer questions at a private gathering under the auspices of the Washington Society for Parapsychology).

For almost two decades, as I said, Dr. Rhine and his assistants have been trying to determine whether or not there is a scientific basis for telepathy (the transfer of thought from one human brain to another); clairvoyance (the ability to visualize

things or events taking place beyond the vision or knowledge); or for that ability which may involve both of the former, precognition—the ability to predict things which will occur in the future.

And also psychokinesis, the hardest one of all for the cynical to swallow. That is the power of mind over matter, e.g. ability to make dice fall the way you want them to by thinking at them.

Roughly, this is an example of what has been done by Dr. Rhine and others. After long experiment and mathematical calculation, it is determined that by chance alone anybody can pick correctly five cards out of a pack of 25. That is just guessing, and it is even money the subject can do it.

If he is right oftener (and may have been right consistently more often than five in 25) that is MORE than chance. If he is right often enough, it is said that he has extra-sensory perception. In other words, he is able to perceive what the card is without the use of his senses, but rather by some undefined, unmeasured, unclassified ability which science as yet cannot explain.

Clairvoyance is a common experience. An example might be of the mother who has a vivid and alarming impression of a train wreck. It may be a nightmare, a waking hallucination, or just an intuition. The wreck seems to be connected with her son, perhaps with some definite place like a tunnel. It turns out later that her son was actually injured in a wreck at the spot where her dream assigned it.

Careful checking of such experiences is now going on, and Dr. Rhine feels that the results in these cases too, appear to show that some unknown process is involved, unexplained in terms of our ordinary senses.

As to psychokinesis, experiments have seemed to prove that dice rolled in a mechanical cage could be made to fall, oftener than they would by the laws of chance, according to the way the subject wished them to fall.

Dr. Rhine and his associates are trained psychologists. They say they are not trying to convince anyone that the above-mentioned qualities are actually possessed by certain individuals, but they are trying to investigate their apparent existence.

And Now a Book On John Garner

I had another adventure which might be called parapolitical. There was nothing psychic about it, but it included a piece of hindsight that is interesting.

The hindsight is that of former Speaker of the House and Vice-President John Nance Garner. He said he wished he had never left the house of representatives to run for vice-president. He felt that if Franklin Roosevelt had had a man like Speaker Joe Cannon in the speaker's chair—a no-man—Roosevelt could have avoided some of the mistakes Garner thinks he made. In other words, Garner would have liked to play Cannon to Roosevelt.

This came out in connection with a gathering of a few of the "six-foot-tall-Texas" who look like Abraham Lincoln and talk like Will Rogers. A man who was brought up on a ranch, but thought cows were a novelty until he was 10 because all they raised on his father's ranch were buffalo. He is Washington correspondent for more dailies than any one I ever heard of, and once we wangled him one vote for the vice-presidential nomination for the lark of it. Now he's author of a book.

I'm talking about Bascom Timmons and his book, "Garner of Texas," the only complete record of that fiery gentleman from Uvalde whose record for integrity and political ability in the house of representatives is one few can rival.

"Timmy" wrote it from his own notes and absolutely free hand. He probably knows Garner better than anyone on earth. It's a good book. It contains many interesting things including the "hindsight" I quoted. Timmons is not only popular among newsmen, but he's popular with congressmen, presidents, cops and cats. One of his cats had its portrait painted by Howard Chandler Christy; another was operated on by a specialist at Johns Hopkins, both thereby setting up feline records in their respective fields, as their master has in his. If you're interested in "Garner of Texas," you'll be interested in what Timmons of Texas has to say about him.



HONOR FLIERS . . . Lt. Francisco Tejada lifts a Berlin child so that she can touch his plane at Tempelhof airport. It happened when Berliners honored airmen on 100th day of the operation.



