

Truman Domestic

1945-1953

Harry S. Truman

- Small town Missouri
- WWI artillery Captain in the Battle of the Argonne
- Served as judge in Missouri
- U.S. Senator



100%

90

80

70

60

50

40

30

20

1945

1946

1947

1948

1949

1950

1951

1952

'53

Establishes the Truman Doctrine
for aid to other nations

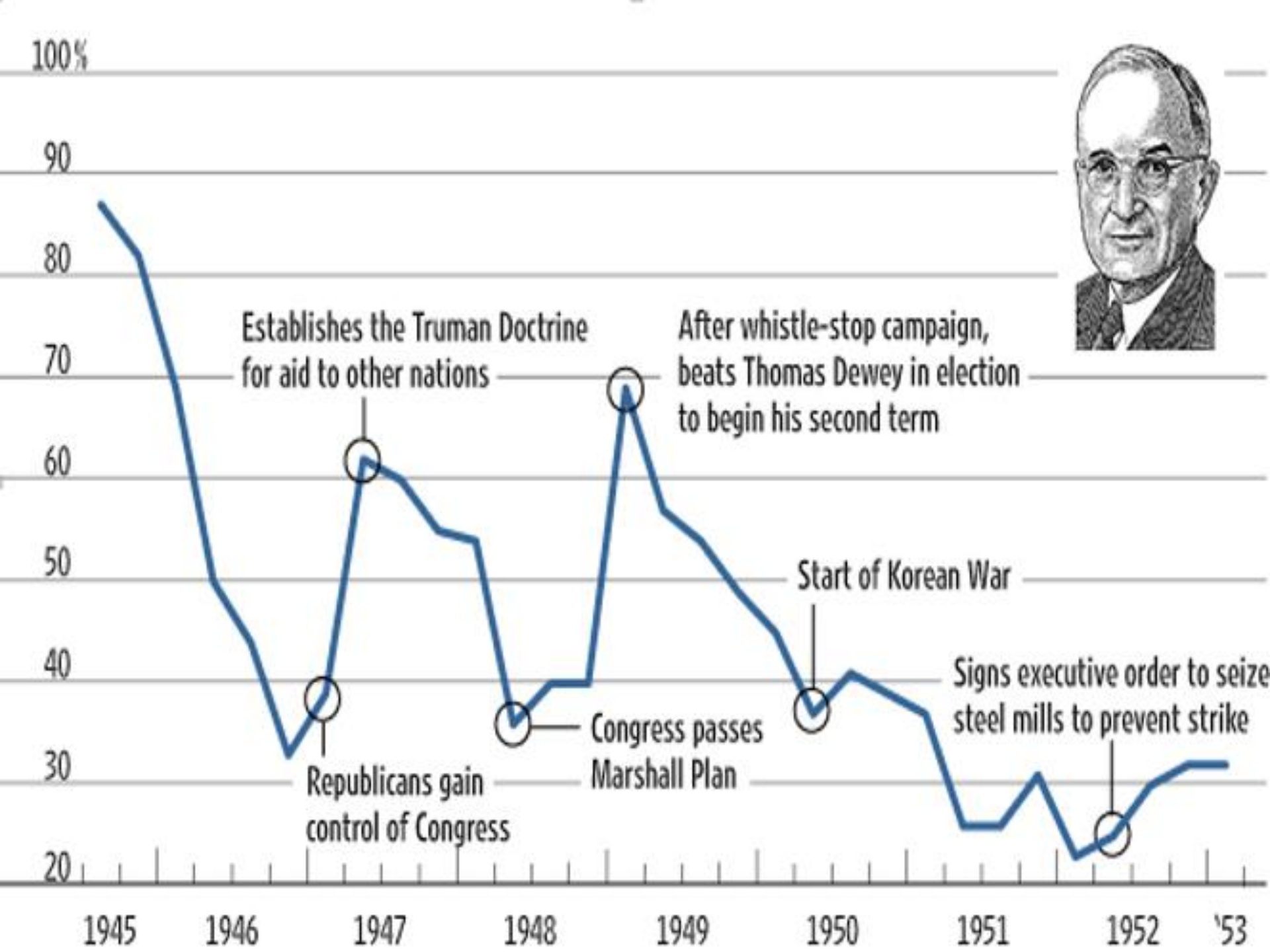
After whistle-stop campaign,
beats Thomas Dewey in election
to begin his second term

