

(EDITORS -- Following is the way The San Francisco Chronicle featured the recent visit there of Drew Pearson, of The Washington Merry-Go-Round team of Pearson and Allen. The story ran with a 2-column head and photo. It is sent you as a matter of interest.)

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### DREW PEARSON

#### FIRE, HE'S FAMOUS

By Willis O'Brien

Six years ago this month two Washington newspaper reporters were fired, peremptorily and enthusiastically, by two newspapers. Their careers since then have proven to the world what a fine thing it is to be fired by a newspaper, at least in their cases!

Drew Pearson, one of the pair, came to San Francisco yesterday on a lecture tour of the United States. Robert S. Allen, the other, is on the job in Washington getting out the column they jointly write and edit, "Washington Merry-Go-Round," published daily in The Chronicle and 300 other newspapers of the nation.

With a twinkle in his eye, Pearson told how the pair were fired, he from The Baltimore Sun and Allen from The Christian Science Monitor. The blow fell shortly after their joint volume, "Washington Merry-Go-Round," rolled off the presses.

#### BOOK STIRS FURORE

This book was one of the first real exposes of what goes on behind the scenes in the National Capital, and it made so many people so mad that it was unpolitic for any newspaper to employ such firebrands. The boys found themselves with a best-selling book on their hands, but no jobs, so it behooved them to think fast.

They argued that if one book devoted to back-stage gossip caused such a stir, why wouldn't a daily column go over? The answer was -- it would and did!

"Incidentally, we have had a warm spot in our hearts for The Chronicle," confided Pearson. "This newspaper was one of our first 10 or 12, and the first important newspaper in the West. We sort of felt that when we landed in The Chronicle we were over the hump, and that was true.

"Now more than 300 newspapers print our column."

"By the way, every place I go in the West, everyone remarks on what a swell job you are doing with The Chronicle. Your streamlined makeup is great, and this appears to be one of the few newspapers in the country awake to the realization that 1938 is a new year, with new problems."

Pearson is brimming with more ideas than he can ever find space for in his column. He is convinced that Secretary of Commerce Roper, Secretary of the Navy Swanson and Secretary of War Woodring will not be in the Cabinet in three months.

"But, unfortunately, I'm afraid the President won't fire Madame Perkins," he sighs.

He believes the Democrats will attempt to groom Governor-elect Olson to defeat Senator Johnson in 1940, and sees corroboration

of this theory in Olson's forthcoming visit to the White House.

He believes the influence of Southern California's Townsend Plan members of the House will bring about lowering of qualifications for benefits under the Social Security setup. This will be done, he thinks, by lowering the age limit from 65 to 60, by making total poverty not a requirement for receipt of benefits, or other modifications, and this will come at the next session of Congress.

#### BRIMMING WITH IDEAS

The young man spouts ideas like a fountain, and he's intensely interested in anything to do with the Government of the United States. He'll give San Franciscans the benefit of some of these ideas when he speaks tomorrow night before the Town Hall Forum at the Veteran's Auditorium.

He will also be honored guest at a luncheon at the Press Club tomorrow noon.