

"Listen---Do Your Hear One Complaint?"



EDITORIAL PAGE

## LA GRANDE OBSERVER

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### He Won't Go Voluntarily

Quite naturally Robert Kennedy hopes James Hoffa will make good his threat to sue him for libel. The counsel for the Senate Rackets Committee is confident that the very serious charges he has been making in public about the Teamsters boss are true and challenges Hoffa to prove they are not.

Kennedy has openly accused Hoffa of misusing union funds, putting gangsters in high office in the union, making secret deals with employers to enrich himself and "continuously betraying union members."

Those are pretty serious charges. If Hoffa does not take his accuser to court,

he is all but admitting that they are true. So whether he does make good his threat to sue Kennedy will be a significant decision on his part. Our guess is that he won't dare. Hoffa knows how much evidence there is against him. He's been libeled before. A national magazine once designated him in large type as "Public Enemy No. 1." But he didn't sue. Hoffa clings to the protection provided by the maxim that a person must be presumed innocent until proven guilty. And the only place you can be formally proven guilty is in a court. He won't go to court voluntarily.

### Another Excuse To Look Elsewhere

Influential Republican Senators have rumbled their disapproval of Secretary Herter's plan to name Charles E. Bohlen as his special advisor. If a fight over a proposed appointment develops as expected the losses can be great on both sides.

At stake is Herter's position as master of his own operation, the State Department. In the balance is Bohlen's decision whether to retire from government service for a more remunerative private job.

In proposing that Bohlen, our ambassador to the Philippines, be named his special advisor, Herter frankly admits that Bohlen has much more experience in dealing with the Russians and understands them far better than he does.

Herter in proposing the foreign specialist for the job indicates that he intends to shape and use the state department to fit the country's needs as he views them. In offering Bohlen's name, Herter has made it clear he intends to hew out his own policies rather than follow the lead of his predecessor, John Foster Dulles.

Dulles considered himself every bit as much of an authority on Russia as Bohlen; he was responsible for pulling Bohlen out of the Moscow post and sending him to Manila.

The post proposed for Bohlen does not require Senate confirmation, but Senators Dirksen, Bridges, Hickenlooper and Young have indicated they are opposed to the proposed assignment.

Republican opposition to Bohlen rests largely on the part he played as interpreter as advisor to President Franklin D. Roosevelt at the Yalta conference. Bohlen has defended the Yalta agreements as sound. Failure of the agreements, he maintains, is the direct result of the Soviet Union's subsequent rejection of the terms it had negotiated and pledged to live up to.

It is fairly certain that Herter did not approach Bohlen on the question of serving as special advisor without President Eisenhower's tacit approval. Without Presidential opposition to the appointment it is not likely the Republican Senators will press the attack against Bohlen too far.

If these same congressmen mount a large enough offensive against the government officer, however, Bohlen will be presented with an excellent opportunity to retire rather than embarrass the Republican Administration.

Should he retire the country will lose a key foreign-oriented official; the Administration and the Republican party will be weakened in the face of a Presidential election year, and the rest of the world will have one more excuse to look elsewhere for leadership.

### Barbs

"Father knows Best" is something that no one else in the family knows.

Many a man at the beach overlooks his wife while looking over the bathing beauties.

Security is easy for manicurists. They have their jobs nailed down.

The best kind of a check to keep on yourself is one that you can cash in on.

A colorado man left home because his wife wouldn't cook. Often the word is "couldn't."

When the thermometer gets up around 90 the ambition of most people is not to have any.

A person doesn't have to be intoxicated to drive the way some people do.

In most cases pushing ahead opens the door to success a lot better than just pull.

The answer to why some drivers get bad breaks and others don't is bad brakes.

A judge says it's easy to keep a sweet disposition. Sure, if you have plenty of sugar left after bills.

Any driver who puts his hands or arms out of a car window is sticking his neck out.

DREW PEARSON SAYS:

### Big Ed Johnson Fighting For First Love - Baseball

WASHINGTON—Big Ed Johnson, who used to fire locomotives on the Union Pacific between Western Kansas and Denver, took an airplane down to Washington from New York the other day to testify against baseball monopoly.

Big Ed felt right at home going back to Washington. He spent 18 years of his life there as U.S. senator from Colorado—about as many years as he spent as a railroad laborer on the Union Pacific, then telegrapher, then train dispatcher and locomotive fireman. He also has felt at home in the State House in Denver, having served two terms as governor and four terms in the Colorado legislature.

But Big Ed didn't feel much at home in an airplane. You could tell that by the way he tried to stuff an unwieldy brief case under the seat in front of him, instead of beneath him. As a result, he couldn't stretch his legs. And when you're six feet four you need to stretch.

However, airplanes have revolutionized baseball, Ed Johnson confided to me. And that is one reason he is crusading for another baseball league. Even when Big Ed served in the U.S. Senate, he was president of the Western Baseball League. Now that he's retired from active politics at the age of 75, he's giving all his time to baseball.

"San Juan, Puerto Rico, is baseball crazy," he explained. "And they want to be part of our new big league. With airplane transportation you can get to San Juan as easy as Los Angeles and San Francisco. The major ball teams have their own airplanes now."

#### Players Are Monopolized

"But our chief problem is the baseball monopoly," continued the man who is trying to break it. "That's why I'm going to Washington to testify before Senator Kefauver's anti-monopoly committee. The two major leagues don't want a rival, and especially the major ball clubs don't want to give up their monopoly on players they don't need."