Start of Korean War

Signs executive order to seize
steel mills to prevent strike

Republicans gain
control of Congress

Congress passes
Marshall Plan



Peacetime Economy

- Truman's 1st priority was “**Reconversion**” - social and economic transition from wartime to consumer production
- Americans wanted access to goods unavailable during the war
- Govt eased controls over economy in July 1946 → prices increased 25%
-Caused inflation

Wages did not keep pace with prices → labor unrest



It's a promise!

JIM'S going away tomorrow . . . and there will be long, lonely days before he comes back.

But that little home sketched there in the sand is a symbol of faith and hope and courage. It's a promise, too. A promise of gloriously happy days to come . . . when Victory is won.

Victory Homes of tomorrow will make up in part at least for all the sacrifices of today . . . and that's our promise!

They will have better living habits . . . electrical living with new comforts, new conveniences, new economies to make every day an adventure in happiness.

Plan for your Victory Home now . . . the one sure way is to buy War Bonds. Every Bond you buy is an investment in your future happiness and security . . . every dollar you put into Bonds helps bring our boys back sooner—and safer. Buy another Bond today.

The General Electric Consumers Institution at Bridgeport, Conn., is devoted to research on wartime home problems such as Nutrition • Food Preservation Food Preservation • Appliance Care Appliance Repair • Laundering • Home Heating and Air Conditioning. Helpful booklets are available from your G-E Appliance Dealer, or General Electric Consumers Institution, Dept. 15-5.

APPLIANCE AND MERCHANDISE DEPARTMENT, BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

GENERAL ELECTRIC

There is no better time than the time every Bondholder, therefore, should arrange with G. E. S. to have right time to the "Star of Honor" over N. E. C. the magazine for time, station.

1946: Labor Unrest

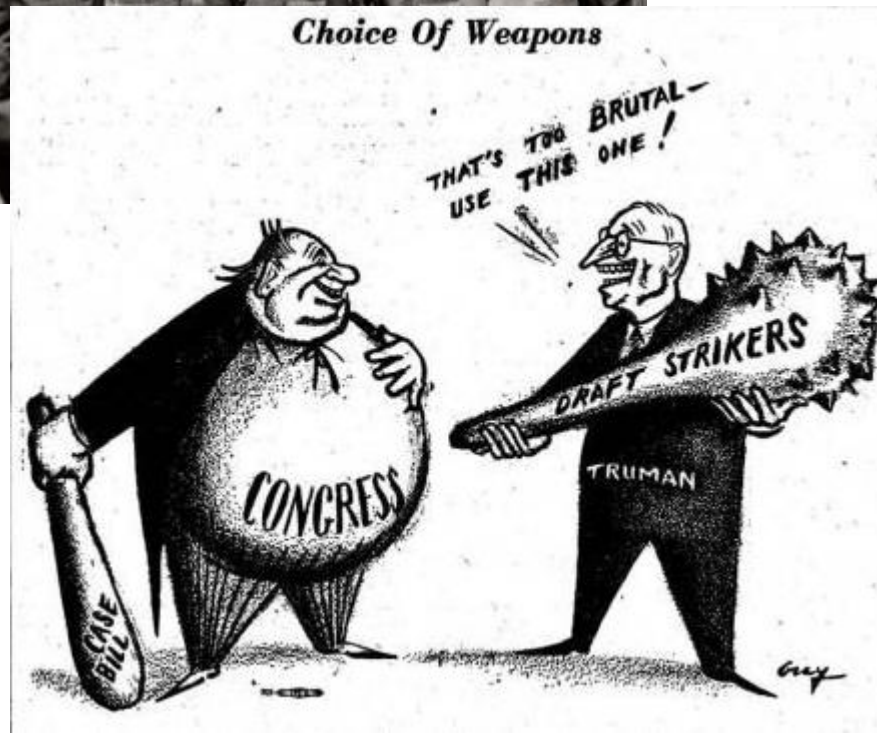
Reasons:

