

PSYCHOLOGY

Election May Disappoint

Public in United States expects too much from the man elected President, looking for both a great politician and a great administrator, political scientist charges.

➤ **WHICHEVER CANDIDATE** is elected to the presidency in November, the American public is likely to be disappointed.

That is because Americans make impossible demands on the Government executive.

They want him to be a great politician and also a great administrator, Dr. Harlan Cleveland, dean of the Maxwell Graduate School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University, Syracuse, N. Y., points out in the *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* (Sept.).

Presidents, of course, do not usually succeed on both counts, Dr. Cleveland states. Yet, he says, Americans "continue to pine for that rare amalgam—the man who can run the executive branch and still get along with most of the other Americans, in and out of Congress, who think they are anointed to run the Government too."

This dual role is demanded not only of the President, but of every Government executive all down the line.

"Each executive official," he says, "whether politically appointed or not, has to spend an unconscionable amount of his time and energy telling Congress what he is doing and why."

It is not enough for an administrator to defend a program from political attack. He finds himself actively promoting a political coalition in its support.

And he has to do more than run his shop and deal with Congress. He has to maintain a complex network of horizontal relations with veto groups whose interests his actions may affect, and with their surrogates in both the executive and legislative branches of the Government.

The Government is, Dr. Cleveland notes, the least bureaucratic of the major interest groups with which it has to deal.

Turnover of Government personnel is high, especially at the top, but in business, labor, agriculture and other categories, the same leadership is maintained from year to year and decade to decade.

"If you do not like the President of the United States, you can vote against him every four years," Dr. Cleveland explains. "If you do not like the president of General Motors or the head of a labor union, you can only wait for him to die."

Dr. Cleveland provides a kind of score for recent Presidents on how well they filled the dual role demanded of them.

Franklin Roosevelt: Unsurpassed in this century as a builder of consent in war and peace, but as casual an administrator as ever hit Washington.

Harry Truman: An able and orderly

administrator, but hardly better than fair at building consent.

Dwight Eisenhower: Combines a remarkable talent for evoking consent with an equally remarkable tendency to appoint as administrators of his policies men who disagree with them.

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CLIMATOLOGY

Old Pollens Date Ice Age Climates

➤ **OLD POLLENS** buried in a now-dry New Mexican lake bed can be used to date climate changes during the Ice Ages, four scientists report in *Science* (Sept. 21).

They have carefully examined the kinds of pollen found in the lake's sediment layers down to a depth of 645 feet and the geology of the San Augustin Plains below the well-known Bat Cave from which the sample was taken. The region is about 7,000 feet above sea level.

Periods of low temperature are indicated by an abundance of spruce pollen, while high temperatures are shown by little or no spruce pollen. Pollens of semi-desert scrub and grass plants are a clue to how arid the region was at the time.

Radiocarbon dating of a top portion of the core sample showed that a group of glacial episodes occurred many thousands of years ago; one between 18,100 and 21,300 years ago, and another between 23,800 and 32,000 years ago.

Drs. Kathryn H. Clisby and Fred Foreman of Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio, Dr. Paul B. Sears of Yale University and Dr. Charles E. Stearns of Tufts University, Medford, Mass., are conducting the studies of changes in Pleistocene climate as shown by pollen counts.

Science News Letter, October 6, 1956

MARINE BIOLOGY

Albacore Tuna Reappear Off Oregon Coast

➤ **ELUSIVE ALBACORE TUNA**, not seen in Oregon and Washington coastal waters since the 1940's, have been sighted 300 miles west of the mouth of the Columbia river, according to the Oregon fish commission.

Reports of the finds were made by radio from the "Brown Bear," operated by the University of Washington for oceanographic studies, and the "John N. Cobb," operated by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Scientists on the two boats have been searching the Pacific for the tuna and studying ocean conditions affecting them.

According to reports received from those on board, 45 albacore tuna have been caught in an area generally 270 to 300 miles off the coast from Willapa Bay to off Cascade head.

The boats have been zigzagging up and down the coast to a distance up to 300 miles off shore.

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TESTING FOR JETS—This combination instrument records brain waves and provides a fast and accurate analysis. It helps to measure certain physiological changes affecting the shape and frequency of brain waves.