

ADDRESS MADE BY GEN. WOOD AT TRIBUNE PARTY

Praises Newspaper for Its Independence

Following is the text of the address made by Gen. Robert E. Wood, chairman of Sears, Roebuck & Co., last night at the birthday party for THE TRIBUNE in the Stevens hotel:

"I am happy to be here tonight to pay my tribute to a great institution and its distinguished leader, Col. Robert R. McCormick.

"It is no accident that THE TRIBUNE has endured for 100 years, that it has grown continuously in its size, its circulation, its power, its wealth, and its influence. It has devoted friends and bitter enemies, but the latter have not been able to retard its growth. Such a success did not merely happen; there are fundamental reasons underlying it—let us examine some of them.

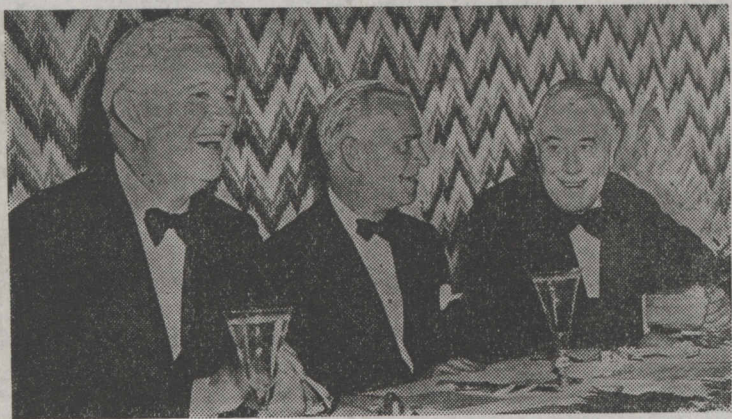
"It has been aptly said that any institution is the shadow of a man. In the case of THE TRIBUNE, it is the shadow of two men of great character, courage, and ability—Joseph Medill and Robert R. McCormick. Here, the grandson was a worthy successor of a great grandfather. For two generations this newspaper has had a great leadership. These two men have laid down its policies and pursued those policies with unflinching courage.

Praises Capt. Patterson
"I might add my tribute to another grandson of Joseph Medill, Capt. Joseph Patterson, but his history more properly belongs to that offshoot of THE TRIBUNE, the New York Daily News. It may be said that Capt. Patterson, like his grandfather and his cousin, was a man of great courage and character.

"I am not a newspaper man, but I have repeatedly heard it said even by competitors of the paper that THE TRIBUNE is pre-eminent from the technical newspaper standpoint, that it has a superb organization in each and every one of its departments, that it excels in turning out an interesting paper to its clientele, the people of Chicago and the middle west.

"A national magazine this week devoted several columns to a far from friendly appraisal of THE TRIBUNE and Col. McCormick. This story is that of the middle west.

Personalities at the Banquet



Mayor Kennelly (left), Gov. Green (center), and Col. Robert R. McCormick at the speaker's table of the Civic Centennial committee banquet last night in the Stevens hotel.



Dr. Franklyn B. Snyder (left), Dr. Henry T. Heald (center), and David Mayer Jr., among those at the banquet tribute to The Tribune.

magazine was forced to admit, however, that [and I quote] 'it takes more than good intentions, an unlimited bankroll and an Associated Press franchise to make good in the newspaper business. What it takes, the Colonel has got.'

Raised Tribune Salaries
"The credit for picking and keeping The Tribune's fine staff has been due to Col. McCormick. He has been pictured by the smear writer brigade, the pseudo liberals and the Reds as a reactionary and a Bourbon, but there have been few more generous and liberal employers in the United States than the Colonel, and none more so in his own industry. By raising salaries at the Tribune, he has caused them to be raised throughout the newspaper profession. This is also true of his great paper mills in Quebec and Ontario, where he has been a generous employer and where he has created out of the wilderness two thriving communities. Col. McCormick instituted at the Tribune the first comprehensive pension and employee benefit plan in the newspaper profession, which remains unrivaled anywhere for generosity and the security it gives employees. The employees themselves do not pay a cent for its many benefits.

"THE TRIBUNE is not merely a newspaper, it is an institution, its story is that of the middle west.

That 100 year story is far better told in the pages of its centennial edition which comes out tomorrow than I could give to you tonight, but I might mention a few highlights.

"THE TRIBUNE stands as a paper that cannot be bought or influenced by political, business, social, or labor pressure. There are not enough newspapers of which this can be said. No advertiser in THE TRIBUNE, however large, has the slightest influence on its news or editorial columns.

