

Kick-Back Case Decision Hits Ex-Lawmaker

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court has reinstated the conviction of former Rep. Ernest K. Bramblett (R-Calif.) on charges that he falsified his office payroll in a salary kick-back scheme.

Justice Reed delivered the court's 6-0 decision. Chief Justice Warren and Justices Burton and Harlan took no part in the case.

A jury in U. S. District Court here in February 1954 convicted Bramblett of making false statements to the House, disbursing office in connection with putting a woman on his House office payroll.

The Justice Department said Bramblett netted about \$3,300 in kick-backs. At the time of his conviction Bramblett was serving his fifth term in Congress. He did not run for re-election to the present Congress.

After the jury conviction, U. S. granted a request by Bramblett's lawyers for a stay of the trial court's final judgment. Bastian said he agreed with the defense lawyers that there was reasonable

doubt whether the false statement law—under which Bramblett was convicted—applies to the legislative branch of government.

Justice Dept. Upheld

The Justice Department appealed directly to the Supreme Court, asking that it reverse Bastian's order arresting the judgment of conviction. The department contended the law clearly applied to the House disbursing office, and to Bramblett's case.

The high court Monday voiced agreement with the Justice Department.

Reed's opinion said the false statement law "covers the presentation of false claims against any component of the government to any officer of the government."

Bramblett faces a maximum sentence of 35 years' imprisonment and \$70,000 fine, although courts rarely impose maximum penalties.

Injunction Upheld

In other actions, after hearing evidence to the late Justice Robert H. Jackson who died last October, the high court:

1. Ruled 5-3 that unions covered by the Taft-Hartley act may not ask federal courts to erase state court injunctions against peaceful picketing. The case involved an order by an Ohio court in Cleveland directing the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America (CIO) to cease picketing stores of Richman Brothers in Ohio and 15 other states. The union had asked lower federal courts to wipe out the injunction but the U. S. courts said they were without power to do so.

Bar Admission Denied

2. Unanimously overturned an order denying Ben G. Levy admission to the bar of the U. S. District Court in Houston. The denial had been on the ground that Levy had been associated with an attorney who was "generally considered" to be a Communist Party member. Levy contended the denial was in violation of the guaran-

tees of free speech and of liberty embodied in the U. S. Constitution's Bill of Rights.

3. Refused to review a decision by the Oregon Supreme Court upholding validity of a Portland ordinance which prohibits the ownership, control and use of pinball games. Stanley G. Terry appealed the decision. He said he was in the business of owning, selling and leasing the devices and had \$100,000 invested.

Dillard-Winston Church Plans Easter Rites

The Dillard-Winston Methodist Church will hold Easter services at the grade school auditorium again this year. Last year almost 300 persons attended the service and a larger attendance is anticipated this year. The service will be at 11 a.m.

The choir, directed by Miss Orinda Mitchell, will sing Strainer's hymn "God So Loved the World," and "O Morning Beauty," sung to "Finlandia" by Sibelius. "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth," will be the solo number sung by Helen McGuire. The Rev. R. A. Feenstra's message will be "Eternal Life Now."

A nursery room will be provided for small children at the school and will be in charge of Mrs. Jack Finley and Mrs. Donald Goodwin. Sunday school will be held at the usual hour at church but will dismiss 10 minutes early for the worship service at the school.

A special service will be held Friday at 7:30 at the Dillard Methodist Church. The Seven Last Words of Christ will be recalled in song and meditation and prayer. The Lord's Supper will be held in remembrance of time of His Passion.

Radioactivity in Water From Bomb Not Harmful

CINCINNATI (AP) — Radioactivity that got into drinking water in Cincinnati after the 1954 hydrogen bomb tests in the Pacific was "much less than you'd find any time in palatable radioactive spring waters," a U. S. Public Health Service researcher said.

But Dr. L. R. Setter declared this situation could change for the worse in the future in any area where there might be "greatly increased" radioactivity in the atmosphere as a result of any "grandiose-scale" explosions of bombs.

He added, though, that government radioactivity sleuths have now developed quick techniques for figuring radioactivity in surface waters by spot-checking the amount of such activity in rainfall.

And this, he said, would come in handy in monitoring drinking water supplies in the future.



EN ROUTE HOME—Mrs. Adele Austin Rickett (right) is whisked to waiting auto by friend Arthur Link (center—warding off reporters), a University of California professor, after she stepped from ship which brought her to San Francisco from Hongkong and Red China imprisonment.

Carney Denies He Predicted Formosa Attack

WASHINGTON (AP) — Adm. Robert Carney denied this week he ever predicted the Chinese Communist might attack in the Formosa Island area about April 15.

The chief of naval operations was before a Senate appropriations subcommittee. Sen. Ellender (D-La.) said Carney had been quoted as telling a group of newsmen on March 24 that an attack could be expected about April 15.

Ellender said this and later reports that the White House had no such intelligence had created quite a lot of excitement both in this country and overseas.

He asked Carney if he had changed his mind.

"I have not changed my mind because I never made such a statement," Carney replied.

Ellender said he thought Carney ought to explain what he did say in order to clarify the matter.

Chairman Chavez (D-NM) of the subcommittee put in that Carney had denied the statement. Chavez said that ought to clear it up "pretty well."

Ellender said Carney could answer or not as he wished.

Carney said that he had discussed the capabilities of the known or possible enemy and our capabilities for meeting that.



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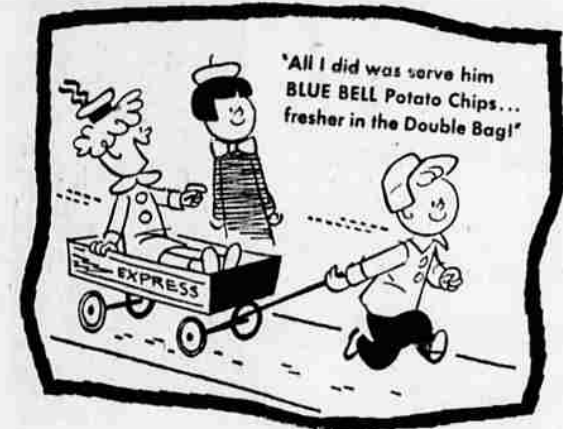
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Norblad Predicts Funds For Veterans Hospital

WASHINGTON (AP)—Rep. Norblad (R-Ore.) predicts that two million dollars will be allocated in the next two years for modernization of the Veterans Hospital in Portland, Ore.

"While the sums to be spent in Portland during the next fiscal year are small, the House action set a precedent for a long-range program," he said.

The House has approved a bill appropriating 39 million dollars for a nation-wide hospital renovation program in the coming year. The bulk of the Portland work is expected to get under way in 1958, Norblad said.

Soviet Government Says Farm Purge Has Bugged

LONDON (AP) — The Soviet government has admitted that its purge of collective farm bosses has bogged down.

"The work of strengthening collective farms with executive personnel is making unsatisfactory progress, said Pravda in a dispatch that Radio Moscow broadcast to the Soviet Press.

The broadcast, monitored here, revealed that the Central Committee of the Communist Party decided in January to clean out the collective farm managers and set July as the date when the purge should be finished.

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