- Inflation
- Low wages

1946: 4.6m workers strike

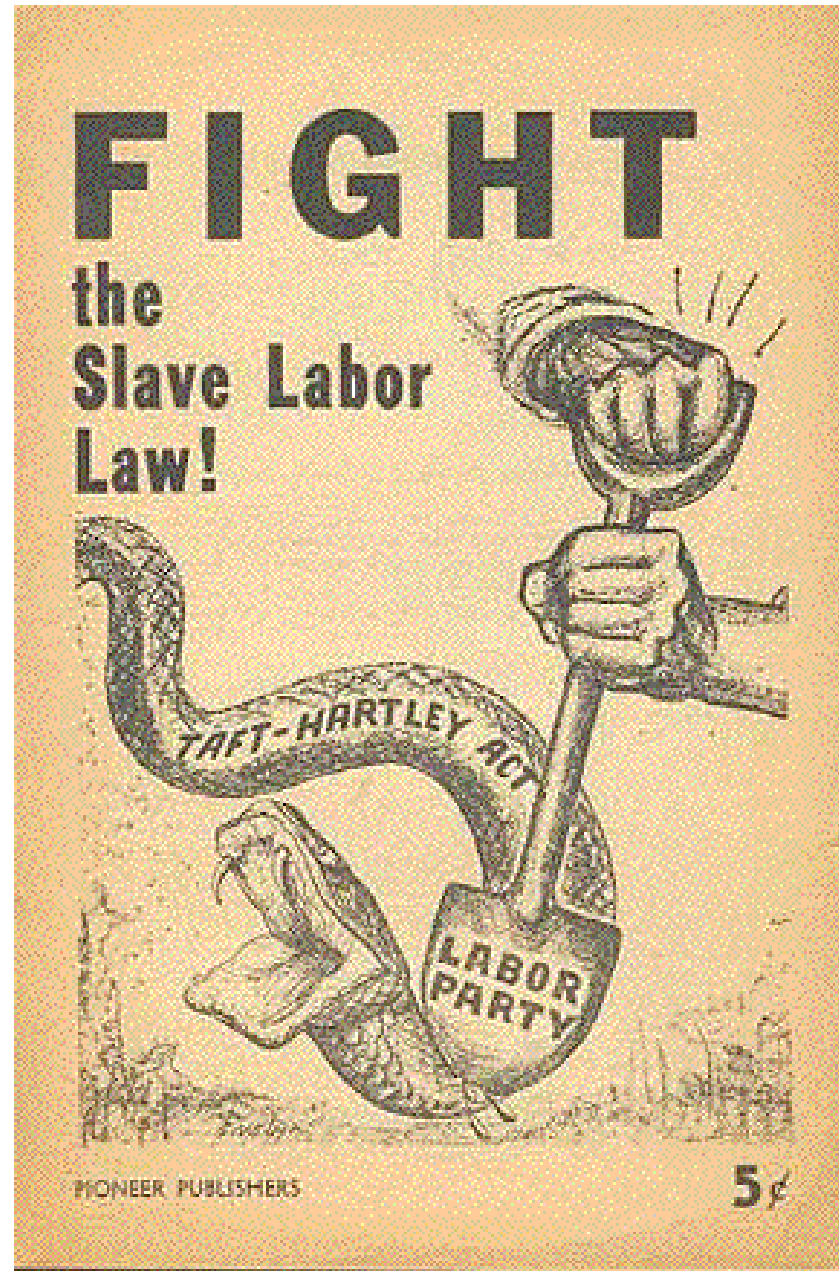
- Automobile, steel, electrical, coal
- RR Strike:

- Spring of 1946
- Lasted 1 mo. nationwide
- All freight & passenger lines shut down
- Truman issued an executive order putting the RR industry under the control of the army and threatened to draft the striking workers into the Korean War



