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Chronicling America: "Turning Points in History"

September 6, 2023

1:00PM – 2:00PM EST

Online Zoom Webinar

<https://www.loc.gov/item/event-410386/>

Register using the link above or the QR code below.

Explore Turning Points in History and learn to use Chronicling America, a freely-available collection of historic American newspapers at the Library of Congress for research in this year's National History Day theme, "Turning Points in History."

Join Reference Librarian, Amber Paranick and Digital Conversion Specialist, Mike Saelee for a presentation on Chronicling America, its search interface, how to navigate the challenges of working with historic newspapers as primary sources, and additional resources to assist students and educators in National History Day research. Chronicling America is jointly sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Library of Congress.

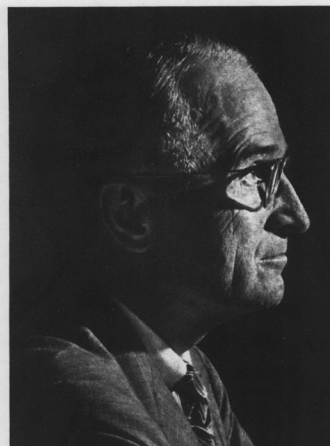
This Week

HARRY S. TRUMAN

SELECTS **Six Great**

Turning Points Of American History

By JHAN and JUNE ROBBINS



INDEPENDENCE, MO.
More than half a century ago Miss Maggie Phelps, a vigorous country schoolteacher, taught American history to a serious, spotted youngster named Harry Truman.

"I think Miss Maggie made a special effort to interest me," Mr. Truman recalls, "because she knew I was too shortighted to play baseball. She sensed that I needed a substitute. She taught me that the events that altered the course of our country's history are some of the most exciting moments the world has ever seen. Right then and there I decided to try to become a history scholar."

Professional historians acknowledge that Mr. Truman has done a pretty good job. He is the only President in recent years who has displayed no interest in whodunits or other escape literature. He retired from his spicied house with Congress by making a relaxing chapter about Yorktown or Chancellorsville.

"Men make history and not the other way 'round," Mr. Truman decided, "in periods where there is no leadership, society stands still. Progress occurs when courageous, skillful leaders seize the opportunity to change things for the better."

To Look Forward, He Looks Back
Today, at 74, Mr. Truman watches with keen interest while modern history unfolds at its dizzy rate. In an exclusive interview granted to THIS WEEK at the Truman Memorial Library here, he declared, "When I want to understand what is happening today or try to decide what will happen tomorrow I look back. A page of history is worth a volume of logs." Justice Holmes said that.

The former President added feelingly, "I know something about American history. We have had many glorious moments. Many of those which have been of important, lasting benefits to the American people have occurred during the administrations of strong Presidents. This can be no coincidence. We need our system of checks and balances but we must have leaders who can see what needs to be done and who do it. We've been lucky enough to elect a number of such men to the Presidency. It is because of their efforts that we have the best government that has ever been organized in the history of the world."

Mr. Truman, who has had quite a bit to do with history himself, believes there are certain key moments in our past which have brought the United States to its present position. Studied together, he believes, they may reveal a predictable pattern for the future.

Evening Star. (Washington, D.C.), 22 Feb. 1959.
Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers.
Library of Congress

<<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045462/1959-02-22/ed-1/seq-160/>>



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