HELP ALLIED AIRLIFT . . . In order to increase the potency and efficiency of the Allied airlift into beleaguered Berlin, more air strips had to be built. Scores of German women, like those pictured above, are aiding the Allies by helping to build a new runway at Tegel, in the heart of the French sector of Berlin. These new strips relieve the heavy burden from the Tempelhof airport.



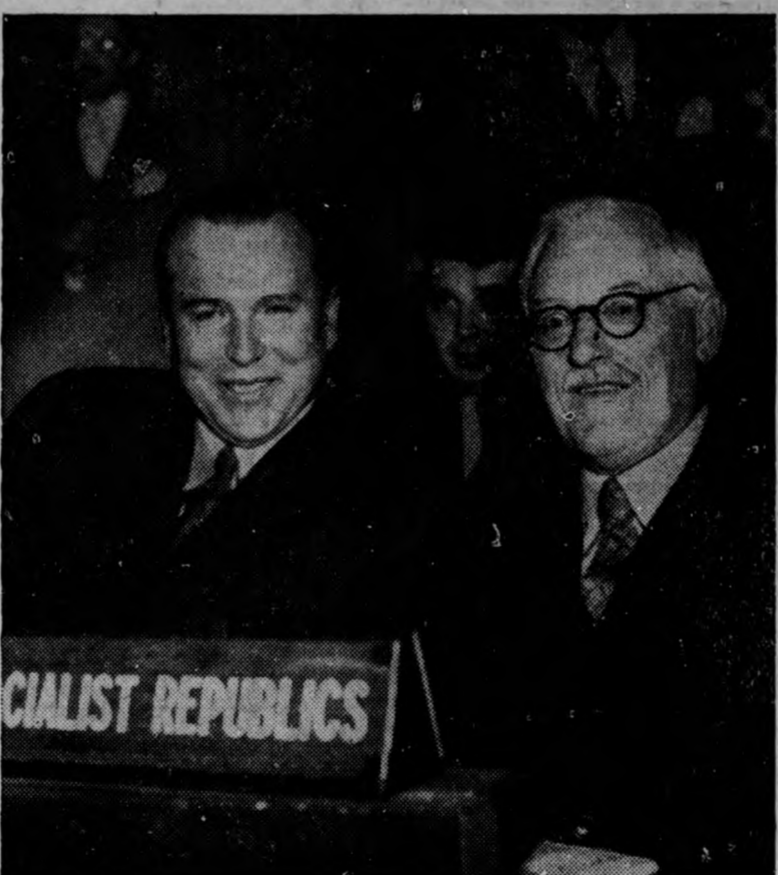
POLIO TRAGEDY . . . Mother is dead, a victim of bulbar polio, and her two-month-old brother is in the hospital suffering from the dread disease, while bewildered by it all is Claudia Gene Kichen of San Francisco.



SOLID AND SOUVE . . . James Caesar Petrillo, czar of the musicians union, tries his delicate touch on a harmonica while two virtuosos of that windy instrument bend a couple of pain-wracked ears. It happened in Chicago after Petrillo had admitted the harmonica troupe, known as the Harmonicats, into his musicians' union. Left to right are Jerry Murad, Petrillo and Don Les.



"FELIX" . . . Sgt. William E. Hollman of Daniels, Md., makes an adjustment on "Felix," the new air force bomb which is designed to guide its own fall onto targets giving off heat such as enemy ships, factories and oil refineries.



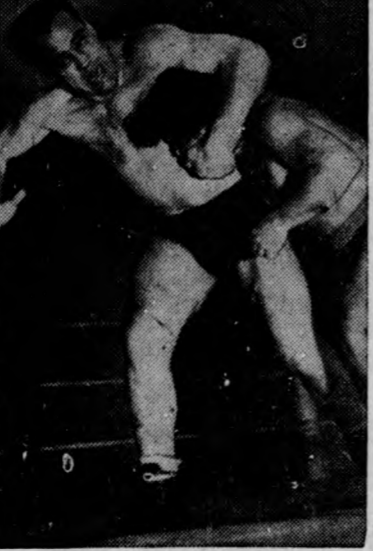
SMILES—BUT NO APPLAUSE . . . Russia's United Nations delegates Jacob Malik and Andrei Vishinsky may smile at photographers but they refused to applaud after the U. S. delegate, Secretary of State Marshall, made his first speech at the Chaillet Palace meeting of the United Nation's general assembly. In his speech Marshall served notice on Russia that the U. S. would make no compromise on basic principles.