"Some of the clubs have 400 players under contract, each. Every May 20 they cut down their actual team to 25 men, but they keep 400 under contract just to keep them from getting into the hands of other rival clubs."

Big Ed pulled a rule book of the major leagues out of his brief case and turned to rule 2. It reads:

"Since the supply of skilled players is not equal to the demand, the major league clubs shall not have title to more than forty (40) player contracts at any time."

"That's their own rule," continued the ex-senator from Colorado, "but they don't live up to it. And when they keep 400 players under contract in order to prevent other clubs from using them, that's monopoly."

I asked how many players the Washington Senators had under contract.

"That's one of the poorer clubs. I think Griffith has about 150. However, the St. Louis Cardinals right now have 435 players under contract."

"What happened to your Western Baseball League?" I asked the man who had been its president.

"The majors put us out of business. They just told us we couldn't have any more players, and that was that. We couldn't operate any more. However," said the man who so long was a power in the U.S. Senate, "I believe Estes Kefauver now has 'em on the run and the prospect of a third major league will break up the player monopoly."

### QUOTES FROM THE NEWS

United Press International

MOSCOW — Vice President Richard M. Nixon, recommending that Nikita Khrushchev be invited to visit the United States: "He would see that our economy is strong and productive, and while his visit would not convert him to capitalism any more than my visit here would convert me to communism, it would serve to change his ideas of how our system works."

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller, on the engagement of his son Steven, to the family's former maid, Norwegian Anne Marie Rasmussen: "We couldn't be happier. She is a wonderful girl."

ALEXANDRIA, La. — Gov. K. Long, threatening to have national Democratic committeeman Camille Gravel removed from a political rally: "If you don't keep your clasp shut, I'm going to have you removed as a common heckler."

WASHINGTON — Sen. Homer E. Capehart (R-Ind.), on the proposed invitation to Nikita Khrushchev to visit the United States: "I, for one, am not ready to forgive them (the Russians) for their past sins."

Toasts were going the rounds at the dinner given by Gen. and Mrs. Tim McInerney at the F Street Club in honor of the Tony Biddles. Old friends had gathered to pay tribute to the man who had served as ambassador to Poland, then as ambassador to all the exiled countries during the war, then as a member of Eisenhower's SHAPE staff in Paris, and now is adjutant general of Pennsylvania.

House Speaker Sam Rayburn was there, with his old Republican friend, Ex-Speaker Joe Martin, and a lot of senators, together with Chip Robert of Georgia, who, when Democratic National Treasurer, used to tell how he called Ambassador Biddle in Poland to "borrow" \$90,000 from him to rescue the Democratic party from bankruptcy.

After the first toast, Biddle, with a waistline no different from the day he won the tennis championship in France 25 years ago, made a little speech of appreciation to his old friends.

Then rose a surprise speaker—Mrs. Biddle.

"Tony just hates to go shopping," she confided. "I never can get him to go anywhere with me to buy anything. But this afternoon after we arrived in Washington and hadn't too much time to dress for dinner. Tony insisted on going shopping. He bought a tape measure and a pair of binoculars. 'You see, he's just been appointed a judge in the Miss America contest.'"

### Rockefeller Has New Help For GOP Spot

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller of New York had new support today for the GOP presidential nomination from a former backer of the late Sen. Robert A. Taft.

Sen. Homer E. Capehart (R-Ind.), generally regarded as a member of the Republican conservative wing, came out for Rockefeller amid predictions that Vice President Richard M. Nixon's chances for the nomination have been helped by his Russian trip.

House Republican leader Charles A. Halleck (Ind.), meanwhile, announced his willingness to be the running mate of either one. Halleck said he would accept the GOP vice presidential nomination if it were offered to him.

Halleck refused to declare a preference between Nixon and Rockefeller for the top spot. However, he said he believed Nixon would win the nomination if the GOP convention were held today.

Rockefeller said at the governors' conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico, that he would not rule out the possibility of becoming a candidate for the nomination although he is not now a candidate. He said Nixon was the leading candidate.

Capehart, who backed Taft for the Republican nomination in 1952, said Sunday he had no doubt that the GOP could win next year if Rockefeller headed the ticket.

### New Missile Due Army And Marines

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Army and Marines are going to equip infantrymen with a new guided missile designed to knock down low-flying combat planes.

Sketchy details of the new weapon, called "the Redeye," were disclosed and test models were shown as part of the annual three-day meeting here of the Assn. of the U.S. Army.

"The Redeye looks like a World War II anti-tank bazooka. The weapon, fired from the shoulder, has an infra-red 'heat seeker' in its nose which will carry it to a straining or bombing airplane that gets within range."

The Redeye and its launcher weigh 20 pounds. The weapon is four feet long.

The Army has awarded a six-million-dollar contract to develop the weapon to Convair Division of General Dynamics Corp., which will do the work at its Pomona, Calif., plant.

### Bank Clearings Exceed Billion

PORTLAND (UPI) — Bank clearings exceeded a billion dollars during July and building permits during the month topped the totals of both June, 1959 and July, 1958 to indicate a brighter economic picture for Portland.

The billion-dollar bank amount is the second time such a clearing has occurred.

The increase in city building permits resulted despite the new planning and zoning code being put into operation which brought a processing slowdown.

Building permits for suburban Multnomah county also exceeded the June figure but were 300,000 behind July, 1958.

New housing starts, however, lagged behind both a year ago and the figure in June for Portland and its unincorporated suburbs.

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