

Soviet Solon Dares to Offer Amendments To Government Bill on Floor of Parliament

By STANLEY JOHNSON
MOSCOW (U.S.)—A deputy of the Supreme Soviet stood up in that Parliament Thursday and proposed amendments to a government-sponsored social security bill.

This was an innovation in Soviet legislative practice. Previously Supreme Soviet members have not proposed in public session any significant changes in draft laws submitted to them. However, traditionally, they have been permitted to sug-

gest insignificant amendments to state budgets, some of which have been adopted in the final version. The deputy who thus stuck his toe into the uncharted waters of liberalization of Soviet parliamentary procedure was M. A. Gedvilas, former premier of Soviet Lithuania.

He was dismissed from the premiership last January, but retains his position as chairman of the committee on legislative proposals of the council of nationalities, one of the two houses of the Supreme Soviet.

It is unlikely the Soviet government did not know what Gedvilas was going to say when he got up to speak. His official position seems to label his proposals as changes already government-approved.

It's nevertheless worth recording that the new collective leadership is on record as believing such public debate is useful—within limits. Stalin would not have tolerated even this.

The bill to which Gedvilas proposed amendments was the new pension law. It is currently the most important domestic issue in the Soviet Union—overshadowing in the minds of ordinary citizens the campaign to downgrade Stalin.

Raises Allotments
The bill is intended to liberalize antiquated previous pension laws by raising low allotments to a minimum of 300 rubles monthly. Simultaneously it will reduce top-bracket luxury pensions to a maximum of 1,200 rubles monthly.

The government has estimated that the new pension system will add more than 12 billion rubles in cost to the current annual social security budget of 25 billion.

(The official Soviet exchange rate is four rubles to the dollar, but the actual purchasing power of the ruble in consumer goods and services is estimated by various authorities at only five or 10 cents.)

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Siamese Twins Said Ready for Parting Surgery

LA MESA, Calif. (U.S.)—The doctor who delivered the Hutchens Siamese twins July 2 said Thursday they were in good shape for the separation surgery planned for July 19.

Dr. Leroy E. McDowell said X-ray pictures show the twins of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Hutchens, a couple in their thirties with two other sons, are joined only by a thin strip of tissue at the base of their spines.

A surgical team of six physicians has been chosen for the operation. The Hutchens formerly lived in Goree, Texas.

(Picture on Wirephoto Page)
NEW YORK (U.S.)—A very quiet Kansas school teacher pleaded innocent Thursday to assaulting police officers after they had stopped her for a traffic violation.

Miss Frances Lindblom, 33, a tall blonde from Salina, Kan., was subpoenaed as she appeared in magistrate's court. She was charged with assault, driving an unregistered vehicle, dangerous driving and failing to comply with police instructions. She pleaded innocent to each charge.

Her demeanor was in marked contrast to Wednesday when she allegedly slapped one cop.