1947: Taft-Hartley Act

- Limited power of unions after the war
- Permits states to pass “right to work laws” - allowed states to prohibit union shops
- Employers cannot refuse to hire prospective employees because they won't join a union (aka “closed shop”); employers DO have the right to sign agreements with unions that requires an employee to join the union on or before the employee's 30th day of employment
- President could call for an 80-day “cooling-off” period before a strike
 - Could also issue an injunction against work-stoppage that endangered national safety or health
- Truman vetoes but Congress overrides → becomes law



Truman's "Fair Deal"

Continuation of liberal practices of FDR's New Deal

- 21-point program:
 - Expand Soc. Sec. benefits, raise min. wage, Fair Employment Practices Act, environment & public works projects, government supported scientific research, nationalized atomic energy, national health insurance
- 1946: midterm elections → Republicans control both houses of Congress and defeat the Fair Deal

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TRUMAN ASKS INCREASED TAXES, DEBT CUT, TAFT LABOR ACT REPEAL, AUTHORITY TO BUILD STEEL MILLS

WIDE BACKING SEEN. Congress' Reaction Held Indicating Passage for Most of Program

'SOCIALISM,' ASSERTS GOP. But Many Republican Members Express an Agreement With Objectives of Proposals

By C. F. TRUSSARD
WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—The Eighty-first Congress reacted to President Truman's message today with strong and widespread indications that most of his recommendations would be written into law. The program included many which Congress had turned down or ignored for years.

These reactions were not a head-wind against all or perhaps even a larger part of the recommendations he laid down, especially as to the details. Some of the recommendations, it was made clear to members of Congress congregated to discuss them, contained potentials for hard and bitter fighting.

However, even among opponents of programs which previously had failed under Roosevelt and Truman, agreement there was talk of compromise. Republicans who formerly were in position to turn thumbs down on White House proposals said that they would sign many of the proposals made today only as to the details for carrying them out.

Southern Democrats, who had contended successfully with Republicans in the Eighty-first Congress, and before that no more times, now were appearing in a new mood. Slaves by Democrats were out in the open to compromise on public tax and anti-smoking bills. There was still a determination to "fight to the last dollar" on the proposed Fair Employment Practices Commission, but a situation was developing in the Senate which it appeared that "moderate" elements, the Senate's most liberal wing.

Mr. Truman presenting his legislative program to a joint session of the Eighty-first Congress. Seated on the extreme are Kenneth McKellar, President pro tem of the Senate (left), and Sam Rayburn, Speaker of the House.

RISE OF 4 BILLIONS
More From Corporations and Middle and Upper Incomes Is Proposed
FOR CURBS ON INFLATION
President in 8-Point Program Reviews Pleas for Powers to Impose Controls if Needed

The text of the President's message to Congress, Page 4.

By ANTHONY LEVINSON
Seated on the far left, President Truman, flanked by the Speaker of the House, Sam Rayburn, and the President pro tem of the Senate, Kenneth McKellar, are seen today in the East Room of the White House. The President is presenting his legislative program to a joint session of the Eighty-first Congress.

GOP CHARGES BLOW AT BIPARTISAN PLAN
Vandenberg Angrily Accuses Democrats on Foreign Policy — Taft Sees Housing Split

By WILLIAM S. WHITE
WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—The Democrats were angrily accused today by Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg of Michigan of having struck at the outset of the new Congress a blow against the bipartisan foreign policy that was "suggested with history."

A Democratic denial was determined at once, in terms of equality, by the party's highest official short of the President himself.

Taxing Policy Wins Leaders To Meet 42 Billion Budget
By JOHN D. HUGHES
WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—President Truman significantly refrained from calling again today for an income profit tax levy on corporations and thus enhanced the prospects, according to experienced legislators, of a tax increase to balance the raised peacetime budget to be submitted Monday.

Just before the President asked for a \$4,000,000,000 tax rise in his message to the State of the Union, Democratic Congressional leaders repudiated after a White House conference that expenditures proposed in the coming budget would reach a new peacetime high of \$41,000,000,000. This is the equivalent of \$13,000,000,000 under the budgeting method used last year.

LABOR CHIEFS HAIL TRUMAN PROPOSALS
Green, Murray and Others See Own Ideas Bucked, Agree to Revising Wagner Act

By LOUIS STARR
WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—President Truman's legislative program today was hailed by labor leaders as a "bold and courageous" move to meet the needs of the nation. The program, they said, was a "realistic and practical" plan to meet the needs of the nation. The program, they said, was a "realistic and practical" plan to meet the needs of the nation.