CROCHET CHAMP . . . Erwin Prager, 59-year-old Dorseyville, Pa., farmer, is shown giving his granddaughter, Joyce Hougry, a lesson in the womanly art of crochet. His tablecloth won first prize at the county fair.



HANDICAPPED CAMPAIGNER . . . Representative William E. Hess (Rep., Ohio) was not as young as he thought, and when he tried to play ball with some small boy friends he wound up in bed at Bethesda naval hospital in Maryland. Amidst a nightmarish effect of pulleys, ropes, and exercise gadgets he conducts business as usual. He answers his daily mail and also directs his campaign for re-election.



DA PREEM PERFORMS . . . Yes, it's old satchel-foot himself, Prime Carnera, former heavy-weight boxing champion of the world. He's now wrestling for the entertainment of Brazilians in Rio and doing well at it.



New Job for Leahy?

PRESIDENT Truman has been privately turning on the heat to ease out his chief of staff, 73-year-old elder statesman, Adm. William D. Leahy.

Mr. Truman, who hates to fire anyone himself, recently called in Leahy's close friend, Adm. Louis Denfeld, chief of naval operations and the man who really runs the navy. Addressing Denfeld as "Lou," though he usually calls him "Admiral," Truman said: "Lou, I want you to do something for me. I want you to ask Leahy to retire."

"I like the old man," the President continued, "but he's outgrown his usefulness. I just hate to do this, but you can find a way of suggesting it to him. When I first came here, he offered to resign and I said no. Then last year he offered to resign again, and I asked him to stay. So it's very embarrassing to me and I can't very well ask him myself."

Admiral Denfeld, who has known Leahy all his life, demurred.

"I suppose Secretary Forrestal has been telling you that I have two votes in the joint chiefs of staff—mine and Leahy's," he said. "But just look at the record. You'll find Leahy voted against me most of the time."

"He's gotten too reactionary," countered the President. "He and George Marshall are hardly on speaking terms. Everything Marshall proposes, Leahy tears to pieces. Clark Clifford tells me the public reaction to him is bad."

Denfeld replied that he didn't see how he could possibly ask Admiral Leahy to retire.

"He's my superior," he said, "and I can't go to him with a proposal like that."

"Well, figure out some big job we can give him," countered the President. "I want him to retire in a blaze of glory. After his career he deserves it. Think up some important mission we can send him on—something really important."

Admiral Denfeld promised to look into the matter, came back a few days later with the idea that Admiral Leahy be appointed U. S. ambassador to Spain.

Leahy had already served as ambassador to France and governor of Puerto Rico, has something of a diplomatic background and Truman was delighted with the idea. However, he overlooked the fact that we have no diplomatic relations with Spain, and have agreed not to appoint an ambassador until the Franco government is recognized by the United Nations.

This fact was promptly brought to Mr. Truman's attention when he suggested that Leahy become ambassador to Spain. The state department was emphatic and adamant. No ambassador, it said—not even Admiral Leahy—would be sent to Madrid.

Mr. Truman is still looking for a job for Admiral Leahy.

Ex-Ghost Writer's Opinion

Judge Sam Rosenman of New York, who used to write speeches for both Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry Truman, gave a private diagnosis of Truman's campaign talks the other day that would have delighted the ears of Dewey forces. Chatting with a close friend, Rosenman declared: "I don't know who is writing this stuff the President has been delivering from the platform, but it will lose him more votes than he will win."