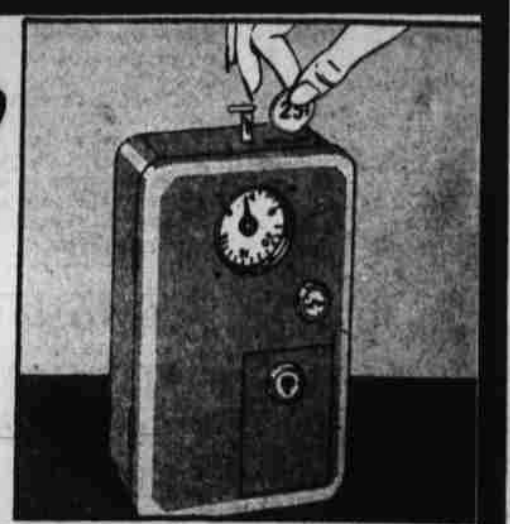
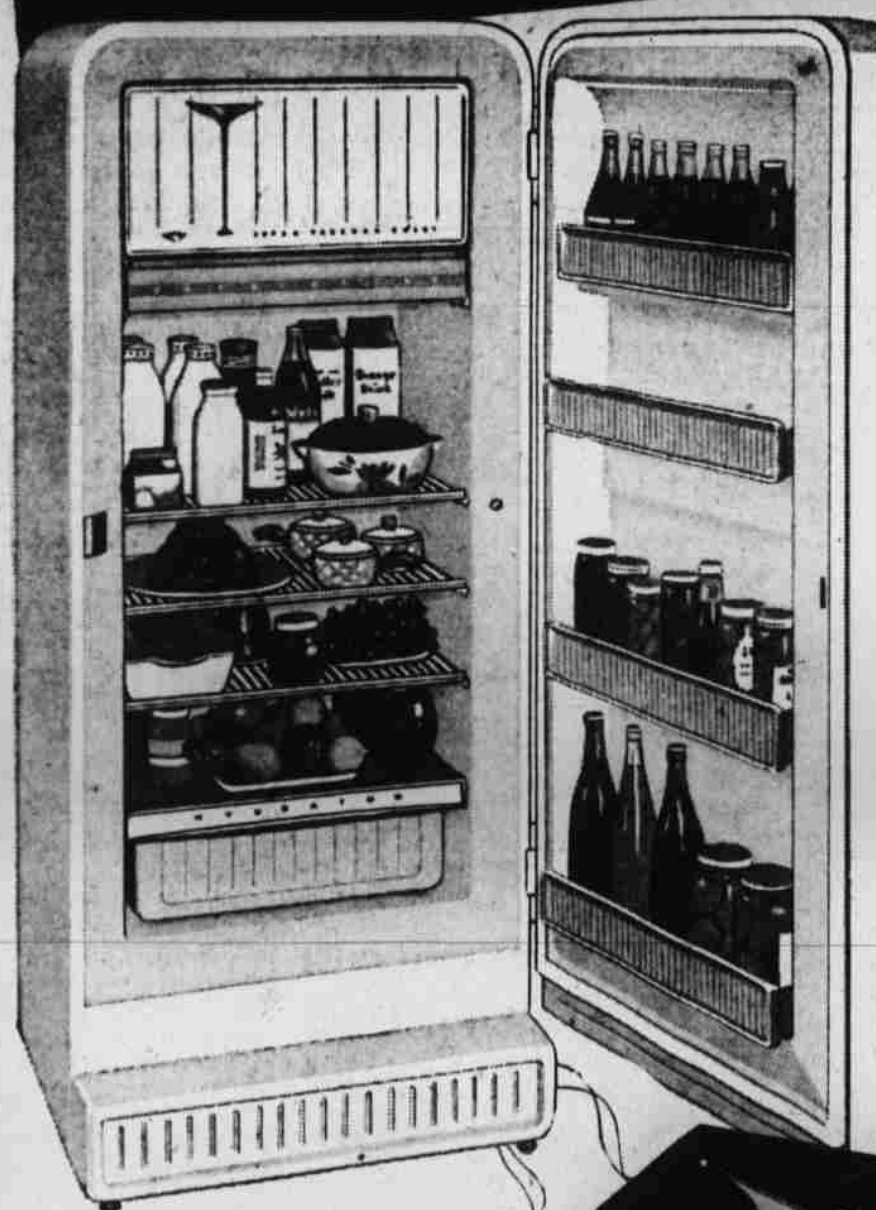
Kansas Teacher Pleads Innocent to Slapping New York City Policeman

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Iran, Soviet Parley Ends On Discord

MOSCOW (U.S.)—The Shah of Iran left Moscow Thursday, his talks with Soviet government leaders ended in polite but open disagreement.

A joint Soviet-Iranian communique which had been scheduled for signing Tuesday was postponed and later canceled. Iran's continued adherence to the western-sponsored Baghdad pact apparently was the stumbling block.

Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi and Queen Soraya took off from Moscow's central airport en route to Tehran after a 17-day tour of the Soviet Union.

In a brief farewell address, the 36-year-old ruler of the Soviet Union's southern Asian neighbor thanked the Soviet government for the courtesy it had extended him and expressed hope the two nations would live in peace and friendship.

Most of the Kremlin's leaders, except Communist party boss Nikita Khrushchev, were at the flag-decorated airport to bid the royal couple farewell.

Soviet President Klementi Y. Voroshilov and his wife shook hands stiffly with the Iranian rulers, so did Premier Bulganin, Foreign Minister Dmitri Shepilov, former Premier Georgi Malenkov and First Deputy Premier Mikhail Pervukhin.

Voroshilov openly challenged Iran's membership in the Baghdad alliance at a Kremlin banquet Tuesday night. The Shah forcefully rejected the criticism.

'Fake Theft' Trial Starts For Furrier

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (U.S.)—Joan Crawford led a parade of Hollywood celebrities testifying as character witnesses Thursday for Albert Teitelbaum, Beverly Hills furrier who is on trial on a charge of faking a \$280,000 robbery of his store Dec. 27.

Miss Crawford told the Superior Court jury that she had known Teitelbaum for 20 years and that his reputation for honesty was "excellent."

Joan Caulfield testified she knew Teitelbaum "very well." Asked her opinion of his reputation, she replied, "I think it's just great."

Movie columnist Louella Parsons said she had known Teitelbaum "since he was a boy" and described his reputation as "very good."

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