Truman on Civil Rights

First president to address the NAACP and form a Civil Rights Commission (Led by A. Philip Randolph) to:

- Support anti-lynching laws
- Abolish poll tax as voting requirement
- Establish a permanent board to prevent discriminatory hiring practices in civil service positions
- Banned discrimination in hiring federal employees (July 1948)
- Integrated the armed forces in 1948 through Exec. Order 9980

EXTRA - By Executive Order

PRESIDENT TRUMAN WIPES OUT SEGREGATION IN ARMED FORCES

2nd Order Sets Up FEPC In All Government Jobs

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VOL. XLIV, No. 16 CHICAGO, ILL., SATURDAY, JULY 31, 1948 *** 100 CENTS ***

Under 'States' Rights' Posse, Bent On Lynching, Searches Woods For Prey

Come Back And Do A Job Is

Rumor Negroes Would Resist

Executive Order "No. 1"
Establishing President's Committee on Equality of Treatment and Opportunity in the Armed Services.
Whereas it is essential that the highest standards of democracy, with equality of treatment and opportunity for all those who serve in our country's defense;
Now, therefore, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States, by the Constitution and the Statutes of the United States, and as Commander in Chief of the Armed Services, I do hereby order as follows:
1. It is hereby declared to be the policy of the President that there shall be equality of treatment and opportunity for all persons in the armed services with-
and except to race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. That policy shall be put into effect in conformity with the principles set forth in the following: (a) All persons who are employed in the armed services shall be treated with equality of opportunity for all persons who serve in our country's defense.
2. There shall be created in the Executive Department an Advisory Committee on Equality of Treatment and Opportunity in the Armed Services, which shall be composed of 7 members to be designated by the President.
3. The Committee is authorized on behalf of the President to make such investigations and to make such recommendations as it may deem proper for the purpose of carrying out the policy of the President.

SAVE This PAPER It Marks HISTORY

“Dixiecrats” on the Rise

- Southern, white Democrats who opposed Truman’s civil rights attempts, especially integrating the military
- Led by **Strom Thurmond**, governor and later senator from SC



The Election of 1948



Candidates:

Harry Truman (Democrat)



Thomas Dewey (Republican, NY)

-Ran in 1944, gained ground on FDR, expected to win the presidency

Strom Thurmond ("Dixiecrat", SC)

-Longest filibuster in U.S. History



Henry Wallace (Progressive)

-Friend of the Communist Party, believed that we needed socialized medicine, friendly relations with USSR, etc.

Early polls:

- Dewey 44%, Truman 31%,
Thurmond 16%, Wallace 9%

Truman's "Whistle-stop" campaign:

- Attacks Republican Congress
 - "Do-nothing"
 - Farm policy
- "Give 'em hell, Harry!"

