

## Reporter Shudders at Prospect Of Dreary Stalemate in Capitol

By FREDERICK C. OTHMAN  
WASHINGTON—(AP)—When a Republican Congress grinds one end of the rope and a Democratic White House the other, or vice versa, the top-of-war is as evenly matched the news produce nothing much but agonized grunts.

This is no mere soothing to know, I doubt if I'll ever be able to forget.

**Situation Levered**  
The year was 1932. The situation was the exact reverse of today's. The White House was Republican; the House of Representatives Democratic.

I landed in town from a swirl of writing news about the gangsters in Chicago. The late Ray Clapper, my boss, asked if I knew anything about government. I had to admit that I was an expert only on submarine guns and needed beer.

**Get Out!**  
He assigned me to the White House. It was an ideal place, he said, for a green reporter to break into Washington. I wondered why. "Nothing ever happens there," Ray replied.

**Get Out!**  
Sometimes the lawmakers wrote

some laws on their own accord. They'd send them down to 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. and Hoover invariably would veto them.

Only three reporters including myself, regularly covered the White House. We had nothing whatever to do. Occasionally Hoover held a press conference. The trio would walk into his office solemnly and say, "Good morning, Mr. President."

"Good morning," he would reply. "Gentlemen, there is nothing today."

**Back to Rummy**  
We'd file out. Our footsteps would echo hollowly in the reception room and we'd return to our interminable rummy games with the agents of the Secret Service.

Towards the end of Hoover's regime, the occupants of the White House press room got a break in their routine. Hoover had numerous gigantic office buildings being erected for government use and we had to follow him on his corporate laying expeditions. He was an expert stonemason.

**Expert Layer**  
Never once did he splutter any comment on his double-breasted blue serge suit. So be it.

I fear the White House press room, which hasn't seen a dull moment since 1933, is about to become the scene again of some of the lengthiest tournaments in the history of chess.

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## Brenne Attends Meet Of Chamber Leaders

Paul Brenne, Eugene Chamber of Commerce secretary, was in Portland Thursday to attend the Fall Portland Conference of Oregon Chamber Executives Nov. 2 and 3. He will act as chairman of the legislative committee.

One of the matters up for discussion which related to the Eugene area is the talk by J. M. Devers, chief counsel for the Oregon State Highway department, on "Protecting Oregon's Highways—Freeway Legislation."

Portland City Commissioner William S. Bowes, a member of the governor's special zoning committee, will address the conference on "Oregon's Menace—The Rural Fringe Problem."

Pete Surveaux determined the size of Albany, N. Y., in 1822 by firing one cannon ball north, another south, and declaring all land between the shot within city limits.

## Highways icy In Mountains

Light snow fell in the Cascade Wednesday night, leaving roads icy, the State Highway Commissioner reported Thursday. Thursday morning reports from Santiam Junction said it was still snowing lightly, and roads were normal, except for spots of frozen slush.

The Willamette Highway summit reported ice and steep roads over the summit and 30-degree temperatures. Roads were well sand.

Rain was falling on the McKenzie Highway Thursday morning, with clearing seen reported at the summit. Some spots of packed snow still remain, but the road had been sanded.

Chains were still advised for all mountain passes.

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**Augusta Jarman**  
Augusta Jarman, 75, Salt Lake City, died at a local hospital Wednesday. She was born April 23, 1872, and married Albert Jarman at Salt Lake City. He died in 1926. Mrs. Jarman lived in Eugene since August, 1946, and was a member of the Mormon Church.

Surviving are children, Roy, of Portland, Mrs. Byron Lundberg, Salt Lake City, Mrs. Emmerson Abbott, Eugene; a sister, Mrs. Enoch Stewart, Salmon, Idaho; a brother, Jed Greenwald, Santaquin, Utah; and ten grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held Saturday at 2 p.m. at Pools-Larsen Mortuary, with the Rev. Sterling Simonsen of Springfield officiating. Interment will be in 100th Cemetery No. 2.

**Battery Said Stolen**  
City police received a report Thursday that a 340 Tungsten battery charged had been stolen from the Richfield Station at Eighth and Blair sometime Wednesday night. J. O. Stucker, station attendant, told police entrance had been gained by breaking a window.



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