Represents American Thought
"THE TRIBUNE stands as a representative of American thought—particularly of the middle west. Its opposition to alien isms, its ridicule of some of the so-called upper classes, who aped our British cousins and who are subservient to them, its denunciation of the 'loyal colonialists' of the eastern seaboard, have not made it popular in certain THE TRIBUNE for opening the eyes

circles, but are symptomatic of a sturdy and militant Americanism. Great Force Behind G. O. P.

"From the beginning THE TRIBUNE has been a strong partisan, it has taken sides and it has strongly advocated the causes in which it has believed. It was one of the great forces behind the beginnings of the Republican party, founded as a party to preserve the Union and to destroy slavery. It stood behind the nomination of Lincoln and was a fierce loyalist in the Civil war. It fought the so-called Copperhead movement or any other disaffection in the war to preserve the Union. Yet strongly as it supported the Union, after the Civil War it opposed many of the reconstruction policies and denounced the Carpetbaggers who were exploiting the south during the reconstruction period.

"Joseph Medill said: 'While the rights of negroes must be recognized, we oppose the infliction of Carpetbaggers and swindlers on the white southern population. We oppose military support of Carpetbaggers. Let the dead past bury its dead. We cannot rule with bayonets.'

"THE TRIBUNE has always been strongly nationalistic, it has been strong in its faith and support of Chicago as a city, of the middle west as a section, of the United States of America as a country. That does not mean narrowness of viewpoint or provincialism as so many of our smart intellectuals would like to have us believe. It means faith, which most intellectuals have largely lost—even their faith in God.

Fought New Deal Bureaucracy
"THE TRIBUNE fought the so-called new deal from its inception. It fought against a powerful and entrenched bureaucracy, under a clever and unscrupulous leader. It never pulled a punch and it never lost courage. Over the years the patterns has more clearly developed and the people have become aware of the conflict between statism, whether you call it nazism, fascism, or communism; and the old American system; between the theory of an all-powerful state where citizens lose their freedom of action and the American system where free play is given to the freedom of the individual. In the years to come, more and more credit will come, more and more credit will be given to Col. McCormick and have not made it popular in certain THE TRIBUNE for opening the eyes

of the American people to the danger to which they were and are exposed.

THE TRIBUNE opposed our entry into World War II. It had the courage of its convictions. Pearl Harbor ended the debate. THE TRIBUNE like millions of loyal Americans who were opposed to our entering the war, immediately threw its influence behind the war effort and did its best to contribute to its successful conclusion. We are too close to the event to now be able to judge, and history alone can tell whether those of us who opposed the war were wrong or right. But thus far, every prediction made by the opponents of our entry into the war have come true. Western Europe, victors and vanquished, England, France, Germany, Holland, Belgium, Italy and Czechoslovakia, are ruined, near ruined or on the way to ruin, Poland, for whom England and France declared war, is a shambles and a puppet state. The Baltic states and Finland have lost their independence. Rumania, Bulgaria and Hungary are also puppet states of the soviet. As a result of our entry into the war, we have spent \$300,000,000,000 and 300,000 American lives to substitute one bloody tyranny for another, Stalin for Hitler. But I repeat, that history many years from now will re-

turn the final verdict, which school of opinion was right or wrong.

Opposes Policy of Reds
"Since V-J day, THE TRIBUNE was one of the first to see that there was an irreconcilable conflict between the policies of the soviet government and of our own—a conflict that does not lead necessarily to

war. Today, our government is opposing these policies of the soviet government by every means, short of war, and the nation seems pretty well unified behind that policy, barring a relatively few extremists and crackpots headed by Henry Wallace.