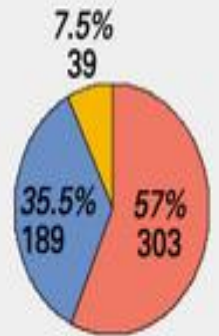
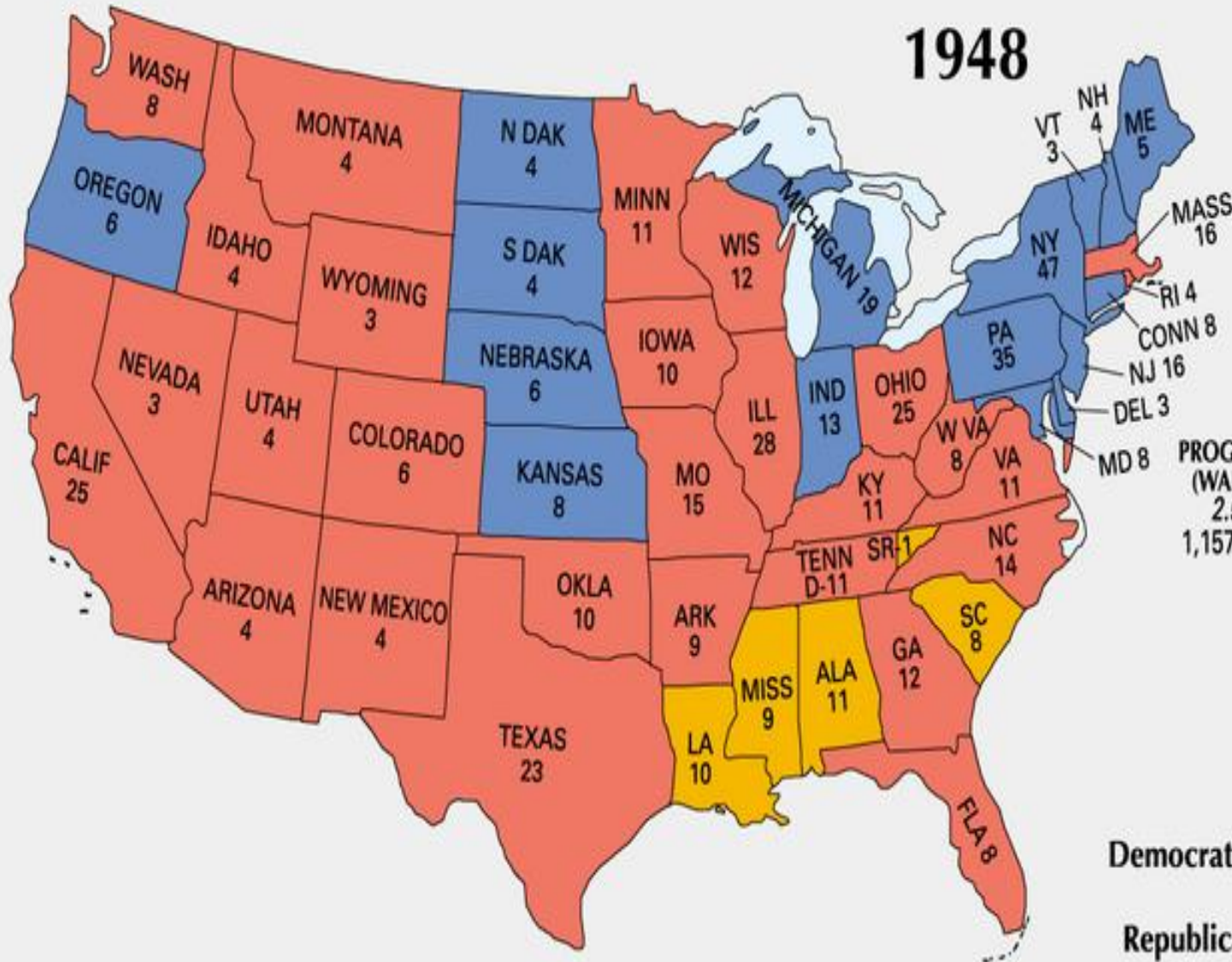
"Dewey Defeats Truman"

Why?

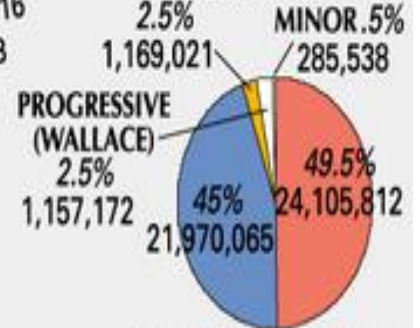
- Truman went on the attack
- Dewey never countered
- Black Americans and other
minority groups voted for
Truman
- Farmers remembered FDR
during the Great Depression



1948



ELECTORAL VOTE
TOTAL: 531



POPULAR VOTE
TOTAL: 48,687,608



Reviving Truman's Fair Deal

- Raised minimum wage from \$0.40 to \$0.75
- Extended Social Security to 10m more people & increased benefits by 75%
- Supreme Court decides *Shelley v. Kraemer* (1948)
 - Ruled that courts could not be used to enforce private covenants meant to ban blacks from residential neighborhoods
- **National Housing Act of 1949:** \$ for the construction of 810,000 low-income housing units with long-term rent subsidies