"In my opinion, the President is harping on that Wall street-against-the-farmer and capital-against-labor theme too heavy. That type of appeal doesn't register any more, except maybe with the Wallacettes. The farmers are too well off this year to be frightened by Wall street."

Judge Rosenman said he would have been glad to have offered his advice on Truman's speeches, "for whatever it was worth," but added that "some people around the President apparently think I am a bad influence."

Rosenman didn't name names, but it was jealous Secretary of the Treasury John Snyder who eulogized Rosenman from riding on the President's train.

"I helped prepare the President's convention acceptance speech and his message to the special session of congress," Judge Rosenman told a friend, "but I haven't been called in since."

Wainwright's Name

Gen. Jonathan Wainwright, hero of Corregidor, will start selling life insurance to servicemen—just as soon as he can get some more big name generals and admirals to go into business with him. He has already invited the retired air chief of staff, Carl Spaatz, to join him. Financial backing for Wainwright's new firm already has been put up by Lincoln National and Mutual Life Insurance companies, but the general claims his firm will be nonprofit. He will call it the Armed Forces Mutual Life Insurance company.



THE GARBLE SISTERS

"Didja see where we've got controls back on installment buying?"

"Yeah. You can't make time payments any more without you put up 50 per cent margin."

"What was the idea putting 'em back again?"

"With daylight saving ended there will be more inflation or something, I guess."

"People are tightening up. It's being felt in the auto business so much that the big dealers have decided to cut out two colors in 1949 models. Did you read about the new car with a luminous body?"

"You mean a car made out of luminous metal?"

"No; it's a paint that makes a car glow at night."

"What's the idea?"

"You can see another car miles away without just depending on its headlights to blind you. It's going to cause a lot of trouble in water-front parking spaces. Luminous necking will never be popular, no matter what colors it is in."

"What do you think of the Hyderabad situation?"

"Notre Dame is always changing quarterbacks. I lose track of the names."

"Didja see where the Palais de Chaillot meeting is on with a record attendance?"

"Yeah. If it's a success over in Paris they may bring it to this country."

"What do you make out of Clay's air lift?"

"I don't think Harry Truman can get in even if he uses it."

"Are you following the political campaign?"

"Only by hearsay. It's good to see the railroads neutral. They're giving both Dewey and Truman all the locomotives they can be photographed in."

"How're you voting?"

"I dunno whether to vote for Truman and less snow on the video screens or go for Dewey and the return of the two-dollar dinner."

"What about Henry Wallace?"

"He's all right, but only in a Disney short."

"Are you paying much attention to that spy probe? I see they grilled a millionaires on giving money to Communist agents."

"I see she refused to answer on new grounds."

"What grounds?"

"On the grounds what she takes off her income tax is her own business!"

"What do you think of the U. N. doings in Paris?"

"It looks like it will go the full seven games."

"I see where the un-American committee is still probing scientists."

"Yeah. And I can't understand why President Truman in that western speech said Wall street was sticking a pitchfork in their backs."

"FOR SALE—I have perfected an electric lock pick which will open any tumbler, night-latch, padlock or auto lock in two seconds. Would like to sell patent to person who will market it. Keystone Key Shop, Chattanooga, Tenn." — Wall Street Journal.

The trend being what it is these days, the demand should be terrific.

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MORNING GLORIES for your afternoon tea apron! Simplest embroidery on such a fabric-saver. ONE yard for this wonderful pattern.

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DO THIS to make breathing easier.

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For You To Feel Well

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If more people were aware of how the kidneys must constantly remove surplus fluid, excess acids and other waste matter that cannot stay in the blood without injury to health, there would be better understanding of why the whole system is upset when kidneys fail to function properly.

Burning, scanty or too frequent urination sometimes warns that something is wrong. You may suffer nagging backache, headache, dizziness, rheumatic pains, getting up at night, swelling.

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