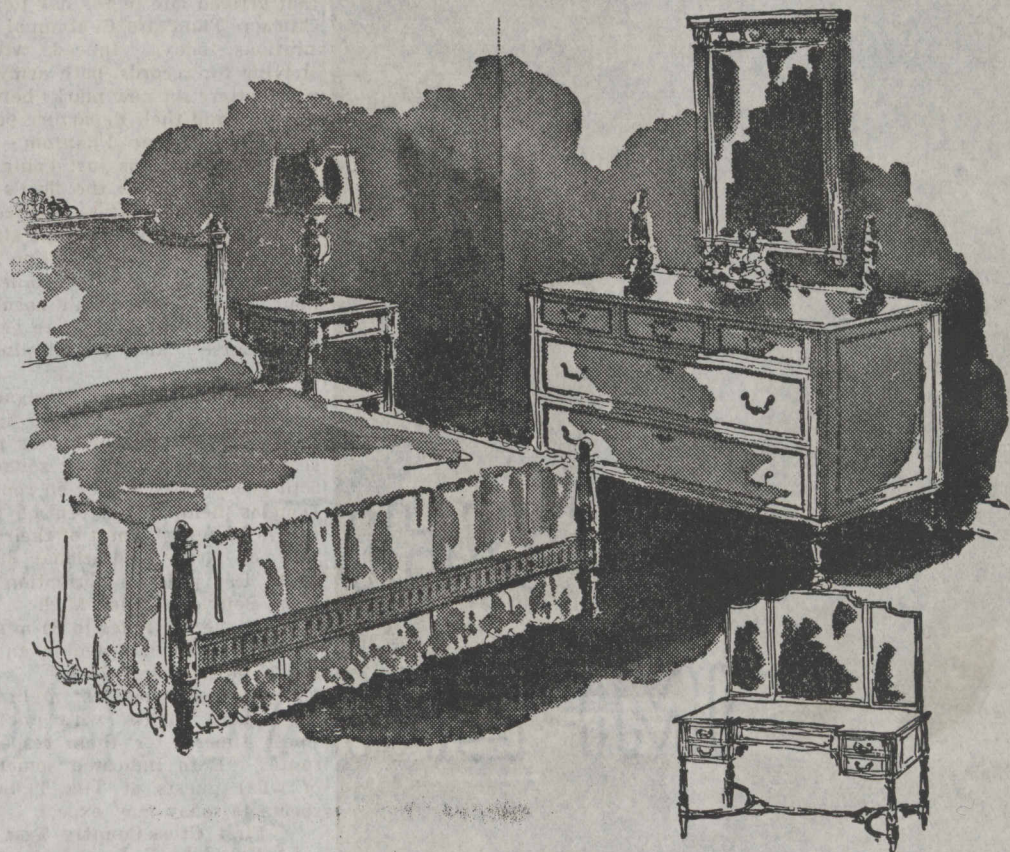
"We are willing to live and let

live. If the Russian people wish their government to be communistic, it is not for us to interfere. On the other hand we see the spectacle of a supposedly friendly power planting spies in our midst, fomenting dissent, and aiding and abetting

[Continued on following page]

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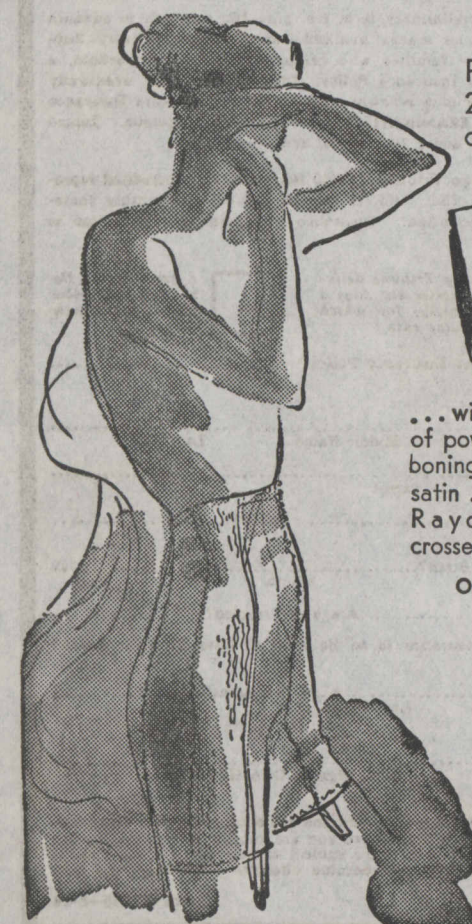
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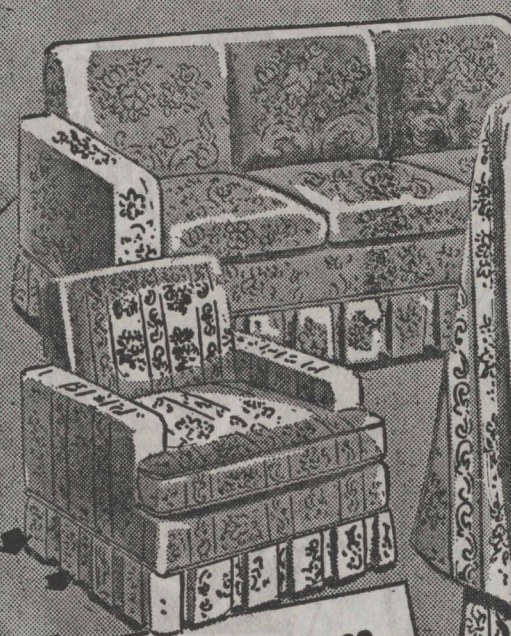


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